

July 25, 2021

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, Dormition of St. Anna



SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fighting the Good Fight with Faith

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever! Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na Viki!

Propers for this Sunday: Resurrectional Tone 8 & for Dormition of St. Anna, See Handout

Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., JULY 25
8:30 A.M. NINTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST, Dormition of St. Anna
DIVINE LITURGY
+ Mary Poiarkoff, offered by Erik Fetkovich

SUN., AUG. 1
8:30 A.M. TENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST, Procession of the Holy Cross
DIVINE LITURGY
+ Philomena Rossi, offered by John, Anne, & Carolyn Gural

"It is a ghost! And they cried out for fear."

This is the way the Lord constantly deals with our fears. He does not hesitate to bring on worse things, even more alarming than before. They were troubled here not only by the storm but also by the distance from the land. Note that He did not too easily remove the darkness. He did not come quickly to their rescue. He was training them, as I said, by the continuance of these fears and instructing them to be ready to endure. (*St. John Chrysostom*)

Eternal Memory

Our church family offers prayerful condolences to the family of Donald Yasick, formerly of Aliquippa and St. George Church, who fell asleep in the Lord last week. In blessed repose, grant O Lord eternal rest to the souls of Your departed servant Donald and remember him forever! *Vičnaja jemu pamjat'!*

Happy Birthday Greetings This Week:

July 27: Prudence Peya

Wedding Anniversaries this Week:

None for the week

Please Pray For Our Sick and Shut-ins

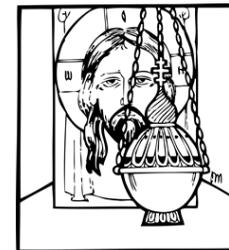
HOME – Eileen Batcha, Rebecca Dickun, Marianne Dove, Jean Herdt, Rebecca Hutcheon, Kevin Joray, Mary Ann Jugan, Neil Jugan, Mary Salamon, John Simunick

Beaver Elder Care (616 Golf Course Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001) – Josephine Maruhnich

Epistle Readers – July 25: JoAnn Hersh – Aug. 1: Louisa Hersh

Ushers – Stand in as needed

Troica Holders – July 25: M. Bobanic – Aug. 1: F. Hersh



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP

July 25 – 31, 2021

Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:

+ Rev. Thomas Schaefer

(In loving memory)

Offered By:

Butch & Judy Dzumba

Parish Offerings for July 18, 2021

"Everyone must give according to whatever he has inwardly decided; not sadly, not grudgingly, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Cor 9:7)

On Prayer and Anxiety

It is good not to be anxious about particular things or to pray for them specifically, but to seek only the kingdom and the word of God (cf. Mt 6:25-33). If, however, we are still anxious about our particular needs, we should also pray for each of them. He who does or plans anything without prayer will not succeed in the end. And this is what the Lord meant when He said: 'Without Me you can do nothing'.

- St. Kosmas Aitolos

A Note About our Upcoming Parish Picnic

Our annual parish picnic will be on Sunday, August 29. In addition to this being the 14th Sunday after Pentecost, it will also be the commemoration of the Beheading of St. John the Forerunner. By tradition, the Beheading of St. John is a day of strict fast. However, when it falls on a Sunday, different typicons (church rules) throughout history have varied over whether or not the fast is mitigated. In our current church law, there is no canonical requirement for fasting on this day, whether it is a Sunday or not. So this year, as a parish, we will mitigate the fast and enjoy our picnic together, thankful for the gifts of God in our parish family. More information about the picnic will be forthcoming.

A Note from Father Geoff

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

When St. Paul lists the "Fruit of the Spirit," his fourth is **Patience** or **Forbearance** (Galatians 5.22). Patience is something greatly lacking in our day. We've become trained to expect *immediate* results and *immediate* gratification.

