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"Blessed are those whose hearts are set on pilgrimage" *Psalm 84:5*

THE OFFICE OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY
HOSTS PILGRIMAGE TO LORETTO, PA.



Pilgrims from the Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh tour the grounds of St. Michael the Archangel Basilica in Loretto, Pa., one of the designated Jubilee Year churches, on Oct. 4. The event was hosted by the Office of Youth and Young Adults.

By Viktoria Zolnova
Coordinator, The Office of Youth and Young Adults

On Saturday, Oct. 4, the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry hosted a Pilgrimage for Teens and Young Adults to Loretto, Pa.

The day offered a rich opportunity for prayer, fellowship, and spiritual reflection in several sacred spaces.

The pilgrimage began with the opportunity for Confession and the praying of the Third Hour, which was led by Father Michael Kunitz of Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church in Pittsburgh (Oakland), Pa. It was followed by the Divine Liturgy at St. Michael the Archangel Basilica, one of the designated Jubilee Year churches.

Metropolitan Archbishop William C. Skurla presided at

the Divine Liturgy which was celebrated by Very Reverend Andrew Deskevich, of Saint John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Cathedral in Munhall, Pa., and Protosyncellus for the Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh, together with other priests, and deacons.

The liturgy was beautifully enhanced by the singing of a choir organized by Daniel Shulick of Saint Jude Thaddeus Byzantine Catholic Church in Ernest, Pa.

After the liturgy, pilgrims were invited to take a self-guided tour of the Basilica's grounds, offering time for personal prayer and quiet reflection.

The group then traveled to Saint Francis Friary at Mount Assisi, where they shared lunch and fellowship. Following the meal, Deacon Lucas Crawford of Holy Trinity Byzantine Catholic

Church in Sykesville, Pa., and Father Timothy Farris of St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church in Johnstown, Pa. led an inspiring talk for teens and young adults on what it means to be a pilgrim. They encouraged participants to see the journey of faith as a lifelong pilgrimage with Christ.

Pilgrims then had the opportunity to learn more about the history of the Franciscan Friary during a guided tour led by Father Richard Davis, T.O.R., and to explore the Mount Assisi Gardens with Brother Shamus McGrenra, T.O.R., who shared the story and spiritual significance of this sacred place.

The pilgrimage concluded with the Moleben to the Theotokos at the Carmelite Monastery of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux. Participants

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A new Blessed for the Church: Martyr Peter Paul Oros is beatified

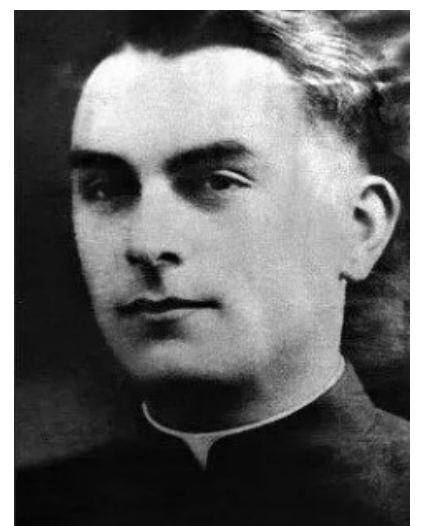
By The Eparchy of Mukachevo

On Saturday, Sept. 27, an event took place in the Mukachevo Greek Catholic Diocese, which the faithful not only of Transcarpathia, but also of all of Ukraine were eagerly awaiting. Bishops and clergy gathered in the village of Bilky not only from different parts of our country, but also from Europe and even America. It was here that the solemn beatification of the martyr Peter Paul Oros, a priest who gave his life for Christ and His Church during the persecutions of the godless communist regime, took place.

The solemn Divine Liturgy was led by His Eminence Bishop Teodor Macapula, concelebrating with Cardinal Grzegorz Rys, the papal legate, the Apostolic Nuncio to Ukraine, Archbishop Wiswaldas Kulbokas, numerous bishops from Ukraine and abroad, as well as hundreds of priests. Thousands of pilgrims from Transcarpathia, Ukraine and beyond came to the celebration.

The beatification ceremony began with a request on behalf of the Mukachevo Greek Catholic Diocese to beatify Peter Paul Oros. After that, a short

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Blessed Peter Paul Oros



WORLD

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MISSION

The mission of *The Byzantine Catholic World* is to spread the Gospel message in the rich tradition of the Byzantine Catholic Church; to encourage faithful to reflect the image of Christ in everyday activities of life; to offer spiritual formation through changing times; and to celebrate community among Byzantine Catholics in the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh, throughout the Metropolitan Church in America, and around the world.



BULLETIN BOARD

Upcoming events at Mount St. Macrina

The following events will take place at Mount St. Macrina Retreat Ministry location, 510 W. Main St., Uniontown, Pa. To register for programs or more information, call 724-438-7149 or email hpmism@verizon.net.

■ 10:30 a.m.-noon Tuesdays: Nov. 4, 11, 18, **Reading Series: The Way of the Heart — Connecting To God through Prayer, Wisdom and Silence** presented by Sister Barbara Jean, OSBM Book by Henri Nouwen. Offering: \$20 per session. Online: \$15 per session.

■ 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1, **Grief and Hope: Exploring the Dynamics** presented by Lillian Cale of Stepping Stones Bereavement Support Group, Sister Barbara Jean, OSBM, and others. Discussions and reflection time. Light lunch included. Offering: \$35.

■ 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday Nov. 11, **Evening of Reflection for Men** presented by Father Jim Tringhese. Presentation and snack. Registration due: Nov. 8. Offering: \$30.

■ 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 12, **Human Trafficking —The New Alerts: It's Closer Than You Think** presented by Dr. Jo Jankoski and Patricia Mowen. Geared toward parents, guardians and teens. Includes presentations, discussions, distributed materials and snack. Registration due: Nov. 8. Offering: \$30. ■

■ Registration: 9:15 a.m., Program: 9:30 a.m. -1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13 **Christmas Presentation Retreat** presented by Father Thomas Bailey, OSB. Includes Presentation, Reflection Time, Sacrament of Reconciliation and lunch. Registration due: Dec. 8. ■

First-ever nationwide cantors meeting set for Nov. 23

On Sunday, Nov. 23, the Metropolitan Cantor Institute will host an online meeting for all our serving cantors and retired cantors.

This meeting is intended to provide a town hall environment

to review the present situation of our liturgical singing across all four of our eparchies, and discuss ways to improve and perfect it.

For more information, go to mci.archpitt.org. ■

"Carpathian Cookery" available for purchase

The Carpathian Cookery cookbook, has entered its 23rd printing, having sold over 21,000 copies, is available for purchase.

This cookbook was requested by the Library of Congress to be in their ethnic cooking collection.

The 330-page cookbook has a new look and features a protective plastic cover.

The book includes sections on Christmas and Easter customs and recipes, traditional Rusyn and Slavic foods, other ethnic dishes, and many other tried-and-true recipes of St. John's parishioners.

There is a variety of paska bread and kolachi (filled roll) recipes, as well as meatless dishes and Lenten recipes, suitable for the Great Fast, as well as the Pre-Christmas Fast.

