

HOLY SPIRIT BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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

Administrator: Reverend Michael D. Kunitz, M. Div.

Email: FrMichaelKunitz@gmail.com

Cantor: Julia Revilak & Family

Sub-Deacon: Raphael Ruggiero

AUGUST 11, 2024

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

Schedule of Divine Services

Sunday, August 11: Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

8:25am Rosary, 8:45am 3rd Hour, 9am Divine Liturgy

IMO Michael and Catherine Warhola, by Catherine Warhola (daughter)

Monday, August 12: Reader's Matins 9am

Thursday, August 15: The Dormition of the Theotokos

8am Confessions, 9am Divine Liturgy

IMO Harold Witzel 23rd Anniversary of his passing, by Theresa Carr (daughter)

Liturgy will also be celebrated at St. Pius X in Carrick at 12pm Noon.

Father Michael and his family will be out of town visiting family from 8/16 through 8/26.

Sunday, August 18: Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:25am Rosary, 8:45am 3rd Hour, 9am Divine Liturgy

IMO Grazia Ruggiero, by Raffaele Ruggiero (son)

All Divine Liturgies are open for intentions. Call the office or fill out request form in back of church and give to Fr. Michael.

AT THE DIVINE LITURGY TODAY... The Apostle Paul instructs the Corinthians that belief in Christ's resurrection is essential to being part of God's Kingdom. Jesus calls all of us to follow after Himself and to strive for perfection in order to be worthy of participating in His Eternal Life. Our gospel's rich young man was unwilling to do this as other things were more important to him. In following Jesus, we must work in order to attain eternal life.

UNIONTOWN PILGRIMAGE: The 90th Annual Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help at Mt. St. Macrina in Uniontown, PA, will take place Friday evening August 30 through Monday morning September 2 (Labor Day weekend).

SUNDAY LITURGY TIME SWITCH: The Sunday Divine Liturgy will resume its Fall-Spring time of 11:00 AM on September 8. Please don't miss the switch!

FR. MICHAEL AND FAMILY WILL BE OUT OF TOWN visiting family from 8/16 through 8/26. If there is a sacramental emergency during this time, please contact Fr. Tyler at St. John's in the Run at 412-421-1709

HELP WITH FLEA MARKET NEEDED TODAY! We need your help in setting up the hall for our **Saturday, August 24 flea market. Remember this is the last day to bring donations!** We cannot accept books, electronics, clothes or holiday decorations. We need volunteers for set up and pricing as well as help the day of. Please see Mary D. with any questions.

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS: If you are interested in learning how to lead Matins as a Reader's Service on Sunday mornings before Liturgy, please see Father Michael. During the summer, Sunday Morning Matins will be celebrated the first Sunday of the month.

ART, WINE & WORDS FUNDRAISER HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED TO Sunday November 3, 2024. But the planning continues! The event will include an art auction, poetry & basket raffle. We are currently accepting donations for the basket raffle! More details to follow, but if you would like to be part of this one-time event, please see Natalia Rudiak or Lynne Walicki.

EPISTLE: I Corinthians 15: 1-11 (Section 153): Brethren, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and in which you stand firm. You are being saved by it at this very moment if you hold fast to it as I preached it to you. Otherwise you have believed in vain. I handed on to you first of all what I myself received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; that he was buried and, in accordance with the Scriptures, rose on the third day; that he was seen by Cephas, then by the Twelve. After that he was seen by five hundred brothers at once, most of whom are still alive, although some have fallen asleep. Next he was seen by James; then by all the apostles. Last of all he was seen by me, as one born out of the normal course. I am the least of the apostles; in fact, because I persecuted the church of God, I do not even deserve the name. But by God's favor I am what I am. This favor of his to me has not prove fruitless. Indeed, I have worked harder than all the others, not on my own but through the favor of God. In any case, whether it be I or they, this is what we preach and this is what you believed.

~~~~~The Corinthians are told by the Holy Apostle Paul in this passage from his first letter addressed to their community that the foundation of their faith must be the risen Lord Jesus. Paul reminds them that the gospel's central message is that Jesus, Who is the Christ – the Messiah – died for the sins of humanity and then rose victoriously from the grave on the third day, just as the scriptures had foretold. Jesus was seen by many people after His resurrection; in fact, He even chose to appear to Paul and to designate him to be an apostle (a messenger of the "good news"). The core element of the entire gospel message is the very fact of the physical resurrection. As an appointed apostle, Paul continues to preach this salvific message about the resurrected Jesus, for it is the resurrection event itself that paves the way for our being granted an Eternal Life. All those who accept Christ and believe in His bodily resurrection have been given the assurance of attaining that salvation which Jesus thus achieved through His redemptive acts performed for all of us.

**GOSPEL: Matthew 19: 16-26 (Section 92):** Now someone approached him and said, "Teacher, what good must I do to gain eternal life?" He answered him, "Why do you ask me about the good? There is only One who is good. If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments." He asked him, "Which ones?" And Jesus replied, " 'You shall not kill; you shall not commit adultery; you shall not steal; you shall not bear false witness; honor your father and your mother'; and 'you shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" The young man said to him, "All of these I have observed. What do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to [the] poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." When the young man heard this statement, he went away sad, for he had many possessions. Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Amen, I say to you, it will be hard for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished and said, "Who then can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For human beings this is impossible, but for God all things are possible."

~~~~~This pericope which is taken from the Holy Evangelist Matthew's gospel deals with a young man who questioned Jesus about the requirements that are necessary for attaining Eternal Life. Our Lord tells him that if he wants to be good, he must keep the commandments as the law stipulates. Jesus then summarizes the Decalogue, that is the Ten Commandments. This individual retorts, however, that he has kept carefully all of these mandates throughout his lifetime. And yet he asks Jesus about what is still missing. It is precisely here that Jesus challenges him to go beyond the keeping of the commandments in a purely legalistic way. Our Lord tells him that if he wants to be perfect, he must give up all that he possesses, and then he must follow after Jesus. The young man was crushed by this response, for he was extremely wealthy, and his riches were apparently more valuable to him than the requisites set forth by Jesus. When the disciples heard Jesus' statements, they wanted to know who then could possibly be saved. Our Lord explained to them that no one could be saved by mere humans; but only by faith and trust in God could salvation be achieved. Anyone who desires to attain eternal life must respond to the call of the Lord and then follow after Jesus.

PRAYER FOR OUR FOUR SAINTLY BISHOPS:

Please pray for the causes of our four Sainly 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