



The Sunday Messenger

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH - WILKES BARRE, PA

+ 17th Sun after Pentecost + Sun, October 1st, 2023 + The Protection of our Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary



Hymns for Today's Service

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings! O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

Today the faithful celebrate the feast with joy, illumined by thy coming, O Mother of God. Beholding thy pure image, we fervently cry to thee: "Encompass us beneath the precious veil of thy protection; deliver us from every form of evil by entreating Christ, thy Son and our God, that He may save our souls."

Thou didst gladden Christ's Church by thy melodies like an inspired heavenly trumpet. Thou wast enlightened by the Mother of God and didst shine on the world as God's poet. We lovingly honor thee, O righteous Romanus.

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam. Eve exults in Thy Resurrection, and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

Thou wast adorned from childhood with the godly virtues of the Spirit; thou wast a precious adornment of the Church of Christ, all-wise Romanus, for thou didst make it lovely with beautiful hymnody. Therefore we entreat thee, grant thy divine gift to those who desire it, that we may cry out to thee: "Rejoice, all-blessed Father, beauty of the Church!"

Today the Virgin stands in the midst of the Church, and with choirs of saints she invisibly prays to God for us. Angels and bishops worship, Apostles and Prophets rejoice together, since for our sake she prays to the pre-eternal God.

Please Sing Along!

Singing the hymns and responses to the litanies along with the choir throughout the Divine Liturgy is encouraged!

Epistle Reading - 2 Corinthians 4:6-15

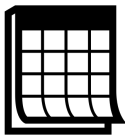
For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed - always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you. And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your

DEAR GUESTS AND FRIENDS: *A most sincere and heartfelt welcome to you from our community. According to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared to receive the Holy Sacrament through prayer and fasting. If you have questions please let us know!*

sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

Gospel Reading - Luke 6:31-36

And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise. But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.



This Week's Schedule Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

THIS WEEKEND - Protection of the Theotokos

Saturday, September 30th

5 PM: Great Vespers, Confessions

Sunday, October 1st

8:40 AM: 3rd & 6th Hours, 9 AM: Divine Liturgy,
Coffee Hour

Oct 1st, Parastas for William & Julia Talpash

Offered by Marie Talpash & Family

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THIS WEEK

WED 11 AM - 1:30 PM: Private Prayer in Church
WED 6:30 PM: Akathist: *Glory to God for All Things*
THURS 11 AM: NO BIBLE STUDY - FALL BREAK

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NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday, October 7th

5 PM: Great Vespers, Confessions

Sunday, October 8th

8:40 AM: 3rd & 6th Hours, 9 AM: Divine Liturgy,
Coffee Hour, Parish Council Meeting @ 11:30 AM



ANNOUNCEMENTS

& Upcoming Parish Events

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Parish Council is the second Sunday of each month. Our next meeting is on October 8th.

THIS WEEK - ANNUAL PULLED PORK DINNER:

Thurs, Oct 5, 11 am to 5 pm. Pulled pork dinners / \$12.
Sandwiches / \$8. You can call ahead to place your order
October 2-4 from 10 AM - 4 PM at 570 822-5975.

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY - FALL BREAK: We will not have our weekly Thursday Bible Study for the next 3 weeks. The Bible Study will resume on October 26th at 11 AM. Enjoy the break. We will miss our time together!

FRIENDS OF THE POOR OUTREACH on October 14:

The next Holy Trinity Friends of the Poor Outreach will take place October 14th. We will meet at Holy Trinity Church at 10:00 AM and proceed together from there to meet with our poor brothers and sisters in the city of Wilkes Barre. We are collecting new winter socks, underwear (men and women's), and new or GENTLY used winter boots or shoes. Thank you for your continued support and donations.

CEMETERY CLEAN-UP DAY October 28:

There will be a clean-up day for the Holy Resurrection Cemetery on William St in Plains, scheduled for Saturday October 28 2023, (rain date November 4 2023). The goal is to remove small trees along the fence line, trim back overgrown brush and to generally tidy up the Cemetery grounds. Start time is scheduled for 9:00am to 1:00pm. Items such as pruning shears, chainsaws, weed whackers, hedge trimmers, and rakes would be helpful. Light refreshments will be provided.