The cost of the cookbook is \$14 plus \$6 postage and handling (\$20).

If ordering from Canada, please send a \$36 (\$14 plus \$22). U.S. Postal money order payable in U.S. dollars to reflect the difference in the exchange rate and postage cost.

To order, send a check or money order to: Ethnic Craft Club, St. John Byzantine Catholic Church, 201 E. Main Street, Uniontown, Pa. 15401, or call 724-438-1382 (M-F 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. - leave message).

For more information. You may contact us at: carpathiancookery@gmail.com. ■

A new Blessed for the Church: Martyr Peter Paul Oros is beatified



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biography of the new blessed was read, presented by Mr. Viktor Bohiv. The cardinal then read the apostolic letter of the Holy Father Leo XIV, in which the Pope recognized the martyrdom of Peter Paul Oros and set the date of his liturgical commemoration - Aug. 27. To the singing of "Magnificence," the relics and icon of Blessed Peter and Paul were solemnly

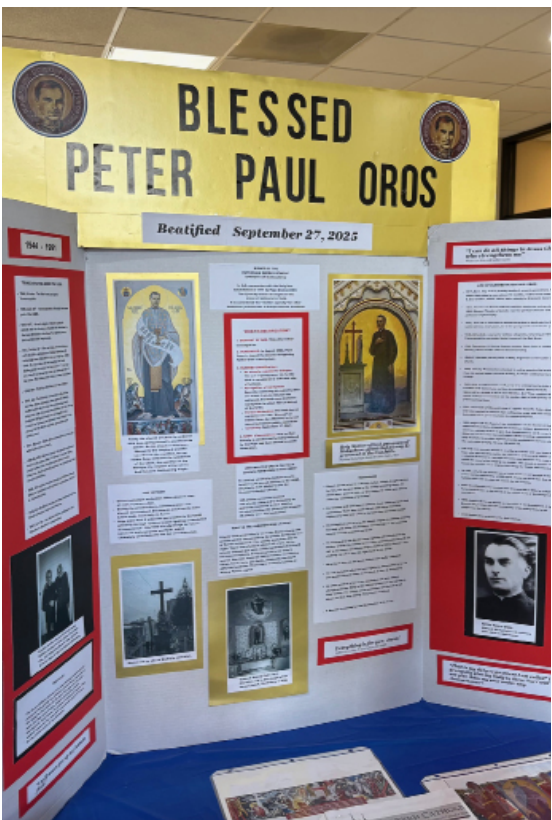
brought in. The relics were carried by military chaplains, and the icon by new priests. After that, Bishop Theodore expressed sincere gratitude to the Holy Father on behalf of the entire diocese for the gift of beatification. The liturgy continued with the singing of the troparion and kondak to Blessed Peter Paul Oros, proclaiming the victory of the faith of Christ over the darkness of evil. ■

Pope on the beatification of Father Petro Oros: we ask for his intercession for Ukraine

By The Eparchy of Mukachevo

Almost simultaneously with the proclamation of Father Peter Oros as Beatitude, which takes place during the solemn Divine Liturgy in Bilky, Transcarpathia, Pope Leo recalled this event during the anniversary general audience. Addressing the faithful during the jubilee general audience on Saturday, Sept. 27, Pope Leo XIV recalled the beatification of Father Petro Oros of the Mukachevo Greek Catholic Diocese: "Today, in Bilki, Ukraine, the

beatification of priest Peter Pavlo Oros from the Mukachevo diocese, who was killed in 1953 in hatred of the faith, is taking place. When the Greek Catholic Church was banned, he remained faithful to the Successor of St. Peter and continued to boldly carry out his ministry underground, aware of the risks. We ask for the intercession of this new blessed one, so that he begs for the dear Ukrainian people the strength to endure in faith and hope, despite the tragedy of war." ■



Bonnie Burke and parishioners locate Bilky, one of the many villages of western Ukraine Father. Petro served in the 1940s.

A "united" beatification celebration

BEATIFICATION OF BLESSED PETER PAUL OROS IN
BILKY, UKRAINE MARKD AT NAMESAKE S.C. MISSION

By Andrea Kakuk
Blessed Petro Oros Byzantine Catholic
Mission, Fort Mill, S.C.

On Sept. 27, Transcarpathia, Ukraine was not the only place in the world celebrating the beatification of priest-martyr and bishop, Peter Paul Oros. Thousands of miles away in Fort Mill, S.C., the Petro Oros Byzantine Catholic Mission was also full of pride on this special day. After the new date of Bishop Petro's beatification was announced this past summer, the Byzantine mission in the Charlotte, N.C. Metro area created an opportunity to bring the European celebration to a growing region of the United States. The day started with a reverent Divine Liturgy and an ethnic potluck; in which attendees said brought back memories of "the old country" with dishes such as halupki, halushki, and borscht soup. Chaplain Jon Tan, a first-time visitor, shared his thoughts. "As a Roman Catholic, visiting the Petro Oros Mission for the Byzantine liturgy was an enriching experience," he said, "It reminded me of the shared universality of our Catholic faith in God. The chanting made prayers feel deep and touching. I found out that after each liturgy there is fellowship with the rest of the church goers. Dinner was great and everyone was very welcoming. I am glad I visited. I will come back."

Word of the special day reached as far as Knoxville, Tenn. Ruthenian Catholics Christina Orosa and husband, made the trip for a chance to meet the welcoming Byzantine church family and take home kolacky, nut roll and paska for their kids. In May 2024, the Byzantine Catholic Community of Fort Mill was renamed the Petro Oros Byzantine Catholic Mission by Bishop Kurt Burnette. Members were grateful for finally having a namesake. However, little was known about him. Who exactly was Petro Oros? Determined to answer that question, longtime parishioner and Southeast Carpatho Rusyn-Society Chapter Liaison, Bonnie Burke, went straight to work. Putting together a display (at left) about Father Peter's life was not an easy task. After reading "Peter Paul Oros: His Life and Martyrdom and Finding a Hidden Church" by Father Christopher Zugger, her vision

came together. "It is important to share stories of Father Petro at a time when our [Ruthenian] church was outlawed; priests suffered interrogation, persecution, the Gulag (Soviet Labor camps) and constant fear during the time of Communism, all because they refused to join the Orthodox Church of Moscow," she said. Although written records of Father Petro were not kept, we know he is the youngest bishop of the Byzantine Catholic Church. We can only rely on testimonies of those who knew the "priest in tattered clothes" 70-plus years ago. Bonnie goes on to say, "I look at our icon of Blessed Peter Paul Oros with more admiration and gratitude now. Our Byzantine faith is handed down from generation to generation. That beautiful passing on of knowledge was my purpose in promoting Father Peter's life for our celebration. We are the first mission in the Eparchy [of Passaic] named for this modern-day martyr. That is incredibly special and puts us on the map." "The Little Mission That Could" found yet another way to connect to the Catholic community despite challenges. Father Oros too faced challenges and never lost faith. The newly "Blessed Petro Oros Byzantine Catholic Mission" is not losing faith either and is proof that the legacy of Bishop Petro Pavlo Oros will stand the test of time. ■

Traveling South on I-77?
Check out the Blessed Petro Oros Byzantine Mission of Fort Mill, SC. We are minutes away from exit 85 and look forward to welcoming you.
www.carolinabyzantine.com or email petromissionfortmill@gmail.com.



