



ST.GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES

Saturday, Nov. 1

Cosmas & Damian, Unmercenaries

Readings: Gal. 2: 16-20; Lk. 8:26-39

4:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, Nov. 2

Twenty first Sunday after Pentecost (Sunday School resumes)

Readings: Gal. 1: 11-19; Lk. 16:19-31

***Standard Time**

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Resumes*

Supplications will be offered for **+Yustyna Czelepis (By Pyptyk family)**
Supplications will be offered for **+Patriia Della Ragione (By Luigi & family)**

Saturday, Nov. 8

Synaxis of the Archangel Michael and Other Bodiless Powers of Heaven

Readings: Gal. 2: 16-20; Lk. 8:26-39

4:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, Nov. 9

Twenty second Sunday after Pentecost

Readings: Gal. 1: 11-19; Lk. 16:19-31

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

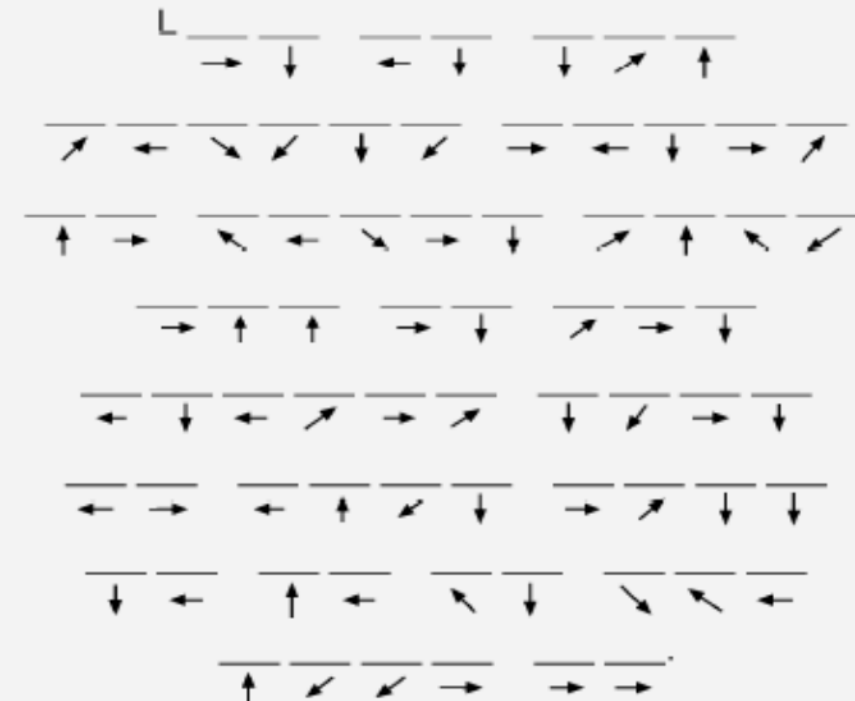
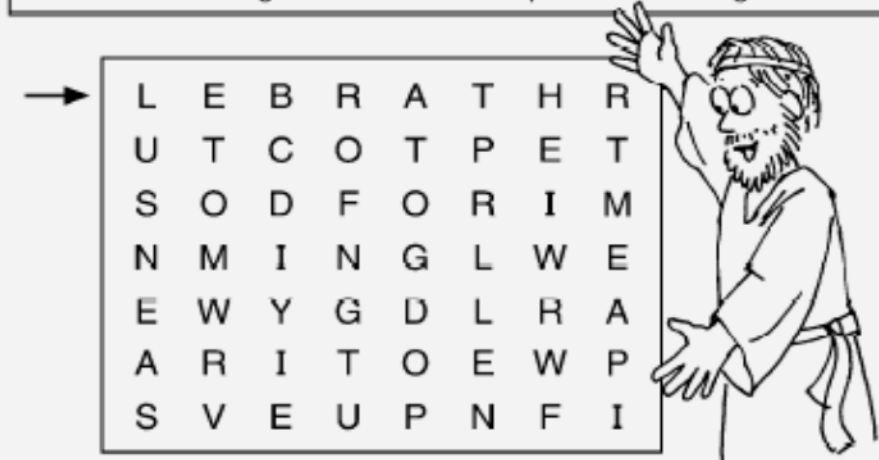
Supplications will be offered for **+Maria & Basil Szczypczyk (By Anna Kuncik)**
Supplications will be offered for **+Msgr. Michael Rewtiuk (By Mary Zaliszczuk)**

Eternal light Candle offering for November 2, 2025

Blessed memory of **+Karen Reynolds** requested by Jim Papinchak

Paul knew it is not easy to do what is right,
but he encouraged the Christians to not give up.

