

August 10, 2025

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost/Post-Festive Day of the Transfiguration



Veil of Protection

SAINT MARY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH!

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever! ~ Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na Viki!

Propers for this Sunday: Resurrectional Tone 8, Pg. 161. For the Transfiguration: pg. 350

St. Mary Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., AUG. 10 NINTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST

11:00 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY

Fr. Chris Mannerino on the 10th anniversary of his priesthood, requested by Carol Fellenstein

WED., AUG. 13 Leave-taking of the Transfiguration

6:00 P.M. DIVINE LITURGY

+ Dan Hubner, requested by Carol Fellenstein

FRI., AUG. 15 DORMITION of the THEOTOKOS HOLY DAY

9:30 A.M. MATINS

11:00 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY, **Obligation**

Blessing of flowers & herbs

+ Robert Givens, requested by Dante List

SAT., AUG. 16 TENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST

7:00 P.M. Great Vespers

SUN., AUG. 17 NO LITURGY AT ST. MARY

August 15, The Dormition of the Theotokos, is a Holy Day of obligation on which the faithful are bound in conscience to attend the Holy Liturgy and to abstain from their daily work.

Happy Birthday Greetings:

None for the week

Wedding Anniversaries:

None for the week

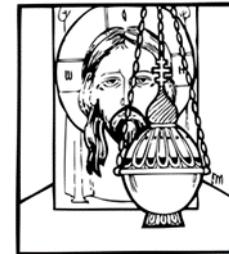
Please Pray for Our Sick and Shut-ins:

HOME: Penny Furis, Ron Jones, William Killian, Joyce Rose, Eleanor Soltis

Franciscan Manor (71 Darlington Rd., Beaver Falls, PA 15010) - George Cirka

Christ is Among us! He is and Shall be!

Christos posred'i nas! Jest' i budet!



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP

August 10 - 16, 2025

Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:

The Parishioners

Parish Offerings for August 3, 2025

God bless your generosity! "Everyone must give according to whatever he has inwardly decided; not sadly, not grudgingly, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Cor 9:7)

Offertory	\$795.40
Loose Currency	\$332.00
Candles	\$24.00
TOTAL:	\$1151.40

Do not neglect good deeds and generosity, God is pleased by sacrifices of that kind." (Hebrews 13:16)

Regular Confessions Offered

St. George 4:45-5:45 P.M. on Thursdays and **before** every Sunday Divine Liturgy

St. Mary: 4:45-5:45 P.M. on Wednesdays and **following** every Sunday Divine Liturgy

St. Nicholas 4:00-4:45 P.M. before Vigil Liturgy on Saturdays

Beaver County Byzantines Happenings...

NEXT SUNDAY: Parishes Picnic

The annual St. George picnic for our Byzantine Catholic Parishes is next **Sunday, August 17**, on the grounds of St. George Church. The day will begin with a **10:00 AM Divine Liturgy** followed by the activities. St. George's Men's Club will supply and grill the meats, and St. George's Ladies Guild will prepare the main side dishes and set up the picnic buffet. There will be a dunk tank to dunk Fr. Anthony, bingo, games, food, and other fun. **Everyone is asked to bring (potluck) side dishes, desserts, or beverages. Bring your donations of already made gift baskets for the raffle. Invite and bring family, friends, and neighbors. All are welcome!**



“For where two or three have gathered together in my name, I am there in their midst.”

(Matthew 18:20)

Blessing of Flowers and Herbs

According to our Byzantine Catholic Tradition, flowers are solemnly blessed on the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos. From ancient times we have been taught that when Mary, the Mother God, fell asleep the whole company of the Apostles - except Thomas - was miraculously brought together in Jerusalem. Amid divine and heavenly praises, they commended her soul into the hands of God and placed her body in a little tomb in Gethsemane. For three days a choir of Angels continued to sing above her tomb. And on the third day Thomas arrived. So that he could venerate the body that had given birth to Christ God, the Apostles opened the tomb. They found not the body of the Mother of God but the winding sheet and the most beautiful and sweet-smelling flowers. Mary's body had been taken up into the heavens by her Son. Flowers were blessed from the earliest times in both East and West. Over time seeds and herbs used for medicinal purposes were also blessed, in commemoration of the many healings and blessings that were bestowed upon the pilgrims at Mary's tomb.



