

## HOLY SPIRIT BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Cantor: Julia Revilak & Family

Sub-Deacon: Raphael Ruggiero

### June 14, 2026

### 3rd Sunday After Pentecost

#### SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

**Sun Jun 14:** 7:45 am Rosary, 8 am Divine Liturgy

**IHO Mary Dzurichko's Birthday by Theresa Carr**

6 pm Divine Liturgy

**Mon Jun 15:** 6 pm Confessions, 7 pm Akathist Prayers to Our Lady Searcher of the Lost

**Fri Jun 19:** 6 pm Confessions, 7 pm Divine Liturgy

**IMO Thomas A. L'Estrange, Jr. by Anonymous**

**Sat Jun 20:** 5 pm Confessions, 6 pm Great Vespers

**PARISH OUTDOOR CLEAN UP DAY 9AM-NOON**

**Sun Jun 21:** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost – Father's Day

7:45 am Rosary, 8 am Divine Liturgy

**IHO All Fathers Living & Deceased**

6 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.

**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.

**PARISH OUTDOOR CLEAN UP DAY – SATURDAY, JUNE 20:** Please join us from **9am to Noon** to help clean-up around the church – some tools will be provided – but feel free to bring your own. The more help we have – the more we can accomplish together!

**ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE:** Will be **Sunday, September 20, 2026** at St. Elias in Munhall. If you are celebrating your 10, 15, 20, 25 or additional years multiplied by 5 and would like to attend, please let Fr. Michael know by **Sunday, July 19**. THE SIGN UP SHEET IS NOT IN THE BACK!!!

**JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:**  
**May God grant you many happy and blessed years!**

Tom & Katherine Martz 6/1 Anniversary

Giacomo Revilak 6/12

Zuzana Revilak 6/13

Julia Revilak 6/13

Mary Dzurichko 6/15

Milian Revilak Sr. 6/16

Fr. Michael & Pani Janine 6/28 Anniversary

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.

**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:** 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!

**EASTERN CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES (ECF):** Our ECF program has begun meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month at 5:00 pm in the church hall. For more information, please see Eugene Yeo.

**SAINT OF THE DAY:** 6/14 The holy prophet Elisha at Samaria or Sebaste in Palestine. He was a disciple of the prophet Elijah and was himself a prophet in Israel from the time of King Joram to the days of Jehoash. Though his oracles do not remain, he nevertheless (by his working miracles for foreigners) announced the coming salvation for all people.

6/14 **Our holy father Methodius, patriarch of Constantinople.** While he was a monk, he betook himself to Rome to Pope St. Paschal the First in defense of the holy icons. Elevated to the episcopate, he solemnly celebrated the triumph of the orthodox faith with the restoration of the holy icons. (847)

6/15 **The Holy Prophet Amos,** whom the Lord sent to the sons of Israel. He was a herdsman of Tekoa and a dresser of sycamores, and his preaching was to defend the Lord's righteousness and holiness against the transgressions of the children of Israel.

6/15 **The Venerable Jerome,** priest of Stridon, who, born in Dalmatia, was an exceptional laborer. He pursued the studies of all literature in Rome and was baptized there. Then, seized by the power of the contemplative life and having embraced an ascetic life, he proceeded to the East and was ordained a priest. When he returned to Rome, he stayed in a retreat of Pope Damasus and then left for Bethlehem in Judea. There he founded a monastery. The notable teacher escaped the world by translating and explaining the Holy Scriptures. In a marvelous way he was a worker fulfilling very many of the needs of the Church. Finally, when he had lived to an advanced age, he reposed in peace. (420)

6/19 **The holy apostle Jude, brother of the Lord,** also called Thaddeus, the brother of James. He asked the Lord at the mystical supper about his appearing, The Lord said, "Whoever loves me, keeps my word and my Father will love him and we will come to him and make our home with him." [John 14:23]. Tradition says he preached in Mesopotamia and (with St. Simon) in Persia, where he was martyred.

**APOSTLES FAST:** The Apostles Fast lasts until the Feast of the Preeminent Apostles, Ss. Peter and Paul on June 29<sup>th</sup>. While it is non-obligatory it is always a wonderful opportunity for us to grow in our spiritual lives. If you are interested in incorporating the fast into your devotional life this year, please feel free to speak to Fr. Michael or with your Spiritual Father.