Father Vasyl Sokolovych serving the Divine Liturgy.



Clergy retreat



Clergy of the Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh gathered for a commemorative photo during their 2025 retreat the week of Oct. 5 at Antiochian Village near Latrobe, Pa. Bishop Larry J. Kulick (center wearing red vestments) of the Diocese of Greensburg is at center. Photo by Nick Havrilla Sr. ■

Beloved: Opening Your Heart

THE OFFICE OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS SPONSORS ONLINE BIBLE STUDY FOR YOUNG WOMEN

The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry invites young women (18 to 35 years old) to join an Online Bible Study titled "Beloved: Opening Your Heart Series, Part I."

Are You a Young Woman Looking for Purpose and Direction?

Being a young woman today can feel exciting yet overwhelming — balancing classes, work, relationships, personal growth, and faith. It's easy to feel uncertain or even lost along the way. If you're seeking clarity, community, and transformation, we've got something just for you.

Walking with Purpose Young Adult Series

Here's what you can expect:

- Authentic Community: Build friendships with women who are on this journey with you.
- Spiritual Growth: Dive into Scripture and discover what it means to live according to God's Word in today's world.
- A Welcoming Space: Come as

you are—whether you're new to exploring the Catholic faith or have been walking with God for years, this is the place for you.

Together we'll explore God's incredible love for each of us and dig into what it means to be God's beloved daughters. Please join us and invite a friend!

Beginning on Nov. 10 at 7 p.m. EST, for six weeks on Mondays via Zoom. Ending a week before Christmas!

Register by Nov. 5 via form: <https://forms.gle/bYq21qJq3sN1hioE9>.

The participants will need to purchase a study book: *Beloved: Opening Your Heart Young Adult Series, Part I*, available at: <https://shop.walkingwithpurpose.com/collections/young-adult-bible-studies/products/beloved-opening-your-heart-series-part-1>

For more information, visit: <https://walkingwithpurpose.com/>

If you have any questions, email us at youth@archpitt.org.

Let's connect across the Archeparchy! ■

Online Bible Study for Young Women (18–35 y.o.)

6 Mondays at 7 PM EST via Zoom
Beginning November 10, 2025
Ending before Christmas!

Looking for Purpose and Direction?

Join the Bible Study based on the Walking with Purpose Young Adult Series!

Connect with other women seeking clarity, faith, and community. Together, we will explore God's love and what it means to be His beloved daughters. Experience authentic friendships, Scripture-based discussions, and a welcoming online space where you can come as you are.

Register by November 5 via QR code or visit archpitt.org

Participants will need to purchase their own study book, "Beloved" – Opening Your Heart Young Adult Series – Part I, available at [www.walkingwithpurpose.com](https://shop.walkingwithpurpose.com)

Let's connect across the Archeparchy!

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OR via Internet: click "Listen Live" link at www.holyghost-byzantinecatholic.org

“Blessed are those whose hearts are set on pilgrimage” *Psalm 84:5*

THE OFFICE OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY HOSTS PILGRIMAGE TO LORETTO, PA.

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visited the Carmelite Sisters, whose joyful witness of belonging to Christ and faithfully following His call left a deep spiritual impression on everyone present.

The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry extends its heartfelt thanks to Very Reverend John David Byrnes, Rector of St. Michael the Archangel Basilica; the Franciscan Friars, especially Father Joseph Yelenc, T.O.R.; the Carmelite Sisters; all the participants, clergy, and Metropolitan Archbishop William C. Skurla, who accompanied and supported the young people throughout this meaningful day of prayer and community. ■

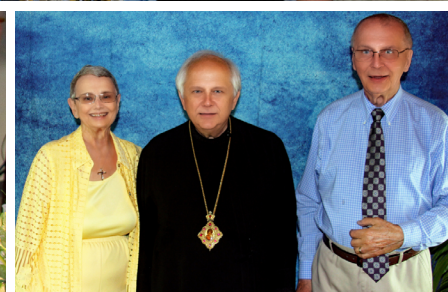


A Celebration of Marriage

Couples were recognized for many years of faithfulness to their marriage vows Sept. 7 during “A Celebration of Marriage” at St. Elias in Munhall, Pa.

The occasion honored couples from parishes in the Archeparchy with milestone anniversaries from 10 to 65 years in 2025.

The afternoon Divine Liturgy was celebrated by Metropolitan Archbishop William Skurla. ■



Photos by Nick Havrilla Sr.



THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC SEMINARY OF SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS

Celebrating Melkite Week

By The Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius

The Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Pittsburgh, Pa. hosted its third semi-annual Melkite Week” from Oct. 6 to 9.

The week consisted of Melkite services served by the entire community and seminars offered to Melkite seminarians on pastoral practice and liturgical music in the areas of formation.

The presenters for this week were Father Elias Dorham, vocations director, and Father David Baroody of the vocations committee for the Byzantine Melkite Eparchy of Newton.

The week also was very educational and spiritually enlightening for the entire Seminary Community. ■



THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC SEMINARY OF SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS

Seminary announces The Monsignor Russel Duker Archive

By The Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius

The Byzantine Catholic Seminary Library is pleased to announce a new digital collection: The Monsignor Russell Duker Archive.

Monsignor Russell Duker (1943-2024) of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh collected a vast number of important and unique items. His collection has over a hundred books, booklets, and

music manuscripts along with organized collections of loose sheet music, academic papers, periodical collections and news clippings, with a strong liturgical and prayer material focus.

In addition to the liturgical material, there are also a number of folk music collections from the choir book collections and significant musical manuscripts from Professor Michael (Muddy) Kurtz, Theodore Ratsin and

Father Roy Schubert, among others.

Other items include theological, historical and personal material primarily from Eastern Catholic and Carpatho-Rusyn cultural focus.

The MonsignorRussel Duker Archive can be found here: <https://digitalarchives.powerlibrary.org/.../search/duker...> ■



REFLECTION FROM
MOUNT ST. MACRINA

“I Will Tear Down My Barn”

By Sister Barbara Jean Mihalchick, OSBM

This is a transcript of Sister Barbara Jean's Nov. 18, 2024 reflection, which can be viewed at www.facebook.com/sistersoftbasiluniontown.

Glory to Jesus Christ!

It's mid-November, therefore, we in the Byzantine Church begin our preparation for the Christmas holiday; for the great birth of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

It is a time for deeper reflection about the truths of the Faith and how they matter to our lives.

The Church presents us with another parable of Jesus and, sorry, it's a parable about a fool; a rich fool.

Jesus says, “There was this rich man who produced a bountiful harvest. ‘What shall I do? I have so much. This is what I shall do: I shall tear down my barn and build larger ones’.”

And he makes this grand plan. And the Lord says: “Oh, you fool. This very night, your life will be demanded of you.”

What a plan. What a fool.

From this, the church over the centuries has gained many reflections, much wisdom. One of them came from our own St. Basil the Great. He wrote a whole major essay called “I Will Tear Down My Barn”; because it was the plan of the fool.

