

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 14, 2025

Sunday of the Forefathers

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE 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**

Monday, Dec. 15: 7:00 PM Emmanuel Moleben (Reader's Service)

Saturday, Dec 20: 5:00 pm Confessions, 6:00 pm Great Vespers

Sunday, Dec. 21: Sunday Before Christmas – of the Ancestors

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

IMO Amilia Petrilak & William Carr by Theresa Carr

5:00 pm Confessions, 6:00 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.

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: Colossians 3: 4-11

When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear with him in glory. Put to death, then, the parts of you that are earthly: immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and the greed that is idolatry. Because of these the wrath of God - is coming [upon the disobedient]. By these you too once conducted yourselves, when you lived in that way. But now you must put them all away: anger, fury, malice, slander, and obscene language out of your mouths. Stop lying to one another, since you have taken off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed, for knowledge, in the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian,* slave, free; but Christ is all and in all.

GOSPEL: Luke 14: 16-24

“A man gave a great dinner to which he invited many. When the time for the dinner came, he dispatched his servant to say to those invited, ‘Come, everything is now ready. But one by one, they all began to excuse themselves. The first said to him, ‘I have purchased a field and must go to examine it; I ask you, consider me excused. And another said, ‘I have purchased five yoke of oxen and am on my way to evaluate them; I ask you, consider me excused. And another said, ‘I have just married a woman, and therefore I cannot come. The servant went and reported this to his master. Then the master of the house in a rage commanded his servant, ‘Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in here the poor and the crippled, the blind and the lame. The servant reported, ‘Sir, your orders have been carried out and still there is room. The master then ordered the servant, Go out to the highways and hedgerows and make people come in that my home may be filled. For, I tell you, none of those men who were invited will taste my dinner.”

SAINT OF THE DAY: **Sunday of the Forefathers of Christ**, where we commemorate all those who preceded Christ back to our first father, Adam. We commemorate not merely a genealogical record of our Lord's patrimony, but recall all that they did to contribute to the course of salvation history.

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