

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

December 7, 2025
Twenty-Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday, Dec. 7: Twenty-Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

7:00 am Matins 7:45 am Rosary, 8:00 am Divine Liturgy w/Panachida

IMO Margaret Conlazzoli by her daughter Theresa Carr on her 41st Year Anniversary

NO 6:00 PM SERVICE

Monday, Dec. 8: Solemn Holy Day for the Maternity of the Holy Anna

ST. PIUS X: 12:00 NOON Divine Liturgy

HOLY SPIRIT: 6:00 pm Confessions, 7:00 pm Divine Liturgy

IHO Angelino Revilak's Birthday by his family

NO FRIDAY OR SATURDAY SERVICES

Sunday, Dec. 14: Sunday of the Forefathers celebrated by Fr. Ron

7:00 am Matins 7:45 am Rosary, 8:00 am Divine Liturgy w/ Panachida

IMO Msgr. Russell Duker by Mary Anne Meredith

5:00 pm Confessions, 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy **celebrated by Fr. Tyler**

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.

FATHER MICHAEL WILL BE AWAY DECEMBER 9 – 19. During this time, we welcome Fr. Ron, who will be celebrating the 8:00 am Liturgy and Fr. Tyler at the 6:00 pm Liturgy. Please pray for the safe travels of Father Michael and his family. Please also remember our visiting priests in your prayers.

PHILIP'S FAST: We are now in the Winter Lent, the St. Philip's Fast. Each Sunday, we will light candles on our Philipovka Wreath, counting down the weeks until the coming of Christ in the Feast of His Nativity. If you are able to engage in the fast, which is optional, you are encouraged to speak with Fr. Michael about how you might do so.

WINTER CHARITY-THE RED DOOR: Every year, our parish community collects donations for the benefit of a charity in the greater Pittsburgh area during the season of Philipovka as part of our devotional preparation for the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas). This year, the parish will collect donations for the Red Door Ministry run out of Divine Mercy Roman Catholic Church. This ministry provides meals, clothes, blankets and other material aid for the homeless in the city of Pittsburgh. Please speak with Mary Dzurichko if you are interested in donating during this penitential season.

GIVING TREE: Please also consider participating in our Giving Tree fundraiser this season. This year we will be focusing on various floors in the property which have become tripping hazards, etc. We hope to use any funds raised to handle necessary repairs and pull from parish savings as little as possible. More information is in the narthex. Thank you for your consideration!

CHRISTMAS AND THEOPHANY: Please look at your mailboxes for the November parish mailer. It has important details for the upcoming Christmas season, including feast days and the schedule for Christmas and Theophany. We hope to celebrate these wonderful days together as a parish family.

ARCHEPARCHIAL CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT: This year's concert will be Sunday, December 21 at 2:00 pm St. Elias in Munhall. Following the program, light refreshments will be served in the hall. The concert is free and open to all. St. Elias, 4200 Homestead-Duquesne Road, Munhall, PA

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.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

May God grant you many happy and blessed years!

12/2 Robert Walicki

12/5 Priscilla Fello

12/5 Lynne & Robert Walicki 27th Wedding Anniversary

12/8 Angelino Revilak

12/25 Genevive Revilak

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

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: Ephesian 5: 9-19

For light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the fruitless works of darkness; rather expose them, for it is shameful even to mention the things done by them in secret; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it says: "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light." Watch carefully then how you live, not as foolish persons but as wise, making the most of the opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not continue in ignorance, but try to understand what is the will of the Lord. And do not get drunk on wine, in which lies debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another [in] psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and playing to the Lord in your hearts

GOSPEL: Luke 17: 12-19

As he was entering a village, ten lepers met [him]. They stood at a distance from him and raised their voice, saying, "Jesus, Master! Have pity on us!" And when he saw them, he said, "Go show yourselves to the priests." As they were going, they were cleansed. And one of them, realizing he had been healed, returned, glorifying God in a loud voice; and he fell at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. He was a Samaritan. Jesus said in reply, "Ten were cleansed, were they not? Where are the other nine? Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?" Then he said to him, "Stand up and go; your faith has saved you."

SAINT OF THE DAY: Our holy father Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, who on April 4th, on the holy night of Pascha, fell asleep in the Lord. His memory is celebrated today, on which (while still a catechumen) he undertook ruling the famous See of Milan in 373, while he was exercising the office of prefect of the city. A true pastor and teacher of the faithful, he exercised great charity toward all, defended strenuously the freedom of the Church and the doctrine of orthodox faith against the Arians. By his commentaries and his musical hymns, he piously catechized the people. (397)

The Maternity of Holy Anna who with her husband, **St. Joachim**, miraculously conceived our Blessed Mother in the manner of the natural course of husband and wife even in their old age and in spite of Anna's perceived barrenness. According to tradition, the two had prayed separately for the gift of a child, promising to commit the child to God. After each being overshadowed by Divine favor, the two came together and conceived their only child, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary. It is said that no carnal passion was present with Ss. Joachim and Anna upon Mary's conception, leading some to refer to this feast as the "Dispassionate Conception." In the Western Churches, this feast is known as the feast of the **Immaculate Conception**, because of the notion that no sin was present at any point in the event.

The Theotokos of Guadalupe, who first appeared on Dec. 9, 1591, in Mexico to St. Juan Diego, bestowing on him an icon "not made with human hands," requesting that a church be built in her honor on that mountain. Her shrine there is one of the most celebrated places of pilgrimage in the Americas. Pope John Paul II named her the Patroness of the Americas. Since the feast directly concerns the American context which our particular church finds itself, and the event is consistent in the ancient Christian tradition of the miraculous **Acheiropoieta** (Icons not made with human hands), our American Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Church holds the unique distinction of being the only Eastern Catholic Church to formally commemorate this feast on our Liturgical calendars.

PILGRIM VOCATION ICON PROGRAM 2025/2026 BYZANTINE CATHOLIC METROPOLITAN CHURCH OF PITTSBURGH:

Vocations are an integral part of the future of the Church. Following God's call to live in lives of service to Him through Ordination, Marriage, or Consecrated Life is something that all of us in the Church have a vested interest in praying for and promoting. From October 2025 through January 2026, Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church will join the rest of the Metropolitan Church in praying for Vocations by participating in the Pilgrim Vocation Icon Program. Every week, from October 5, 2025 – January 17, 2026. Families are encouraged to sign up to take the Pilgrim Vocation Icon home for a week and to pray the Moleben for Vocations in their home during the week of the Icon's sojourn. Through these prayers, we hope that the next generations of vocations will embrace their God given callings, and that we may be strengthened in the universal call to discipleship and holiness. The Parish sign-up sheet will be in the Vestibule of the church or call the Rectory at: 412-881-8344 and leave a message with your choice of dates. Shut-ins are also encouraged to participate. We will deliver the Icon to you.

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