**SONGS & STORIES:** *Songs and Stories from the Mountains* will be held on Saturday November 7<sup>th</sup> this year. Please mark your calendars and keep an eye open for more updates.

**AKATHIST PRAYERS:** During the Apostles Fast we will be praying to Our Lady Searcher of the Lost on Monday nights at 7 pm. Please consider joining us and submitting the names of those (living) who you wish to pray for.

**EPISTLE: Roman 5: 1-10:**

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access [by faith] to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we even boast of our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance, proven character, and proven character, hope, and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the holy Spirit that has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, yet died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. How much more then, since we are now justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath. Indeed, if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, how much more, once reconciled, will we be saved by his life.

**GOSPEL: Matthew 6: 22-34:**

“The lamp of the body is the eye. If your eye is sound, your whole body will be filled with light, but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be in darkness. And if the light in you is darkness, how great will the darkness be. “No one can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. “Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat [or drink], or about your body, what you will wear. Is life not more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds in the sky; they do not sow or reap, they gather nothing into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not more important than they? Can any of you by worrying add a single moment to your lifespan? Why are you anxious about clothes? Learn from the way the wildflowers grow. They do not work or spin. But I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was clothed like one of them. If God so clothes the grass of the field, which grows today and is thrown into the oven tomorrow, will he not much more provide for you, O you of little faith? So, do not worry and say, ‘What are we to eat?’ or ‘What are we to drink?’ or ‘What are we to wear?’ All these things the pagans seek. Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom [of God] and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides. Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself. Sufficient for a day is its own evil.

**A WORD FROM FR. MICHAEL:** One of the best remembered of the ancient schools of philosophical thought is that of Stoicism, which presented adherents to a simple, austere, and pragmatic approach to life. Stoics lived a mediated life that was marked by self-denial, control over their emotional states, and an emphasis on living one’s life for the sake that which is greater than oneself. The Roman Emperor, Marcus Aurelius, was perhaps its most famous practitioner, leaving behind his seminal work *The Meditations* which exemplified the internal process by which stoics thought and lived.

As Christianity grew in its early years, the austerity and integrity with which Christians became famous for through their countless acts of martyrdom attracted many Stoics. The life and teachings of Jesus Christ provided for them an important missing piece in their philosophy, which was the point toward which they should subordinate themselves too. Prior to this, Stoics tended to dedicate themselves towards service of their State or towards service/pursuit of of Knowledge/Wisdom itself, which proved either to be far too ephemeral or downright unworthy for them to submit themselves too. In Christ, however, they recognized the One who is simultaneously present and tangible while simultaneously being set-apart and mysterious. The sayings of Our Lord in this Gospel today in particular resound loudly for those who are drawn to Stoicism.

Christ teaches us to approach our lives with integrity by ensuring that we are rightly orienting our focus to be first and foremost on the Divine Plan which is already in motion. He warns us not to be taken in by the many easy pitfalls which so many of us have so often fallen into. How often do we worry about what we wear? How often do we worry about what to eat? How often do we worry about how much money we make? How often do we, when we worry, forget ourselves and our place as children of God? When we let our lives become consumed by commitment towards things which at best serve no spiritual purpose and things which at worst actively destroy our souls, we become darked and drift away from the path which God has set us on. It is by remembering, embracing, and acting upon the heavenly bound direction to which souls must face that we become illumed, by which we cease to worry about the trivial and passable desires and distractions of this world. By remembering that God’s plan is at work and that that plan is what is best, we can trust that by cooperation with God, we will be able to endure any hardship which comes our way.

Today, there remains within Christianity a powerful strand of influence by those Stoic converts, particularly in the Monastic/Ascetic life of the Church. That character of our faith is attracting many people today who are seeking something to counter a culture which seems to be governed by an insatiable enslavement to the whims of emotion and desire. While the Christian life certain can provide the necessary remedy to this culture, we must remember also that the core of our faith is not to be aloof and disconnected, as many Stoics tend to style themselves, but that the Christian life is to be lived with a sincere and powerful love. Christ came not to make us disinterested in our neighbor, but to show us that as much as God dwells

within and around us, so He also dwells in those around us. We are, therefore, disconnected to the concerns of the world, yes, but we are also deeply concerned for the well-being and salvation of the souls of all those we encounter.