



## ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICE

Saturday, Sept. 30

**Conception of St. John the Baptist**

Readings: Gal. 4:22-31; Lk. 1:5-25

**6:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)**

Sunday, Oct. 1

**18<sup>h</sup> Sunday after Pentecost/Protection of the Theotokos**

Readings: 2 Cor. 9:6-11; Lk. 6:31-36

**9:10 A.M. Third Hour;**

**9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy**

Supplications will be offered for **+Mihaylo Lwiwskyj**, by Pyptyk sisters  
 Supplications will be offered for **+Patricia Della Ragione**, by Luigi & family  
 Supplications will be offered for **+Hannah Mikovitz**, by Ann Kaltreider

Thursday, Oct. 5

**St. Charitina, Martyr**

Readings: Phil. 1:20-27; Lk. 7:17-30

**6:30 P. M. Blessing of Animals**

Saturday, Oct. 7

**St. Sergius and Bacchus, Martyrs**

Readings: Gal. 1:11-19; Lk. 7:11-16

**6:00 P.M. NO SERVICE (McKees Rocks)**

Sunday, Oct. 8

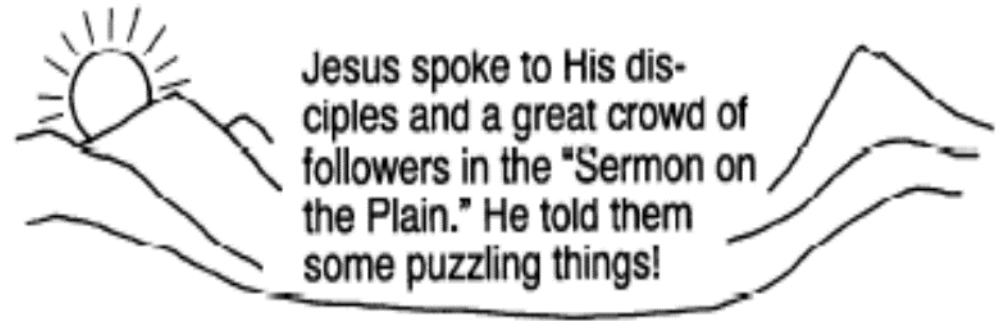
**19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Readings: 2 Cor. 11:31-12:9; Lk. 7:11-16

**9:10 A.M. Third Hour;**

**9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy**

Supplications will be offered for **+Maria Perkun-2<sup>nd</sup> anniv of passing to the eternal life (By children and grandchildren)**  
 Supplications will be offered for **+Olga & +Walter Siweckyj (By Mary Siweckyj)**



"Blessed are you  $\frac{1,5}{1,5} \frac{2,5}{2,5} \frac{2,5}{2,5} \frac{3,5}{3,5}$ , for yours is  
 the  $\frac{1,6}{1,6} \frac{4,5}{4,5} \frac{2,6}{2,6} \frac{3,6}{3,6} \frac{4,6}{4,6} \frac{2,5}{2,5} \frac{1,7}{1,7}$  of  
 $\frac{2,7}{2,7} \frac{3,7}{3,7} \frac{4,7}{4,7} \frac{1,8}{1,8} \frac{3,7}{3,7} \frac{2,6}{2,6}$ . Blessed are you that  
 $\frac{2,7}{2,7} \frac{2,8}{2,8} \frac{2,6}{2,6} \frac{3,6}{3,6} \frac{3,7}{3,7} \frac{3,5}{3,5}$  now for you shall be  
 $\frac{3,8}{3,8} \frac{4,7}{4,7} \frac{4,8}{4,8} \frac{4,5}{4,5} \frac{3,8}{3,8} \frac{1,9}{1,9} \frac{4,5}{4,5} \frac{3,7}{3,7} \frac{4,6}{4,6}$   
 Blessed are you that  $\frac{2,9}{2,9} \frac{3,7}{3,7} \frac{3,7}{3,7} \frac{1,5}{1,5}$  now, for  
 you shall  $\frac{3,9}{3,9} \frac{4,7}{4,7} \frac{2,8}{2,8} \frac{3,6}{3,6} \frac{2,7}{2,7}$ "

Use this graph to fill in the blanks.  
 Example: 2,6 = N

1	P	K	M	V	F
2	O	N	H	U	W
3	R	G	E	S	L
4	I	D	A	T	B
5	6	7	8	9	

## ***Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost***

*But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High...*

On this Sunday Our Lord calls us to live up to our divine potential. The whole of what that means is summed up here: *Love everyone and do good for them, even our enemies and give without expecting anything in return.* Then we will begin to resemble our Father in heaven and the world will know that we are His children.

Divine compassion is unlimited and shows no discrimination. A spiritual teacher once wrote, “If you do not show compassion toward your enemy then toward whom can you practice it?” The meaning here is more than one might think at first. “Practice” in this context means to nurture and increase one’s capacity for compassion by expanding the ability through deeper and deeper application. Thank God, then, for the “enemy” because he offers the chance for an increase in virtue.

If we have a deep, rich spiritual practice, the reservoirs of our hearts will be filled to overflowing with compassion and love. We will store up patience to share when it is most needed, and tolerance for the despised and rejected when we encounter them. The stronger our daily practice, the more we have to give. If we practice our spiritual discipline daily with commitment and perseverance we will always have enough and more to spare in time of need. If our daily practice is weak, then we will not have enough even for ourselves. A healthy spiritual practice is a gift we can give. Every effort we make to increase in virtue, enlightenment and deification touches everyone and everything. The fruit of our spiritual labors will help bring salvation to all.