Starting with the letter L, follow the arrows to find the
remaining letters that will complete the message.





If you think about demons in that way, then there are many demons in our world, aren't there? Things that cause self-destructive behavior, that cause us to feel trapped by our condition, and that separate us from family, friends, and community. Things like addictions, for example or mental illnesses, or destructive habits, and on and on.

The Blame Game We might think that demon-possession is a rather old-fashioned, unscientific way of thinking about all of this. But sometimes I wonder if we have lost something by becoming so "advanced." At least when we talk about demon-possession, we aren't playing the blame game.

Take addiction, as one example. It's always tempting to blame people who are struggling with addictions and other destructive behaviors. Don't they know what they are doing to themselves and those they love? What if we treated addiction as an illness or thought of addiction as a demon? It is something that leads to self-destructive behavior and that causes a person to be separated from family, friends, and community. As old-fashioned as it is to talk about demon-possession, at least it keeps us from playing the blame game.

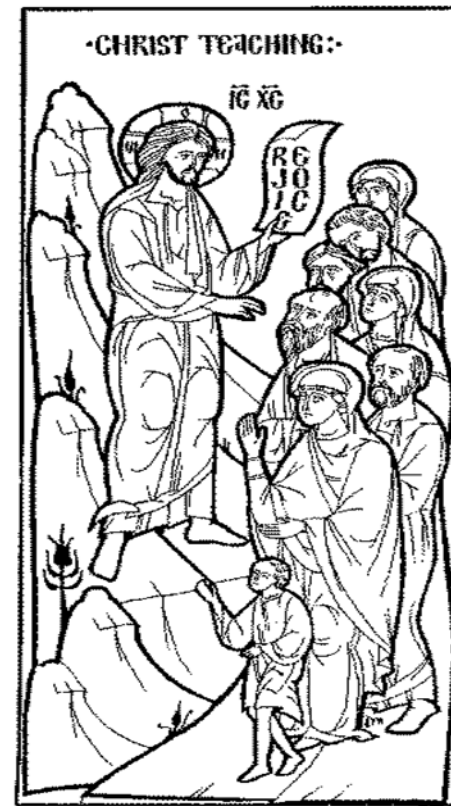
When you look at our world today, it is obvious that there are a lot of things holding us captive. They truly are legion. But here, of course, is the good news at the heart of this story: Jesus came to free us from these things. Jesus came to free us from all of those things that hurt us and separate us from one another. Jesus came to set us free from sin, death, and the demons in our world. Just as he crossed the Sea of Galilee, on that stormy night, to free this poor man known as Legion.

Finding Our Identity in Christ If we can accept that there are things that look like demons in our world today, then we can embrace the miraculous gift that Jesus offers to us all. Jesus came to free us from these demons, and to give us a new identity. Jesus came to seek out every child of God and give them a new name. No one is to be called Legion anymore. We are now – one and all – children of God. We are now – one and all – God's beloved. We are now brothers and sisters in Christ. The demon-possessed man, formerly known as Legion, and all of us.

We have all been given a new identity that is more important than anything else in this world. And a new mission, too. I love that this man known as Legion is given such an important task in the gospels. He is the first apostle to the Gentiles. After he is healed, he wants to follow Jesus. But Jesus tells him to go home and tell everyone what God has done. Making him the first to tell the world beyond Israel about Jesus.

This man is now a follower of Christ. That is the most important thing about him, now and evermore. His identity is now secure in the one who freed him from his demons. And that is true for us, too. Our identity, first and foremost, is now rooted in Christ. We are children of God. We are followers of Jesus. We are Christians. Before we are anything else, and certainly before we are anything that the world wants to call us, that is who we are.

Because we are baptized, the demons that still nip at our heels no longer define us. We may still wrestle with what you might call demons in our lives, to be sure. But regardless of what they may be, they are not stronger than our baptism in Christ. They don't define us. Our baptisms into Christ define us, now and always.



November 2, 2025

21st Sunday after Pentecost,

Octoechos Tone 4

The Holy Martyrs Acindynus,
Pegasius, Aptonius,
Elpidephorus, and
Anemposdistus

Changeable Part: See the special insert
available in the church vestibule.

