

October 2, 2022
Seventeenth 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 8, pg. 161 - 163

Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., OCT. 2 **SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST**
8:30 A.M. **DIVINE LITURGY**
+ **George Seech**, offered by John & Elizabeth Harbist

The Lord's Day is the original feast day... a day of joy and freedom from work

SUN., OCT. 9 **EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST**
Holy Apostle James Alpheus
8:30 A.M. **DIVINE LITURGY**
For the Parishioners

Are you a son of the Most High?

"Lend to those from whom you do not hope to receive in return." "And what sort of a loan is this," he says, "to which there is no hope of return attached?" Consider the force of the statement, and you will admire the kindness of the Lawmaker. When you have the intention of providing for a poor person for the Lord's sake, it is at the same time both a gift and a loan. It is a gift because of the expectation of no repayment. It is a loan because of the great gift of the Master who pays in his place and who, receiving trifling things through a poor person, will give great things in return for them.

(St. Basil the Great, Homily on Psalm 14)

Happy Birthday Greetings:

October 4: Gladys Chabala

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)

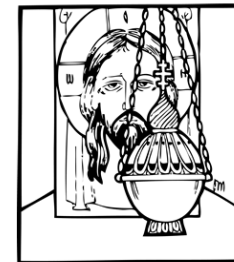
Betty Polas – **Apple Blossom Senior Living** (125 Apple Blossom Wy, #307, Moon Twp., PA 15108)

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

Epistle Readers – Oct. 2: Prudy Peya – Oct. 9: Dan Pinchot

Ushers – Stand in as needed

Troica Holders – Oct. 2: M. Bobanic – Oct. 9: F. Hersh



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP

October 2 - 8, 2022

Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:

+ John Salamon

(In loving memory)

Offered By:

Wife, Mary

What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

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

Coming Soon!

Pirohi Sales Return Next Week, October 14

Our Pirohi Project will return on Friday, October 14. This is a very important tradition for our St. George Church. Plan on purchasing your dinner from our Pirohi Project on October 14 and the second Friday of each month following. We are looking for additional pirohi workers and would be very grateful if new members could join on one or more days. Work days will be announced in next week's bulletin. We can't do this project without your help and support. Spread the word and come and help! Thank you!



Online Bible Study Opportunity:

Live Webinar from www.godwithusonline.org detailed below:

Wednesday, October 5, 12, & 19, 8 - 9 p.m. ET

Watch from the comfort of your home!

God With Us Online will be presenting a webinar Bible study with Fr. Sebastian Carnazzo, PhD, **SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER, An Introduction to the Holy Prophets** beginning Wednesday October 5. Who were these holy prophets that "through faith conquered kingdoms... received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire... put armies to flight" (Cf Heb. 13:32-34)? Join GWU over the next three weeks and learn the stories of these great Old Testament saints with Fr. Sebastian!

MAKE SURE TO BRING YOUR BIBLE! And please invite others! This study is a wonderful opportunity to invite non-Catholic friends and family to join us!

The webinar will open at 7:45 PM ET for our "pre-class tail-gate" and Fr. Sebastian will begin his presentation at 8 PM ET. We can't wait to see you!

Register at www.godwithusonline.org

GOD WITH US is an outreach project of the Eparchial Directors of Religious Education (ECED) and the Eastern Catholic Associates (ECA) and is dedicated to the catechetical renewal of Eastern Catholics in the United States in accord with the Church's call for a new evangelization. All programs are offered free of charge.

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!***



A Note from Father Geoff

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In the Divine Liturgy, after the first two Antiphons and before the third Antiphon, the clergy make the **Little Entrance**, with the Book of the Holy Gospels. This is accompanied by the faithful singing the **Hymn of the Incarnation**, sometimes called "Justinian's Hymn," because the Emperor Justinian (482-565) was responsible for its use in the Liturgy. The words of the ancient hymn are:

*O only-begotten Son and Word of God,
who being immortal, deigned for our salvation
to become incarnate of the holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary,
and became man without change;
you were also crucified, O Christ our God,
and by death have trampled Death,
being One of the Holy Trinity,
glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit, save us!*

This is a remarkable and beautiful hymn, the lyrics of which are really a series of profound theological statements. In this hymn we exclaim that Jesus Christ is fully God and fully human. We affirm that Mary is the God-bearer and that she conceived our Lord as a Virgin. We proclaim the paradoxical and mystical changelessness of Jesus Christ who, even though he was born in time, is "the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Hebrews 13.8). We affirm his crucifixion and death. We boldly proclaim that he has destroyed death. And we affirm our faith in the Holy Trinity.

This hymn is kind of like a Creed. However, unlike the Nicene Creed, which is a series of statements of belief, *this* hymn puts those statements of belief in the form of a prayer of petition. All of those statements about Jesus Christ, the Son and Word of God, are really *one, long invocation*, followed by the very simple request: "Save us!"

