HOLY SPIRIT BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4815 5th Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 - Rectory Phone: 412-687-1220
Website: holyspiritbyzcath.com - Email: holyspiritinformation@gmail.com

Administrator: Reverend Michael D. Kunitz, M. Div.
Email: FrMichaelKunitz@gmail.com
Cantor: Julia Revilak & Family
Sub-Deacon: Raphael Ruggiero

April 26, 2026

Sunday of the Paralytic Man

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday Apr 26: **Sunday of the Paralytic Man:** 8:00 AM Divine Liturgy
40th Day Commemoration passing of Elsie Merem by Theresa Carr

6:00 pm Divine Liturgy

Monday Apr 27: **6:00 pm Confessions, 7:00 pm Daily Vespers**

Wednesday April 29: **Mid-Pentecost**
6:00 pm Confessions, 7:00 pm Divine Liturgy
IHO Lynn Walicki for her Birthday by the Parish

Friday May 1: **6:00 pm Confessions, 7:00 pm Divine Liturgy**

Saturday May 2: **5:00 pm Confessions, 6:00 pm Great Vespers**

Sunday May 3: **Sunday of the Samaritan Woman:** 8:00 AM Divine Liturgy
IMO Maxine Ann Kulp by her son John Kulp

6:00 pm Divine Liturgy

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.

SAVE THE DATE: **We will celebrate the 119th Anniversary of our parish on Sunday, May 31.** More details to follow.

EASTERN CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES (ECF): Our ECF program has begun meetings on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at 5:00 pm in the church hall. We hope the program will continue to grow to weekly meetings. For more information, please see Eugene Yeo.

ST. PIUS X SPRING CRAFT & VENDOR SHOW: **Saturday May 2 from 9 am-3 pm. Come for the crafts, stay for the snacks! We will also have a basket auction and baked goods for sale.**

APRIL/MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES: **May God grant you many happy and blessed years!**
April 2 – Scarlett Revilak

April 3 – Milan Revilak Jr.

April 15 – Cathy Warhola

April 30 – Lynne Walicki

May 9 – Marcelino Revilak

Don't see your birthday or anniversary? Let us know so we can update the directory!

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.

MORNING LITURGY COFFEE SOCIAL VOLUNTEERS: 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!

EVENING LITURGY SOCIAL: In addition to attending services together, it is important that we spend time in conversation with one another. Please join us in the hall following the liturgy for fellowship. We look forward to seeing you!

EPISTLE: Acts 9:32-42

As Peter was passing through every region, he went down to the holy ones living in Lydda. There he found a man named Aeneas, who had been confined to bed for eight years, for he was paralyzed. Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and make your bed." He got up at once. And all the inhabitants of Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord. Now in Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which translated means Dorcas). She was completely occupied with good deeds and almsgiving. Now during those days, she fell sick and died, so after washing her, they laid [her] out in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So, Peter got up and went with them. When he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs where all the widows came to him weeping and showing him the tunics and cloaks that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter sent them all out and knelt down and prayed. Then he turned to her body and said, "Tabitha, rise up." She opened her eyes, saw Peter, and sat up. He gave her his hand and raised her up, and when he had called the holy ones and the widows, he presented her alive. This became known all over Joppa, and many came to believe in the Lord.

GOSPEL: John 5:1-15

After this, there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem at the Sheep [Gate] a pool called in Hebrew Bethesda, with five porticoes. In these lay a large number of ill, blind, lame, and crippled. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been ill for a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be well?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; while I am on my way, someone else gets down there before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your mat, and walk." Immediately the man became well, took up his mat, and walked. Now that day was a sabbath. So, the Jews said to the man who was cured, "It is the sabbath, and it is not lawful for you to carry your mat." He answered them, "The man who made me well told me, 'Take up your mat and walk.'" They asked him, "Who is the man who told you, 'Take it up and walk'? The man who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had slipped away, since there was a crowd there. After this Jesus found him in the temple area and said to him, "Look, you are well; do not sin anymore, so that nothing worse may happen to you." The man went and told the Jews that Jesus was the one who had made him well.

A WORD FROM FR. MICHAEL: The intervention of Christ on our behalf did more than just give physical visual sight to the blind, audible hearing/speech to the deaf and mute, and physical mobility to those who were paralyzed (though He did do those things as well). He was able to break us from the narrow confines by which we deal with obstacles of all kinds. Problems which are physical, spiritual, human, political, social, or of any variety came to shake up and solve in a way which we were wholly unable to expect or even comprehend. He showed us that the various maladies which plague the world are solved by an appeal to a power greater than it all. God, that supreme principle beyond our comprehension, thinks and acts in ways which we can hardly fathom. By taking on our human condition, Christ showed us the ways to live our lives in true faith, hope, and love which banish from this world every lingering effect of evil, even the cold grip of death itself.

We had been blind to truth, and so He opened our eyes to see it. We had been deaf to the voice of God and unable to speak it fully, so He loosened our tongues. We were frozen by the cycle of sin, evil, and death, and so He gave us His very life to break that cycle once and for all. Slavish devotion to a law for the sake of the letters rather than for the sake of the law giver would not suffice to heal the paralytic man, and so the Lord of the Sabbath took pity on him and broke the Sabbath so that the man who was unable to even move was finally able to rest. This same Lord saw us frozen by our fears and wicked desires, and mounted the Cross to break open the graves, that we may live new and dynamic lives driven towards the objective good of the Love of God, rather than in the death of the subjective fear of our former master.

SAINT OF THE DAY: 4/26 **The holy martyr Basil, bishop of Amasea in Pontus**. Under the emperor Licinius, he was cast into the sea and martyred. (322)

4/30 **The holy apostle James the Greater**, brother of John the Theologian. He was the son of Zebedee and, with Peter and John, was a witness of the Transfiguration of the Lord and of his agony. Beheaded at the feast of the Passover by Herod Agrippa, he was the first of the Apostles to receive the crown of martyrdom.

ON-LINE GIVING: 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.