

HOLY SPIRIT BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4815 5th Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 - Rectory Phone: 412-687-1220

Website: holyspiritbycath.com - Email: holyspiritinformation@gmail.com

Administrator: Reverend Michael D. Kunitz, M. Div.

Email: FrMichaelKunitz@gmail.com

Cantor: Julia Revilak & Family

Sub-Deacon: Raphael Ruggiero

June 15, 2025

Sunday of All Saints

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday, June 15: Sunday of All Saints – Father’s Day

7:45 am Rosary, 8:00 am Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm Confession, 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy – Side Altar of the Resurrection

IHO All Fathers Living & Deceased

Monday, June 16: 6:00 pm Confession, 7:00 pm Akathist to Our Lady of the Searcher for the Lost

Friday, June 20: 6:00 pm Confession, 7:00 pm Divine Liturgy

IHO Mary Dzurichko Birthday by Theresa Carr

Saturday, June 21: 11:00 am GENERAL PARISH MEETING

5:00 pm Confession, 6:00 pm Great Vespers

Sunday, June 22: Second Sunday After Pentecost

7:45 am Rosary, 8:00 am Divine Liturgy

IHO Milan Revilak, Sr. Birthday by His Family

5:00 pm Confession, 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy – Side Altar of the Crucifixion

Divine Liturgies are open for intentions for this new year. If you would like to make an intention for a Liturgy, please call the office or fill out request form in the back of the church and give it to Fr. Michael.

PARISH POTLUCK THANK YOU! We thank everyone who helped celebrate our **118th Anniversary** last week.

GENERAL PARISH MEETING: Will be **Saturday, June 21 at 11:00 am.** All parishioners are strongly encouraged to attend the meeting and to actively participate.

GCU PRESENTATION: The representative from the GCU will be giving a presentation on **Sunday June 29th**, after the 8:00 am Liturgy. The presentation will include information on insurance, investments and social opportunities. Each year the GCU supports our Byzantine Churches through matching our fundraisers. So please consider attending to learn about the products and services they offer. Refreshments will be served.

ICONS AVAILABLE: There are several blessed icons in the church hall, there is no cost to take these home, though a free will offering for the benefit of the parish is welcome.

COFFEE SOCIAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: In addition to attending services together, it is important that we spend time in conversation with one another. To make it truly a time of sharing – we ask everyone to sign up to host a Sunday. We look forward to seeing you!

JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

May God grant you many happy and blessed years!

June 1 - Thomas & Kathryn Martz Wedding Anniversary

June 13 – Julia Revilakova Birthday

June 13 – Zuzana Revilakova Birthday

June 15 – Mary Dzurichko

June 16 – Milan Revilak, Sr. Birthday

2025 BYZANTINE ASSEMBLY JULY 16-20, WHITING, IN: Join us as we worship and walk alongside our bishops, hear inspiring discussions on faith and mission, and connect with fellow Byzantine Catholics from across the Metropolitan. Register now at ByzantineAssembly.org You can also see Fr. Michael for a paper registration.

AT THE DIVINE LITURGY TODAY

As Jesus' followers, we're all called to Sanctity in God's sight. Many Old Testament people were perfected in such holiness through hardships and trials. Jesus Himself tells us that no earthly obstacle should impede us from imitating and following Him and thus attaining our goal of becoming a Saint.

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER HOLY PENTECOST IS ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

With The Feast of All Saints our Byzantine Catholic Church solemnly commemorates the memories of all of the holy people of God. Each saint has a proper feast day throughout the year, but on this first Sunday after the Descent of the Holy Spirit, the Church designates a common commemoration for all saints. The theme presented at the Divine Liturgy on this All Saints Feast Day accentuates the sanctity or holiness in the sight of God to which all of Jesus' followers have been called. We thus pay tribute to all those righteous people who through the centuries have achieved holiness by following in their daily lives here on earth the footsteps of the Master, Jesus Christ – the Messiah, the Savior of mankind. We remember today all those saints who have been officially recognized and solemnly canonized by the Church as well as all those holy people who have not received this formal recognition and are known but to God. Since these people are truly with God, they are indeed numbered among His saints of heaven. And in remembering such holy men and women, the Church exhorts us not only to pay tribute to them, but most of all, to follow them and to imitate them in our quest for that same desired goal: holiness and sanctity in God's sight – sainthood for each of us!

