

HOLY SPIRIT BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Cantor: Julia Revilak & Family

Sub-Deacon: Raphael Ruggiero

August 2, 2026

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sun Aug 2: 10th Sunday After Pentecost

-7:45 am Rosary, 8 am Divine Liturgy

IMO Julianna Dzurichko by her daughter Mary Dzurichko

-6 pm Divine Liturgy

Mon Aug 3: 6 pm Confessions, 7 pm Akathist to Our Lady the Searcher for the Lost

Wed Aug. 5: -5 pm Confession, 6 pm Great Vespers, 7 pm Divine Liturgy with the Blessing of Fruits
For the Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord (Thursday Aug. 6)

Thu Aug. 6: Transfiguration of Our Lord – Solemn Holy Day

-11 am Confessions, 12 Noon Divine Liturgy with the Blessing of Fruits
(St. Pius X BCC in Carrick)

Fri Aug 7: -6 pm Confessions, 7 pm Divine Liturgy

Sat Aug. 8: NO SERVICES

Sun Aug 9: 11th Sunday After Pentecost

-7:45 am Rosary, 8 am Divine Liturgy with Panachida

IMO Nancy Ball (40 Day Memorial) by Angelino Revilak

-6 pm Divine Liturgy with Panachida

IMO Carrie Ann Hunnicut by Mary Ann Meredith

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.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS/LITURGY ATTENDANCE FOR JULY 26:

Offering: \$1,700.00 Attendance: 8:00 AM: 17 6:00 PM: 13 Total: 30

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

May God grant you many happy and blessed years!

8/6 Michaela Revilak

8/23 Pn. Janine Kunitz

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

RUMMAGE SALE AUGUST 22: The annual Rummage Sale on Saturday August 22nd.

Please bring donated items to the hall. We do not accept clothing or electronics. Items may be gently used but not broken. **Set up is going on NOW – please lend a hand!**

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!

EVENING LITURGY SOCIAL: The next Sunday Evening Social will be August 30, 2026. We look forward to seeing you!

AKATHIST TO OUR LADY THE SEARCHER FOR THE LOST: During the Dormition Fast, we will pray the Akathist to Our Lady the Searcher for the Lost. If you have intentions for those in your life who are lost, searching, and/or are in need of guidance, mercy, and help, please let us know so that we can pray for them by name on 8/3 and 8/10 at 7:00 PM.

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC WORLD: Interested in receiving the Archeparchy's monthly newspaper? Speak with Mary Dzurichko about getting signed up with Archeparchial events.

EASTERN CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES (ECF): Our ECF program meets the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month at 5 pm in the hall. For more info, please see Eugene Yeo

SAVE THE DATE: SAT. NOV 7TH FOR OUR SECOND SONGS & STORIES FROM THE MOUNTAINS: If you're interested in volunteering for the event, please speak with Fr. Michael. Please keep an eye open for more updates.

DORMITION FAST: In the Byzantine Tradition, August 1 – August 14 is allocated as a minor fasting period in preparation for the **Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos (August 15)**. While this is an optional fasting period, engaging with the fast provides great edification of our spiritual lives. If you would like to try the fast this year, please speak with Fr. Michael about how you might participate.

SAINT OF THE DAY: 8/2 **The translation of the relics of the holy protomartyr and archdeacon Stephen.** Tradition says that the body of St. Stephen was taken by the Rabbi Gamaliel, a secret disciple of Christ's, and buried in a cave in the town of Capargamala. In AD 415, Gamaliel appeared in a dream to the priest Lucian in that town and revealed the burial place of the Protomartyr. They were later translated from Palestine to Constantinople.

8/2 **Our venerable father Basil, fool for Christ**, in Moscow. At the age of sixteen, he gave himself as a fool for Christ and preserved in asceticism for seventy-two years. He set sinners on the right way, reprimanded the nobles, and had insight into distant events. The great cathedral in Red Square in Moscow is dedicated to him. (1552)

8/3 **Our venerable fathers Isaac, Dalmatus, and Faustus.** Dalmatus was an officer in the Roman army who abandoned all and entered the monastery where Isaac was abbot. His only son, Faustus, entered with him. Dalmatus followed Isaac as hegumen of the monastery and took part in the Third Ecumenical Council (431), battling against the Nestorian heresy. (5th century)

8/3 **The holy Salome the Myrrh-Bearer.** Mother of the holy Apostles James and John, the wife of Zebedee, she served the Lord during his earthly life and was made worthy to be among the first bearers of the tidings of his resurrection.

8/7 **THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST** in which Christ Jesus, beloved only-begotten Son of the eternal Father, manifested his glory in the presence of the holy Apostles Peter, James, and John, with the Law and the prophets bearing witness in the persons of Moses and Elijah. This was done so that, while sharing the servile humility of our state he might intimate our glorious restoration through grace. Thus it might be announced to the ends of the earth that the image of God, in which humanity was created, even as it was corrupted in Adam, would be restored in Christ.