From that particular essay, this famous quote has gone around the world for centuries. Jesus was calling us to wisdom in our use of things and St. Basil builds on that as he writes this:

“The bread which you do not use is the bread of the hungry; the garment hanging in your wardrobe is the garment of him who is naked; the shoes that you do not wear are the shoes of one who is barefoot; the money you keep locked away is the money of the poor; the acts of charity you do not perform are so many injustices you commit.”

The Church has always taught about our sins of omission and Basil turns that into “commission.”

In this time in which we live and in this consumer society that is our way and endemic to all of us, we begin this Advent with a thought and a prayer for perspective; the perspective of God's wisdom, God's ways. The perspective of the Gospel.

Come to the Lord; ask, and you shall receive.

God bless you. ■

ASSUMPTION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD
IN WEIRTON, W. VA.

Installation service

Assumption of the Mother of God Byzantine Catholic Church (St. Mary) in Weirton, W. Va. joyfully welcomed Father Luke Iyengar as its new administrator during an installation service that followed its Oct. 12 Divine Liturgy.

Very Rev. Joseph Raptosh, dean of the Tri-State Protopresbyterate, conducted the installation.

This marks Father Luke's first pastoral assignment following his ordination that represents a homecoming to the community where he nurtured his vocation.

A native of Holy Ghost Byzantine Catholic Church in McKees Rocks, Pa., Father Luke is a 2015 graduate of Franciscan University of Steubenville (Ohio) with a bachelor's degree in theology. He later earned his master's degree in theology at Franciscan in 2018 while participating in the university's priestly discernment program.

During his time in Steubenville, he founded the campus' Byzantine Club and regularly attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Mary's — the very parish he now returns to shepherd.

After his graduate studies, Father



Luke entered the Byzantine Catholic Seminary, completing his formation in 2023. He also shared his love of the faith locally, teaching at Weirton Madonna High School from 2023 to 2025.

"St. Mary's was my second home while I was in graduate school, and I have fond memories of teaching here in Weirton," Father Luke said. "I am humbled and thrilled to be serving both Weirton and our sister parish in Avella, and excited to get to work."

In addition to his pastoral duties at St. Mary, Father Luke also serves as pastor of St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church in Avella, Pa. ■

ST. MICHAEL IN CAMPBELL, OHIO

Blessing of Animals

The Blessing of Animals (Pets) took place on Friday, Oct. 4, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, at St. Michael in Campbell, Ohio. Very Rev. Kevin Marks is pastor. ■



ASCENSION OF OUR LORD IN CLAIRTON, PA.

Annual parish picnic

Ascension of Our Lord Byzantine Church in Clairton, Pa. held their annual parish picnic on Sept. 28 at the hall.

The Holy Name Society provided hot dogs and hamburgers fresh off the grill. Guests provided an unending buffet of delicious homemade salads, vegetables and desserts.

Father Christopher Burke gave the blessing. After dinner, the GCU sponsored the children's games that included a candy in

the hay search, parachute games, bean bag toss and baseball darts.

Alex Lassige and Sara Pavlick set up and supervised the games.

A photo opportunity of an old fashioned picnic was available for guests to have their pictures taken as a keepsake.

The day also included a basket raffle. Guests socialized after dinner, lingering a little longer since the Steelers game wasn't on in the afternoon. ■



Mike Sowko



Father Christopher Burke and Yvonne Opalenik





SS. PETER AND PAUL IN WARREN, OHIO

ECF blessings

By John and Lisa Mosko
SS. Peter and Paul, Warren, Ohio

After the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, Oct. 5, Father Miron Kerul'-Kmec gave a special blessing to the students and teachers of our ECF Program.

We wish them a successful and spiritually enlightening year! ■



Pastor Appreciation Month

By John and Lisa Mosko
SS. Peter and Paul, Warren, Ohio

Cake and refreshments were served in our Social Hall after each Divine Liturgy on Oct. 4 and 5, in honor of Father Miron Kerul'-Kmec, Jr.'s birthday and

Pastor Appreciation Month. We thank Father Miron for his spiritual guidance and are blessed to have him inspire us with his sermons. We wish him many blessed years of good health and happiness. ■



ST. MARY IN JOHNSTOWN, PA.

Praying for vocations

Many young men stepped up to serve at the altar of our Lord on Oct. 5 at St. Mary in Johnstown, Pa. and pray for our seminarians and new vocations to the priesthood.

Father Timothy Fariss is pastor. ■



ST. STEPHEN IN LEISENRING, PA.

Pilgrim vocation icon

By Bob Gillingham
St. Stephen, Leisenring, Pa.

After the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, Oct. 12, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Junk were the first family of St. Stephen Byzantine Catholic Church in Leisenring, Pa. to be presented with the Pilgrim Vocation Icon.

The photo shows Father Jerry Botsko discussing the icon with Allen and Andrea, who for many years have been integral to the success and well-being of St. Stephen Parish.

The icon will be available to all parishioners from Sunday to Sunday, Oct. 12 to mid-January 2026. ■



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST IN SCOTTDALE, PA.

Celebrating 15 years

The Altar Society of St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church in Scottsdale, Pa. recently held a social in honor of Father Oleh Seremchuk's 15th anniversary to the priesthood.

Pictured are: Marie Catalina, secretary/treasurer; Catherine Catalina, vice president; Father Oleh; son Mark and wife Maryna; and Kathy Onusko, president. ■



ST. GREGORY IN UPPER ST. CLAIR, PA.

Celebrating with OLSH

By Father Valerian Michlik
St. Gregory, Upper St. Clair, Pa.

On Wednesday, Oct. 1 we welcomed to St. Gregory students and staff from Our Lady of the Sacred Heart High School in Moon Township, Pa.

Prior to the Divine Liturgy the students were given a short class on the history, liturgy, and spirituality of the Byzantine Catholic Church.

Afterwards a festive Divine Liturgy was celebrated during which we witnessed the participation and prayer of the students and faithful.

In the church hall we continued with a question/answer session during which the students had the opportunity to discover



more of the rich heritage of the Byzantine Catholic Church.

It was a beautiful day as we prayerfully celebrated the Feast of the Protection of our Lady. ■



Blessing of Animals

By Father Valerian Michlik
St. Gregory, Upper St. Clair, Pa.

On a warm Friday evening, Oct. 3, faithful gathered at St. Gregory for the annual blessing of animals.

This blessing takes place every

year in our parish family in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, known as the patron saint of animals.

This year, we had dogs and turtles who were very well-behaved during this prayerful event. ■



Cancer awareness

By Father Valerian Michlik
St. Gregory, Upper St. Clair, Pa.

Following the Sunday Divine Liturgy, on Oct. 19, our parish family was looking forward to a presentation given by our own parishioner Jennifer Kehm.