We order books or goods online and they can arrive the next day. When we shop in stores, if there is a long line, we become perturbed. We expect people to text us back right away. If our mobile phone or computer does not work fast enough we get frustrated. Everything in our modern-day life is designed to give us the fastest possible "turn-around" time. Waiting is to be avoided if at all possible. Patience is the neglected virtue.

But St. Paul says that patience is one of the primary evidences that we have the Holy Spirit. And in our interpersonal lives, patience is absolutely essential if we're to be at peace. The truth is that we cannot control others, we cannot make them do as we desire, and we have no right to demand that they conform to our expectations. So our reaction can either be one of anger... or of patience. And patience is how God would have us act.

Why? Because God himself is patient with us. What a relief! God knows that our sanctification - our becoming *holy* - takes time. One does not become a saint overnight. God does not expect us to show the results of holiness immediately. He is not demanding, tyrannical, or impatient. Consider the words of St. Peter's Second Epistle:

*"Dear friends, since you are looking forward to [the Day of God], make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him. **Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation.**" (2 Peter 3.14-15)*

The Lord knows that we are "works in progress" and is patient with us, leading us ever deeper into his heart so that we can be found spotless, blameless, and at peace with him.

If our Lord is so patient with us, sinners, how much *more* ought we be patient with each other, fellow sinners! Thanks be to God that he has placed us in a community of believers with whom to practice the virtue of patience.

Together, let's take St. Paul's and St. Peter's words as a challenge to slow down, to consider each other carefully, and to exercise our patience. For when we are patient with each other, we are reflecting the glory of God, who is patient with us as he leads us on the path of salvation.

In His Love

Fr. Geoff

I	S	E	L	P	I	C	S	I	D	DISCIPLES	BOAT	PRAY
C	D	G	G	R	S	A	V	E	N	LAKE	HEADWIND	TERRIFIED
S	I	N	K	A	S	E	I	Y	I	GHOST	FEAR	COURAGE
T	H	I	A	Y	R	F	L	D	W	SINK	FAITH	DOUBT
B	G	N	E	H	I	U	F	I	D			
U	H	E	H	R	R	L	O	R	A			
O	O	V	R	T	A	E	R	C	E			
D	S	E	A	K	I	N	C	E	H			
E	T	O	E	O	R	A	E	F	R			
O	B	H	T	R	U	O	F	E	A			

Learning To Trust

We have a light fixture over our front door that glints in the sun and is attractive to birds. Every year without fail, a bird tries to build its nest on that light. Because I know that any nest that is built there is bound to fall, I always break up the nests just as the birds begin to make them. After several frustrating attempts, they move to a large maple tree in our garden, and there safely build their seasonal home far from any danger of falling.

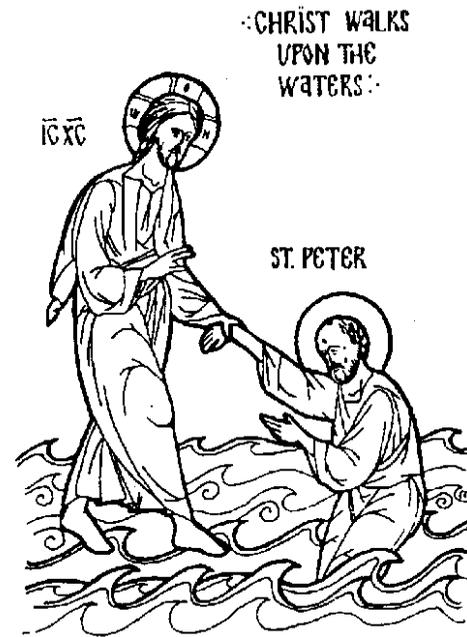
Like those unknowing feathered creatures, we too, oftentimes find that our dreams and plans are frustrated and lead to failure. We cannot help but wonder why God allows the earthly nests that we struggle so hard and work to build to fall apart and crumble before us. But the fact is that we cannot see as God does; if we too could judge events from the perspective of eternity, we would come to understand that God seeks for us a higher destiny, and a place of true serenity and provision for our deepest needs.

