

June 26, 2022
Third 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 2: pp. 130 - 132

Divine Services for the Week:

- SUN., JUNE 26** **THIRD SUNDAY after PENTECOST**
8:30 A.M. **DIVINE LITURGY**
+ Margaret Klacik, 2 years after passing, offered by JoAnn & Francis Hersh
- TUE., JUNE 28** **SAINTS PETER and PAUL HOLY DAY, obligation**
6:00 P.M. **VESPERAL DIVINE LITURGY**
+ Jenny Gennaro, offered by Rich Mudron

(At St. Mary: Wed., June 29, 6:00 PM, Divine Liturgy for Sts. Peter & Paul)

- SUN., JULY 3** **FOURTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST**
8:30 A.M. **DIVINE LITURGY,**
+ Andrew & Patricia Kayla, offered by Mr. & Mrs. Dan Pinchot

Welcome Father John Petro

This Sunday we welcome Father John Petro who is here to celebrate the Divine Liturgy for our St. George Church. We ask Our Lord to bless him for many happy and blessed years! Mnohaja Lita!

Fellowship Coffee and Doughnuts Today Following Liturgy

Parishioners, visitors, and friends, we are thankful that you have come to worship with us today and pray that your participation in our Divine Liturgy will be enriching to you. Following every Sunday Divine Liturgy, Fellowship Coffee and doughnuts are served in our Church Center.
Please stay and join us!

Happy Birthday Greetings:

None for the week

Wedding Anniversaries:

None for the week

Please Pray For Our Sick and Shut-ins

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

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

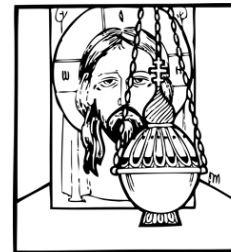
Betty Polas – **Apple Blossom Senior Living** (125 Apple Blossom Wy, #307, Moon Twp., PA 15108)

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

Epistle Readers – June 26: Louisa Hersh – July 3: Prudy Peya

Ushers – Stand in as needed

Troica Holders – June 26: Hersh – July 3: M. Bobanic



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP

June 26 – July 2, 2022

Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:

The Parishioners

The Holy Apostle Paul

Paul was born in Tarsus and was of the tribe of Benjamin. At first, he was called Saul. He studied under Gamaliel and was a Pharisee and a persecutor of Christianity. He was miraculously converted to the Christian Faith by the Lord Himself, Who appeared to him on the road to Damascus. He was baptized by the Apostle Ananias, named Paul and numbered in the service of the Great Apostles. With fiery zeal Paul preached the Gospel everywhere, from the borders of Arabia to Spain, among the Jews and among Gentiles, and received the title, “the Apostle to the Gentiles.” As horrible as his sufferings were, so much greater was his superhuman patience. Throughout all the years of his preaching, Paul hung from day to day as on a weak thread between life and death. Having filled all his days and nights with labor and suffering for Christ, having organized the Church in many places, and having attained such a degree of perfection, he was able to say: not I, but Christ lives in me (Galatians 2:20). Paul was beheaded in Rome during the reign of Emperor Nero, at the same time as the martyrdom of the Apostle Peter.

Flea Market Open Today! - Thank you to everyone who volunteered in any way for our Flea Market and to those who patronized and helped spread the word. Thank you for all of the donations. We could not have done it without them. **The Flea Market is open today. Come and find your treasure. Any size free will donation accepted.** Be sure to look around during coffee and doughnut hour following today's Divine Liturgy.

Baked Goods for Sale - We have some delicious baked goods available for purchase today. Stop in the Center following Liturgy to purchase and take home some goodies!

Remember to return the Flea Market signs if you put one up in the community so we may utilize them again next year. Thank you!

Ukrainian Market Place - On Saturday, July 30, the 75th Ukrainian Orthodox League Convention will hold its **Ukrainian Market Place** from 10:00AM - 1:00 PM. It will be held at the Hilton Double Tree Hotel, 500 Mansfield Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15205. There will be Ukrainian gift items, artwork, embroidery, pysanky (painted eggs), jewelry, and more. For more information call 412-527-5359 or visit orthodoxcarnegie.com. The event is sponsored by Ss. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church in Carnegie.

Centennial Anniversary - St. Michael's, Campbell, Ohio

In Thanksgiving to Almighty God, the parish family of St. Michael Byzantine Catholic Church, 463 Robinson Rd., Campbell, OH, will be celebrating their **Centennial Anniversary** on Sunday, July 31, 2022. This will be a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy celebrated with His Eminence, Metropolitan William Skurla at 3:00 PM.

Excerpt form Christ Our Pascha - The Signs of the Coming of the Kingdom:

The Words of Christ: Christ teaches about the kingdom of God in parables. Using simple yet deep imagery from life, he reveals the mystery of God's life. The kingdom of God is like a field, where both wheat and weeds grow together, side by side, until the harvest time (see Mt 13:24-30); like a seed, which grows into a large tree (see Mt 13:31-32; Lk 13:19). The kingdom of God is like leaven in flour (see Mt 13:33; Lk 13:21); and like a treasure hidden in a field, a pearl of great value, and a fishing net (see Mt 13:44- 50). The kingdom of God is also like a king who forgives the debts of his servants (see Mt 18:23-35), like a householder who generously rewards the labourers working in the vineyard (see Mt 20:1-16), like a king who invites guests to the wedding of his son (see Mt 22:1-14), and like a man who has entrusted his servants with talents that they might increase them (see Mt 25:14-30). The kingdom of God grows in the world, as seeds in the earth, until the time of the harvest (see Mk 4:26-29). (#210)

A Note from Father Geoff

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Our Epistle reading for this Sunday – Romans 5.1-10 – is one of the most beautiful, exciting, and succinct explanations of the Good News that St. Paul wrote in all of his letters. The heart of his message is this: “For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.” (5.6) What good news!

