

HOLY SPIRIT BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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SUNDAY: OCTOBER 29, 2023 TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Schedule of Divine Services

Sunday, Oct. 29: Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

10-10:45am Confessions, 10:23am Rosary, 10:45am 3rd Hour, 11:00am Divine Liturgy
For Theresa Carr in honor of her birthday, by Joe & Dee Bacasa

Monday, Oct 30: 11am Confessions through Campus Ministry

6pm Confessions, 7pm Daily Vespers

Friday, Nov. 3: 6pm Confessions, 7pm Divine Liturgy

For the deceased George Carr, by Anthony DiSaia

Saturday, Nov 4: 6pm Confessions, 7pm Great Vespers

Sunday, Nov. 5: Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

10-10:45am Confessions, 10:23am Rosary, 10:45am 3rd Hour, 11:00am Divine Liturgy
For Anne Munizza on her 93rd birthday, by Theresa Carr

Confessions are available before Divine Liturgy. All divine liturgies are open for intentions. Call the office or fill out the request form in the back of church and leave it in the sacristy.

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.

ANNUAL MOLEBEN FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CAUSES — The yearly prayer service for the advancement of the Causes of Beatification and Canonization of our four holy Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Bishops will take place at the **Holy Ghost Church, McKees Rocks, PA today, October 29, 2023 @ 3:00 p.m.** For the past 38 years faithful through the Pittsburgh Archeparchy have gathered in various archieparchial parishes, monasteries and the seminary to pray for the Canonization of Bishop-Martyr Theodore G. Romzha, Uzhorod (+1947); Bishop-Martyr Paul P. Gojdich, O.S.B.M., Presov (+1960); Bishop-Martyr Basil Hopko, Presov (+1976); and for the beatification of the Servant of God Bishop Alexander Chira, Uzhorod (+1985). A Marian Moleben is offered seeking the aid of the Holy Mother of God in helping us achieve this end. We are grateful to those who will be baking for this event. Please bring a friend!

EPISTLE: Galatians 6:11-18

Brethren: See, I write to you in my own large handwriting! Those who are trying to force you to be circumcised are making a play for human approval – with an eye to escaping persecution for the cross of Christ. The very ones who accept circumcision do not follow the law themselves. They want you to be circumcised only that they may boast about your bodily observance.

May I never boast of anything but the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ! Through it, the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. It means nothing whether one is circumcised or not. All that matters is that one is created anew. Peace and mercy on all who follow this rule of life, and on the Israel of God.

Henceforth, let no man trouble me, for I bear the brand marks of Jesus in my body. Brethren, may the favor of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

~~~~This holy epistle lesson is taken from the very last paragraph of the letter written by Blessed Paul the Apostle and addressed to the Galatians Christians. He emphasizes here that the observance of the old Mosaic Law is no longer necessary or significant, for Jesus has freed His followers from the prescriptions of the old Hebraic covenant. Paul was responding to the Judaizers among the Christians who wanted the newly converted Gentiles to be bound by the mandates of Jewish law. He proclaims instead that Christians must emulate the Example of Christ and be ready and willing to follow the Lord Jesus in carrying the salvific cross. Paul asserts that for the true Christian, the world and all that it signifies must be crucified to the wood of the cross. A genuine believer, therefore, should be able to endure all things in the cause of our holy faith. We, likewise, must be firm witnesses to our faith in Jesus, and we always are to follow His example of total obedience to the will of God the Father. Everything is done for the sake of Jesus Christ.

### **GOSPEL: Luke 8:26-39**

Then they sailed to the territory of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. When he came ashore a man from the town who was possessed by demons met him. For a long time, he had not worn clothes; he did not live in a house, but lived among the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him; in a loud voice he shouted, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me!” For he had ordered the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (It had taken hold of him many times, and he used to be bound with chains and shackles as a restraint, but he would break his bonds and be driven by the demon into deserted places.) Then Jesus asked him, “What is your name?” He replied, “Legion,” because many demons had entered him. And they pleaded with him not to order them to depart to the abyss. A herd of many swine was feeding there on the hillside, and they pleaded with him to allow them to enter those swine; and he let them. The demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran away and reported the incident in the town and throughout the countryside. People came out to see what had happened and, when they approached Jesus, they discovered the man from whom the demons had come out sitting at his feet. He was clothed and in his right mind, and they were seized with fear. Those who witnessed it told them how the possessed man had been saved. The entire population of the region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them because they were seized with great fear. So, he got into a boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had come out begged to remain with him, but he sent him away, saying, “Return home and recount what God has done for you.” The man went off and proclaimed throughout the whole town what Jesus had done for him.

**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