

September 14, 2025  
Exaltation of the Holy Cross



*Veil of Protection*

**SAINT MARY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH!**

*Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever! ~ Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na Viki!  
Слава Исусу Христу! Слава на вики!*

Propers for this Sunday: pages 253 - 258

St. Mary Divine Services for the Week:

**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

**WED., SEPT. 17 ..... Post-Festive Day of the Exaltation of the Cross**

**6:00 P.M. .... DIVINE LITURGY**

Spiritual and Temporal Welfare of Margaret Wilson, requested by Todd and Ann Wilson

**FRI., SEPT. 19 ..... Post-Festive Day of the Exaltation of the Cross**

**9:00 A.M. .... DIVINE LITURGY**

Spiritual and Physical Well Being of Jeremy Sonnett, requested by Jordan and Samantha Sonnett

**SAT., SEPT. 20 ..... Post-Festive Day of the Exaltation of the Cross**

**7:00 P.M. .... Great Vespers, Sunday after the Exaltation of the Cross**

**SUN., SEPT. 21 ..... SUNDAY after the EXALTATION of the HOLY CROSS**

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

For the People of St. George, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas Chapel

*The Cross, once a tool of death, has become a means to life, an instrument of our salvation;  
it gives strength to resist temptation, to refrain from gossip or harsh words and it dispels fear.*

**Happy Birthday Greetings:**

None for the week

**Wedding Anniversaries:**

September 14: Bob & Toni Klacik

**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 14 - 20, 2025

*Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:*

**The Parishioners**

**Parish Offerings for September 7, 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 .....	\$769.10
Loose Currency .....	\$135.00
Candles .....	\$23.00
Holy Day .....	\$7.20
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$934.30</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...***

### **St. Mary's Men's Group**

The next men's group at St. Mary's (all welcome to attend) will be following the 6:00pm Divine Liturgy Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>.

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### **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.

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### **Pirohi Sales Return**

Pirohi Sales will return on Friday, September 26 and continue weekly. Call in orders on Wednesdays from 9am-11am by calling 724-266-8642. Walk-in orders are welcome beginning at 10:00am on Fridays. Thank you!



### **Cross of Gratitude at St. George next Two Weeks**

The cross of Gratitude is a 20-foot tall, 800-pound crucifix that was carved for the 2000<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ in 2033. Its worldwide began journey 20 years ago and has been blessed by St. John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI, and Pope Francis. **A flyer is in today's bulletin with all the information.**

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*We extol you, O Christ, the Giver of Life and we honor your Precious Cross, through which we have been saved from the bondage of the enemy.*

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### **Women's Day of Recollection**

On Saturday, October 4, there will be a day of Recollection for women at St. George Church including, Divine Liturgy, continental breakfast, guest speaker, Akathist, and fellowship. **Complete information is enclosed in today's bulletin.**

### **St. George Divine Services for the Week:**

**TUE., SEPT. 16 ..... Post-Festive Day of the Exaltation of the Cross**  
**6:00 P.M. .... DIVINE LITURGY**  
Spiritual and Physical Well Being of the Janiec family, requested by Mike and Patty Costantino

**WED. , SEPT. 17 ..... Post-Festive Day of the Exaltation of the Cross**  
**7:00 A.M. .... First & Third Hours**

**THUR., SEPT. 18 ..... Post-Festive Day of the Exaltation of the Cross**  
**6:00 P.M. .... DIVINE LITURGY with Mystery of Holy Anointing**  
Spiritual and Temporal Welfare of Alyssa Hoy, requested by Kara Rubino

**SAT., SEPT. 20 ..... Post-Festive Day of the Exaltation of the Cross**  
**10:00 A.M. .... Moleben to the Holy Cross and Sixth Hour**

**SUN., SEPT. 21 ..... SUNDAY after the EXALTATION of the HOLY CROSS**  
**8:30 A.M. .... DIVINE LITURGY**  
+ John Galzarano, requested by James Mudron

### **St. Nicholas Chapel Divine Services for the Week:**

**SAT., SEPT. 20 ..... SUNDAY after the EXALTATION of the HOLY CROSS**  
**5:00 P.M. .... DIVINE LITURGY**  
+ Emily Wilson and Kathleen M. Todora, requested by Todd and Ann Wilson

### **Are you ashamed of Christ?**

One who claims to live in Christ ought to walk as He walked. Would you follow Christ? Then be humble as He was humble. Do not scorn His lowliness if you want to reach His exaltation. Human sin made the road rough. Christ's resurrection leveled it. By passing over it Himself He transformed the narrowest of tracks into a royal highway. Two feet are needed to run along this highway; they are humility and charity. Everyone wants to get to the top – well, the first step to take is humility. Why take strides that are too big for you – do you want to fall instead of going up? Start with the first step, humility, and you will already be climbing. *(Saint Caesarius of Arles)*

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*Save your people, O Lord, and bless your inheritance. Grant victory to your Church over evil, and protect your people by your cross.*

### A Note from Fr. Anthony

Dear Parishioners,

This Wednesday, the men's group at St. Mary's will meet at 7:15pm following 6:00pm Divine Liturgy.