To achieve such greatness takes PRACTICE. It takes perseverance and courage and devotion. If we are to develop the same unlimited compassion as our heavenly Father shows us, then we must do all we can to nurture and develop the seeds of goodness and virtue in us. Seeing our determination, the Lord will add to us blessing after blessing to share. Remember on this Sunday that living the spiritual life with intensity is possible in every situation, whether married or unmarried, in or out of a monastery, in any job or life situation imaginable. All it takes is desire and training. If we have the desire, the Lord will move heaven and earth to teach us what we need to know.



## **October 1, 2023**

18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost.  
Octoechos Tone 7;  
Protection of the Theotokos

**Changeable Parts: Pages 16-18**  
*In the Booklet of Changeable Parts*  
*Small white book)*

## **Announcements:**

### **The Protection of the Theotokos-Ποκροβα**

On This Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, we will celebrate the Protection of the Mother of God, or traditionally called “Pokrova”. On this feast of the Protection come and implore the defense and assistance of the Queen of Heaven to protect us and our nation under God from every evil.

### **Blessing of Animals**

In our Holy Church we have prayers of blessing for just about everything. From religious articles such as icons and vestments, to things like fields, flowers, houses, vehicles and even animals! This year on Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, when we commemorate the saint Francis of Assisi, who is honored as one of the patron saints of animals and livestock, we will have the blessing of animals in our parish family. This blessing will take place outside on Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in front of the anniversary Cross (near the parish rectory). Plan to come and be part of this prayerful event.

**A Benefit Luncheon for the Eparchy of Saint Josaphat** will take place on Sunday, October 22, 2023, at Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Ambridge. There will be a reception at 12:30pm and the Luncheon will begin at 1:00pm. Bishop Bohdan will be attending. This is an important opportunity to support our Eparchy. **Everyone is invited to attend or to support this event in some way.** You may register via the invitation you should have received in the mail, or online at the Eparchy's website ([www.stjosaphateparchy.com](http://www.stjosaphateparchy.com)). For more information, please see the Pastor or send an email to [stjosaphatstewardship@yahoo.com](mailto:stjosaphatstewardship@yahoo.com), or call 440-888-1522. Please support this important event for the Eparchy!

### **Rummage Sale Fundraiser - St. John's Church**

On October 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>, we will be having our rummage sale in our church hall. We need your support. We have already had a number of parishioners donating items. We certainly appreciate it and hope that donations continue. The kitchen will be open for shoppers to purchase a light lunch on those days. That means that we need volunteers in all aspects of the sale. If you have any questions or would like to make arrangements to drop off your items or volunteer to help, please contact Darlene Patton at 412-505-3162. Thanks so much for your continued support.

### **Prayer List:**

Make a point of praying for everyone on the prayer list. If you don't have one, contact the office and we'll send you one. In a special way, at this time, remember the following members of our parish family: **Barbara Fedora, Kasya Wyko, Thomas Kunsak, Orysia Barshowski, Kathee Shabla, and Rose Shedno.**

### **Pyrohy**

Our total income from last week's sale was **\$378.00** Thanks to all our dedicated women and men that come faithfully to be part of this parish activity.

### **Collection- May God bless you...**

The total for Sunday of September 24, 2023 was **\$1,605.30**

(Collection: \$555.00, Loose & other: \$34.00, Ukraine aid: \$50.00, Tax reimbursement: \$906.30, Cash: \$50.00, Online Donation: \$60.00)

***Sincere thanks to all for your kindness and generosity to our Holy Church!***



### ***The Protection- Покрова of the Mother of God***

The Feast of the Protection commemorates the appearance of the most holy Theotokos in the Church of Blachernae in Constantinople in the early sixth century, as recorded in the life of Saint Andrew the Fool for Christ's sake. While the multitudes of the faithful were gathered in church, Epiphanius, the friend of Saint Andrew, through the Saint's prayers, beheld the Virgin Mary above the faithful and spreading out her veil over them, signifying her unceasing protection of all Christians. Because of this we keep a yearly feast of gratitude, imploring our Lady never to cease sheltering us in her mighty prayers.

This is the origin of the Feast of the Protection. But this feast goes beyond mere history. This is the feast of the Theotokos as she lives today, for us, with us. We know this because it is the essential content of our prayers to her: *"O unfailing patroness of Christians, O steadfast advocate before the Creator, turn not away from us sinners as we call out to you in prayer, but rather as our gracious Lady, come to our aid as we trustingly appeal to you. Quickly hear our prayer and make it your own speedy plea, for you always intercede in behalf of those who honor you, O Mother of God!"*



### **Church School Registration**

As we prepare to begin the new school year for our St. George's Church School, registrations are now available in the Church vestibule. I ask all our parents to please take & fill out the registration form (one per a child). We need to have them returned by Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. All children 4-14 years of age are to be registered for our catechetical program. Remember that it is important that our children receive the proper Eastern Christian Formation. This formation is offered to them here at St. George's. We are blessed with a wonderful catechetical program and instructors. As a Church, let us pray for our children because they are the future of our parish family.