

ST.GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICE

Saturday, Sept. 16Saturday after Exaltation of the Cross
Readings: 2 Cor. 1:21-2:4; Mt. 22:1-146:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, Sept. 17Sunday after Exaltation of the Cross
Readings: Gal. 2:16-20; Mk. 8:34-9:19:10 A.M. Third Hour;
9:30 A.M. Divine LiturgySupplications will be offered for +Michael & Pauline Mosur,
given by Michelle & Kevin Seabolt

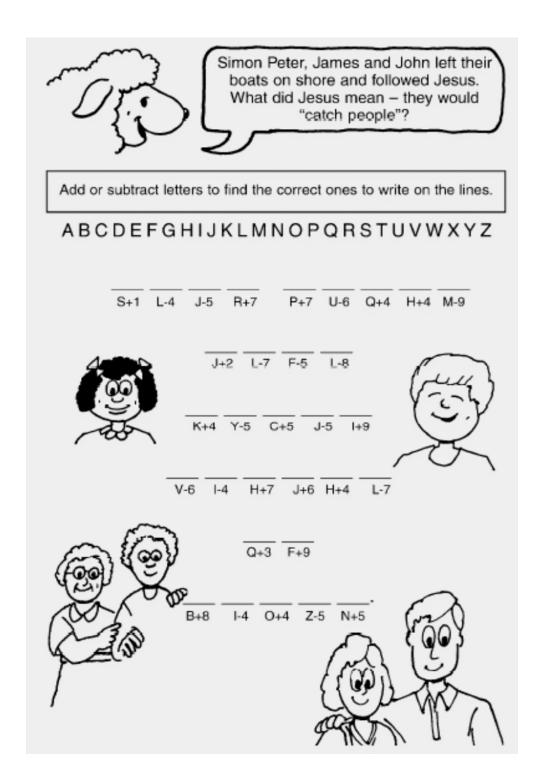
Supplications will be offered for +Sue Siweckyj &+ Sandy Winghart, given by Mary Siweckyj.

- Thursday, Sept. 21
 St. Condratus, Apostle

 Readings: 1 Corl. 1:18-24; Jn. 19:6-11. 13-21.25-27.30-35

 6:30 P.M. Daily Vesper
- Saturday, Sept. 23Conception of St. John the Baptist
Readings: Gal. 4:22-31; Lk. 1:5-25
6:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)
- Sunday, Sept. 2417th Sunday after Pentecost
Readings: 2 Cor. 6:16-7:1; Lk. 5:1-119:10 A.M. Third Hour;
9:30 A.M. Divine LiturgySumplications will be afford for the perturb the Purture

Supplications will be offered for **+Joseph Pyptyk**, **by Pyptyk sisters** Supplications will be offered for **+Yulia Kuncik**, **by granddaughter Ann & family**



Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross



The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it."

Mark 8:34-35

On this Sunday after the Feast of the Exaltation we hear the calling to: "...take up his cross and follow me". After "renouncing ourselves", Our Lord calls us to take up our cross. What does that mean? Each and every one of us has his own cross: sickness, poverty, pain or suffering. Jesus did not look for suffering, it was

forced on him. He accepted it in love and without losing his trust in God His Father. Following the cross does not mean copying the suffering of Jesus. That would be presumption. But it certainly means enduring the suffering that befalls us in our own situation, in our everyday life, in our daily obligations, demands, claims, and promises in our family or our calling.

It is impossible to completely refuse suffering without refusing to accept life as a whole, without ceasing to enter into any relationships. Pains, losses, amputations exist even in the smoothest-running life which can be conceived: separation from parents, fading of youthful friendship, the death of people who have figured in our lives, with whom we have identified ourselves, the death of relatives and friends, finally our own death. And here everyone can add his own crosses. What is our attitude in face of the cross? It can be an attitude of revolt against these sufferings, and our life will be filled with bitterness and anger. But we can also unite our suffering to the suffering of Christ on the Cross. Our life will then acquire a new personal quality; through suffering we become more mature, more experienced, more modest, more genuinely humble, more open for others - in a word, more human.

