

October 30, 2022  
Twenty-First 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 Иисусу Христу! Слава на вики!*

Propers for this Sunday: Resurrectional Tone 4: pp. 141 - 142

Divine Services for the Week:

**SUN., OCT. 30**  
**8:30 A.M.**

**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY after PENTECOST**  
**DIVINE LITURGY**  
+ Lori Dickey Stevic, offered by Gretchen David

**SUN., NOV. 6**  
**8:30 A.M.**

**TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY after PENTECOST**  
**DIVINE LITURGY**  
+ George Seech, offered by John & Elizabeth Harbist

**Welcome Back Father Michael!**

This morning, as Fr. Geoff is away, we are honored to welcome back Fr. Michael Huszti to be our celebrant for the Divine Liturgy. We are grateful he has joined us and we pray that he would be blessed as he ministers to us today. Welcome, Fr. Michael!



*Please, remember to turn your clock 1 hour back this Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, before you go to bed. Standard Time Resumes November 6<sup>th</sup>.*

**Happy Birthday Greetings:**

None for the week

**Wedding Anniversaries:**

October 30: Shawn & Christine Cody, November 2: John & Anne Gural

**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)

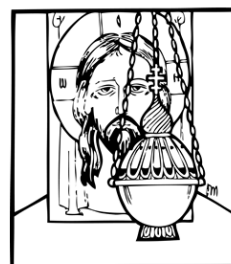
Betty Polas – **Apple Blossom Senior Living** (125 Apple Blossom Wy, #307, Moon Twp., PA 15108)

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

**Epistle Readers – Oct. 30: Joanne Futato – Nov. 6: Prudy Peya**

**Ushers – Stand in as needed**

**Troica Holders – Oct.30: M. Bobanic – Nov. 6: R. Mudron**



**THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP**  
October 30 – November 5, 2022

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

Daughter, + Linda Todd  
& Husband, + Art  
*(In loving memory)*

Offered By:  
Mary Salamon

**Don't be a swine!**

If there is anyone among us who is wanton, swinish, filth-loving, impure, and willingly contaminated with the abominations of sin, God will permit him to fall into their power and sink into the abyss of damnation. It will never happen that those who love Christ will become subject to them. It will never happen to us as long as we walk in his footsteps, avoid negligence in the performance of what is right, desire those things which are honorable, and belong to that virtuous and praiseworthy lifestyle that Christ has marked out for us by the precepts of the Gospel.

*(St. Cyril of Alexandria)*

**During this respect life month, let us pray:**

*May God grant us the wisdom and courage to lovingly protect His gift of human life at every stage, in sickness and in health; Let us pray to the Lord: Lord have Mercy*

## Free Adult Formation Opportunity:

Live Webinar from [www.godwithusonline.org](http://www.godwithusonline.org) detailed below:

**Wednesdays, November 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> 8 - 9 p.m. ET**

Watch from the comfort of your home!

God With Us Online will be presenting a free webinar with Rev. David Anderson, **O JOYFUL LIGHT, An Introduction to Evening Prayer** beginning Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The setting of the sun has always inspired the Church to turn to the Lord in prayer. In this time of year, as the sun is beginning to set earlier, how especially fitting it is for us to seek a greater love and understanding of the great tradition of evening prayer in the Church. Join GWU as Fr. David teaches us the importance and unique character of this special hour in the Church's life of prayer.

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

Register at [www.godwithusonline.org](http://www.godwithusonline.org)

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## 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Carpatho-Rusyn Celebration

**Today, October 30**, St. John the Baptist Church in Uniontown, PA, located at 201 E. Main Street, is reviving its annual ethnic festival in the Parish Social Hall from **Noon to 6:00 pm**. There will be ethnic foods such as holubki, pirohi, halushki, kolbasi and sauerkraut, soup, potato pancakes, pagach, baked goods and much more. This annual event will include musical entertainment throughout the day and a speaker and/or video presentation on Rusyn culture and customs (program subject to change). Handicapped accessible. Admission is free.