The Prophet Joel foretold of a time when "*everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved*" (Joel 2.32). St. Paul quotes this prophecy in his Epistle to the Romans, when he says, "*The same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for 'everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved'*" (Rom. 10.13)

And calling upon the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ is *precisely* what we're doing in this hymn. We are calling upon him who is the eternal, only-begotten Son and Word of God. We are invoking the one who was born of a Virgin. And, more than that, we are making all of these claims about Jesus with the recognition that ***all*** he did, he did "for our salvation." We are richly blessed when we call upon his name in this hymn.

Thanks be to God who was willing to become flesh for us, become obedient unto death for our salvation, and who has destroyed the power of death. May we never cease to sing the praises of his great mercy!

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Geoff

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

In today's Gospel, Jesus challenges us with a very personal question about motives. In every moral action of a human being there is a purpose, a motive, which "motivates" us to act. Sadly, in most instances, that motivation is for personal gain. I give someone a loan so as to hope for more in return. I love another because I was first loved by them. I do good to another because the other is doing good to me. I forgive another only if they first ask for forgiveness from me. Such is the world's approach to life – to live my life for personal advancement, and for personal gain.

Today Jesus challenges us to rise above this common approach to our moral actions, by inviting us to become "children of the Most High" and thereby beginning to live and act according to God's way of acting. It is Jesus who is Love Incarnate, and because he is God from all eternity, he needs nothing, he lacks nothing. There is nothing that God's creation can give him that he does not already possess. Hidden within this reality and revelation of the perfect nature of God is a simple but beautifully related truth: that God's love is totally self-less. While the world would like us to believe that we will obtain happiness and fulfillment by the acquisition of things, the Lord challenges this thinking by turning it on its head, and showing us that we—made in the image and likeness of God—will only discover fulfillment and happiness when we learn to give of ourselves for the sake of others. True wealth is not the acquisition of things, but the acquisition of God's way of life.

"Lend to those from whom you do not hope to receive in return."

"And what sort of a loan is this," he says, "to which there is no hope of a return attached?"

Consider the force of that statement, and admire the kindness of the Lawmaker. When you have the intention of providing for a poor person for the Lord's sake, it is at the same time both a gift and a loan. It is a gift because of the expectation of no repayment, but a loan because of the great gift of the Master who pays in his place and who, receiving trifling things through a poor person, will give great things in return for them.

St. Basil the Great



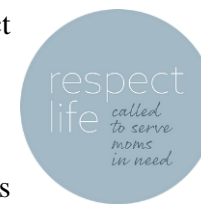
Be merciful, therefore, even as your Father is merciful

Respect Life Sunday Today

Every October the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month, and the first Sunday of October is observed as Respect Life Sunday. As Catholics, we are called to cherish, defend, and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning to the end of their lives, and at every point in between. During the month of October, the Church asks us to reflect more deeply on the dignity of every human life.

Let us pray:

That on this Respect Life Sunday our resolve may be strengthened to uphold the dignity of every human life; Let us pray to the Lord: Lord have Mercy.



The Body and Blood of Christ Poured Out for the Life of the World

The world receives the gift of Christ first in the Incarnation, and then in the Cross and the Resurrection. In Christ, God has become one of us. He has united Himself to us. He has entered into our suffering. Christ is pure, innocent, loving, just and meek. The poor love Him. His friends love Him. He speaks with authority. He is courageous when He teaches openly against the sins of corrupt religious and political leaders. He serves and teaches freely and willingly, without compulsion. In His ministry, He gives Himself as a gift in love. He gives Himself as a gift to all, but He is not received by all with joy. Whether out of envy or malice or greed, the Lord God made flesh, the gift of Christ, is betrayed, slandered, mocked, spit upon, beaten, scourged, abandoned, falsely accused, and cruelly put to death. The gift given freely is received without gratitude. On the night before the horror of the Crucifixion took place, He revealed to His disciples the purpose of His sacrificial offering. On the Cross, Jesus gives His life for our life. God, in His flesh, willingly suffers on the Cross. He pours out His body and blood for the life and salvation of the world. Before the Divine Liturgy begins, the priest prepares bread and wine for the Eucharistic offering with prayers and a ritual. The service is called the Proskomide. The seal on the bread is in the form of a square with the letters inscribed, "ICXC NIKA," or "Jesus Christ Conquers." The seal is called the Lamb. Taking the lance, the priest traces the sign of the cross over the lamb and says, "In remembrance of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ." Then, symbolically, mystically rather, the priest cuts the lamb out of the bread according to the ritual with particular prayers such as, "Like a sheep, He was led to the slaughter," "Like a spotless lamb, silent before its shearer, He opens not His mouth," etc. Christ is not re-sacrificed, but rather His sacrifice is represented. In the Eucharist, the gift of Christ, the one who offers and is offered, is made present at the hands of the priest.

Holy Rosary Gathering Next Sunday

The Holy Rosary will be recited at the Grotto of our Lady of Lourdes on Sunday, October 9, 2022, at the St Anthony Center in West Aliquippa at 3:00 pm. Deacon Anthony Giordano will lead the rosary and prayers. Refreshments and cookies will be served after the rosary. Everyone is welcome to attend. For further information please call 724-622-8445.

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



When you receive the love of God, you change