

## ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICE

**Saturday, Sept. 23** 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, Sept. 24** 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
 Readings: 2 Cor. 6:16-7:1; Lk. 5:1-11  
**9:10 A.M. Third Hour;**  
**9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy**

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

**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**



Simon Peter, James and John left their boats on shore and followed Jesus. What did Jesus mean – they would “catch people”?

Add or subtract letters to find the correct ones to write on the lines.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

S+1 L-4 J-5 R+7 P+7 U-6 Q+4 H+4 M-9



J+2 L-7 F-5 L-8



K+4 Y-5 G+5 J-5 I+9

V-6 I-4 H+7 J+6 H+4 L-7



Q+3 F+9

B+8 I-4 O+4 Z-5 N+5



## *St. Thekla the Protomartyr & Equal-to-the-Apostles*



*You were enlightened by the words of Paul, O Bride of God, Thekla, and your faith was confirmed by Peter, O Chosen One of God. You became the first sufferer and martyr among women, by entering into the flames as into a place of gladness. For when you accepted the Cross of Christ, the demonic powers were frightened away. O all-praised one, intercede before Christ God that our souls may be saved.*

On September 24<sup>th</sup> we honor Saint Thekla, a contemporary of Saint Paul who became an evangelizer, as the apostle Paul was, after hearing his teachings. She was born to a rich family in Iconium, a town in Asia Minor. She was expected to marry, and marry well. In fact, her mother had a young man picked out for her. He had an excellent position, and could offer Thekla a secure life. This was important in Thekla's day.

But something happened to St. Thekla that made her turn away forever from her mother's dream. The apostle Paul, who had been in Antioch, traveled to Iconium and began teaching at a house near

Thekla's. She sat in her open window for three days and nights, listening as St. Paul spoke about the blessings of giving everything to God. Thekla decided not to marry, and to devote her life to Jesus Christ. Her fiancé Thamyris was furious, and complained to the local governor that Paul was a bad influence. Because Thamyris was so prominent, St. Paul was arrested and imprisoned.

Late at night, St. Thekla secretly went to the prison, bribed the guards, and stayed to hear Paul's teachings. When her family found her, they turned her and St. Paul over to the authorities. The apostle Paul was driven from the city, and St. Thekla was sentenced to death. Her mother was so angry at her daughter's disobedient "madness" that she wouldn't intervene. St. Thekla was tortured, but God delivered her from death. She found her way to Antioch, and soon met the apostle Paul there. She helped him preach, and together they did good work for the Lord. Having preached Christ in various cities and suffered many things, she reposed in Seleucia of Cilicia at the age of 90.

## *CALL OF THE FIRST DISCIPLES*



## September 24, 2023

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

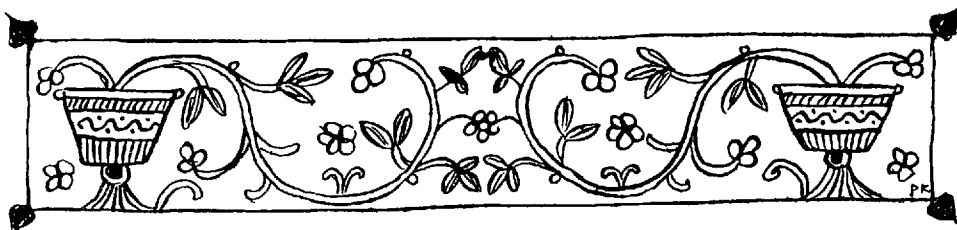
***Changeable Parts: Pages 14-15***  
*In the Booklet of Changeable Parts*  
*Small white book)*

## Announcements:

**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!

### 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.**



### Our Sympathies

Our prayers and sympathies are extended to the family and friends of +Esther Chulack who was buried from our Holy Church on Friday, September 22, 2023. *May the Lord commit her soul to the place where the just repose and may her memory be eternal- Вічна Память!*

### 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.

### 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.

### Pyrohy

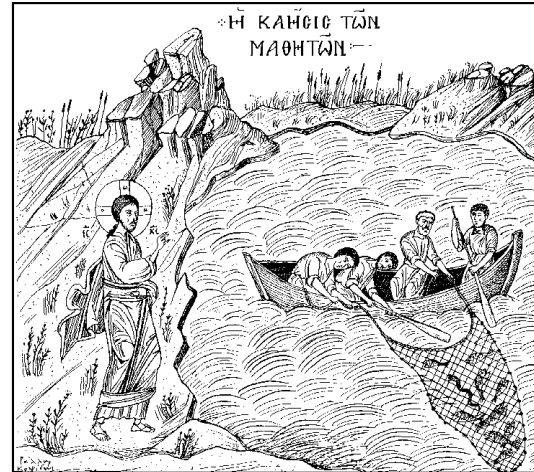
Our total income from last week's sale was **\$755.00** Thanks to all our dedicated women and men that come faithfully to be part of this parish activity.

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

The total for Sunday of September 17, 2023 was **\$1,500.00**

(Collection: \$718.00, Loose & other: \$86.00, Ukraine aid: \$45.00, Donation from Michelle & Kevin Seabolt: \$500.00, Donation for church cleaning, by Mike & Vicki Senko: \$150.00)

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



### **Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

*And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished...*

As we can see in today's Gospel reading, Jesus can bring out the very best that is in people. The Lord can make you your best self. No one else and nothing else can accomplish this. Look at

Simon Peter at the Sea of Galilee. If Christ had not crossed Peter's path, he would have lived and died a fisherman. People who lived along the lake saw Peter a big-hearted good fellow, nothing more. Christ saw in him a leader, who would one day speak to three thousand people and get them to be baptized and become Christians. Look at some of the other Apostles and leaders of Christ's Church. St. Matthew as we know was a tax-collector. Most people looked upon him as a traitor and a thief, for the people of Israel disliked those in the employ of the Roman government, and beside this, the collectors often exacted more money from the people than they were supposed to. The crowd had no use for Matthew. But Jesus saw in him the desire to right all wrongs, the desire to serve God, and Christ called him to become a great Apostle and Evangelist. Down through all the centuries of the Church you can find examples of this kind of transformation, in which Christ brings out the best in people. Saul, the persecutor of the Lord, became Paul the chosen vessel of God and the great Apostle and missionary; James and John left their nets by the sea to become also great Apostles and missionaries for the sake of Christ.

Of course, this is not something that worked in the past only; it works today. It can work in us. There are many people today whose lives have been touched by the Lord, and who have, as a result, been transformed into radiant Christians serving their Lord and their neighbor. Peter shows us the process of this transformation. First of all he confesses his weakness. When he came to the realization of Who Christ was he fell on his knees before the Lord in worship. Then he left his old way of living and followed the new way of the Lord.

Let us become aware of Christ's greatness and our smallness, of His holiness and our sinfulness, and then let us bring the light of Christ into our life to transform it to the best.

