

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Catch of Fish (Luke 5:1-11)

St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church

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The Propers for today: Sunday Antiphons; Troparion of the Resurrection, Tone 8; Glory be ... Now and ever ...; Kontakion of the Resurrection, Tone 8; Prokeimenon and Alleluia of the Resurrection, Tone 8; Epistle, Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost (EOT 102); Gospel, Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost.

GLORY BE TO JESUS CHRIST! GLORY FOREVER!

SLAVA ISUSU CHRISTU! SLAVA NA VIKI!

Scripture readings: Epistle: 2 Corinthians 9: 6-11

Gospel: St. Luke 5: 1-11

Divine Liturgy Schedule:

Sat.	Sept.	26	The Falling Asleep of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist John 4:00 p.m. For the parish family of St. Nicholas Church
Sun.	Sept.	27	SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 8:30 a.m. Birthday blessings for Jerry May by Sharon and family 10:00 a.m. Adult Education class (mask/social distancing required) 10:30 a.m. Akathist Hymn to the Mother of God — for parish and eparchy 11:00 a.m. +John and Olga Koval by Jack and Dorothy Koval Grant
Mon.	Sept.	28	Our Venerable Father and Confessor Chariton
Tues.	Sept.	29	Our Venerable Father Cyriacus 9:00 a.m. +Sister Eleanor Mary, OSBM by Judy Petro
Wed.	Sept.	30	The Holy Martyr Gregoy 9:00 a.m. +Anna Mae Dirda by Charlotte Dirda
Thurs.	Oct.	1	THE PROTECTION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD, SOLEMN HOLY DAY 7:00 p.m. Continued good health of Deacon John and Ruth Hanchin
Fri.	Oct.	2	The Holy Bishop-Martyr Cyprian
Sat.	Oct.	3	The Holy Bishop and Martyr Denis 4:00 p.m. For the parish family of St. Nicholas Church
Sun.	Oct.	4	EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 8:30 a.m. +Ann Kulasa by Robert Kulasa 10:00 a.m. Adult Education class (mask/social distancing required) 11:00 a.m. +Edward Sudzina, Sr. (5th anniversary) by Renee Hof-Lacey

WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS The faithful of St. Nicholas Church would like to welcome new parishioners and visitors. We are happy that you have joined us on our spiritual journey and we hope that you feel welcome. **RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION** If you are Roman Catholic or Orthodox you are welcome to receive Holy Communion. When coming to receive Communion please do not extend your tongue — tilt your head back and open your mouth as wide as possible so that the priest can place the Body and Blood of Christ into your mouth. **FASTING BEFORE LITURGY** Please fast at least (a minimum of) one hour before attending the Divine Liturgy and receiving Communion. **THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)** Please do not receive Communion if you have committed sins of a grave nature (i.e., “mortal sins”). Go to Confession first before receiving Communion. Visitors: please sign the guest book by the bulletin board. All precautions are being taken to make our church as safe and sanitary as possible during this time of COVID.

Please continue to pray for the sick and shut-in of our parish: Doris Crawley, Lillian Stefano, Kitty Marchione, Marie Sloff, Ray Huddas, Anna Uhrin. Continue to pray for all health care workers and first responders, including and especially the police.

“Give and gifts will be given to you” In the Gospels, Jesus instructs us in the fine art of giving and receiving. His emphasis is on the giving; the surprise is the overflowing return. We are to give without expectation of results. We are to give out of true generosity, not to inflate our ego or plump up our feathers. Our giving is not to make ourselves “look good.” When we are the recipient of another’s gift, we must not protest. We must accept the gift wholeheartedly with gratitude.

