

HOLY SPIRIT BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
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Cantor: Julia Revilak & Family
Sub-Deacon: Raphael Ruggiero

July 6, 2025
Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday, July 6: Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

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

IMO Msgr. Duker by Mary Dzurichko

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

Monday, July 7: NO SERVICES

Friday, July 11: 6:00 pm Confession, 7:00 pm Divine Liturgy

Saturday, July 12: :600 pm Confession, 6:00 pm Great Vespers

Sunday, July 13: Sunday of the Fathers of the Six Ecumenical Councils

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

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.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: Holy Spirit is continuing our special collection through the end of July to help raise \$4,000 needed for our Cathedraticum contribution. To date we have received **\$284.00**, though we are still counting, and we thank everyone for their help during this time. Remember that on-line giving is an option – see the QR Code below.

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS: If you are interested in learning to lead Matins as a Reader's Service on Sunday before Liturgy, please see Father Michael. Matins is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month unless otherwise noted.

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!

JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

Joseph Bacasa -Birthday July 27

Judith Ann Mackin -Birthday July 25

May God grant you many happy and blessed years!

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 form to mail in.

A CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE: Sunday, September 07, 2025 at St. Elias, Munhall

If you are celebrating your 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60 Wedding Anniversary please provide your information on the sign-up sheet in the narthex, **by Sunday, July 14, 2023.**

EPISTLE: Romans 6:18-23

Brethren: Freed from your sin, you became slaves of justice. (I use the following example from human affairs because of your weak human nature.) Just as formerly you enslaved your bodies to impurity and licentiousness for their degradation, make them now the servants of justice for their sanctification. When you were slaves of sin, you had freedom from justice. What benefit did you then enjoy? Things you are now ashamed of, all of them tending toward death. But now that you are freed from sin and have become slaves of God, your benefit is sanctification as you tend toward eternal life. The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

~In this particular section of the Holy Apostle Paul's letter to the early community of Christians at Rome, he tells them that through their FAITH in the Lord Jesus, they were released from the service of sin and placed in the service of righteousness and God's justice. Paul tells the Romans to give voluntarily to the service of righteousness for the purpose of becoming really good. The false freedom of sin leads to futility in this present earthly life and then leads to death in eternity. However, if we accept the genuine freedom of "the yoke of Christ" by following His Law, then we are truly liberated children of God, and we are enabled to inherit that New Life in eternity which has been promised to us by our Divine Master. Because we all have received redemption through faith in Jesus our risen Savior, we now are "employed" by God, and thus we owe our duty to Him and not to the service of sin. Sin pays its servants; the wage is eternal death! But God gives constantly and always rewards His faithful servants. His free, precious gift is life eternal!

GOSPEL: Matthew 8:5-13

When he entered Capernaum, a centurion approached him and appealed to him, saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, suffering dreadfully." He said to him, "I will come and cure him." The centurion said in reply, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you enter under my roof; only say the word and my servant will be healed. For I too am a person subject to authority, with soldiers subject to me. And I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come here,' and he comes; and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard this, he was amazed and said to those following him, "Amen, I say to you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith. I say to you, many will come from the east and the west, and will recline with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob at the banquet in the kingdom of heaven, but the children of the kingdom will be driven out into the outer darkness, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth." And Jesus said to the centurion, "You may go; as you have believed, let it be done for you." And at that very hour [his] servant was healed.

~The Holy Evangelist Matthew presents us with the first of the miracle accounts that we will consider today and for the next several Sundays throughout the summer season. As Jesus was entering Capernaum on one occasion, a Roman centurion approached Him and asked Jesus to heal his servant who was paralyzed and in dreadful pain. Jesus told the soldier that He would come to his house and cure this servant. In deference to Jesus, however, the centurion protested, saying that it's not important enough for Jesus to come to his house. The man merely wanted our Lord to give the order, and he was confident that his servant would recover. Jesus truly was astonished at this pagan soldier's FAITH in Him. Even more striking than the initial confidence in the Lord is the deep expression of trust that the soldier shows when he declares to Jesus that just a single word would be sufficient to cure his servant boy. The centurion was not a Jew, and he was not expected to have this faith in Jesus; but he did. The man fully believed that Jesus could perform such a healing, and he was rewarded commensurately. The Roman centurion's servant was restored to health with Jesus pronouncing this unique acclaim: "I assure you that nowhere, even in Israel, have I ever found this much faith!"

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