8/9 **The holy venerable martyr Dometius.** Born a pagan in Persia in the time of the Emperor Constantine, he was baptized as a young man. So enchanted was he with the True Faith that he left all earthly things and became a monk in a monastery near Nisibis. Made a deacon by his archimandrite, he became a solitary. He was martyred by the emperor Julian the Apostate, by being walled up alive into his cave. (363)

EPISTLE: 1 Corinthian 4:9-16:

For as I see it, God has exhibited us apostles as the last of all, like people sentenced to death, since we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and human beings alike. We are fools on Christ's account, but you are wise in Christ; we are weak, but you are strong; you are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To this very hour we go hungry and thirsty, we are poorly clad and roughly treated, we wander about homeless and we toil, working with our own hands. When ridiculed, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we respond gently. We have become like the world's rubbish, the scum of all, to this very moment. I am writing you this not to shame you, but to admonish you as my beloved children. Even if you should have countless guides to Christ, yet you do not have many fathers, for I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Therefore, I urge you, be imitators of me.

GOSPEL: Matthew 17: 14-23:

When they came to the crowd a man approached, knelt down before him, and said, "Lord, have pity on my son, for he is a lunatic and suffers severely; often he falls into fire, and often into water. I brought him to your disciples, but they could not cure him." Jesus said in reply, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long will I be with you? How long will I endure you? Bring him here to me." Jesus rebuked him and the demon came out of him, and from that hour the boy was cured. Then the disciples approached Jesus in private and said, "Why could we not drive it out?" He said to them, "Because of your little faith. Amen, I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is to be handed over to men, and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day." And they were overwhelmed with grief.

A WORD FROM FR. MICHAEL: How do we measure the size of our faith? It's a curious question, like asking how many angels can fit on the head of a pin, since we can speak of having faith in amount but not necessarily in terms of volume or mass. Is faith measured in the amount of credibility enhancing displays that we perform, like pilgrimages, public devotions, and religious attendance, or is it measured in how much we think, feel, and insist upon our faith? Presumably, the Apostles had great faith in Christ and were entrusted with the spiritual gifts of healing exorcising demons, yet in this episode from their ministry we find that they hit a sort of block in their ability to minister. According to Christ, they were unable to cast out the demon because of their "lack of faith".

We are not told here of what that tangibly means for the Apostles. Were they doubting in Christ in some way or doubting themselves? I suspect that the culprit has less to do with doubt particularly, but in an overconfidence of their own abilities. When they were first

commissioned, the Apostles bragged about how, "even the demons are subject to us," forgetting entirely that it was only by the authority of Christ that they could do what they were doing. I'd be willing to bet that this episode is the culmination of that hubris as it grew unmitigated. It is not that they lost their faith in Christ, but rather they became careless and forgetful of His warning and started to place their faith more in themselves rather than in Him and the commission He gave them.

I'm sure that we can all think of the great men and women of our lives who helped to form us into the people we have become today, and that we can remember well the lessons they sought to instill in us. Yet the older we grow, the harder it becomes for us to turn to those who mentored us for guidance. The marches of time reveal that even those who have been the most formative in our lives must move on to the next place, either on this side of the veil or the next. So, as we go on through our lives, we realize that we are what is left to pass on what it was that was passed on to us. We become the guides to the next generation in whatever field we may find ourselves in. Parents to our children, teachers to students, mentors in the workplace to new hires, etc.... As we are put into those situations where those less experienced than us ask us for help or for direction, we are often tempted to focus too much on ourselves, and we can forget those that taught us in the past and the lessons they worked so hard to instill. We can all easily fall into the trap of believing that we have everything that we need to pass on within ourselves. This error of trusting in our own sense of mastery inevitably leads us into trouble since the reality is that there is no one on this earth who has it all "figured out." This fact reveals itself to those who make such a blunder rather abruptly, publicly, and humiliatingly, teaching us to go back and to embrace the lessons we had once forgotten.

Christ, however, is no mere mentor. In as much as we are tempted in every other aspect of our personal lives to disregard what we have learned, so much more so are we tempted to forget the guidance which Christ has given us. This is the lesson which the Apostles had to learn the hard way with Jesus. From this incident with a possessed boy, to Peter sinking into the sea, to James and John asking for high ranking in Christ's Kingdom, to every failure on their part at Christ's Passion. Christ is not a mentor or guide who came but once long ago and has drifted away, but He is one who has "not [left] you as orphans". Our journey of Faith in Christ through the Christian life as lived in the Church He established is not one which requires us to reinvent the wheel or to place our trust in our own abilities apart from Christ, but it is to realize that we can do all things only insofar as to how much we have placed our faith in Him. That means turning to Him and the lessons, tools, and institution which He left for us. The treasures of the Church such as Her liturgy and the wealth of help and experience which comes from the cloud of witnesses found in the saints are all tools which Christ uses to remind us that He is still with us, that He has never left us, and that when we do not know how to proceed when faced with new obstacles, we will at least know where to turn.