

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

October 19, 2025
Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday, Oct. 19: Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

7:00 am Matins 7:45 am Rosary, 8:00 am Divine Liturgy

IMO George Carr by his wife Theresa

NO 6PM SERVICES DUE TO DEANERY DINNER

Monday, Oct 20: 6:00pm Confessions, 7:00 pm Daily Vespers

Friday, Oct. 24: 6:00 pm Confession, 7:00 pm Divine Liturgy

IHO Mary Anne Merideth for her Birthday by Holy Spirit Parish

Saturday Oct. 25: 5:00 pm Confessions, 6:00 pm Great Vespers

Sunday, Oct. 26: Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

7:00 am Matins 7:45 am Rosary, 8:00 am Divine Liturgy

IMO George Carr by Joseph & Dolores Bacasa

NO 6PM SERVICES DUE TO 3PM 125th ANNIVERSARY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

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.

PARISH FUNDRAISER: SATURDAY, NOV. 8TH! We are excited to welcome musician and storyteller Dean Poloka for an evening of “Stories & Songs from the Mountains”. Dean will entertain us with tales of Carpatho-Rusyn customs and culture. Tickets are \$20 in Advance, \$15 for Students and are on sale now by using the QR Code or visiting our event page at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/stories-songs-from-the-mountains-tickets-1804990257449>. You can also call the rectory at 412-687-1220 and ask to have your tickets reserved at the door if you wish to pay with cash or check.



A sign-up sheet for how you can volunteer is in the narthex. Help is needed getting the hall ready and helping the day of the event. Donations of food and/or beverage items are also appreciated – a list of these items is with the sign-up sheet. Thank you to those who have already signed up!

We also need donations of gift baskets or items we can use in baskets for a raffle at the event. Last day to donate items for the raffle is Sunday, October 26. We appreciate your help in making this a great event!

DEANERY PASTA DINNER REMINDER: If you signed up it is today from 2:30- 5pm at St. Elias Church, Munhall. The priests and deacons of the Pittsburgh Deanery will prepare & serve the dinner and our own Fr. Michael will be in the kitchen!

THE ANNUAL ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION WILL BE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7. Tickets are \$45 – Please RSVP with your payment (check or cash) to Fr. Michael or Mary D. by November 9 if you plan to attend.

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.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:

May God grant you many happy and blessed years!

10/5 Alexandria Bacasa

10/17 Dolores Bacasa

10/25 Mary Anne Meredith

10/28 Emanuel 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: 2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9

The God and Father of the Lord Jesus knows, he who is blessed forever, that I do not lie. At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas guarded the city of Damascus, in order to seize me, but I was lowered in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands. I must boast; not that it is profitable, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know someone in Christ who, fourteen years ago (whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows), was caught up to the third heaven. And I know that this person (whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows) was caught up into Paradise and heard ineffable things, which no one may utter. About this person, I will boast, but about myself I will not boast, except about my weaknesses. Although if I should wish to boast, I would not be foolish, for I would be telling the truth. But I refrain, so that no one may think more of me than what he sees in me or hears from me because of the abundance of the revelations. Therefore, that I might not become too elated, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, an angel of Satan, to beat me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times, I begged the Lord about this, that it might leave me, but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." I will rather boast most gladly of my weaknesses, in order that the power of Christ may dwell with me.

GOSPEL: Luke: 8:5-15

A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path and was trampled, and the birds of the sky ate it up. Some seed fell on rocky ground, and when it grew, it withered for lack of moisture. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some seed fell on good soil, and when it grew, it produced fruit a hundredfold." After saying this, he called out, "Whoever has ears to hear ought to hear." Then his disciples asked him what the meaning of this parable might be. He answered, "Knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of God has been granted to you; but to the rest, they are made known through parables so that 'they may look but not see, and hear but not understand.' "This is the meaning of the parable. The seed is the word of God. Those on the path are the ones who have heard, but the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts that they may not believe and be saved. Those on rocky ground are the ones who, when they hear, receive the word with joy, but they have no root; they believe only for a time and fall away in time of trial. As for the seed that fell among thorns, they are the ones who have heard, but as they go along, they are choked by the anxieties and riches and

pleasures of life, and they fail to produce mature fruit. But as for the seed that fell on rich soil, they are the ones who, when they have heard the word, embrace it with a generous and good heart, and bear fruit through perseverance.

SAINTS OF THE DAY:

The holy prophet Joel: who announced the great day of the Lord and the mysterious pouring out of the Spirit on all flesh, which the divine majesty in Christ deemed fit to fulfill marvelously on the day of Pentecost.

The holy martyr Varus in Egypt: He was a soldier, who, under Maximianus the emperor, visited and refreshed six holy hermits held in a prison. When a seventh died in the wilderness, Varus wished to take his place and suffered most cruel torments with them. (307)

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