

August 9, 2026
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Post-Festive Day of the Transfiguration, Holy Apostle Mathias



Veil of Protection

SAINT MARY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Propers for this Sunday: See Handout

St. Mary: Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., AUG. 9ELEVENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST,
Post-Festive Day of the Transfiguration, Holy Apostle Mathias
10:45 A.M.THIRD HOUR
11:00 A.M.DIVINE LITURGY
Intention: For the People of St. George, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas Chapel

WED., AUG. 12 Photius and Anicetus, Martyrs
6:00 P.M.DIVINE LITURGY
Intention: + Arthur Fellenstein, requested by Carol Fellenstein

THUR., AUG. 13 LEAVE-TAKING of the TRANSFIGURATION
7:45 A.M.DIVINE LITURGY
Intention: + Francis La Nelle, requested by Grant Gaylord

FRI., AUG. 14DORMITION of the THEOTOKOS, **Obligation Holy Day**
6:00 P.M.GREAT VESPERS
7:00 P.M.DIV. LITURGY, Procession with Dormition Shroud, Blessing of Flowers
Intention: + Judith Rubino, requested by Michele Tonti

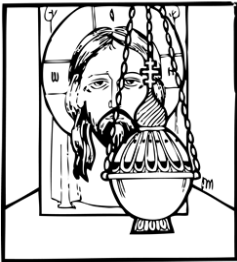
SUN., AUG. 16 TWELFTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST,
TRANSLATION of the ICON of our LORD
10:45 A.M.THIRD HOUR
11:00 A.M.DIVINE LITURGY
Intention: + Bill Isaac, requested by Terry and Marta Sasala

Happy Birthday Greetings:
None for the week

Wedding Anniversaries:
None for the week

Please Pray For Our Sick and Shut-ins
HOME: Penny Furis, William Killian, Joyce Rose, Eleanor Soltis
Franciscan Manor: (71 Darlington Rd., Beaver Falls, PA 15010) - George Cirka

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



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP
August 9 - 15, 2026
Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:
Our Parishioners

Parish Offerings for August 2, 2026

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	\$871.35
Loose Currency	\$45.00
Candles	\$33.00
Holy Day	\$77.20
Total: \$1026.55	

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

Regular Confessions Offered

St. George Beginning 5:00 P.M. on Tuesdays and before every Sunday Divine Liturgy
St. Mary Beginning 5:00 P.M. Wednesdays and following every Sunday Divine Liturgy
St. Nicholas 4:00-4:45 P.M. before Vigil Liturgy on Saturdays

Parishes Picnic

The annual St. George picnic for our Byzantine Catholic Parishes is **Sunday, August 23**, 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. Everyone is asked to bring (potluck) side dishes, desserts, or beverages. There will be many activities including a picnic lunch, ethnic music entertainment, outdoor games, bingo, and the very popular basket raffle.. **We are accepting donations of already made gift baskets for the raffle. Be sure to invite and bring family, friends, and neighbors.**



All are welcome!

Local Tamburitza group Sevdah will be playing for your listening pleasure. Sevdah, sponsored by CFU Lodge 540 in Conway, PA, was created in 1979. They are under the direction of Ashley Ellis Spenser and practice on Tuesday evenings at the Conway Croatian Club. The group performs at many local festivals, picnics, and community programs throughout the year. They also donate their time performing at nursing homes during the Christmas season. Sevdah, along with member and St. George parishioner Louisa Hersh, look forward to performing at St. George's annual picnic!

Please sign-up for the Picnic on the Sign-up sheet in the Narthex

Blessing of Flowers

According to our Byzantine Catholic Tradition, flowers are solemnly blessed on the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos (August 15). 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 and herbs will take place at the Divine Liturgy on Friday, August 14

St. George: Divine Services for the Week:

TUE., AUG. 11 Eupius, Martyr
6:00 P.M. DIVINE LITURGY
Intention: + Richard Norris, requested by Karen Luksis

WED., AUG. 12 Photius and Anicetus Martyrs
7:00 A.M. FIRST & THIRD HOUR

SAT., AUG. 15 DORMITION of the THEOTOKOS, **Obligation Holy Day**
7:45 A.M. FESTAL MATINS
9:00 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY,
Procession with Dormition Shroud and Blessing of Flowers
Intention: + Judith Rubino, requested by Richard Mudron