The path to holiness Without Christ, the fishermen labored the whole night and caught nothing. With Christ, “the enclosed a great number of fish, but their net was breaking. And they came and filled both boats so that they began to sink.” Jesus was with them. This made the difference. He showed them where to fish and they succeeded beyond their wildest dreams. Psalm 23 tells us what it means to have Jesus with us. “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures He gives me repose. Beside restful waters He leads me; He refreshes my soul. He guides me in right paths for His name’s sake. Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for You are at my side. With your rod and your staff that give me courage...” Suppose we arrive by car in a strange city and are looking for a certain street number. We stop at a gas station to inquire. But the directions we receive are complicated. It would be difficult to find and we could easily get lost. A young man overhears our conversation. He offers to lead the way to his car. Within a short time we arrive at our destination and thank him. This is exactly what Jesus does for us. “He guides me in right paths.” But this path is the way to holiness. It is the only road that leads to our destination. Jesus Himself said: “You, therefore, are to be perfect, even as your Heavenly Father is perfect.” (Matt. 5:48). “Blessed are they who fear the Lord and who walk in his way...blessed are you, and it shall be with you.” The Lord be with you! Every way and every day!

In today’s Gospel, Jesus calls Simon Peter to become an Apostle, to be a fisher of men. On the one hand, the church has always believed that a vocation is something that only certain people receive; that is, those who are called to the priesthood or religious life. On the other hand, in God’s providence, however, everyone is called to a vocation — to the vocation of sanctity. It was our Lord Himself who said, “This is the will of God: your sanctification!” Here we have a call to imitate Christ and to grow in His likeness, a call to duplicate in our lives the virtues Jesus practiced. Holiness, therefore, is our end, our goal, our true vocation.

God delights in obedience Have you ever made a decision to obey God as a way of life? I’m not talking about obeying once in a while but in every area to the best of your knowledge and ability. Or, do you find that there are times when you struggle to do what you know is right and in keeping with His principles? Solomon admonished us to “catch the foxes.” He went on to explain that it is the “little foxes that are ruining the vineyards” (Song 2:15). Often the smaller decisions bring about the biggest consequences. A decision to tell a little white lie is very costly because it leads to sin and usually the next step, which is deception. Jesus knows our hearts, and He makes it clear from page one of His Word that obedience to Him should be our central focus. Adam and Eve disobeyed God and suffered the loss of everything they knew as right and good. However, just as you can track disobedience down through the generations, you also can trace the benefits of obedience. God provides a perfect contrast between the two in His Word: “If you diligently obey the Lord your God, being careful to do all His commandments which I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. All these blessings will come upon you and overtake you if you obey the Lord your God. Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country. ... But it shall come about, if you do not obey the Lord your God, to observe to do all His commandments and His statutes with which I charge you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you. Cursed shall you be in the city, and cursed shall you be in the country” (Deut. 28:1-3, 15-16).

St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church

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Phone: (586) 791-1052; Email: stnicksbyzantine@yahoo.com

Served by: Father Joseph J. Repko, Pastor
Subdeacon Phillip Dinsmore

Cantors: George Nagrant, Nicholas P. Nagrant, Joseph Wanchik, Steve Terlescki, John P. Minarish,
and Subdeacon Phillip Dinsmore and Richard Baranko, *Cantor Emeritus*.

Choir Director: Nicholas J. Nagrant

Catechetical Director: Suzanne Swanney

Youth Directors: Adam Digon and Kimberly Kaufman

Liturgy Schedule: Saturday 4:00 P.M. (Anticipated Sunday Obligation with Vespers)
Sunday 8:30 A.M. (Slavonic / English mix)
11:00 A.M. (English)

Daily Liturgy as scheduled (see inside of the bulletin)

Holy days as scheduled (see inside of the bulletin)

Christ Continues to Catch People

He told Simon and his companions to sail off a little from the land and to let down the net for a draught. But they replied that they had been toiling the whole night and had caught nothing. However, in the name of Christ, they let down the net, and immediately it was full of fish. By a visible sign and by a miraculous type and representation, they were fully convinced that their labor would be rewarded, and the zeal displayed in spreading out the net of the gospel teaching would be fruitful. Within this net they should most certainly catch the shoals of the heathen. But note that neither Simon nor his companions could draw the net to land. Speechless from fright and astonishment for their wonder had made them mute, they beckoned to their partners,

to those who shared their labors in fishing, to come and help them in securing their prey.

