

September 20, 2026
Sunday after the Exaltation of the Cross



Veil of Protection

SAINT MARY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Proprs for this Sunday: See handout

St. Mary: Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., SEPT. 20 SUNDAY after the EXALTATION of the CROSS
10:45 A.M.THIRD HOUR
11:00 A.M.DIVINE LITURGY

Intention: +Margaret Koshute, requested by Mark Koshute & David Oleksa

WED., SEPT. 23 Conception of John the Baptist
6:00 P.M. Chant Group Practice

SUN., SEPT. 27 EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST
10:45 A.M.THIRD HOUR
11:00 A.M.DIVINE LITURGY

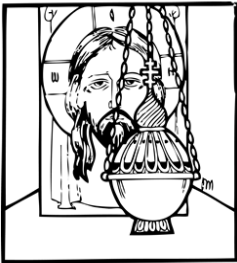
Intention: For the People of St. George, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas Chapel

Fr. Anthony will be away until Saturday, September 26th. 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.

Happy Birthday Greetings:
Sept. 22: Elara Reda, Sept. 24: Bill Killian

Wedding Anniversaries:
None for the week

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



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP
September 20 - 26, 2026
Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:
Our Parishioners

Parish Offerings for September 6, 2026

Offertory	\$661.40
Loose Currency	\$10.00
Candles	\$6.00
Total: \$677.40	

Parish Offerings for September 13, 2026

Offertory	\$1835.00
Loose Currency	\$30.00
Candles	\$27.00
Holy Day	\$70.00
Total: \$1962.00	

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

THE PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS



JOIN US ON OUR PARISH FEAST DAY

OCTOBER 1, 2026

6:00pm Divine Liturgy
7:15pm Program begins
Q&A to follow

Free of Charge
(Free Will Offering will be accepted)



A talk with scholar
Dr. Peter Kwasniewski

"Exploring the Common Riches of the Byzantine Rite and the Roman Rite"

Peter A. Kwasniewski holds a B.A. in liberal arts from Thomas Aquinas College and an M.A. and Ph.D. in philosophy from the Catholic University of America, with a specialization in the thought of St. Thomas Aquinas.

After teaching at the International Theological Institute in Austria, he helped establish Wyoming Catholic College in 2006, where he taught theology, philosophy, music, and art history and directed the choir and schola until 2018.

Today, he is a full-time writer, speaker, and publisher, who co-founded the traditional Catholic digital platform Pelican Plus; he writes at the Tradition & Sanity Substack, and directs Os Justi Press, which publishes popular and academic books by many authors on a wide variety of subjects.

Dr. Kwasniewski himself has written more than twenty books, with special attention to the traditional Roman liturgy, and his work has been translated into at least twenty languages. He is also a composer whose sacred choral music has been performed around the world.

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

St. George: Divine Services for the Week:

WED., SEPT. 23 Conception of John the Baptist
7:00 A.M. FIRST & THIRD HOUR, Reader Service

SUN., SEPT. 27 EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST
8:15 A.M. FIRST HOUR
8:30 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY

Intention: + Joseph Yurosky, requested by Butch and Judy Dzumba

St. Nicholas: Divine Services for the Week:

SAT., SEPT. 26 EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST
5:00 P.M. DIVINE LITURGY

Intention: + Mike and Betty Sasala requested by Terry and Marta Sasala

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)



Pirohi Sales Return

St. Mary Pirohy sales resume on October 2! Please call 724-266-8642 on Wednesdays between 9:00-11:00 am to place an order for the following Friday. Walk-ins are welcome on Friday at 11:00. Please refer to the pirohy tab on our website, byzantinecatholics.org, for the sale dates for each month. If you have never tried them, you are in for a treat!

A Note from Fr. Anthony

Dear parishioners,

I will be taking some time away this week so there will be no weekday Divine Liturgies.

Next week, we will be having celebrations for St. Mary's Feast Day as follows:

St. Mary's parish Feast Day is October 1st, the Protection of the Theotokos. The schedule of events is as follows:

Wednesday, September 30th 6:00pm All-Night Vigil (Vespers and Matins) followed by a social.

Thursday, October 1st 6:00pm Divine Liturgy followed by Dr. Peter Kwasniewski Lecture

Sunday, October 4th 9:30am Matins 11:00am Divine Liturgy followed by Parish Open House

Please sign up in the back of the Church if you plan to attend the St. Mary's Open House so we can prepare enough food. There will be no 8:30am Divine Liturgy at St. George Sunday, October 4th to allow us to celebrate a combined event at St. Mary's. There will still be the 5:00pm Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas Chapel Saturday evening.

I will be on our required Archeparchy Clergy Retreat October 4th - 8th.

In Christ,

Fr. Anthony

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

OFFICE PHONE: 724-266-2030

CHURCH HALL: 724-266-8642

CHURCH OFFICE EMAIL: stmaryambridge@protonmail.com

PARISH WEBSITE: www.byzantinecatholics.org

Sunday after the Exaltation of the Cross

The Epistle which is proclaimed in the Church today is one that has been misused by many non-Apostolic Christians who would look to reject the Church's teaching on salvation. "Faith" in our understanding is the union of our entire self to Christ. This union which entrusts my intellect, spirit, soul and body to the Savior joins me to Christ in such an intimate way that my life is transformed into his life. This is the process of Theosis or divinization. As Saint Paul says "it is now no longer I who live, but Christ is living in me." Faith, then, is an aspect of love by which I give my life to the one that I love. In this act of total self-gift we can discern two important truths. The one who loves first must die to himself in as much as the lover's life is no longer about himself but totally about the one whom he loves and whom he sustains through the gift of his life. The second truth that results from the first is that the lover, having died to himself, comes to life or is "resurrected from the dead" in the life of the beloved.



The Gospel which is proclaimed today confirms and makes explicit for us the above explanation of loving faith. "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For anyone who would save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake and for the sake of the Good News will save it." The cross, the exaltation of which we celebrated this past Thursday, is the sign of the Lord's total self-giving love. The cross reveals to us the breadth and depth of God's love. What remains is our response to that gift and our union with that love.

For Your Reflection:

1. How can we understand Saint Paul's teaching that he is "nailed to the cross" with Christ?
2. How can we unite ourselves to the cross of Christ and why would Jesus want us to do so?
3. How do we save our life by losing it?
4. What kind of life are we called to give up and what kind of life do we gain?

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!