Blessing of flowers & herbs will take place at the Feast Day Divine Liturgies.

*O Most Holy Theotokos, Save Us!
Presvjataja Bohoridice, spasi nas!*

St. George Divine Services for the Week:

TUE., AUG. 12	Holy Martyrs Photius and Anicetus
6:00 P.M.	DIVINE LITURGY
	+ Sr. Rose Elizabeth, requested by Sr. Mary Virginia
WED., AUG. 13	Leave-taking of the Transfiguration
7:00 A.M.	First & Third Hours
THUR., AUG. 14.....	DORMITION of the THEOTOKOS HOLY DAY,
	<i>Anticipated</i>
9:00 A.M.	Paraklesis
5:00 P.M.	Great Vespers with Litija for the Dormition
6:00 P.M.	DIVINE LITURGY, Procession with Dormition Shroud,
	<i>Blessing of flowers & herbs, Obligation</i>
	Private Intention, requested by Jocelyn Sabol
SUN., AUG. 17	TENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST
	POST-FESTIVE DAY of the DORMITION
8:30 A.M.	MATINS
10:00 A.M.	DIVINE LITURGY
	+Mary and Michael Popovich, requested by Mary Ann and Diane

St. Nicholas Chapel Divine Services for the Week:

FRI., AUG. 15	DORMITION of the THEOTOKOS HOLY DAY
6:00 P.M.	DIVINE LITURGY, <i>Blessing of flowers & herbs, Obligation</i>
	For the People of St. George, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas chapel
SAT., AUG. 16	TENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST
5:00 P.M.	DIVINE LITURGY
	For the People of St. George, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas chapel

"It is a Ghost! And They Cried Out for Fear."

This is the way the Lord constantly deals with our fears. He does not hesitate to bring on worse things, even more alarming than before. They were troubled here not only by the storm but also by the distance from the land. Note that He did not too easily remove the darkness. He did not come quickly to their rescue. He was training them, as I said, by the continuance of these fears and instructing them to be ready to endure.

(St. John Chrysostom)

A Note from Fr. Anthony

Dear parishioners,

I will offer the Paraklesis at St. George on Thursday, August 14th at 9:00am. This is a beautiful prayer of supplication to the Theotokos and a wonderful way to prepare for the Dormition. Celebrating this divine service is a longstanding tradition at St. George. There will be no hours at St. Mary's this week.

The feast of the Dormition is a **Holy Day of Obligation**. We will have full liturgical observance (Vespers and Matins) and Divine Liturgy at all three of our Churches. **We will have the blessing of flowers and herbs after each liturgy. Following liturgy at St. George we will have a procession with the Dormition Shroud.** Make sure to plan your schedule accordingly so you can attend the celebration of this great feast!

Please let me know if you desire envelopes for the upcoming Church year if you are not currently receiving them. We have to order them soon.

Please up for the parish picnic at St. George following a combined 10:00am Divine Liturgy on August 17th. **There will be no liturgy at St. Mary's**, but we will still have the 5:00pm Saturday liturgy at St. Nicholas Chapel. Since we only have one liturgy Sunday morning, we also will have Matins at 8:30am at St. George.

Please sign up your children for ECF and give me or Claire Arnold the forms by today! We plan to have the children come to the parish picnic and assign each of them a patron saint there and allow them to meet the teachers.