Please note that for the next two weeks the Cross of Gratitude will be visiting St. George. The Cross of Gratitude is an 800lb, 20 foot long cross carved by Ukrainian Catholic Vitaliy Sobolivskyy. The goal is for the cross to visit every capital city of the world by 2033, the 2,000<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Lord's crucifixion. It has visited 46 European capitals, and other major places including Washington D.C. and St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. This cross has been blessed by Pope St. John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI, and Pope Francis. Many supernatural graces have been attributed to this wonderful representation of Christ's saving work for us. **Complete schedule of Divine Services while this cross visits are in flyer. Please help us get the word out!**

No morning hours for the rest of the month at St. Mary's due to scheduling conflicts. The plan is to resume in October.

The week of September 21<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> all Divine Services will be held at St. George, with the exception of Sunday liturgy.

A reminder to mark your calendars for Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, September 1<sup>st</sup> as we celebrate St. Mary's Patronal Feast Day, the Protection of the Theodoros. We will celebrate an **All-Night Vigil at 5:00pm on Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> and a 6:00pm Divine Liturgy on Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>** to celebrate this great feast, with a social following each.

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.**

A reminder as well that we have plenty of open liturgy intentions. Offering a liturgy for a living or deceased loved one is a very powerful means of prayer. Envelopes to request liturgies are in the back of the Church and can be turned into me. A reminder that while there is a suggested \$20 stipend, I will gladly say a liturgy with no stipend or a reduced stipend if finances are a difficulty.

Pirohi season is about to restart!

**Weekly pirohi sales resume at St. Mary's on Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup>.** Call in orders accepted from 9am-11am on Wednesdays and Walk-ins welcome beginning at 10:00am on Fridays. Please call 724-266-8642 and not the office phone number!

**Monthly pirohi sales resume at St. George on Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup>.** Call 724-375-6652 to order Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup> from 9am-12pm.

In Christ,  
*Fr. Anthony*

Protect Your people by Your Cross

### *Exaltation of the Holy Cross*

The true Cross of Christ was discovered during the excavating operations, supervised by Archbishop Macarius of Jerusalem (314-335), of the holy sites chosen for the erection of two basilicas. These magnificent edifices were commissioned by Emperor Constantine the Great (306-337). During this time, the Emperor's mother, St. Helena, was visiting the Holy City. Thus tradition credits her with the discovery and first veneration of the true Cross of Christ. After recovering the Holy Cross, St. Helena sent a considerable portion of the Holy Wood to her son, Emperor Constantine the Great, in Constantinople. Another part of the Holy Relics was sent to Rome which was later deposited in the Basilica of the Holy Cross of Jerusalem. But the greatest part of the True Cross was enclosed in a silver case and was placed in the Chapel of Cross, especially erected for this purpose between the Martyrion and the Anastasis.



The first public veneration of the Holy Cross took place in Jerusalem on September 14, 335, at the time of the solemn dedication of the two Constantinian Basilicas, the Martyrion on Calvary and the Anastasis over the Holy Sepulchre. The pious pilgrim Eteria, who visited the Holy Places in 380 A.D., wrote in her Diary of a Pilgrimage: "The dedication of these churches is observed with great solemnities, since the Cross of the Lord was also found on that day." The annual observance of The Dedication of the basilicas together with the exposition of the Holy Cross attracted a great multitude of pilgrims. Because of the great number of people, all were not able to venerate the Relics of the True Cross individually. This prompted them to petition the Bishop to have the Holy Relics elevated so that they would be able to at least see them if they were unable to personally venerate them.

It was then that the Bishop decided to elevate the Relics of the Holy Cross for the benefit of the pilgrims who spontaneously fell on their knees and, with compunction in their heart, cried out "Lord have mercy!" incessantly.

This was the beginning of the feast of The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (*Vozdvizenije* – elevation, lifting up), which the "Fathers under the Emperor's order established to celebrate on the fourteenth of September." Shortly after the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross was introduced in Constantinople from where it was brought by St. Gregory the Great (d. 604) to Rome. Thus, at the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> century the feast became "Universal," being celebrated in the East and the West.

**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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*Recognize in this bread what hung on the cross, and in this chalice what flowed from His side...*

*(St. Augustine of Hippo)*

## The Cross of Gratitude



St. George Byzantine Catholic Church is blessed to host The Cross of Gratitude, a 20 feet tall, 800 pound crucifix that began its worldwide journey 20 years ago. It has been blessed by St. John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis.

The oak crucifix was carved by Vitaliy Sobolivsky in Lviv, Ukraine, specifically for the 2000<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ in 2033.

Sobolivsky, the caretaker of the Cross, and his children have traveled to 46 capitals throughout Europe and, in the past year, have made stops in 8 states.

**St. George  
Byzantine Catholic Church  
1001 Clinton St.  
Aliquippa, PA**

The church will open 30 minutes before  
all services for private prayer.

**Tuesday, Sept. 16**

6:00 pm Divine Liturgy

**Wednesday, Sept. 17**

7:00 am First and Third Hours

**Thursday, Sept. 18**

4:45--5:45 pm Confessions

6:00 pm Divine Liturgy with Mystery  
of Holy Anointing

**Saturday, Sept. 20**

10:00 am Moleben to the Holy Cross  
and Sixth Hour

Church open for private prayer until Noon.

**Sunday, Sept. 21**

8:30 am Divine Liturgy

**Wednesday, Sept. 24**

6:00 pm Divine Liturgy

**Thursday, Sept. 25**

6:00 pm Great Vespers with Litija

**Friday, Sept. 26**

9:00 am Divine Liturgy

**Saturday, Sept. 27**

7:00 pm Great Vespers

**Sunday, Sept. 28**

8:30 am Divine Liturgy

*Followed by Reception  
with Vitaliy Sobolivsky*



# 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 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.