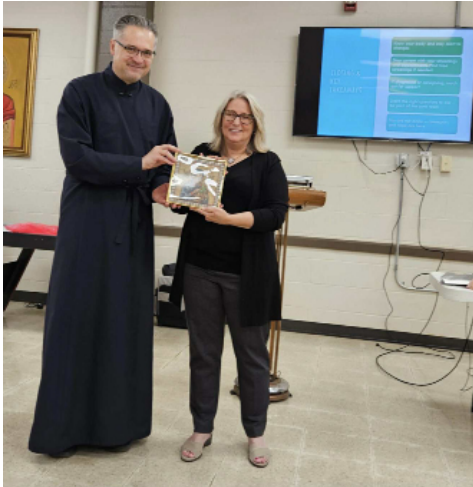
Jennifer is the co-founder of the Young Women's Breast Cancer Awareness Foundation (YWBCAF) and the Development Director at Cancer Caring Center in Pittsburgh, Pa.

After the introduction given by Dorothy Mayernik from our St. Gregory's Bethany Ministry,

our parishioner Jennifer shared with us her story when she was diagnosed with breast cancer and her experience that prompted her to begin efforts that eventually led to the founding of the nonprofit Young Women's Breast Cancer Awareness Foundation.

As part of this wonderful presentation, we all learned about the many cancer resources that are available in Pittsburgh.

At the end of the presentation, we had time for a "question and answer session" after which the icon of our Lady of Perpetual Help was presented to our speaker. ■





SS. PETER AND PAUL IN TARENTUM, PA.

ECF year begins

By Father Vasyl Polyak
SS. Peter and Paul, Tarentum, Pa.

On Sunday, Sept. 14, the parish community of SS. Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church in Tarentum, Pa. gathered with joy and anticipation to mark the beginning of the new Eastern Catholic Formation (ECF) study year.

Following the Divine Liturgy, students, parents, and teachers came together as the pastor led the faithful in a special blessing, invoking God's grace upon all who will take part in this year's program.

The blessing ceremony served as a reminder that Christian education is not simply about classrooms and books, but about deepening our relationship with Jesus Christ.

The goal of the ECF program is to help children and families come to know the Lord more personally, to grow in their spiritual lives, and to live out the faith daily. The Church teaches that faith formation is not just for the young, but a lifelong journey, and the community of SS. Peter and Paul was visibly united in that mission on this special Sunday.

The day also emphasized the importance of the "domestic church" — the family home as the first place where faith is taught and lived. Parents, together with the parish family, play a vital role in helping children encounter Jesus, experience prayer, and live as part of the body of Christ.

In his remarks, Father Vasyl thanked the parents for their commitment, noting that their

example of love and faith is the foundation upon which the Church continues to grow.

Teachers and catechists were also warmly recognized for their dedication and service. These volunteers give their time, talent, and faith-filled witness to guide students in understanding the teachings of the Church, learning the richness of the Eastern Catholic tradition, and strengthening their spiritual lives. Without their generosity, the program could not succeed.

The children, too, were encouraged to approach this new year of study with open hearts and minds.

They were reminded that learning about their faith is not only about gaining knowledge but also about being transformed by God's love. By praying, studying, and participating actively in parish life, the students will come to discover more deeply the unity and joy that flow from following Jesus.

As the celebration concluded, the community was filled with a renewed spirit of gratitude and hope. Parents, teachers, and students were asked to walk together in faith, supporting one another as members of one church family. The theme of unity in love through Jesus Christ echoed throughout the day, calling everyone to live more fully as disciples.

With prayers, blessings, and a strong sense of togetherness, SS. Peter and Paul Parish begins this ECF year confident that God's grace will continue to guide and strengthen its families.

The parish looks forward to a fruitful year of formation, one that nurtures the faith of its young people, supports the mission of the Church, and keeps Christ at the center of all things. ■



HOLY GHOST IN MCKEES ROCKS, PA.

HOLY GHOST IN PITTSBURGH (NORTH SIDE), PA.

Renewal of Baptismal Promises

By Leah Trapl
Holy Ghost, McKees Rocks, Pa.

On Saturday, May 3 three of our Eastern Christian Formation (ECF) students gathered to renew their Baptismal Promises.

They also approached the Holy Mystery of Reconciliation prior to receiving the Holy Mystery of the Eucharist at this meaningful spiritual celebration.

Pictured are: (front) Justin Varga, Emma Usouski, and Theodore Helms, with (back) Father Luke Iyengar, Father Frank Firko, and altar server Judd Varga. ■



ST. GEORGE IN ALIQUIPPA, PA.

Spiritual, social activities

By Jackie Pinchot
St. George, Aliquippa, Pa.

Members of St. George Byzantine Catholic Church in Aliquippa, Pa. have been busy in their spiritual and social activities.

On Friday, Sept. 12, the young adults gathered for a Catholic Young Adult Dance Night at St. George. The evening began with a Moleben to the Precious and Life-Creating Cross at 6:30 p.m. followed by dancing and snacks in the social hall. The country line and swing dancing lessons were led by Naedia McCann, a parishioner of St. Mary in Ambridge, Pa.

On Saturday, Oct. 4, twelve women of St. George gathered for a Women's Morning of Recollection. The day began with Divine Liturgy celebrated by Father Anthony Costantino. The women enjoyed a continental breakfast while listening to speaker Melissa Sartori, a Catholic mother of five and a former member of the Focus college campus missionary group.

Her talk focused on prayer and the acronym "ACTS": adoration, contrition, thanksgiving, and supplication. The day ended with an Akathist to the Theotokos.



On Friday, Oct. 10, the St. George Ladies Guild held its first pirohi sale of the 2025-26 season. Proceeds help to support church operations. Pirohi are sold on the second Friday of each month from October through May. Cost is \$12 per dozen for potato cheese, sauerkraut, cottage cheese, or lekvar. Orders can be called in on the Thursday before the sale from 9 a.m. until noon at 724-375-6652. The next sale will be held on Nov. 14.

Follow the St. George in Aliquippa Facebook page for additional information and updates.

Upcoming activities include a St. Nicholas Feast Day celebration including Vespers and Divine Liturgy followed by a buffet dinner and a play by the ECF students. ■





ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST IN UNIONTOWN, PA.

Classic Car Show

By Bonnie Balas and Julia Pillar
St. John the Baptist, Uniontown, Pa.

The 19th Annual St. John Classic Car Show was an overwhelming success.

The weather was perfect for this outdoor event. Over 115 vehicles

were entered and many spectators and car enthusiasts attended.

The delicious food was completely sold out.

Many thanks to the Car Show Committee and volunteers for making this event a success. ■



October Birthday Social

By Bonnie Balas and Julia Pillar
St. John the Baptist, Uniontown, Pa.

On Saturday, Oct. 11, parishioners celebrating a birthday during the month were recognized.

St. John Social Ministry provided slider sandwiches, salad, nachos, and snacks. A fall-themed birthday cake was served to all. ■



ECF Kick-off Food Drive

By Bonnie Balas and Julia Pillar
St. John the Baptist, Uniontown, Pa.