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## St. Matrona Cookie Walk

Ss. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Carnegie is hosting its 19th Annual St. Matrona Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 20, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM (or until sold out). A variety of Eastern European holiday cookies, traditional favorites, homemade nut rolls & gluten free cookies will be available. Most cookies sold by the pound. No online orders. For questions: [smladiessociety@gmail.com](mailto:smladiessociety@gmail.com)

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## Opportunities for Stewardship

Would you like to offer stewardship to the church by being a troika holder (*Holding the triple candle during the Gospel*) or reader? Please consider these important and rewarding ministries to the Church and speak to Father Geoff if interested.

*(Other stewardship opportunities are listed on the back cover and below)*

## Next Pirohi Sale: November 11

Our next Pirohi Sale will be on Friday, November 11. This is a very important tradition for our St. George Church. Plan on purchasing your dinner from our Pirohi Project on November 11 and the second Friday of each month following. **We encourage all who are able to please come and help. Work days will be Monday, Nov. 7 at 9:00 AM, and Wednesday and Thursday Nov. 9 & 10 at 9:00 AM. Friday we begin at 6:30 AM.** We can't do this project without your help and support. Spread the word and come and help! Thank you!

## A Note from Father Geoff

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

After we hear the writings of the Apostles (the Epistle & Gospel) in the Divine Liturgy, a homily or sermon is customarily given by the priest or deacon. This dates from the very earliest days of the Church and, indeed, actually *predates* Christianity. In the synagogue tradition of Judaism, after the reading of the Hebrew Scriptures, a rabbi would be expected to expound the meaning of the text.

We see this even in the life of Jesus. At the beginning of his ministry - after his Baptism and Temptation - Jesus returned to his hometown of Nazareth. And we read that, "*As was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath Day, and he stood up and read. And the scroll of the Prophet Isaiah was given to him.*" (Luke 4.16-17). After reading the passage, he rolls up the scroll and gives it back to the attendant. And it says he "*sat down.*" In those days, the listeners would be standing and the preacher would sit as a sign of his authority. And then Jesus tells them that the scripture was fulfilled in their hearing.

The Scriptures are life-giving, divine, and God-breathed (that is, *inspired*). Reading them, listening to them, meditating on them is good for our spiritual lives. Striving to live our lives in accordance with the grand story that the Scriptures give - God's love for the world he created; his sacrifice to save us - is part and parcel of the Christian life. But we don't read and study the Scriptures alone. We read and study them *together with the whole Church in time and space*. And the purpose of the homily each week is to help us in our ever-deepening understanding of the "faith once delivered to the saints;" that is, the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

As a priest, I am well aware that some homilies are good and some fall flat. Some homilies are moving and others leave us unfeeling. That's to be expected. But the goal of the homily, like that of all the liturgy, is to bring us closer to the heart of the Lord who loves us, who gave himself for us, and who calls us each by name.

May we listen for His voice every day of our lives - not only in the liturgy, not only in the homily, but always and everywhere.

Glory to Jesus Christ!

*Fr. Geoff*



## ***Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost***

Christ called Himself the "Good Shepherd." Throughout His lifetime He showed that special concern for others which marks a true shepherd. Jesus lived on this earth for some 33 years, and during that time He went about the land of Israel healing the sick, comforting the afflicted, forgiving sins, and teaching the great truths of God. The lesson from St. Luke tells us today of an incident that is typical of Christ the Good Shepherd. Jesus had been teaching and helping in the city of Capernaum, which was a sort of headquarters for Him. Throngs of people kept coming to Him for help. Suddenly, He decided to go to the other shore of the Sea of Galilee. The apostles probably wondered why He wanted to go there to the land of the Gadarenes. In fact, on this trip a violent storm came up and all but sank the boat. By a wonderful miracle, Jesus stopped the wind and the wave. But what was pulling the Lord to the other shore of the lake? There was a "lost sheep" there, and the Good Shepherd was going to find him.



What sort of a "lost sheep" was this? Jesus found him in the country of the Gadarenes, a demon-possessed man who lived in caves and tombs off the shore. We might call him a "wild man" in our day, naked and uncontrollable. No chains could hold him, except the chains of Christ. The Good Shepherd had come to save this lost sheep. The Lord healed the man, and in the process of driving out the evil spirits, a herd of swine perished into the sea. The man was "wild" no more, but sat quietly, now clothed, at the feet of Christ.

When the people saw the great change that had come over the sick man, and when they learned of the loss of swine that was involved with his healing, they came to Christ and asked Him to leave. They were afraid. As Jesus got into the boat to go back to His land, the healed man came and asked to go along with Him. But Jesus told him to go to his own home and to tell others what wonderful things God had done for him.

