

September 7, 2025  
 Sunday before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross,  
 Pre-Festive Day of the Nativity of the Theotokos



*Veil of Protection*  
**SAINT MARY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH!**

Propers for this Sunday: Resurrectional Tone 4: pg. 141, then pp. 247 - 249

St. Mary Divine Services for the Week:

**SUN., SEPT. 7** ..... SUNDAY before the EXALTATION of the HOLY CROSS;  
 PRE-FESTIVE DAY of the BIRTH of the THEOTOKOS  
 11:00 A.M. .... BAPTISMAL DIVINE LITURGY  
 For the People of St. George, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas Chapel

**MON. SEPT. 8** ..... NATIVITY of the THEOTOKOS HOLY DAY  
 6:00 P.M. .... DIVINE LITURGY  
 Special Intention, requested by Barbara Reda

**WED., SEPT. 10** ..... Post-Festive Day of the Nativity of the Theotokos  
 6:00 P.M. .... DIVINE LITURGY  
 Special Intention for Vincenzo Navarini requested by Gio Navarini

**THUR., SEPT. 11** ..... Post-Festive Day of the Nativity of the Theotokos  
 8:00 A.M. .... First & Third Hours

**FRI., SEPT. 12** ..... Leave-Taking of the Nativity of the Theotokos  
 9:00 A.M. .... DIVINE LITURGY  
 + Carmella Tomsic requested by Mike and Patty Costantino

**SAT., SEPT. 13** ..... EXALTATION of the HOLY CROSS  
 7:00 P.M. .... ALL-NIGHT VIGIL

**SUN., SEPT. 14** ..... EXALTATION of the HOLY CROSS HOLY DAY  
 11:00 A.M. .... DIVINE LITURGY  
 For the People of St. George, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas Chapel

**Happy Birthday Greetings:**

Sept. 7: Susan Shuster, Sept. 11: Judy Kotula, Mary Ann Cox

**Wedding Anniversaries:**

Sept. 10: Michael & Susan Shuster, Sept. 13: Debbie & Ron Stewart

**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  
 September 7 - 13, 2025  
*Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:*  
 The Parishioners

**Parish Offerings for August 31, 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 .....      | \$507.00        |
| Loose Currency ..... | \$120.00        |
| Candles .....        | \$3.00          |
| Holy Day .....       | \$45.00         |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>        | <b>\$675.00</b> |

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...*



**WOMEN'S  
MORNING OF  
RECOLLECTION**

ST. GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
1001 CLINTON ST., ALIQUIPPA, PA

**Saturday, October 4, 2025**

Flyers with more information for both events are in today's bulletin.

**CATHOLIC  
YOUNG ADULT**

**Dance Night!**

COME AND BRING A FRIEND FOR PRAYER  
FOLLOWED BY A SWINGING GOOD TIME!

ST. GEORGE BYZANTINE  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
1001 CLINTON ST.  
ALIQUIPPA, PA 15001

**FRIDAY  
SEP. 12<sup>TH</sup>**

**Cantor Class**

We are blessed to have several wonderful cantors at our parishes. On this note, we can always use more because of the sheer number of services that we celebrate!

Mike McCann, who has been assisting with the cantoring at St. Mary's, has graciously agreed to have a class to help train anyone interested in learning to cantor. Classes will be held at St. Mary's at 10:00am on the Sundays in which ECF is being scheduled. Please let Fr. Anthony or Mike know if you are interested.

St. George Divine Services for the Week:

WED., SEPT. 10 ..... Post-Festive Day of the Nativity of the Theotokos  
7:00 A.M. .... First & Third Hours

THUR., SEPT. 11 ..... Post-Festive Day of the Nativity of the Theotokos  
6:00 P.M. .... DIVINE LITURGY  
Spiritual & Temporal Welfare of Alyssa Hoy, requested by Kara Rubino

FRI., SEPT. 12 ..... Post-Festive Day of the Nativity of the Theotokos  
6:30 P.M. .... MOLEBEN to the HOLY CROSS