A large amount of non-perishable food, along with generous monetary donations,

was collected for the ECF Kick-off in September. These offerings were delivered to the local St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry. ■



Christmas Craft/Bake Sale

December 6 – 7, 2025

St. John Byzantine Catholic Church
201 E. Main St., Uniontown, PA

Sat. Dec 6th: 12 Noon - 4 PM

Sun. Dec 7th: 10AM - 1 PM

Upstairs Social Room

Crafts
Candy
Decorations
Raffles



Cookbooks
Baked Goods
Nativity Display

Sponsored by: St. John Ethnic Craft Club & St. John Social Ministry

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE FREE ADMISSION

For information call: 724-438-1382 (M-F 9AM-3PM Leave message)

Check parish website for any updates: www.stjohnbaptist-byzcath-uniontown.org

www.facebook.com/StJohnByzUniontown



THOUGHTS FOR OUR DAY

By Archpriest David M. Petras

PRIEST AND PRESBYTER



The second step, after deacon, in the sacramental mystery of ordination is the priest. He is probably the Church minister that the faithful are most familiar with. Not every parish has a deacon. They are usually men who have another job in the world and serve the Church part-time, though some receive full-time positions. The training of a deacon is less than that for a priest. Priests have to receive a full-time formation for four and often more years. They are educated in theology, liturgy, morals, preaching and pastoral care. They are prepared for a lifetime of full service to the Church and serve as pastors, vicars, administrators, and educators. As every Christian must belong to some parish community, their connection to the Church will involve some interaction with a priest, who will celebrate the Liturgy, preach, baptize, perform weddings and funerals, hear confessions and provide counseling and guidance when needed.

St. John Chrysostom proclaimed how important the priest is for our spiritual life. He said, "For when you see the Lord sacrificed, and laid upon the altar, and the priest standing and praying over the victim, and all the worshippers empurpled with that precious blood, can you then think that you are still among men, and standing upon the earth? Are you not, on the contrary, straightway translated to heaven, and casting out every carnal thought from the soul, do you not with disembodied spirit and pure reason contemplate the things which are in heaven?"

We often find two words for this order of the Church: priest and

presbyter. In English, both these words come from the Greek word, *presbyteros*, which means an elder, and who therefore should have more wisdom to advise and guide the community. We can see this in the letters they contain, priest, P-R-T and presbyter, P-R-T. This is the title we use when we pray for the priest in the Litany of peace, "for the venerable presbyterate, the diaconate and all the clergy



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and people." This is the word used when a man is ordained, "Divine Grace ... ordains the pious deacon (name) to be a presbyter," and you have bestowed the name Elder on those found worthy to sanctify the word of your truth in this office Grant that he may live worthily in this honored presbyterate given to him by your foreknowing power." Here wisdom is joined to age, but an older person may not necessarily be wise. Wisdom may be given to the youth also, and is more important for the priesthood than simply age. St. Paul was to write to his disciple, Timothy, "Let no one have contempt for your youth, but set an example for those who believe, in speech, conduct, love, faith, and

purity" (1 Timothy 4:12). This is the meaning of the term "elder," someone who is mature and wise, for the priest.

In the first years of the Church, the first duty of the order of priests was to serve as an advisor to the bishop, who was the celebrant of the Liturgy. The early presbyters had two functions: first, they gave comfort to the bishop by forming a consultative body that advised the bishop, not only in administration but also in doctrine. St. Cyprian wrote that the bishop did nothing without consulting the presbyters. Even today, according to Canon Law, the bishop must consult the presbyters before making certain decisions. Secondly, their role in the community was reflected in their liturgical position — they con-celebrated the Liturgy with the bishop. As the Church began to grow, presbyters slowly began to preside at Liturgies by delegation of the bishop. We see this already in Ignatius of Antioch, "Let that be deemed a proper Eucharist, which is administered either by the bishop, or by one to whom he has entrusted it" (Smyr. 8,2). Eventually, only the presbyter could be licitly delegated by a bishop to celebrate the liturgy.

The laying on of hands confers a special ministry, where one devotes one's whole life to service of God and the Church. These are the people who preside over the community through a special gift of the Spirit given after baptism. Simeon of Thessalonica made the point that baptism confers all the charisms of the Spirit except orders. The universal tradition is that only the bishop or priest may celebrate the eucharist. This follows the principle that the one who presides over the church as a whole presides also over the eucharist. In the beginning, only the bishop celebrated the

eucharist, but the bishop began to delegate priests to preside and to hear confessions. As the church grew larger, the bishop began to delegate more and more, until by the fourth century, this is the established role of the priest. Jerome (Letter 146) for the West and John Chrysostom (Homily 2 on 1 Timothy) both witness that there is very little difference between what a bishop and a priest can do liturgically, and only the bishop could ordain and consecrate chrism.

If asked to identify what the priest does, most people today would probably answer — offer the sacrifice of the Divine Liturgy. The offering of sacrifice was a sacred function, enabling the person doing the offering as a mediator (we could say go-between) between God and human beings. In the theology of the Church, that belonged in the first place, and perhaps essentially, to Jesus Christ, the Son of God, true God and true man. This was stated most clearly in the Epistle to the Hebrews, "we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God ... For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, (Jesus truly became a human being) but one who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin" (Hebrews 4:14-15). No one can take the place of our Lord as priest, but we can share in his priesthood. All of the baptized are priests who share in the sacrifice of our Lord, but the ordained presbyter shares in it in a ministerial way by the power of the Holy Spirit. In our next article, we will consider how the priest is the one who offers, in the name of the community and in union with the Lord, the sacrifice of the Divine Liturgy. ■



PARISH LITURGIES BROADCAST VIA INTERNET

Here is the most current list of parishes broadcasting Sunday Divine Liturgies and other services to the Faithful via their websites and social media sites such as Facebook.

For changes or to be listed, send information to bcw@archpitt.org.

St. John the Baptist Cathedral
Munball, Pa.
www.stjohnsbyzantinecathedral.com

Holy Ghost
McKees Rocks, Pa.
www.holyghost-byzantinecatholic.org
www.youtube.com, then type Holy Ghost Church Live Stream

St. John Chrysostom
Pittsburgh, Pa.
www.sjcbcc.com

St. Gregory
Upper St. Clair, Pa.
www.facebook.com/stgregoryusc

St. Michael
Campbell, Ohio
www.facebook.com/st.michaelbyz.campbell

St. Elias
Munball, Pa.
www.facebook.com/StEliasByzantineCatholicChurch/

SS. Peter and Paul
Braddock, Pa.
<https://www.facebook.com/SSPeterPaulBraddock/>

St. Michael
Hermitage, Pa.
<https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelbyz.hermitage>

St. Mary
Windber, Pa.
<https://www.facebook.com/StMaryDormition>

St. Mary
Bradenville, Pa.
Go to Youtube.com and type in "St. Mary's Byzantine Media"



9 things to know about “Dilexi Te”

POPE LEO’S FIRST APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION

By OSV News

ROME — Pope Leo XIV’s first apostolic exhortation “Dilexi Te” (“I have loved you”), was promulgated Oct. 9, the feast day of St. John Henry Newman. Here are nine things to know about the document.

1. “Dilexi Te” is about love and care for the poor

The apostolic exhortation is addressed “to all Christians on love for the poor,” and explores the topic through the lens of Scripture, church teaching and the witness of the saints.

