

August 28, 2022  
Twelfth 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!*  
*Слава Исусу Христу! Слава на вики!*

Propers for this Sunday: Resurrectional Tone 3, pp. 135 - 137

### Divine Services for the Week:

**SUN., AUG. 28**      **TWELFTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST**  
**8:30 A.M.**      **DIVINE LITURGY**  
+ **John Trombulak**, offered by John A. Trombulak

*(At St. Mary: Mon., Aug. 29, 6:00 PM, Divine Liturgy for Beheading of St. John the Baptist)*

**SUN., SEPT. 4**      **THIRTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST**  
**8:30 A.M.**      **DIVINE LITURGY**  
+ **Ann Trombulak**, offered by Mr. & Mrs. Jack Lochran

### With God all things are possible!

If you want to learn the way and how the impossible becomes possible, listen. Jesus did not make this statement that what is impossible for man is possible for God merely so you could relax and do nothing and leave it all to God. No, He said this so that you could understand the importance of calling upon God to give you help in this rigorous contest and that you might more readily approach His grace.

*(St. John Chrysostom)*

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

### 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)

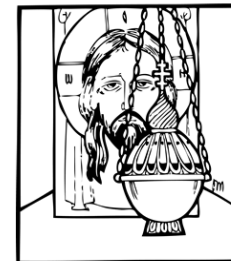
Betty Polas – **Apple Blossom Senior Living** (125 Apple Blossom Wy, #307, Moon Twp., PA 15108)

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

Epistle Readers – Aug. 28: Prudy Peya – Sept. 4: Dan Pinchot

Ushers – Stand in as needed

Troica Holders – Aug. 28: M. Bobanic – Sept. 4: R. Mudron



### THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP

August 28 – September 3, 2022

*Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:*

+ Tom, Jack, & George Seech

*(In Loving Memory)*

Offered By:

Sister, Mary Elizabeth Olack

*Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth,  
everywhere present and filling all things,  
Treasury of blessings and Giver of life,  
come and dwell within us, cleanse us of all stain,  
and save our souls, O gracious One.*

*Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!*  
*Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na Viki!*  
*Слава Исусу Христу! Слава на вики!*

## Thank you

Thank you to all who joined us for our annual parish picnic last Sunday and all who helped. The morning storms and rain stopped just in time for our picnic and great fun and fellowship was had by all who attended. We were unable to have our bonfire due to it being wet from all the rain so we hope to reschedule a bonfire for a future date soon.

## 88<sup>th</sup> Annual Pilgrimage in Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Sept. 2 – 5

The annual Pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help is a special ministry of the Sisters of St. Basil. It has been held every Labor Day weekend since 1934. The Pilgrimage is a source of ongoing renewal and provides for the diverse spiritual needs of the many pilgrims who frequent this major unifying event in the life of the Byzantine Catholic Church. Its participants include clergy and faithful from across the country. The Pilgrimage offers the celebration of Divine Liturgy; opportunities for the Mystery of Reconciliation; Anointing of the Sick; Adult Enrichment Programs; activities for children, teens, young adults; and pastoral counseling. The Pilgrimage is the oldest and largest Byzantine Catholic Pilgrimage in the United States. The Sisters welcome all people of faith to share in this special ministry and in its many blessings.. Location: 500 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA 15401



## Ukrainian Food Festival

**SS. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 220 Mansfield Blvd. Carnegie, PA 15106** will be having their Ukrainian Food Festival on **Sept. 9 & 10, 2022 from 11:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.** There will be pirohi, holupki, kielbasa, borscht, haluski, outdoor grill, Ukrainian pastries, basket raffle and more! Church tours will be available both days and a Church talk/tour with Fr. John Charest on Saturday, September 10 at 1:00, 3:00, & 5:00 P.M. Eat in or takeout. MC/Visa accepted. [www.orthodoxcarnegie.org](http://www.orthodoxcarnegie.org)

## 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!***



*Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!*

## A Note from Father Geoff

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

In our Byzantine Church, the seasons of Lent, the Nativity Fast, the Paschal Season and even the pre-Lenten Sundays get a lot of attention. But the longest "season" of our year is the long succession of Sundays "after Pentecost." It begins 50 days after Pascha and continues all the way through the rest of the year. I have often thought about why it might be that so many days are defined by their relation to Pentecost, when only five are given to Lenten penitence, and only six to Pascha.

But then I thought of the wonderful prayer to the Holy Spirit that begins so many of our liturgical services and our times of prayer in our homes:

*Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth,  
everywhere present and filling all things,  
Treasury of blessings and Giver of life,  
come and dwell within us, cleanse us of all stain,  
and save our souls, O gracious One.*

The Holy Spirit, poured out on the Apostles in Jerusalem on Pentecost, is the same Spirit that is poured out upon us today, and makes possible all the rest of our spiritual life. It is no wonder that we have so many days of the year related to Pentecost, since without Pentecost there would be no Church, no Eucharist, no Baptism. Without the Holy Spirit, there would be no way for us to have Jesus present with us to the end of the age. And so we begin our daily prayers with this invocation to the Spirit. It is a prayer that is good to say several times a day.

