



ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES

Saturday, August 3

St. Isaac and Others Venerable

Readings: 1 Cor. 9:2-12; Mt. 18:23-35

6:30 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, August 4

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Readings: 1 Cor. 9:2-12; Mt. 18:23-35

9:10 A.M. Third Hour;

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for+ **Robert Novak, given by family**

Tuesday, August 6

Transfiguration of Our Lord

Readings: 2 Pet. 1:10-19; Mt. 17:1-9

6:30 P.M. Divine Liturgy (St. George, North Side)

God's blessing upon Inna Hohosha on her birthday, by parishioners

Saturday, August 10

St. Lawrence, Archdeacon

Readings: 1 Cor. 15:1-11; Mt. 19:16-26

6:30 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, August 11

Twelve Sunday after Pentecost

Readings: 1 Cor. 15:1-11; Mt. 19:16-26

9:10 A.M. Third Hour;

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for+ **Edward McCreary, given by Ann & Jim Kaltreider**

Jesus came to the disciples when they needed Him. He will come to you when you need Him, too.

Finish this poem by filling in the blanks with words from the list. You will use each word only once.

you hand fear ahead believe
come heart boat still inside

"Take heart, have no _____,"
the Lord Jesus said
To his friends in the _____
in the waves up _____.

"I am coming to help you;
I give you my _____.
Have faith and _____,
and you'll soon be to land.

"The waves will be _____;
the winds will subside.
My caring and love
you can feel deep _____.

"I'll always be with _____,
and when stormy times start,
Invite me to _____,
and to stay in your _____."

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost



“So also my heavenly Father will do to everyone of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

Matthew 18:35

Forgiveness is the expression of mercy, and Jesus has blessed the merciful: *“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy”* (Mt. 5:7). Mercy is one of the eight Beatitudes in which Christ summarized the true righteousness and clarified the way to the Kingdom of God: *“I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the*

Kingdom of God” (Mt. 5:20). To enter the Kingdom of God one needs to be like God. That is why Jesus, after having spoken of the love of the enemies, concluded: *“You, therefore, must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect”* (Mt. 5:48). This same sentence is expressed in the Gospel according to St. Luke in the following way: *“Be merciful even as your Father is merciful”* (Luke 6:36). If you can forgive like God, and be merciful like God, you can reach the perfection of God.

Mercy is one of the eight Beatitudes, and it is also one of the seven sentences of the Lord’s Prayer: *“forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us”*. The conclusion of the Lord’s Prayer is also suggestive: *“For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive them their trespasses, neither will your father forgive your trespasses”* (Mt. 6:14-15).

Forgiveness is a gift from God. And a gift is not a gift unless it is accepted. Forgiveness begins with our being forgiven first, and our accepting God’s forgiveness. If we are full of hatred, God cannot fill us, because even God cannot fill which is already full. That is why we need to repent: to allow God to empty us of hatred. Then he can fill us with Himself, with His Love and forgiveness to enable us to forgive others.

By forgiving us our sins God gave us his peace. Let us not lose this peace by filling our hearts with bitterness to others. We have received from the Holy Spirit the gift of forgiveness. Let us share this gift with others. And on this Sunday let us remember the words of St. Paul to the Ephesians: *“Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, in whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, with all malice. Instead be kind and tenderhearted to one another, forgiving one another, as God has forgiven you in Christ”* (4:30-31).



Aug. 4, 2024

Eleven Sunday after Pentecost

The Seven Holy Youth of Ephesus; the Holy Venerable martyr Euudocia

Changeable Parts: *See the special insert available in the church vestibule.*

Announcements:

Feast of the Transfiguration

On Tuesday, August 6th we will celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Vesperal Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 6:30pm on Tuesday August 6th at North Side Parish. The Blessing of the Fruit will take place again on Sunday, August 11th, as we will continue to celebrate the glorious Transfiguration of Our Lord. If you wish to have your fruit blessed, please place it in the center of the Church on the Tetrapod (Sacramental Table). On that Sunday we will also have Festal Anointing-Mirovanya.

Mark your calendar: Parish picnic, September 8, 2024

Mark your calendar for the annual parish picnics scheduled for September 8, 2024, after Divine Liturgy at parish grounds. Starting a new church calendar with a parish gathering has been a beautiful tradition. Hope to see you there.

Cleaner Needed

Sheptytsky Arms is looking for a cleaner to work 3 hours per week cleaning common areas of the building. The candidate must have insurance. The position offers excellent pay and flexible days and hours. Extra cleaning and cleaning of vacant units will result in additional compensation.

One Bedroom Apt.

St. George Close will have a one-bedroom unit available for occupancy on September 1, 2024. Contact Char for more information at 412-766-8802.

Collection- May God bless you...

The total for Sunday of July 28, 2024 was **\$1,474.00 + \$430.00**

(Collection: \$500.00, Loose & other: \$10.00, Pyrohy: \$430.00,

Donation in memory of Robert Novak: \$400.00, by wife Kathy, Ukrainian Aid in memory of Bob Novak: \$564.00)

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



Mark your calendars for the Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God...



exalt you as a spiritual temple, Theotokos. For the One Who dwelt within your womb, the Lord who holds all things in His hands, sanctified you, glorified you, and taught all to sing to you..."

Please mark your calendars and plan to come to celebrate as a community of faithful the Falling Asleep-Holy Dormition of the Theotokos in faith. We will again welcome to our Church the faithful from our neighboring parishes so that together we can praise the blessed passing of the Mother of God.

Thursday, August 15: Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos

6:30:P. M. Divine Liturgy, Blessing of Flowers

Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Blessing of Fruit



In our Holy Church the offering of first fruits takes the form of a thanksgiving and blessing. The produce is then consumed by the faithful and their loved ones, or it can also be given to the poor and infirmed. The Liturgical concept behind the blessing is the faithful offering back to God a token of that which He in His loving-kindness has provided, God blessing these first fruits and returning them to the faithful for their benefit and blessing.

The blessing of first fruits traditionally begins on the Great Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord with the blessing of grapes. In localities where grapes are not grown, other early-ripening fruits such as apples, plums, pears, etc. may be offered. At the end of the Divine Liturgy the priest blesses the first fruits, asking "...that the Lord may bless them, that they may be to us unto rejoicing, and that He may accept a gift of these fruits unto the cleansing of our sins..." The blessing of grapes, as well as other fruits and vegetables on this day is the most beautiful and adequate sign of the final transfiguration of all things in Christ. It signifies the ultimate flowering and fruitfulness of all creation in God's Paradise where all will be transformed by the glory of the Lord.

It has also been a venerable tradition (especially amongst farmers) that as the harvest season progresses, the first fruits of each species be brought to the Church to be blessed, using a similar format, but a different prayer: "...that the Lord may receive our gift unto His eternal treasury and grant us an abundance of earthly goods..."

Blessing of Grapes - Representation of transformation

Grapes are blessed because they show physical transformation and represent a religious transformation.

- The transformation of flowers into fruit
- The transformation of fruit into wine
- The mystical transformation of wine into the Blood of Holy God the Son within the Holy Trinity / Our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ in the Divine Liturgy.
- All fruits represent new life. Mature fruits are blessed in thanksgiving for a good harvest.
New life and a good harvest are Holy God's gifts to us.