

**HOLY SPIRIT BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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Administrator: Reverend Michael D. Kunitz, M. Div.  
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Cantor: Julia Revilak & Family  
Sub-Deacon: Raphael Ruggiero

**July 20, 2025**  
**Sunday of Elijah the Great Prophet**

**SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES**

**Sunday, July 20: Sixth Sunday After Pentecost – Elijah the Great Prophet**

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

**IMO Michael Dubansky by his siblings Mark Dubansky & Sandy Anderson**

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

**Monday, July 21: 6:00 pm Confession, 7:00 pm Daily Vespers**

**Friday, July 25: The Dormition of Holy Anna**

6:00 pm Confession, 7:00 pm Divine Liturgy

**IHO Judith Ann Mackin on her Birthday by Holy Spirit Parish**

**Saturday, July 26: 5:00 pm Confession, 6:00 pm Great Vespers**

**Sunday, July 27: Seventh Sunday After Pentecost**

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

**IHO Joseph Bacasa Birthday by Theresa Carr**

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 **\$488.00** and we thank everyone for their help during this time. Remember that on-line giving is an option – see the QR Code below.

**TODAY IS THE FEAST OF THE GREAT PROPHET ELIJAH:** As the great prophet Elijah was swept into the heavens in a fiery chariot, it is tradition to bless our own chariots on his feast day. Following Liturgy, we will be doing the blessing of the vehicles, motorcycles, bicycles or anything that conveys you from point to point is able to be blessed in the parking lot after both liturgies.

**WELCOME ETHIOPIAN BISHOP!** This coming Saturday morning the Bishop of our Ethiopian Brothers & Sisters will be here to celebrate the group's Patronal Feast Day with a special service. God grant him many blessed years!

**AUG 23<sup>rd</sup> FLEA MARKET:** We are currently accepting donations for our next flea market. It's a great time to clean out your closets, but please no books or clothing! **Donations will be accepted through August 10!** We will need volunteers to help set up the tables and price items – more details to follow. We hope you can support this important fundraiser. Please see Mary Dzurichko with any questions.

**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.

### **JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:**

**May God grant you many happy and blessed years!**

Joseph Bacasa – July 27

Judith Ann Mackin – July 25

Martina & Milan Revilak Jr. 16<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary – July 29

**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!

### **EPISTLE: Romans 12:6-14**

Brethren: We have gifts that differ according to the favor bestowed on each of us. One's gift may be prophecy; its use should be in proportion to his faith. It may be the gift of ministry; it should be used for service. One who is a teacher should use his gift for teaching; one with the power of exhortation should exhort. He who gives alms should do so generously; he who rules should exercise his authority with care; he who performs works of mercy should do so cheerfully. Your love must be sincere. Detest what is evil, cling to what is good. Love one another with the affection of brothers. Anticipate each other in showing respect. Do not grow slack but fervent in spirit; he whom you serve is the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient under trial, persevere in prayer. Look on the needs of the saints as your own; be generous in offering hospitality. Bless your persecutors; bless and do not curse them.

~In this portion of his letter which he addressed to the community of early Christians at Rome, the Holy Apostle Paul exhorts them to display true Christian BEHAVIOR. This involves a genuine break with evil and a real devotion to doing what is right and good. Paul speaks about the gifts that God has given to each of us, and he implores the Romans to use such attributes to the fullest for the glory of God. "If our gift be preaching, preach to the limit. If it be serving others, concentrate on such service; if teaching, let us give all we have...; if stimulating the faith of others, let us set ourselves to this task." All of us are called by God to be generous, and we must give freely of ourselves to others. This is proper Christian behavior in God's sight. However, the summit of all virtues is forgiving and blessing those who make us miserable. This is so difficult to put into practice, but this is actually a true indication of the genuine follower of Jesus—a real Christian. We all need to strive for this level of behavior, and our Lord Himself will help us.

### **GOSPEL: Matthew 9:1-8**

He entered a boat, made the crossing, and came into his own town. And there people brought to him a paralytic lying on a stretcher. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Courage, child, your sins are forgiven." At that, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." Jesus knew what they were thinking, and said, "Why do you harbor evil thoughts? Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he then said to the paralytic, "Rise, pick up your stretcher, and go home." He rose and went home. When the crowds saw this, they were struck with awe and glorified God who had given such authority to human beings.

~The Holy Evangelist Matthew relates for us the third in our summer series of miracle accounts as we hear of the cure of a certain paralytic man at Capernaum. Jesus was extremely impressed by the BEHAVIOR of the people who brought this crippled man to Him to be cured. Observing their strong faith, our Lord first forgave the paralytic's sins. After He had attended to the man's spiritual life by remitting his sins, Jesus then proceeded to cure his paralyzed body. In response to the protests and objections of the Jewish leaders who were present, Jesus, Who was aware of their cynical thoughts, castigated them by asking if it were easier to cure the soul (by forgiving sins) or to heal the body (by correcting a deformity). Since God alone was capable of performing either of these, the implications were obvious. Our behavior—the way we conduct ourselves—in the sight of God has a good deal to do with the way in which God responds to our

petitions and to our requests for favors. Would our Lord be impressed by our actions? Would Jesus be willing to perform a miracle for us after observing our own faith and the way that we conduct ourselves in His sight?

**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