2. Both Pope Francis and Pope Leo worked on this apostolic exhortation

Pope Francis’ fourth and final encyclical “Dilexit Nos” (“He loved us”), on the human and divine love of Sacred Heart of Jesus, was published Oct. 24, 2024, nearly six months before his death. In the prologue of the exhortation, Pope Leo noted the late pope was preparing this apostolic exhortation on the church’s care for the poor as a follow-up, and gave it its title.

Pope Leo wrote, “I am happy to make this document my own — adding some reflections — and to issue it at the beginning of my own pontificate, since I share the desire of my beloved predecessor that all Christians come to appreciate the close connection between Christ’s love and his summons to care for the poor.”

3. Scripture and church social teaching documents are referenced

“I often wonder, even though the teaching of Sacred Scripture is so clear about the poor, why many people continue to think that they can safely disregard the poor,” the exhortation reads.

Using Scripture, “Dilexi Te” explores mercy and justice toward the poor as shown in both the Old and New Testaments; Jesus’ humbling of himself to become man; his poverty; and his own words on the last judgment, performing works of mercy and how we are to love our neighbor as ourselves.

Several church texts on social justice are also referenced in “Dilexi Te,” including “Rerum Novarum,” “Mater et Magistra,” “Populorum Progressio,” “Sollicitudo Rei Socialis,” “Laborem Exercens,” “Caritas in Veritate” and documents of the Second Vatican Council.

4. It contains many saintly examples

No less than 33 saints are referenced as examples of holiness in their treatment of the poor sick, imprisoned, uneducated or migrant.

The example of St. Francis of Assisi in his embrace of poverty is explored early in the first chapter of “Dilexi Te” and again in a section on the witness of mendicant religious orders.

St. Stephen, the first martyr, and St. Lawrence, who brought the poor before the Roman authorities and said, “These are the treasures of the church,” are given as examples of deacons carrying out their prescribed works of mercy in the early church.

Early fathers of the church Sts. Ignatius of Antioch, Polycarp and Justin Martyr also had much to say on the works of mercy Christians ought to perform, and are mentioned in “Dilexi Te.”

Entire sections of the apostolic exhortation are dedicated to Sts. John Chrysostom and Augustine with extensive quotes from their homilies and writings. In these, the saints extort Christians to recognize Christ in people in need, that almsgiving is a matter of justice, that God will not be outdone in generosity and that “charity is not optional but a requirement of true worship.”\ Other exemplary saints mentioned include Sts. Cyprian, John of God, Camillus de Lellis, Louise de Marillac, Basil the Great, Benedict, John of Matha, Felix of Valois, Peter Nolasco, Raymond of Peñafort, Clare of Assisi, Dominic de Guzmán, Joseph Calasanz, Marcellin Champagnat, John Baptist Scalabrini, Frances Cabrini, Teresa of Calcutta, Dulce of the Poor, Benedict Menni, Charles de Foucauld, Katharine Drexel, Oscar Romero, John Paul II, Gregory the Great and Gregory of Nazianzus for their words, actions or instructions for tending the poor sick, imprisoned, uneducated, or migrant.

5. Works of mercy, spiritual care and almsgiving are recommended

“Works of mercy are recommended as a sign of the authenticity of worship, which, while giving praise to God, has the task of opening us to the transformation that the Spirit can bring about in us, so that we may all become an image of Christ and his mercy towards the weakest.”

Several ways of performing works of mercy are mentioned in the apostolic exhortation, particularly through the lives of saints. Pope Leo also notes that the spiritual dimension of caring for the poor is extremely important; that



Pope Leo XIV signs his first apostolic exhortation, “Dilexi Te” (“I Have Loved You”), in the library of the Apostolic Palace at the Vatican Oct. 4, 2025, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, as Archbishop Edgar Peña Parra, the substitute secretary for general affairs at the Vatican Secretariat of State, looks on. The exhortation was released Oct. 9. (CNS photo/Vatican Media)

almsgiving is a matter of justice; and helping the poor with better employment reinforces their human dignity and participation in God’s creation.

6. Indifference to the plight of the poor is addressed

“No Christian can regard the poor simply as a societal problem; they are part of our ‘family.’ They are ‘one of us.’ Nor can our relationship to the poor be reduced to merely another ecclesial activity or function.”

An attitude of indifference in society and among Christians to the plight of the suffering poor is rebuked.

7. God has a preferential option for the poor

A preferential option for the poor is repeatedly mentioned in the document.

“This ‘preference’ never indicates exclusivity or discrimination towards other groups, which would be impossible for God. It is meant to emphasize God’s actions, which are moved by compassion toward the poverty and weakness of all humanity. Wanting to inaugurate a kingdom of justice, fraternity and solidarity, God has a special place in his heart for those who are discriminated against and oppressed, and he asks us, his Church, to make a decisive and radical choice in favor of the weakest.”

8. Some may find controversial elements

Some factions in the church and society may find some references as controversial within the document.

Sister Emmanuelle Cinquin, who lived and worked among poor trash gatherers in Cairo, Egypt, but also held unorthodox opinions on contraception and clerical celibacy, is mentioned as a witness of working among the

poorest of the poor.

There is also a reference to a 1984 “Instruction on Certain Aspects of the ‘Theology of Liberation’” from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, which critiques “liberation theology.”

Pope Leo quotes the “timely reflection: of Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the CDF prefect and future Pope Benedict XVI, who wrote: “The defenders of orthodoxy are sometimes accused of passivity, indulgence, or culpable complicity regarding the intolerable situations of injustice and the political regimes which prolong them. ... The concern for the purity of the faith demands giving the answer of effective witness in the service of one’s neighbor, the poor and the oppressed in particular, in an integral theological fashion.”

The section on “popular movements” notes that there are lay movements that have often been viewed with suspicion or even persecuted for their work addressing causes of poverty, inequality, labor injustices and other social issues affecting the poor. “Dilexi Te” says that it is necessary for institutions and governments to include them in the conversation when thinking about the needs of the poor.

The document also addresses the church’s tradition of working for and with migrants — which today is “expressed in initiatives such as refugee reception centers, border missions and the efforts of Caritas Internationalis and other institutions”— saying the church’s mission is to all living on the peripheries.

9. It begins and ends with Jesus’ words

The first and last words of “Dilexi Te” are the same words of Jesus — “I have loved you (Rev. 3:9)” — spoken to his humble, persecuted church. ■

AROUND THE ARCHEPARCHY

HOLIDAY BASKET EXTRAVAGANZA — Noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 16, St. John the Baptist Cathedral Center, 210 Greentree Road, Munhall, Pa. Doors open at noon. Donation of \$25 includes: Sit Down Dinner served at 1 p.m. Parmesan Crusted Chicken, Potato, Vegetable, Salad, Roll and Butter and Dessert and Door Prizes. Basket Auction drawing beginning at 3:45 p.m. 50/50 and other raffles will be available. Variety of vendors to begin your Christmas shopping early. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Contact Diane Pochron at 412-303-6534.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT BY EAST WINDS SYMPHONIC BAND — 3:30-5:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, St. John the Baptist Cathedral Center, 210 Greentree Road, Munhall, Pa. Come to enjoy some Christmas and Holiday favorites performed by the East Winds Symphonic Band, while enjoying a spread of Christmas cookies. Admission is free.