Announcements:

A **special thank you to Anna Kuncik and Annie Kaltreider** for providing the delicious snacks for our October coffee social.

St. Michael & Angels

On Saturday, November 8th, we celebrate the feast of the holy archangel Michael and the other Bodiless Powers (Angels). To celebrate this feast day and to remember our own Guardian Angel we will have Divine Liturgy which will be celebrated at 4:00 p.m. at St. John parish in McKees Rocks.

Mark your calendar:

We are planning to restart Adult religious Classes. The second Adult Religious Class is on November 13, 2025. Special thank you to Don Fontana for coordinating these classes and parishioners for attending.

PARISHIONERS’ PRAYER LIST - Our parish’s listing for people IN NEED OF OUR PRAYERS who might be suffering illnesses – especially, but not only, if they are unable to attend church services because they are shut-in either at home, or in hospitals and nursing homes. The names we have received are: Barbara Fedora, Thomas Kunsak, Kathee Shabla, Dorothy Waslo and Msgr. George Appleyard (The Willows, 1215 Hulton Rd, Oakmont, PA 15139).

Collection- May God bless you...

The total for Sunday of October 26, 2025, was **\$745.00 + \$1,017.00**
(Collection: \$685.00, Loose & candles: \$45.00, Pyrohy: \$1,017.00,
Eternal Light candle: \$15.00)

Sincere thanks to all of you for your kindness and generosity!



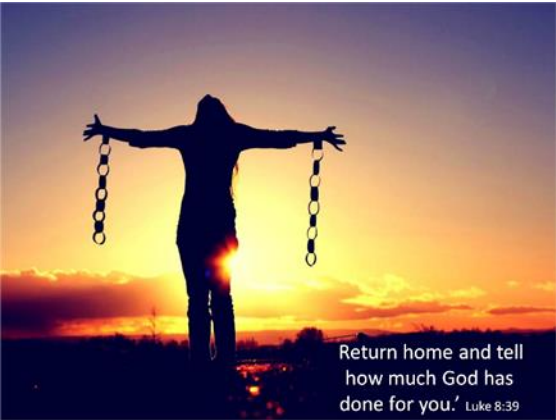
New Gift Card Program -Gift cards with a purpose!

St. George Church is excited to offer parishioners and their families a simple way to support our parish—through the RaiseRight Gift Card Program!



Purchase gift cards for groceries, gas, dining, retail, and more—shop your favorite brands while giving back. St. George earns a percentage of each gift card purchased. There are over 750 brands available, it’s a great way to give back without spending extra money.

The program begins **Monday, November 10, 2025**. Full details to follow.



“The Christian Formerly Known as Legion”

Today’s gospel reading ([Luke 8:26-39](#)) is the story of the man with the nickname “Legion,” because he had so many demons. While we know very little of this man, apart from his demons, we know that he has a family, as at the end of the story, Jesus tells the man to return to his home and declare how much God has done for him - that his first and most important task now is not to leave his family and follow Jesus but to return to his family. What a joyful

reunion that must have been! Imagine his parents, if they were still living. How grateful they would have been to see their son without chains and shackles. Imagine his wife, if he was married. His children. What a joyous day that would have been.

So, when you think about it, this story is as much about family and community as it is about demon-possession. This story is about the demons that divide us, and Jesus’ desire to unite us.

Demon-Possessed? First, I think that we need to pause for a moment to think about demons. This man is named Legion because of the many demons that had entered him. So, what are these demons? Are they even real? Most of us don’t know anyone who has been possessed by demons. It’s hard to relate to that. Hollywood loves this idea, probably because it is so dramatic. Ever since “The Exorcist,” at least, there has been movie after movie about this theme. But all they do is make it all seem even less relatable to our lives.

So, what do we make of these stories in the gospels? First, we shouldn’t simply deny that there are demons in our world. As a pastor, I have had people share stories about demons that seem all-too-true. I’m not going to say that they don’t exist. But I will say that Jesus is stronger than any and all of the demons in our world.

The second thing that I want to say is that these stories can help us think about our world and help duck, and quacks like a duck, then it probably is a duck”? Let’s apply this to demons. Think for a moment about what the demons in the Bible *do*. When you think about it, the demons in the Bible consistently do three things:

- 1. They cause self-destructive behavior in the person they are possessing.
- 2. They cause this person to feel trapped by their condition.
- 3. And, finally, they separate that person from their family, friends and community.