SUN., SEPT. 14 ..... EXALTATION of the HOLY CROSS HOLY DAY  
8:30 A.M. .... DIVINE LITURGY  
+ Connie Hersh, requested by Richard Mudron

St. Nicholas Chapel Divine Services for the Week:

SAT., SEPT. 13 ..... EXALTATION of the HOLY CROSS HOLY DAY  
5:00 P.M. .... DIVINE LITURGY  
Spiritual and Physical Well Being of, Thomas Kaufmann requested Jordan and Samantha Sonnett



*O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance. Grant peace to a world that is living in fear. Extinguish hatred and put an end to all programs of terrorism for the sake of your love for humanity.*

Troparion in remembrance of 9/11/2001, (Tone 1)

*Your birth, O Virgin Theotokos, heralded joy to the universe; for from you arose the Sun of Justice, Christ our God. Removing the curse, He gave the blessing, and by destroying Death, He granted us eternal life.*

### A Note from Fr. Anthony

Dear parishioners,

This week we celebrate two of the 12 Great Feasts of our Church.

Monday is the Birth of the Theotokos. We will celebrate a 6:00pm Divine Liturgy at St. Mary's followed by a **social in the rectory**. Fr. Ryan Liebhaber from our parish in Pleasant City, OH will be joining us as a guest homilist.

Friday we will celebrate the Moleben to the Holy Cross at 6:30pm, followed by our 7:00pm young adult event at St. George.

Next Sunday is the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, one of the great feasts in our Church year. We will have **an All Night Vigil at 7:00pm at St. Mary**. This beautiful service is Vespers and Matins combined. It does not literally last all night, but you are welcome to come and go as you please as its at least two hours long. Normally, St. George would host the second Saturday of the month, but a cantor is unavailable. At the end of each Sunday liturgy, we will have veneration of the Holy Cross.

Looking ahead, St. Mary's patronal feast day is Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. Tuesday evening September 30<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate the beautiful tradition of an all-night Vigil (which Vespers and Matins combined) at St. Mary's and then have liturgy Wednesday evening at St. Mary's. This is a good opportunity to celebrate with as much solemnity as possible a feast in a patronal Church. Similarly, all Divine Services for St. Nicholas' feast day itself will be held in St. Nicholas Chapel (the annual party will be held at St. George still) and all Divine Services for St. George's feast day in April will be held on the vigil before and the day of at St. George.

The first weekend of October is a big weekend as well. **We have a women's morning of recollection at St. George Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> (See flyer for details).**

Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, we will have the rectory open house as we did last year at St. Mary's. **We will have one combined liturgy at 11:00am at St. Mary's with Matins preceding.**

My intent going forward is to cancel only one Sunday liturgy at each parish per year, barring a truly unusual event (such as a visit of the Metropolitan or me being away and unable to find a sub).

For the St. George summer picnic, St. Mary's liturgy will be cancelled. For the fall open house at St. Mary's, St. George's liturgy will be cancelled. For the St. Nicholas party the weekend after the feast of St. Nicholas, St. Nicholas Chapel's liturgy will be cancelled. This will allow us to celebrate certain events as a community of our respective Churches but will keep as little disruption as possible to each Church's normal liturgy schedule.

In Christ,  
*Fr. Anthony*

*For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.*

### *Sunday before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross*

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16).* This is, among Americans anyway, probably the most famous of verses in Scripture. Its fame, of course, precedes America by millennia. Our Holy Father Saint John Chrysostom includes it in his Anaphora, which we usually pray at the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom after the Holy, Holy, Holy several times a week (except during the Great Fast, when we pray it only once a week on Saturday mornings). So, you see, this verse has been popular among Byzantine Christians long before it was widespread among Americans. We liked it before it was cool. Our gospel message for this Sunday before the Glorious Elevation of the Illustrious Cross is taken from that section of the Holy Evangelist John's account where Jesus is being questioned by Nicodemus, a prominent Jewish leader. As Jesus explained God's reason for sending His Son to earth, the theme of the salvific CROSS comes to the fore. The most perfect way by which God's Son could demonstrate His immense love for us and secure our eternal salvation was for Him to offer His life for the world's redemption. He had to be lifted-up on this sacred wood, so that through the perfect sacrifice upon the life-giving cross, salvation would be achieved, giving us access to everlasting life. We faithful followers of Christ, who have shared “our load” of His admirable cross and have borne vicariously the burden of His salutary passion by shouldering our own “little crosses” each day of our lives, are assured of an eternal reward as God passes us from this transitory life into the fullness of New Life with Him in His heavenly Kingdom.