Recognizing our human condition – our weakness, our brokenness, our flaws, and our sins – Jesus Christ made possible, through his Crucifixion, our salvation and admission to the family of God. It's not just that God *overlooked* our sinfulness and saved us. But precisely *because* of our sinfulness and need of a Savior, God provided one. As St. John wrote, “In this was the love of God made manifest among us: that God sent his only Son into the world that we might live through him.” (1 John 4.9)

Or, as St. Paul says this morning: “God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Rom. 5.8) We cannot earn his favor. We have *already been given his favor*, because God is love and he cannot deny who he is. (see 1 John 4.8 and 2 Tim. 2.13).

And what does St. Paul tell us is the upshot of all of this? “We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” (5.1). God has, in Christ, reconciled us to himself and we can be at peace. We are like children who, when they know they are safe and secure with their parents, can grow and flourish and become who they are intended to be, free from fear and with full confidence. Likewise, we have been given God's peace through the Blood of Jesus Christ, so that we can grow in faith and holiness and become who God intends us to be.

Not only that, but, because of Jesus “we have obtained access into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in the glory of God.” (5.2)

We have been given the peace of Christ, in which we can rest assured of God's love and care. We have obtained access to God's grace, which is his benevolent favor and delight in us. And because of this, we can rejoice in God's glory. Brothers and sisters, this is truly **Good News!** Let us give thanks for this great grace and, in turn, share it with others for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ!

In Him,

Fr. Geoff

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

In today's Gospel reading, Christ urges us not to be anxious about our lives and bodies - what we shall eat, drink, or wear. But how can this be, if we must eat and drink, and clothe ourselves? Are we not earthly beings, who are bound by laws of biological existence?

Christ came to restore our nature, to lift us out of the fallen state, and to give a new and original order to our lives. Our spirit must now find nourishment in God, the source of being; our soul must be inspired by things divine, even as the spirit draws it to God; even our bodies must not live "by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God" (Mt 4:4)

Christ is not calling us to stop eating - He Himself ate and drank, and His disciples did the same; He is not calling us to disregard our clothing - He Himself wore a robe made for Him by His Most Pure Mother. Christ is not calling us to reject our life, but to sanctify it: to bring every aspect of our life to the service of the kingdom, to remember that the goal of Christian life is THEOSIS - a union with Christ and ascension of our nature to the right side of the Father, not SHOP - OSIS - a union with groceries and ascension to the nearest shopping mall.

"Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well" (Mt. 6:33). Note that Christ is saying that these things will be yours as well. God knows that we need all these things. He placed us in this world, and He blesses the labor of our hands. But let us not be like the man to whom God said "Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" (Luke 12:20). Let us instead firmly bind our hearts to heaven by making it: heaven - our treasure. Only such a life is pleasing in God's sight, because only such a life is truly life, life in the fullness of being and life abundant (John 10:10). Amen.



But seek first the kingdom of God and His justice, and all the rest shall be given you besides

The Holy Pre-Eminent Apostles Peter and Paul, June 29

The Holy Apostle Peter

Peter was the son of Jonah and the brother of Andrew the First-called. He was of the tribe of Simeon, from the town of Bethsaida. He was a fisherman and was at first called Simon, but the Lord was pleased to call him Cephas, or Peter (John 1:42). He was the first of the disciples to clearly express faith in the Lord Jesus, saying: Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God (Matthew 16:16). His love for the Lord was great, and his faith in the Lord became gradually stronger. When the Lord was brought to trial, Peter denied him three times; but after only one glance into the face of the Lord, Peter's soul was filled with shame and repentance. After the descent of the Holy Spirit, Peter showed himself to be a fearless and powerful preacher of the Gospel. Following one of his sermons in Jerusalem, three thousand souls were converted to the Faith. He preached the Gospel in Palestine, Asia Minor, Illyria and Italy. Peter worked many powerful miracles: he healed the sick and resurrected the dead, and the sick were healed even from his shadow. He had a great struggle with Simon the Magician, who proclaimed himself to be a god, but who was in reality a servant of Satan. Peter finally shamed and defeated him. By order of Simon's friend, the evil Emperor Nero, Peter was condemned to death. Having consecrated Linus Bishop of Rome, and having counseled and comforted the flock of Christ, Peter proceeded joyfully to his death. Seeing the cross before him, he begged his executioners to crucify him upside down, for he considered himself unworthy to die as had his Lord. Thus, this great servant of the Great Lord reposed and received a wreath of eternal glory.



O Leaders of the Apostles and Teachers of the universe, implore the Master of all creation to grant peace to the world and great mercy to our souls.

Troparion for Sts. Peter and Paul

This coming Wednesday, June 29, is the Feast of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul. For all Byzantine Catholics, it is a day of solemn precept (holy day of obligation). Vespereal Divine Liturgy will be celebrated on Tuesday, June 28 at 6:00 PM. (St. Mary's will have Divine Liturgy on Wednesday, June 29 at 6:00 P.M.)

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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

"Let us extol Peter and Paul, those two great Luminaries of the Church, for they shine brighter than the sun in the firmament of faith."