ORTHODOX YOUTH OF NEPA will host a bonfire and

games at the Holy Trinity Pavillion on Sunday, October, 29th from 4-8 PM. We will do a potluck meal. Please RSVP on the signup sheet in the vestibule and comment with what you can bring! We'll need food, drinks, paper goods (plates, forks, spoons, napkins), dessert (maybe s'mores?), and drinks. And if you have any ideas for games or can bring supplies, please let us know. We are also looking for a few volunteers to help with setup and the bonfire. Sign up in the Vestibule.

POTATO PANCAKE SALE @ ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST: Saturday October 7 - 11AM-2PM St. John the Baptist will be offering our freshly ground made-to-order Potato Pancakes, along with homemade Goulash, Clam Chowder and Chili, Fresh baked bread, Halushki, Wimpies, Bake sale items, and more. Sorry, no pre-orders. 93 Zerby Avenue, Edwardsville, PA.

HAS GOD BLESSED YOU WITH A GOOD SINGING VOICE?

THE HOLY TRINITY CHOIR is seeking new members. If you are interested in becoming a part of this ministry, please call or text Greg Polk at (570)362-2642. Previous choral experience is helpful but not required. All ages are welcome.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

OCTOBER Birthdays: Paula Holoviak (10/2), Barry Benczkowski (10/2), Tommy Donlick Jr. (10/5), Brian Benczkowski (10/5), Paul Andrew Tumavitch (10/6), Irene Zimich (10/6), John Zimich (10/11), Jason Stankiewicz (10/18), Amber King (10/20), Sarah Benczkowski (10/22), Rebecca Leonori (10/23), Mary Anya Haugh (10/27), Walter Shedlock (10/28), Marie Talpash (10/28) **Anniversaries:** William & Mary Gurka (10/15), Rebecca & Steve Leonori (10/23)

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Words of Wisdom From the Saints & Teachers

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Do Unto Others ...

By Met. Anthony Bloom

In the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Gospel is infinitely simple if we receive it in simplicity. Our main problem lies in the fact that we look for theological depth in it instead of looking at the directness of the speech of God, who is simplicity itself, wholeness, and who addresses us as friends, not even as disciples, but as friends; because He Himself said, on His way to Jerusalem, 'I no longer call you slaves, but I call you friends, because all that I have to say I have shared with you.'

And so let us receive the words which we have heard today with the directness with which they were spoken by Christ: 'Do to one another what you wish others to do to you.'



It's something which we have seen repeated all the time; but is it the way in which we live? We want from people around us understanding, patience, compassion, support, friendship and all the simplicity of this world. We don't expect from us heroic deeds, because we are not in heroic times and situations. But that is what we expect to receive. And if we ask ourselves: what do we do about the people who surround us, can we say that we are fulfilling this simple and direct commandment, this advice of Christ in which He says: 'If you do these things you will be truly human'?

Let us reflect on that, because we think very often of things great, of things heroic, and when we think these great thoughts we must find the simplest things that we could do. When we read in the Gospel that we should give our lives for one another, we think that we can't do it, because there is no attempt at an attack on the life of our neighbour, certainly of our closest. And yet to give one's life means to devote one's life, to devote all one's energy,

PARISH PRAYER LIST Living: Cynthia Dulsky, Nadine Breisch, Holoviak Family, Evelyn Kosmiski, Mat. Elizabeth, Jeri Basarab, Fr. Theodore Orzolek, Mary Ann Lepa, Vladimir & Marie Dutko, Alan, Cathy & Paul, Tom & Joan Austin, Lilly, David, Elizabeth, Lydia, Melanie Bishop, Delores Voda, Nicole Hapeman, Archpriest Daniel Donlick & Family, Bob (Andrew) Lutzick, David Goobic **Departed:** David Voda

all one's understanding, all the patience, all the concern, all the sympathy, to all those who surround us. To do, in other words, as Christ put it, to others what we wish that others do to us.

Let us reflect on this very, very simple commandment, and see that we bring it at every moment; because we expect everything, and we give so little. We give indeed to those who are dear to us, naturally dear, but even they must put up, so often, with our lack of understanding and patience and compassion. Let us reflect on these simple and direct words of Christ and stand in judgement before them; ask ourselves how can I stand before Christ when He will say to me, 'You have heard these words, you have understood them, you have repeated them' - indeed, for us priests - 'you have preached them. And what have you done?' And how sorry it will be to look at Christ and say, 'I have claimed to be your disciple but in fact I have done nothing of what you have wished me to do to save other people from misery, from loneliness, from evil'. Amen.

The Treasury

"... but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal."

<p>Monthly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$12,305 Weekly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$2,840 Collections last Sunday (9/23): \$1,808</p>