May we learn from this Gospel what a truly Good Shepherd the Lord was and IS. He met the people's needs as He found them. He was practical in His ministry to others. He was sad at the sight of sorrow, and did what He could to alleviate it. But the Lord still is the Good Shepherd! Seated at the right hand of the Father, He still feels and knows human heartache and intercedes for our help and comfort. Next we notice the ingratitude of the Gadarene people in beseeching Christ to leave their land, all because they had lost their property. They had put gold before God and wanted no part of Christ and His teaching, because the herd of swine had perished into the sea at the time of the healing miracle. When Jesus disturbed their great love, they wanted no part of Him.

*Find the courage from God to tell everyone what good things God has done for you*

This is a common human attitude. We get set in our loves, our ways and our sins, and we don't want anyone or anything to disturb us. People will pray, will give, will belong, will work, so long as the Church doesn't disturb them. Yet it is the function of the Christian Church to change us, to give us the "abundant life" of Christ. He wants us to live on the best and highest level of life. How careful we must be, lest we, in so many ingenious ways, tell the Lord to leave us alone in our set ways.

Remember what Christ told the healed man after his request to go with the Lord to Galilee? Jesus told him he should not come with Him. "Return to your own house," Jesus said, "and show the great things that God has done for you." The man obeyed and did as the Lord had requested. How much Christian work is left undone right in our own backyards! Our own families, our own neighborhoods, our own communities, need to feel the impact and influence of Christ. We talk to our children and to others about everything under the sun, from A to Z – except Christ the Son of God. Somehow our lips are sealed and we find it so difficult to speak of that Name, which is above every other Name.

The healed man, once possessed with evil spirits, was now possessed with Christ. He spoke to others of his wonderful encounter with the Lord. What a tremendous change had resulted from his meeting with Christ there on the shores of the sea. Others, who knew him well, were amazed at the change for good that had come over him. Every Sunday we meet Christ here in this house of the Lord. We believe we unite ourselves with Him in the mystery of the Holy Eucharist. Can others tell that we have been in the presence of the Lord by the joy and beauty of our lives – by our thoughts, words and actions?

### **Bishop Theodore G. Romzha (Oct. 31): A Victim of Soviet Persecution**

"I love you, O Lord, my strength; You are my stronghold and my refuge!" – Ps. 18, 2-3. These were the words which Bishop Theodore G. Romzha, the Apostolic Administrator of the Mukachevo Eparchy (1944-1947), chose as his motto, i.e. the guiding principle of his episcopal ministry. He was only 33 years old and yet he had to face the invasion by the Soviets, followed by the persecution of the Greek Catholic Church in Subcarpathian Ruthenia. However, he did not lose heart. He defended his spiritual flock with great courage and love. He even laid down his own life for his sheep. Therefore, he justly deserves our esteem. In him we gained a powerful protector in heaven...

To read more about this blessed martyr of our Church:

<https://archpitt.org/bishop-theodore-g-romzha-a-victim-of-soviet-persecution/>



*Demons are cruel, mischievous, hurtful and treacherous to those who are in their power. See how they hurried the swine over a precipice and drowned them in the waters? ... It will never happen that those who love Christ will become subject to them, as long as we walk in his footsteps, avoid negligence in doing what is right, desire that which is honorable, and follow the virtuous and praiseworthy lifestyle that Christ has marked out for us by the precepts of the Gospel.*

St. Cyril of Jerusalem

**ST. GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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Religious: Sr. Mary Virginia O' Carm

Holy Protection Convent, 1000 Clinton St. 724-378-0238



**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, or by appointment

**Holy Mysteries of Initiation** ..... Contact the pastor

**Holy Mystery of Anointing** ..... Contact the pastor prior to surgery or in the event of illness

**Holy Mystery of Marriage** ..... Contact the pastor six months prior to wedding

**Pirohi Sales** ..... 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month

**St. George Ladies' Guild & Men's Club** ..... Everyone welcome to participate

**Opportunities for Stewardship** ... ..Church and grounds cleaning and maintenance: Every Saturday,

Pirohi making: 2<sup>nd</sup> week of each month.

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*From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the Lord is to be praised! Psalm 113:3*