ARCHEPARCHIAL CHOIR CHRISTMAS PROGRAM & COOKIE RECEPTION — 2 p.m. Sunday Dec. 21, St. Elias Church, 4200 Homestead-Duquesne Road, Munhall, Pa. Program of Hymns and Carols of the Nativity of our Lord followed by seasonal treats in the parish social hall.

NATIONWIDE CANTORS MEETING — On Sunday, Nov. 23, the Metropolitan Cantor Institute will host the first-ever online meeting for all our serving cantors and retired cantors. This meeting is intended to provide a town hall environment to review the present situation of our liturgical singing across all four of our eparchies, and discuss ways to improve and perfect it. For more information, go to mci.archpitt.org.

PIROHI SALE — St. John the Baptist, 201 E. Main Street, Uniontown, Pa. is resuming pirohi sales for take-out only. Available are Potato/Cheese or Sauerkraut, cooked or frozen; and Prune (lekvar), frozen only at \$11 per dozen. Orders may be placed by calling 724-434-5355 Monday through Wednesday beginning at 9 a.m. (unless limit is reached prior to that time). On message: Specify type(s), number of dozens ordering, and leave name, phone number, and time of pick up which will be 9 a.m. to noon Friday in back of school building in upper parking lot.

STORIES AND SONGS FROM THE MOUNTAINS — 4-7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 8, Holy Spirit, 4815 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh (Oakland), Pa. Join us to hear Dean Poloka, and Beth and Michael Liberatore, members of the Rusyn Folk Group “Sokyra,” perform a concert of tales from the people, customs, and culture of the Carpathian Mountains region. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, \$15 for students, which includes admission, entertainment, and refreshments. A multi-basket raffle will also be held. Proceeds benefit Holy Spirit Parish restoration projects. Visit www.HolySpiritByzCath.com or call the parish office at 412-687-1220 for tickets.

ST. MARY’S SUPER BINGO — 2-6 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 9, St. Mary’s Center, State Route 981, Trauger, Pa. Doors open at noon. Games start at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$30 for 24 games and include first set of Regular cards (Specials are included), one Jackpot and lunch. Extra cards, specials, and a WTA Quickie may be purchased at admission. Tickets must be reserved or paid for in advance. None sold at the door. Seating is limited. Call or text Marlene at 412-526-0285 or Marge at 724-787-5631 for tickets. 16 Regular games: \$100, 4 Specials: \$200. \$1500 Jackpot Series. Regular: \$200, Letter X: \$300, Full Card: \$1,000. There will be opportunities for a 50/50, Chinese Auction, Instant Tickets, and a Lottery Tree. Proceeds benefit the Church’s Building and Maintenance Fund.

SUPER BINGO — Noon-4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15, St. Pius X, 2336 Brownsville Road, Carrick. \$30 Entry Ticket includes: 20 Regular Games (180 cards) and 4 Specials Games (36 cards). Jackpot Tickets are sold separately at the event. All winners will receive cash payouts. Persons under 18 years are permitted to purchase and play, only if accompanied by an adult. Doors open 10:30 a.m. There will be Basket Raffles and yummy food. Only 200 tickets will be sold. To make reservations and for any questions, call the church at 412-881-8344.

ICONOGRAPHY WORKSHOP — Marylyn Barone will conduct an iconography workshop for adults at all levels of experience. This workshop is Nov. 20 to 23 at Church of the Resurrection, 455 Center Road, Monroeville, Pa. You will write an icon of Our Lady of Guadeloupe. The classes will be Thursday evening, Friday evening, all day Saturday and Sunday, noon until finishing. You must be able to attend all four days to have a completed icon. The cost of \$155 will cover all supplies. All icons will be on an 8 x 10 gesso covered board. Using a pre-prepared prototype, you will learn techniques for faces, garments, 23 karat gold gilding and background. The theology of iconography and specifically the icon will also be presented. There will be the opportunity to attend services. Snacks as well as coffee and tea will be provided on all days. A deposit of \$25 is required and the class will be limited to 15 people. For further information, call Marylyn Barone at 412-491-9927 or email her at mwbarone@comcast.net.

ADVENT PIEROGI SALE — Nov. 21, Dec. 5, 12, and 19, St. Pius X, 2236 Brownsville Road, Carrick, Pa. Frozen pierogis only at this time. Three varieties available: potato cheese, \$11 per dozen and \$6 per half dozen; cottage cheese, \$15 per dozen and \$8 per half dozen; and sauerkraut, \$12 per doze and \$6 per half dozen.

ANNUAL STEELERS TAILGATE PARTY — Doors open at 11:30 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 23, St. John Chrysostom Church, Greenfield, Pa. Steelers vs. Chicago Bears. \$15 admission ticket includes food, desserts, and soft-drinks (BYOB). Watch the game on big screens; basket raffles; football pools and big raffles including Steeler tickets and Penguin tickets; and much more. For tickets call John Niskach 412-209-8397. Advance ticket sale only; no admission at the door.

TASTE OF HEAVEN COOKIE SALE — 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, Dec. 6, St. Gregory, 2005 Mohawk Road (Brookside Farms), Upper St. Clair, Pa. Join us for our annual Taste of Heaven Cookie Sale Experience! Enjoy live holiday music as you stroll through tables filled with traditional holiday and everyday favorites. Fill a container with your own selections, purchase pre-packaged unique ethnic delicacies and specialty sweet treats, or choose from our beautifully wrapped “Gifts to Go” – perfect for a hostess or someone special on your holiday gift list. Payment: Cash and credit/debit cards accepted. Questions: Call 412-835-7800 for more information. We look forward to celebrating the season with you!

CHRISTMAS CRAFT/BAKE SALE — Noon-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church, 201 E. Main St., Uniontown, Pa. Sponsored by the Ethnic Craft Club of St. John the Baptist. The sale will feature decorations, wood crafted items, folk crafts, religious articles, parish cookbooks (Carpathian Cookery), imported items, homemade candy, various baked goods (long rolls, cookies, breads, etc.), and many other articles that would make fine Christmas gifts or holiday decorations. Raffle prizes available. There is no admission fee. Handicapped accessible. Parking in lot behind school. For information call: 724-438-1382 M-F between (9 a.m.-3 p.m. — leave message).

DATES TO REMEMBER

- NOV. 2**
Annual Marian Moleben for the Causes of Beatification and Canonization of our Four Saintly Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Bishops
3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 2, Holy Ghost, 225 Olivia St., McKees Rocks, Pa.
Archbishop William C. Skurla will be the celebrant.
Everyone is cordially invited. Information on the lives of these holy prelates, along with refreshments will be served following the liturgical service. Please help us by your prayers and presence to advance their Causes.
- Standard Time (“fall back”) resumes at 2 a.m.
- NOV. 11**
Veterans Day
National observance
- NOV. 16 to 19**
Archbishop William attends the annual November meeting of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
Baltimore, Md.
- NOV. 21**
Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos
- NOV. 27**
Thanksgiving Day
Chancery closed Nov. 27 to 28

See more upcoming events at www.archpitt.org



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