SUN., AUG. 16 TWELFTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST,
TRANSLATION of the ICON of our LORD
8:15 A.M. FIRST HOUR
8:30 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY
Intention: For the People of St. George, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas Chapel

St. Nicholas: Divine Services for the Week:

SAT., AUG. 15 TWELFTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST,
TRANSLATION of the ICON of our LORD
5:00 P.M. DIVINE LITURGY
Intention: Spiritual & Temporal Welfare of Nick Mansour, requested by Grant Gaylord

Where is our obedience located in the Lord? Are we humble before Him? Do we belong to Him and adhere to His word? The key to our weekly worship of God –Father, Son and Holy Spirit– and in our daily prayer, is our re-generation (restoration) in Christ Jesus. This re-generation is being renewed in the image and likeness of God the Father.

Jesus is teaching the apostles and disciples some lessons that will be needed for new life: Forgiveness as a gift, it is love in action. The restored life that Jesus offers us known only in humbling ourselves before Grace. Are you willing to imitate the love of the Father?

A Note from Fr. Anthony

Dear parishioners,

I want to thank everyone who participated or helped in any way during our Days of Prayer for the Fallen Away. We had a wonderful turnout, and it was a blessed week. Special thanks to Fr. Thomas More, Fr. DJ Egan, Fr. Ian McElrath, and Deacon Joseph Hnat for being with us and adding so much by their presence. Thanks as well to our cantors, servers, and those putting on the socials. We will continue to pray and trust that the Lord will bring back to His Church our family members and friends.

Next weekend is the Dormition of the Theotokos, a **Holy Day of Obligation**. On Friday, August 14, there will be Great Vespers at 6 pm at St. Mary's followed by a 7 pm Divine Liturgy. **Please note the start time later than normal** due to the debut of our chant group, many of whose work schedule does not allow them to arrive until 6:00pm. On Saturday August 15, there will be 7:45 am Festal Matins at St. George followed by a 9:00 am Divine Liturgy. A Procession with the Dormition Shroud and the blessing of flowers will follow liturgy at both churches.

Please sign up by August 16 if you plan to attend our annual combined parish picnic at St. George on Sunday, August 23. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex of each church. There will be a 10:00 am Divine Liturgy at St. George, followed by the picnic. This is a fun-filled opportunity to relax and socialize together. There will NOT be a Sunday morning liturgy at St. Mary's on August 23. There WILL be a Saturday evening liturgy at St. Nicholas Chaple on August 22 as usual.

Our next Theology on Tap will take place on August 20 at St. George. There will be a 6:30 pm Akathist to the Dormition of the Theotokos followed by a talk in the bar area at 7:15. The subject is our Liturgical year which begins on September 1. There will be snacks and drinks so please join us for an evening of prayer, fellowship, and maybe even learning something you didn't know!

In Christ,
Fr. Anthony

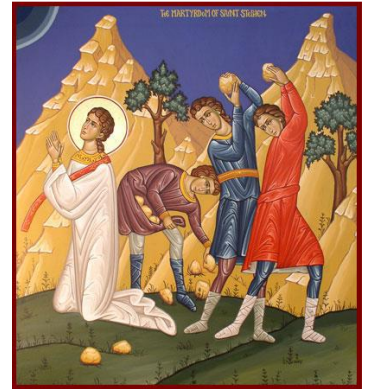
Fr. Anthony's Cell #: (878) 226-0878
OFFICE PHONE: 724-266-2030
CHURCH FAX: 724-266-1834
CHURCH HALL: 724-266-8642
PARISH WEBSITE: www.byzantinecatholics.org

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

If You Do Not Forgive: SO MY FATHER WILL DO TO YOU.