EPISTLE: Hebrews 11: 32 – 12: 2

Brethren: By faith (the Saints) conquered kingdoms, did what was just, obtained the promises; they broke the jaws of lions, put out raging fires, escaped the devouring sword; though weak they were made powerful, became strong in battle, and turned back foreign invaders. Women received back their dead through resurrection. Others were tortured and would not receive deliverance, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Still others endured mockery, scourging, even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, sawed in two, put to death at sword's point; they went about garbed in the skins of sheep or goats, needy, afflicted, tormented. The world was not worthy of them. They wandered about in deserts and on mountains, they dwelt in caves and in holes of the earth. Yet despite the fact that all of these were approved because of their faith, they did not obtain what had been promised. God had made a better plan, a plan which included us. Without us, they were not to be made perfect. Therefore, since we for our part are surrounded by this cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every encumbrance of sin, which clings to us and persevere in running the race which lies ahead; let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, who inspires and perfects our faith.

--In making a solemn commemoration today of all of God's Holy People or Saints, we read from this particular section of the letter written to the Jewish Christians of antiquity. The Old Testament is replete with examples of the faith that was exhibited by the righteous people of God. From being spiritually weak and frail, such people developed into mighty religious warriors precisely because of the hardships that they endured and the struggles through which they persevered. Though challenged many times with seemingly insuperable obstacles, these faithful people trusted in their God, and thereby they increased in holiness. Some of them were exposed to tortures, humiliation and indignities, yet their sanctity was perfected through such ordeals which they overcame with God's help. The New Testament offers as the ultimate Example with regard to faith: Jesus. He is the supreme Model, showing us how to fulfill perfectly the holy will of God.

The Lord Jesus is the very Source and Goal of our faith. God is the Perfection of all holiness, and in our earthly quest for Sanctity, we look to Him in order to increase in holiness and faithfulness to God the Father.

GOSPEL: Matthew 10: 32-33; 37-38; 19: 27-30

“Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me.” Then Peter said to him in reply, “We have given up everything and followed you. What will there be for us?” Jesus said to them, “Amen, I say to you that you who have followed me, in the new age, when the Son of Man is seated on his throne of glory, will yourselves sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has given up houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands for the sake of my name will receive a hundred times more, and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.

--With our observance of the Sunday of All Saints today, we are reading from this gospel passage written by the Holy Evangelist Matthew. Jesus declares that if any person publicly acknowledges Him in the world, this individual will receive Jesus' recognition in eternity before God the Father. On the other hand, anyone who places any earthly love or desire before his love of and his commitment to God is not worthy of God, neither in this life, nor especially in the existence that awaits each of us in eternity. In calling all people to follow Him, Jesus exhorts each of us individually to strive for holiness and perfection. The Saints or Holy People of God are precisely the ones who have taken the Lord Jesus' invitation seriously, trying to put into effect His mandates in their daily lives. This call to Sanctity requires that we follow faithfully in the Lord's footsteps throughout our lives. While He was here on earth, Jesus Himself gave us the example of complete holiness and true perfection in the sight of God. As His followers, we must ever strive by the graces of the Holy Spirit to emulate our Savior's example and attempt to imitate His own life and actions. Those who heed the call to holiness and follow the Lord Jesus in this life will be greatly rewarded in heaven!

ON-LINE GIVING IS HERE! If you wish to make a monetary donation to our parish – you can do so on our website or by using this QR code. Remember every dollar helps support the mission of our parish community. Thank you.



PRAYER FOR OUR FOUR SAINTLY BISHOPS: Please pray for the causes of our four Saintly Bishops and ask them to intercede for your specific intentions: O Almighty God, our Lord, we bless You, we praise You, and we thank you for all the graces which You, in Your infinite mercy have bestowed upon us. We are especially grateful for giving us four saintly and heroic Bishops: **Bishop Theodore G. Romzha, Bishop Paul P. Gojdich OBSM, Bishop Basil Hopko, and Bishop Alexander Chira**, who, by their courage, charity, and intrepid faith, inspired our Ruthenian people in the darkest moments of their history. By their great sufferings, humiliating imprisonment, and violent death they gave living witness to their Catholic faith and glorified Your exalted name. Therefore, O Gracious Lord, glorify them in return by Your divine power and inscribe their names in the book of Your Saints. For you are holy, our God, and we render glory to You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and forever, Amen. With Ecclesiastical Approbation Acknowledgment of answered prayers: Postulator's office, 54 Riverview Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15214, U.S.A.

PRAYER FOR SEMINARIANS: **Saints Cyril and Methodius**, Venerable Apostles of the Slavs and Patrons of our Byzantine Catholic Seminary, we place our Seminarians in your loving care. Help them to grow in humility, meekness and prudence. Enkindle in them a burning zeal for souls. May their hearts be filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and may they learn to know and love the church so that they may always and everywhere think, speak and act with Her, the Glorious Spouse of Christ. May they become exemplars of generosity and detachment from the things of this world. But above all, O Venerable Patrons, help them to truly know, love and serve the Eternal High Priest, Our Lord Jesus Christ, Whose priests they aspire to be. Amen. St. Michael the Archangel, Defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray. And do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, By the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen