

November 7, 2021
Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



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 7: pp. 156 - 158

Divine Services for the Week:

- SUN., NOV. 7**
8:30 A.M.
TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST,
DIVINE LITURGY
+ **Mary Poiarkoff**, offered by Patricia Fetkovich
- MON., NOV. 8**
6:00 P.M.
ST. MICHAEL the ARCHANGEL and ALL ANGELS HOLY DAY
DIVINE LITURGY
+ **Philomena Rossi**, offered by Florence Leisky
- SUN., NOV. 14**
8:30 A.M.
TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST
DIVINE LITURGY
+ **Philomena Rossi**, offered by Richard Shyan

Your faith can make you well - When the woman was healed, our Lord said, "Who touched me?" so that she could profess her healing before everyone. Also, in the case of the little girl, he said, "She is sleeping" so that the spectators might testify that she was dead, and then seeing her restored to life, these who scorned would be converted into believers. The witness given by them concerning the death of the little girl and her restoration to life performed by the Lord was a witness in anticipation of his death. Those who would see that he was alive again would not deny it.

(St. Ephrem the Syrian)

Eternal Memory – Fr. Ronald P. Larko - Kindly remember in your prayers Very Reverend Ronald P. Larko, Pastor of St. John Church, Uniontown, Pa. who fell asleep in the Lord last Sunday, October 31. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, eternal rest to your departed servant Father Ronald and remember him forever! *Vičnaja jemu pamjat'!*

Happy Birthday Greetings This Week:
November 10: Alexandra Mackey, November 11: Mary Dickey

Wedding Anniversaries this Week:

November 2: John & Anne Gural

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

Ann Trombulak – **Rochester Manor:** (174 Virginia Ave., Rochester, PA 15074)

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

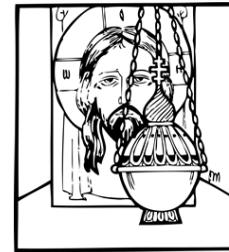
Betty Polas – **Apple Blossom Senior Living** (125 Apple Blossom Wy, #307, Moon Twp., PA 15108)

Carol Huchko – **Concordia at Villa St. Joseph** (1040 State St, Baden, PA 15005)

Epistle Readers –Nov. 7: JoAnn Hersh – Nov. 14: Louisa Hersh

Ushers – Stand in as needed

Troica Holders– Nov. 7: Francis Hersh – Nov. 14: R. Dzumba



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP
November 7 – 13, 2021
Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:
+ Daughter, Linda Todd &
husband Art
(In Loving Memory)
Offered By:

Prayer to Your Guardian Angel: O Angel of Christ, holy guardian and protector of my soul and body, forgive me of everything I have done to offend you every day, and protect me from all influence and temptation of the evil one. May I never offend God by my sin. Pray for me to the Lord, that He may make me worthy of the grace of the All-holy Trinity, and of the Most Blessed Theotokos, and of all the Saints. Amen.

Pirohi Sale This Week



Our next Pirohi sale will be this **Friday, November 12. We can't do this project without your help and support. We encourage all who are able to please come and help. Work days are Monday 9:00 AM, Tuesday 9:00 AM, and Thursday 9:00 AM. Friday we begin at 6:30 AM. Our Pirohi Project takes a lot of help to make it a success.** Spread the word and please **come and help**, if you can, any of the days you are able. Orders should be called in by **Thursdays at noon at (724) 375-6652.** God Bless our pirohi workers and customers! Thank you!

Saint Nicholas Celebration Dinner

The 64th Saint Nicholas Celebration benefiting the Byzantine Catholic Seminary will take place on Sunday, December 5, 2021 at St. John Cathedral & Center in Munhall, PA. Preceding the event, Vespers to St. Nicholas will be celebrated in the Cathedral. Tickets for the Dinner are \$45 per adult and \$20 per child under 12. If you wish to attend, please see Father Geoff **TODAY**, so that the reservation form can be submitted in time. In addition to the dinner (or in lieu), if you would like to be a contributing sponsor to the event, your name can be included in the program book. Father Geoff has this information as well.

Vocations Awareness Week (Nov. 7-13, 2021)

National Vocation Awareness Week, celebrated November 7-13 this year, is an annual celebration of the Catholic Church in the US, dedicated to promoting vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life. Throughout this week, the faithful are encouraged to pray that God would raise up faithful men to be priests and deacons in his Church, and men and women to serve God as religious. Pray for the men studying in our seminary and deacon formation program. And ask the Lord that he would enlighten the minds and imaginations of young people in our communities that they would explore the exciting possibilities of what it means to serve God and his Church.

A Prayer for Vocations

O God, Father of all mercies, Provider of a bountiful harvest, send your graces upon those you have called to gather the fruits of your labor; preserve and strengthen them in their lifelong service of you. Open the hearts of your children that they may discern your holy will; inspire in them a love and desire to surrender themselves to serving others in the Name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Teach all your faithful to follow their respective paths in life, guided by your divine Word and Truth. Through the intercession of the Theotokos, all the angels and saints, humbly hear our prayers and grant your Church's needs, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Note from Father Geoff

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

After invoking our Father in heaven, the **Lord's Prayer** (or "**Our Father**") continues with the words "hallowed be thy Name." "Hallowed" is an old fashioned kind of word. We don't use it very often, even within religious contexts. But the old, Elizabethan English of this prayer seems to stand the test of time.