In the Hebrew of the original Old Testament, the same word translated "spirit" is also translated as and "breath." The Spirit was breathed into Adam in creation, making him a living soul. (Genesis 2.7) The Spirit hovered on the face of the great abyss in creation. (Genesis 1.2) The Spirit descended on Christ in his Baptism (Mark 1.10). And Jesus breathed the Spirit into the Apostles in the Upper Room on the evening of the Resurrection. (John 20.22)

When we pray the *Heavenly King*, we invoke and call upon ourselves the same Spirit of God. We ask that he be as intimately close to us as our own breath, which sustains us. And by that Spirit which has been given to us, we are able to accomplish whatever God has in store for us. This is the Spirit that makes Jesus present to us, that heals our infirmities, that cleanses us from sin, that leads us into all truth, and that makes possible our growth in grace and love.

Let us with enthusiastic and eager hearts call upon the Holy Spirit each day, that we may be given grace upon grace and know the presence and love of God in our lives.

Yours in the Spirit,  
*Fr. Geoff*

## Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Today's Gospel reading challenges us all so sharply. It begins with words that may be interpreted in more than one way: "Good Lord - what shall I do to have eternal life?" And the Lord answers, "Why do you call Me 'good'? Good is only God". He does not say, "You are wrong". He does not deny His right to be called good as God is good; and thereby, to those who have ears to hear, those who have a heart capable of perceiving the surpassing goodness of the Lord Jesus, surpassing all human goodness, all human beauty and truth - it is a testimony: Yes, you are speaking to your God, and it is your God that is to answer your question.

Then Christ gives us two indications. The one is: if you wish to have eternal life, keep the Commandments. The Commandments of God are not only rules of behavior (although, of course they are such), but as one of the Psalms puts it, should be in our inmost hearts. It should be from the depths of our heart that we accomplish the Commandments: not because we are commanded from outside, but because they have reached us with the ring of truth; not because God has spoken, but because with all our being we have answered "Amen!" This is true, this is life, and this is the way into eternal life.

When we hear Christ mentioning these Commandments - where are we? Who of us can say that he or she was faithful to every word of this short list that indicates that without which we cannot live? Where do we stand? Then Our Lord says to us quite clearly: "If you want perfection - give all you possess." It is not only material things which we can give: every one of us has treasures hoarded in his mind and heart, in his soul, things which are more important to him than anything material, that is his wealth. Each of us should turn inward and ask himself, "Which is my peculiar treasure? What are those things which I will not give away even for life eternal, for God?"

Sometimes we go home like the young man, perhaps saddened, that neither are we keeping the Commandments, nor are we able to give away our most precious treasure: but remember - we will not go condemned, we will have been faced with an ultimate choice, and as long as we can struggle on earth - there is time. But let us not be enticed by the length of time: time flies, time goes - let it not be too late, let us turn to life, let us become all we are capable of being.



With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible

## The Beheading of Saint John the Baptist August 29

As forerunner of our Lord's birth, preaching and death, the blessed John showed in his struggle, goodness worthy of the sight of heaven. In the words of Scripture: "Though in the sight of men he suffered torments, his hope is full of immortality." We justly commemorate the day of his birth with a joyful celebration, a day which he himself made festive for us through his suffering and which he adorned with the crimson splendor of his own blood. We do rightly revere his memory with joyful hearts, for he stamped with the seal of martyrdom the testimony which he delivered on behalf of our Lord...Through his birth, preaching and baptizing, he bore witness to the coming birth, preaching and baptism of Christ, and by his own suffering he showed that Christ also would suffer.



*Holy kinsman of the Lord, prophet, forerunner and Baptist John, pray to God for us!*

### Happy New Year!

Byzantine Liturgical New Year that is! The Church follows the computation of time according to the civil calendar year. However, in the Byzantine Rite, the liturgical year begins on **September 1<sup>st</sup>**, while the Western Churches begin their liturgical year on the first Sunday of Advent.

The Byzantine Church inaugurated the first of September as the beginning of the liturgical year in honor of the victory of Emperor Constantine the Great (d. 337 A.D.), over his adversary, Emperor Maxentius, in 312 A.D. Prior to Constantine, Christianity was constantly exposed to persecution. But with Constantine's victory, as attested to by St. Ambrose (d. 397 A.D.), the Church began a new life. So indeed, Happy New Year!

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

**The Works of Christ:** Human ailments, suffering, and death are consequences of the Fall. Christ came to conquer sin, the cause of all our woes. Only Christ, as the God-man, has the power to free us from sin. He accomplishes this by means of forgiveness: "Friend, your sins are forgiven you" (Lk 5:20). Quite often, a physical cure or healing—as a result of forgiveness—becomes the visible sign of a spiritual change (in Greek, metanoia) within a person: "Stand up and take up your bed and go home" (Lk 5:24). Christ heals us by forgiving our sins and restoring our physical health. (#212)

*"We have an attraction – the faith of Jesus Christ according to our Eastern tradition – and we must have the 'courage to be ourselves' and to spread that word."*

Most Rev. Nicholas Samra



ST. GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH



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**Cantors: Jo Ann Hersh, Louisa Hersh, David Klacik      Facilities Supervisor: John Poiarkoff**

**Grounds Keepers: Rich Mudron, Rob Dzumba, Francis Hersh**

- 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



**What are your plans for growing your faith this new Liturgical year?**