Scripture teaches us that God led his people of Israel out of Egypt and into a forty-year journey of hardship in a lonely and forbidding wilderness. And yet, at the end of that journey, they were led from bondage to a glorious land that flowed with milk and honey. From down trodden slaves, He transformed them into a mighty nation envied by others.

How wonderful it would be if we could each learn to trust God in those times when we too experience the dark passages that enter our lives. How reassured we would be if we never questioned God's wisdom and goodness, even at those times when we find him disturbing the nests that we try to build.

When we come to accept the providential care of God with childlike simplicity we soon discover that the barriers we encounter in our lives, can in retrospect, come to be numbered among our greatest blessings.

- Rev. Andrew Demotses



Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

The Dormition of St. Anna - July 25

"Saint Anna was the daughter of the priest Matthan and his wife Mary. She was of the tribe of Levi and the lineage of Aaron. According to Tradition, she died peacefully in Jerusalem at age 79, before the Annunciation to the Most Holy Theotokos.

The Theotokos had been orphaned of both her parents already when she was eleven years of age, when she was living in the Temple (see Sept. 8 and Nov. 21). Saint Anna is invoked for conceiving children, and for help in difficult childbirth.

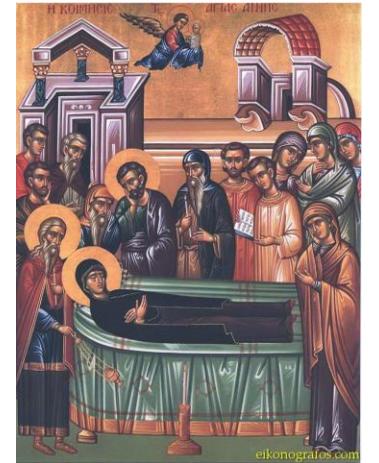
During the reign of St Justinian the Emperor (527-565), a church was built in her honor at Deutera. Emperor Justinian II (685-695; 705-711) restored her church, since St Anna had appeared to his pregnant wife. It was at this time that her body and maphorion (veil) were transferred to Constantinople.

St Anna is also commemorated on September 9."

Excerpts from Christ Our Pascha:

Biblical Images of the Church: *The Church in the New Testament:* The Father realizes his eternal plan for the Church, the salvific community of people, through the incarnation of the Son by the power of the Holy Spirit. In his teaching about the Church, the incarnate Son of God, Jesus Christ, would often make use of images that were familiar to his listeners. He compared the Church to a flock, for which he is the Good Shepherd (see Jn 10:1-18). The Church is also a vineyard (see Mt 21:33-43), where Christ is the vine (see Jn 15:1-5) and his disciples are the branches. Christ in the Church is also the cornerstone of the building (see Mt 21:42-44). The Church is the immaculate "Bride of the Lamb," being prepared for the arrival of her Bridegroom (see Rev 19:6-8). (#277)

The Church is the dawning of the kingdom of God, which Christ announces in all his preaching, especially in parables. We hear the parables about the mustard seed, which grows into a tree (see Lk 13:18-19); about the field, where both wheat and tares grow together until the time of the harvest (see Mt 13:24-30); about the treasure hidden in a field; about the pearl of great price; and about the fishing net (see Mt 13:44-47). (#278)



SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH



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Cantors: Jo Ann Hersh, Louisa Hersh, David Klacik E.C.F. coordinator: Jo Ann Hersh

Facilities Supervisor: John Poiarkoff

Holy Mystery of Reconciliation Before and after Liturgies
Holy Mysteries of Initiation Contact the church office
Holy Mystery of Anointing Ask prior to surgery or serious illness
Holy Mystery of Marriage Contact the church office eight months prior to wedding
Religious Education Classes September through May, following Sunday Divine Liturgy
St. George Ladies' Guild & Men's Club Everyone welcome to participate

“Acquire the Spirit of Peace and a thousand souls around you will be saved.”

- Venerable father Seraphim of Sarov