"Hallowed" doesn't simply mean "sacred," but *to make something holy*. It means to consecrate it, to set it apart. Something that is hallowed is not used for common purposes. And so, the Name of God. In the ancient Near Eastern world, the names of gods were used in magical sorts of ways; to know the name of a deity was seen to be a way to manipulate that god or goddess for your own ends. But it would not be so for the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

In fact, it is not until Moses has his encounter with God at the Burning Bush (Exodus 3), that God's Name is finally revealed. And unlike pagan Gods (Zeus, Aphrodite, Poseidon, etc.) the True God's Name *itself* is mysterious:

"Moses said to God, 'If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?' God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM. He said further, 'Thus shall you say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.' ... 'This is my Name forever and this is my title for all generations.'"

The Biblical scholar Wesley Hill explains that "This English translation makes it hard to see, but the God of Israel's proper name lies behind 'Lord,' that word usually printed in all-capital letters in English Bibles.... Following ancient Jewish custom, English Bibles do not print this holy name, instead substituting a title, 'Lord...'"

Orthodox Jews to this day will either replace the Name of God with "adonai" (Lord) or "hashem" (the Name)." And Christians almost *never* historically used the Name of God directly in worship. In 2008, Pope Benedict XVI actually issued a directive banning the use of "Yahweh" in Catholic worship, as it had become popular in some hymnody in the 1970s.

All of this is, of course, not simply to avoid saying a Name; rather, the avoidance of saying the Name is to be a constant reminder that God's Name is not something common, like the rest of our language. And so our petition, in the Lord's Prayer, that "hallowed be" God's Name, is likewise a reminder that God is transcendent - he is the King of King and Lord of Lords. And it is not until the coming of the Messiah that we are given *another* Name for God: Jesus, the second Person of the Trinity.

St. Paul reminds us that, "at the Name of Jesus every knee shall bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (Philippians 2.10-11)

Blessed be the Name of the Lord, now and forever!

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Geoff

Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

The Gospel today reminds us of the power of faith. To the woman who was hemorrhaging, Jesus said “go, daughter, your faith has healed you.” To Jairus, Jesus says “believe, and your daughter will be well.” In both cases presented to us today we learn that faith has the power to heal and restore one to health. However, there is something more hidden in the text that we should notice. It was because of the faith of the father, Jairus, that his daughter was healed. Our faith has the power to affect not only ourselves, but others as well. Yes, faith/belief is a most powerful gift. What is it?



We speak often about faith, we say “I believe” every Divine Liturgy, but do we really know what it is?

Faith is the total gift of our self to the one in whom we believe. When faith is directed at the Lord, when we entrust ourselves totally to God, we can then say with Saint Paul “It is now no longer I who live, but Christ is living in me.” And suddenly, in the moment of faith, our whole life becomes filled with his life – divinized. It is for this reason that faith has the power to heal – and not only heal the one who believes but also others for whom the believer intercedes. In that moment of faith, God’s life fills up my illness, my weakness, and my sinfulness with his life and heals me from the inside out. When I am filled with Jesus’ life then I can begin to do for others what Jesus has done for me, namely become an instrument of healing by the sharing of God’s life.

PRACTICAL QUESTIONS:

1. What are some other words that I can use to describe faith?
2. How has faith in Jesus Christ healed you or changed your life?
3. What are some ways in which we can bring healing to others through our faith in the Lord?

The healing came forth from his mouth, and he negotiated as its price the faith expressed by the woman’s mouth. He gave a clear healing and demanded a clear price. The healing that came out from his lips could be heard publicly, and he required from the lips a faith openly professed.

St. Cyril of Alexandria

“He who hears you hears me, and he who rejects you rejects me, and he who rejects me rejects him who sent me.”

The Feast of the Holy Archangel Michael and all Angels, November 8

According to our holy father Bishop Nicholai of Zica, “Whom Christ loves, His angels love too.” As we read the Holy Scripture, we see that Our Savior loved children and ordered His angels to be their guardians. In the Gospel reading from St. Matthew 18: 10, we read the following: *“The angels do always behold the face of my Father, which is in heaven.”*



Our Lord even identified Himself with little children saying: *“Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me”* (Mt. 18:5). He threatened terribly those who mislead, scandalize, and cause children to sin: *“It were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea”* (Mt. 18:6). He also said: *“Suffer little children to come unto Me for of such is the kingdom of heaven”* (Mt. 19:14). This is the very foundation of Christian education, that is, to let children come unto Christ. This is the reason the angels love and protect children.

The Fathers of the Church teach us that there are guardian angels of nations, countries, Churches, as well as of individuals (Rev. 2). Our venerable father, John Climacus testifies of his personal guardian angel: *“Whenever I was longing for a greater advancement in spiritual life, the angel appeared in such a case and enlightened me.”* With Monday’s celebration of the Synaxis-Assembly of all the Heavenly Hosts, every Christian should remember his good angel, who for the span of all his life concerns himself with him, rejoices in his spiritual achievements, and grieves over his downfalls. Remember that when a person dies, the angel takes his soul to God. Having found itself in the spirit world, according to many accounts, the soul recognizes its Guardian Angel.

Veterans Day, November 11



May we remember that the freedoms we enjoy in our most gracious home, the United States of America, did not come without a price. May the Lord bless all those who served, all those who continue to serve, and the families that those serving left behind. May we never forget!

O God, by whose mercy the faithful departed find rest, look kindly on your departed veterans who gave their lives in the service of their country. Grant that through the passion, death, and resurrection of your Son they may share in the joy of your heavenly kingdom and rejoice in you with your saints forever. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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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



Run to the Hem of Christ