In Christ,
Fr. Anthony

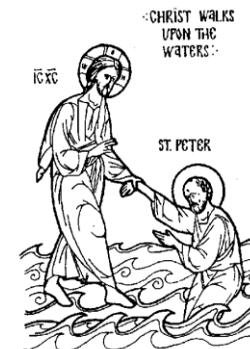
Fr. Anthony on Retreat

Fr. Anthony will be away until Wednesday, Aug 13th on Retreat. Please call Fr. Joseph Raptosh, our Protopresbyter, at St. Michael Byzantine Catholic Church in Canonsburg at 724-745-7117 in case of a sacramental emergency and you desire a Byzantine priest. You may also call St. Augustine Parish at 724-846-7540 as they are in Beaver County and may be able to respond more quickly. Tuesday liturgy will proceed with newly ordained Fr. Luke Iyengar as celebrant.

O Most Holy Theotokos, Save Us!

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Last Sunday's Gospel reading told us of a great miracle: the feeding of an enormous crowd of many thousands with five loaves and two fish. The disciples of Christ themselves, through whose hands this miracle was performed, were dumbfounded. And as the Gospel says, Christ at once compelled them to enter a boat and go before Him to the other shore while He dismissed the crowd. *"Then he made the disciples get into the boat and precede him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. After doing so, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When it was evening he was there alone. Meanwhile the boat, already a few miles offshore, was being tossed about by the waves, for the wind was against it. During the fourth watch of the night, he came toward them, walking on the sea."* (Mt. 14:22-25)



A wonderful image of the Church of Christ is drawn for us here. The boat, as it were, represents the Church: its sides are the rules and canons of the Church; the disciples are all of us Christians; and the stormy sea is the sea of our life. And now too Christ has ascended a mountain, which means He is sitting at the right hand of the Father. He sees our Church boat and directs it. The Gospel says that the disciples went to the other side, not of their own will, but *"Then he made the disciples get into the boat and precede him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds."* (Mt. 14: 22). This means they were doing it out of obedience to Christ. And when they found themselves in danger, He walked to them on the water.

"When the disciples saw him walking on the sea they were terrified. "It is a ghost," they said, and they cried out in fear. At once [Jesus] spoke to them, "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter said to him in reply, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. (Mt. 14:26-29).

Notice this moment: Christ did not call Peter but only permitted Peter. Here obedience changed to boldness, this came from Peter himself. He felt such a surge of faith, such elation, that everything seemed possible to him. But here something happened. A wave, a high wave for a second hid Christ from Peter. He found himself alone. At once cold reason set to work. It was as if he came to himself and thought, what was he doing? Foolishness. Reason took from him the lightness of faith in which he walked, and he started to drown. A desperate cry rang out: *"Lord, save me." And immediately Christ stretched forth His hand to him and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"* (Mt. 14:30-31).

What happened to Peter? Well, what happened to him can happen to each of us: he became frightened, his faith was shaken. And this happened because he stepped over the side of the boat. What a profound lesson is hidden for us here: in Christian living there should be evenness, there should be quiet. And for this to be so, we must never step over the side of the Church boat. We must keep the statutes of the Church, must live the life of the Church. And then, even if we find ourselves amid the stormy sea of life, we will be able to cry out, *"Lord, save me."* And He, the Merciful One, will stretch out His saving hand to us, too, as He did to Peter, and we will find ourselves in the boat of the Church, and a great calm will come.

SAINT MARY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
PRIEST: FATHER ANTHONY COSTANTINO



Deacon Thomas J. Klacik
624 Park Road – Ambridge, PA 15003

Fr. Anthony's Cell #: (878) 226-0878

OFFICE PHONE: 724-266-2030

CHURCH FAX: 724-266-1834

CHURCH HALL: 724-266-8642

PARISH WEBSITE: www.stmaryambridge.org



Cantors: Alex Broussard, Tasney Broussard, Naedia McCann

E.C.F. coordinator: Claire Arnold

Holy Mystery of Reconciliation..... Wednesdays 4:45-5:45 P.M. & after Sunday Liturgy.

Holy Mysteries of Initiation.....Contact the church office.

Holy Mystery of AnointingAsk prior to surgery or serious illness.

Holy Mystery of MarriageContact the church office eight months prior to wedding.

Religious Education Classes.....September through May.

Pirohi Sales Every Friday

O Most Holy Theotokos, Save Us! Presvjataja Bohoridice, spasi nas!