"In anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, till he should pay all his debt." This means forever, since he will never pay it. For since you did not become better by receiving blessings, it remains for you to be corrected by punishment. For since you have not become better by the kindness shown to you, it remains that you will be corrected only by vengeance. Although it is said that the blessings and gifts of God are irrevocable, our recalcitrance [defiance] may frustrate even this intention of God. For what, then, can be a more grievous thing than to be vengeful, especially when it appears to overthrow so great a gift of God. The text does not simply say they "delivered him" but "in anger delivered him." For when he had earlier commanded him to be sold, his were not the words of wrath but, rightly understood, a moment of great mercy. He did not in fact show wrath at that point. But in this case it is a sentence of great anger, punishment and vengeance. So what does the parable mean? "So also My heavenly Father will do to you," He says, «if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.» Note that he did not say "your Father" but "My Father." For it is not proper for God to be called the Father of one who is so wicked and malicious.

(St. John Chrysostom: The Gospel Of Matthew, Homily 61.4)



Mother of the Light

During this week our Church continues to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Transfiguration of Christ. At the same time it is also focusing on the Theotokos, by chanting the Paraklisis Service in preparation for the feast of her Dormition. One title of the Holy Virgin repeated during this service bridges these two observances: we call her the Mother of the Light. We hear this title even more frequently in our Church. At every Matins service the ninth ode of the canon is introduced with these words: "Let us greatly extol the Theotokos and the Mother of Light in hymns!" – that Light, of course, is Christ.

The Lord Himself gave us this image of Himself: "I am the light of the world," He told the Pharisees. "He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness but have the light of life" (Jn 8:12). At the Transfiguration His divine light, concealed by His humanity, was manifested graphically: "His face shone like that he sun, and His clothes became as white as the light" (Mt 17:2). When Christ revealed Himself to St Paul on the road to Damascus it was in "a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining around me and those who journeyed with me" (Acts 26:7). And so the apostles saw with their own eyes that Christ was "Light from Light." Ever since, Light has been the main image of Christ in the worship of the Church.

Calling Mary "Theotokos" and "Mother of the Light" focuses on the reason the Church honors her above all. It is because of her role in the incarnation of Christ that she is "more honorable than the cherubim" and "more lofty than the heavens." This is why it is rare to see Mary shown in icons without Christ, either in her womb or on her arm. She is, more than anything else, the one who made the incarnation possible by her consent.

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.byzantinecatholics.org



Cantors: Alex Broussard, Mike McCann, Naedia McCann, Catherine Richthammer

E.C.F. coordinator: Jonathan Dohanich

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

Слава Исусу Христу! Слава на вики!

DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS



"The grave and death did not detain the Theotokos. She intercedes without rest and in our unending hope of protection; for He who dwelt in the womb of the Ever-Virgin transferred to life the Mother of life."

DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 2026

6 PM GREAT VESPERS
7 PM DIVINE LITURGY – Followed by a
procession with the Dormition Shroud

– ST. MARY'S CHANT GROUP DEBUT –



ST. MARY BYZANTINE
CATHOLIC CHURCH
624 PARK ROAD
AMBRIDGE, PA 15003

Life and Liturgy

A Monthly "Theology of Tap" style Adult
Education Series (21+) with Fr. Anthony

Talks begin at 7:15 pm in the Social Hall Bar area

Drinks & snacks provided!



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

Thursday,
Aug. 20

6:30 pm Akathist to the Dormition of the
Theotokos

7:15 pm Happy New Year! Our Liturgical year starts
Sept. 1. When we feast and when we fast and why
throughout the year.

Thursday,
Sept. 17

6:30 pm Moleben to the Holy Cross

7:15 pm The Divine Office (The Hours, Vespers, and
Matins) : The Heartbeat of our Church's Prayer Life

Thursday,
Oct. 22

6:30 pm Akathist to the Theotokos and Ever-
Virgin Mary

7:15 pm We're In This Together: Why Byzantine
Catholics should appreciate the Traditional Latin Mass
and why Traditional Roman Catholics should appreciate
the Divine Liturgy.

Thursday,
Nov. 5

6:30 pm Moleben of Thanksgiving

7:15 pm Latinizations or Genuine Developments? Do
Daily Divine Liturgy, Eucharistic Adoration, and the
Rosary have a place in the Byzantine Catholic Church?

Thursday,
Dec. 3

6:30 pm Emmanuel Moleben

7:15 pm Questions & Answers with Fr. Anthony! All
questions are welcome relating to the talks, Divine
Liturgy and tradition, and anything else you might
have always wanted to ask!