Suffering then, for the Christian, does not need to be a fate to be borne passively, a destiny to which we have to submit. "Suffering is a change experienced by man; it is a mode of coming to be". It is a growth toward a greater, higher, freer, final goal. It is a growth in faith, and hope that suffering is not the ultimate reality. The ultimate reality is God, with whom all suffering will definitively be dissolved in eternal life. That is our faith in the loving God, and that is our hope in the living God.



<u>Thank You!</u>

Thank you all for coming and being part of this happy parish event. We had great food, and a wonderful time for Christian fellowship. From the bottom of my heart I want to thank you for your hard work (kitchen, set-up, clean-up), for all the food donations and financial support for our parish picnic. It is always a great joy when we come together to celebrate our faith and love. Thank you!

<u>A Benefit Luncheon for the Eparchy of Saint Josaphat</u> 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). For more information, please see the Pastor or send an email to stjosaphatstewardship@yahoo.com, or call 440-888-1522. Please support this important event for the Eparchy!

September 17

Sunday after the Exaltation of the Cross. Octoechos Tone 7; Holy Martyr Sophia, and Her Three Daughters Faith, Hope and Love

<u>Changeable Parts:</u> Pages 11-14 In the Booklet of Changeable Parts Small white book)

Announcements:

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 26th. 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.

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, Thomas Kunsak, Orysia Barshowski, Kathee Shabla, and Rose Shedno.

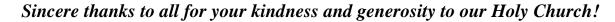
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Our total income from last week's sale was **\$393.00** Thanks to all our dedicated women and men that come faithfully to be part of this parish activity.

Collection- May God bless you...

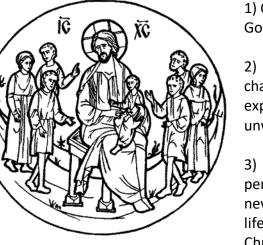
The total for Sunday of September 10, 2023 was **\$2,876.00**

(Collection: \$2,535.00, Loose & other: \$96.00, Ukraine aid: \$100.00, Donation for flowers: \$ 10.00, Donation for Picnic: \$75.00, Donation for CCD program: \$150.00)









1) Christ teaches the Word of God, and the Word of God stirs listeners to initial faith.

2) Christ involves the new believer in a specific challenge, and the new believer personally experiences the grace of God; he or she feels unworthy, yet amazed.

3) Christ calls the new believer to become a permanent disciple and co-worker with God. The new believer freely and totally gives over his or her life to the Lord and has a new sense of mission as Christ's disciple.

We too, are called to DISCIPLESHIP and to lower our nets for that "great catch". Consider, for a moment, the state of the world around us. Consider this city we are in, and the cities and towns nearby. Consider the frightful nature of the world, of the overflowing cup of evil all around us. Consider the huge numbers of confused and frightened people, darting this way and that, like frightened fishes in a great dark sea. Some, though perhaps not all, would doubtless find peace and joy if they could but find Christ, in the fullness in which we find Him in our Holy Church. We need only lower our nets, as Christ bids us, and we can catch them for Him. How do we do this?

We can do it by witnessing for Christ through the lives that we lead. If we are kind, patient, and generous towards our neighbors, that in itself is the beginning of our witness. If we are models of Christian piety in our lives, praying, keeping the fasts, attending Liturgy, and remaining close to the Church, that too is a witness and will attract a larger catch. Finally, we must not be ashamed of Christ's Church by hiding it from those around us. If neighbors or friends or acquaintances have no religious life, or if they are dissatisfied in their current religion, we can invite them to attend Divine Liturgy and introduce them to our Holy Church and our community of faithful. So, let us not be apprehensive in sharing the beauty of our Eastern Church with others. Let each of us strive to follow in the footsteps of the holy apostles Peter, James, and John, by becoming catchers of souls for Christ. Let each of us also put aside all those things that distract us from our real purpose in this life, let us leave those things, as the Gospel says, and, like the apostles, follow Christ. Amen.