### *The Nativity of the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary*

The Holy Virgin Mary was born of aged parents, Joachim and Anna. Her father was of the lineage of David, and her mother of the lineage of Aaron. Thus, she was of royal birth by her father, and of priestly birth by her mother. In this, she foreshadowed Him Who would be born of her as King and High Priest. Her parents were quite old and had no children. Because of this they were ashamed before men and humble before God. In their humility they prayed to God with tears, to bring them joy in their old age by giving them a child, as He had once given joy to the aged Abraham and his wife Sarah by giving them Isaac. The Almighty and All-seeing God rewarded them with a joy that surpassed all their expectations and all their most beautiful dreams. For He gave them not just a daughter, but the Mother of God. He illumined them not only with temporal joy, but with eternal joy as well. God gave them just one daughter, and she would later give them just one grandson-but what a daughter and what a Grandson!



Mary, Full of grace, Blessed among women, the Temple of the Holy Spirit, the Altar of the Living God, the Table of the Heavenly Bread, the Ark of God's Holiness, the Tree of the Sweetest Fruit, the Glory of the race of man, the Praise of womanhood, the Fount of virginity and purity-this was the daughter given by God to Joachim and Anna. She was born in Nazareth, and at the age of three, was taken to the Temple in Jerusalem. In her young womanhood she returned again to Nazareth, and shortly thereafter heard the Annunciation of the Holy Archangel Gabriel concerning the birth of the Son of God, the Savior of the world, from her most-pure virgin body. (*Prologue of Ohrid*)

**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](http://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 Anointing .....Ask prior to surgery or serious illness.  
Holy Mystery of Marriage .....Contact the church office eight months prior to wedding.  
Religious Education Classes.....September through May.  
Pirohi Sales ..... Every Friday

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*We extol you, O Most Holy Virgin, and we venerate the holy  
ancestors of God, and we celebrate your glorious Nativity!*

CATHOLIC  
YOUNG ADULT

# Dance Night!

COME AND BRING A FRIEND FOR PRAYER  
FOLLOWED BY A SWINGING GOOD TIME!

ST. GEORGE BYZANTINE  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
1001 CLINTON ST,  
ALIQUIPPA, PA 15001

FRIDAY  
SEP. 12<sup>TH</sup>

6:30 PM

MOLEBEN (PRAYER SERVICE)  
TO THE PRECIOUS AND LIFE-CREATING CROSS

7:00 PM

COUNTRY LINE DANCING LESSONS (& SWING DANCING)  
IN THE PARISH SOCIAL HALL. LED BY ONE OF OUR VERY OWN  
ST. MARY'S IN AMBRIDGE PARISHIONERS!  
DRINKS & LIGHT SNACKS PROVIDED.

LEARN LINE DANCES LIKE FOOTLOOSE, COTTON-EYED JOE, AND MORE!

ALL  
SKILL LEVELS  
WELCOME!

2025 | Aliquippa, PA



# WOMEN'S MORNING OF RECOLLECTION

ST. GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
1001 CLINTON ST., ALIQUIPPA, PA

**Saturday, October 4, 2025**

Cost to attend: \$10

Register by emailing [stgeorgealiquippa@protonmail.com](mailto:stgeorgealiquippa@protonmail.com)  
or by calling 724-375-2742

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| 9:00 am  | Divine Liturgy  |
| 10:00 am | Continental breakfast   |
| 10:30 am | Guest speaker Melissa Sartori<br>Topic: "Finding Peace In Prayer" |
| 11:30 am | Akathist  |

### About the speaker:

Melissa is a wife and mother of five, living in Beaver Falls and homeschooling her children. She and her husband met at the University of Pittsburgh where they both went on to become campus missionaries with Focus.

