

HOLY SPIRIT BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Administrator: Reverend Michael D. Kunitz

Email: FrMichaelKunitz@gmail.com

Cantor: Julia Revilak & Family

Altar Servers: Sub-Deacon Raphael Ruggiero & Emanuel Revilak

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

SUNDAY: SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Schedule of Divine Services

Sunday, Sept. 3: Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8-8:45am Confessions, 8:23am Rosary, 8:45am 3rd Hour, 9:00am Divine Liturgy

For Rosalie Yeo on her Birthday, by her Godparents

Monday, Sept. 4: 11am Confessions through Campus Ministry

6pm Confessions, 7pm Daily Vespers

Friday, Sept. 8: Nativity of the Theotokos

6pm Confessions, 7pm Divine Liturgy

For the deceased Katrina Jirsa

St. Pius X in Carrick will celebrate Divine Liturgy at 12 Noon.

Saturday, Sept. 9: 6pm Confessions, 7pm Great Vespers

Sunday, Sept. 10: Sunday Before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

PLEASE NOTE THE SHIFT BACK TO OUR WINTER SCHEDULE

10:25am Rosary, 10:45am 3rd Hour, 11:00am Divine Liturgy

For the deceased Dolores Sodano, by Anne Petro

Confessions are available before Divine Liturgy. All divine liturgies are open for intentions. Call the office or fill out the request form in the back of church and leave it in the sacristy.

PARISH FLEA MARKET CLEAN-UP: We need to sort, package, and store the remaining flea market items before September 14. If you are able to help, please let Fr. Michael know your availability. Thank you!

SUNDAY LITURGY TIME SWITCH COMING!!

The Sunday Divine Liturgy will resume its Fall-Spring time of **11:00 AM on September 10**. Please don't forget! Anyone interested in learning how to lead Sunday Matins should speak with Fr. Michael.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED PRAYERS! We are delighted to announce the front stairs and planters have been replaced, and the railings will be installed in the coming weeks. Please continue to pray for the success of this endeavor!

GROUNDS CLEAN-UP: As with the hall cleaning, we will plan to work on a fall grounds clean-up both weekends that were available for sign-up: Thurs-Sat Sept. 28-30 and Oct 5-7. Stay tuned for more details!

UNIONTOWN PILGRIMAGE SEPT. 2-3 ~ THEOTOKOS: LOVING PROTECTRESS OF ALL The Sisters of St. Basil of Mount St. Macrina are hosting the 89th annual pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help this weekend. There will be a variety of Divine Services offered, regular Confessions available, and specific events for a number of age groups. Whether you are able to attend a few hours or the entire weekend, please consider participating in this beautiful and edifying opportunity! More information can be found at (724) 438-8644 or www.sistersofstbasil.org

HONORING ARCHEPARCHIAL MARRIAGE JUBILARIANS ~ If you are celebrating a milestone anniversary and submitted your information, don't forget this event will take place Sunday, Sept. 10 at 3pm, at St. Elias in Munhall.

EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS ~ CAMPUS MINISTRY OPENING SERVICE ~ SEPT 14: Thursday, 9/14 at 6pm we will host the opening service for this year of Campus Ministry. There will be a light reception to follow, and the service will be live-streamed. In the past year, Campus Ministry events have led to an increase in our own registered parishioners, so please be sure to attend and show your support. All are welcome!

AT THE DIVINE LITURGY TODAY. .. Through the parable of today's holy gospel lesson, Jesus extends an invitation to all of us to become a part of the Kingdom of God. This "Kingdom", as Paul teaches the Corinthians, begins on earth: it is the Church of Christ. Jesus invites all people everywhere to become participants in this Kingdom.

Epistle ~ 2nd Corinthians 1: 21 thru 2: 4

Brethren: God is the one who firmly establishes us along with you in Christ; it is he who anointed us and has sealed us, thereby depositing the first payment, the Spirit, In our hearts. I call on God as my witness that it was out of consideration for you that I did not come to Corinth again. Domineering over your faith is not my purpose. I prefer to work with you toward your happiness. As regards faith, you are standing firm.

I did decide, however, not to visit you again in painful circumstances. For if I cause you pain, who can make me happy again but the ones I grieved? I wrote as I did so that when I come I may not be saddened by those who should rejoice my heart. I know you well enough to be convinced that my happiness is yours. That is why I wrote you in great sorrow and anguish, with copious tears – not to make you sad but to help you realize the great love I bear you.

~~~~~In this excerpt from his second letter which was written to the Corinthians, the Holy Apostle Paul speaks about their status in the sight of God as being Christian people. He wants them to understand the profound reality that they are Christians precisely because of God's favor and through Jesus' invitation to be His followers. We, likewise, have been favored by God's grace with the invitation to be called to His fellowship of establishing His Kingdom here on earth, which is the holy Church. Paul commends the Corinthian Christians for their steadfast faith, and he comments on the fact that God has guaranteed that His own Spirit – the Holy Spirit – will dwell in the hearts of all those people who have accepted His invitation to belong to Him. The Christians of this community at Corinth are evidence of this promise made by God. Do we, who also have been called, chosen, and invited have God's Spirit dwelling within us?

**GOSPEL Matthew 22: 1-14**

1 Jesus again in reply spoke to them in parables, saying,

2“The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son.

3 He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests to the feast, but they refused to come.

4A second time he sent other servants, saying, ‘Tell those invited: “Behold, I have prepared my banquet, my calves and fattened cattle are killed, and everything is ready; come to the feast.”’

5Some ignored the invitation and went away, one to his farm, another to his business.

6 The rest laid hold of his servants, mistreated them, and killed them.

7 The king was enraged and sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city.

8Then he said to his servants, ‘The feast is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy to come.

9Go out, therefore, into the main roads and invite to the feast whomever you find.’

10The servants went out into the streets and gathered all they found, bad and good alike,\* and the hall was filled with guests.

11 But when the king came in to meet the guests he saw a man there not dressed in a wedding garment.

12He said to him, ‘My friend, how is it that you came in here without a wedding garment?’ But he was reduced to silence.

13Then the king said to his attendants, ‘Bind his hands and feet, and cast him into the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.’

14Many are invited, but few are chosen.”

~~~~~The Holy Evangelist Matthew relates for us the Parable of the Wedding Banquet. Through this parable, Jesus teaches us about a certain king who planned a wedding feast for the marriage of his son. His servants were dispatched with an invitation to summon various guests to the festivities. However, each invited guest gave an excuse and refused to come. Since the initially invited guests declined to participate, the king mandated that his servants go out into the streets and extend his invitation to all people in order to fill the wedding hall and thus proceed with the festivities. In interpreting the parable, we discern that God our Heavenly Father is the King, and the Bridegroom is His Son Jesus. The invited guests were the "Chosen People" – the old testament Jews – who refused to come. With their refusal, a new list of wedding guests received invitations. Our names are to be found on this new list, for now everyone is invited to this fellowship which is the Church founded by Christ. What is your reply to this invitation of the Lord?