For many have taken part with the Holy Apostles in their labors, and still do so, especially those who inquire into the meaning of what is written in the holy Gospels. Yet besides them there are also others: the pastors and teachers and rulers of the people, who are skilled in the doctrines of truth. For the net is still being drawn, while Christ fills it, and calls to conversion those who, according to the Scripture phrase, are in the depths of the sea, that is to say, those who live in the surge and waves of worldly things.

Saint Cyril of Alexandria



St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church

Clinton Township, MI

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Slava Isusu Christu! Slava na v'iki!

***** Celebrating 100 years: Aug 21-22, 2021 *****

Announcements for September 27, 2020: Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

IMPORTANT NOTE FROM BISHOP MILAN: In a decree earlier this week, Bishop Milan announced that effective October 1st, he is ending the special dispensation that he had given earlier in the year from the obligation of attending Divine Liturgy on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. Please see the reverse side of this page for a copy of the decree. Please note, however, that we (St. Nicholas Parish) will continue our practices of wearing face coverings, social distancing, sanitizing the church after each service, etc. Let us all continue to pray for a vaccine and the end of this COVID19 pandemic!

ECF support opportunity for parents and students: This past Friday, Subdeacon Phillip posted the first video to our website and Facebook site, in what will be a weekly series of short, 5-minute videos for our ECF students and parents. These videos are intended to be a resource to help support our ECF parents, since our ECF program this year will be starting off at home and parent-led, due to the COVID pandemic. In the videos, Subdeacon Phillip will answer as many questions submitted by parents or students as he can in the five minutes, on any topic pertaining to their ECF material- and on any level from Kindergarten through High School. Questions will be answered in the order that they are received, but must be received by Sunday in order to have a chance at being answered in that Friday's video. Any questions not answered in a particular week will be addressed in subsequent videos. *If you have a question you'd like to submit, please send it to our St. Nick's email address: stnicksbyzantine@yahoo.com.*

One week remaining-- Vets Returning Home Program: Help our military veterans transitioning back to civilian life by bringing your returnable aluminum cans and bottles to St. Nicholas Church, beginning September 5th and running through October 4th. A container will be available in the hall. Thanks for helping our vets!

A discernment retreat for men considering a vocation: A "Come and See" Weekend of Discovery, which is a Retreat for discerning Byzantine Catholic Men, 18 to 35 years old, single or married, and hosted by the Byzantine Catholic Seminary, will be held virtually online. It begins on Friday evening (4 PM), Nov. 6, 2020 and concludes on Saturday afternoon (8 PM), Nov. 7, 2020. *The deadline for registering is Oct. 28, 2020. For more details and to register go to www.bcs.edu.* You may also contact B.C.S. at 412-321-8383 or rector@bcs.edu.

Happy Birthday this weekend to Gerald May (9/26)! May God grant you many more happy, healthy, and blessed years!

Happy 10th Anniversary this coming week to George and Laura Nagrant (10/2)! May God grant you many more happy, healthy, and blessed years together!

Save the Date—Eastern Churches Seminar (Sunday, Oct 25th - online only): Please see the below flier for an upcoming Eastern Churches seminar, titled "Eucharist in Art and Life." Normally this seminar is held live in the Greater Cleveland area, but this year due to the COVID pandemic, it is being held virtually (online) through YouTube, and therefore offers us here in Michigan a more practical opportunity to participate.

Notre Dame College and co-sponsors present
the 36th Eleanor Malburg Eastern Churches Seminar:
Eucharist in Art and Life



Very Reverend Alexander Garklavs

In the Christian traditions of East and West, Eucharist and art hold much in common. Both have sensory and spiritual dimensions. Both bring people together. Both transform minds and hearts. Both feed the soul's hunger for personal meaning and interpersonal communion. Both express praise and thanks to God. And both the Eucharist and the arts are about living *life* to the full.

The Eucharist has inspired countless masterpieces of visual, musical, and literary art. In turn, the arts have added beauty and joy to the celebration of Eucharist. The interplay of Eucharist, art, and life is the focus of Father Alexander Garklavs' presentation for this year's Eastern Churches Seminar.

Father Garklavs is currently pastor of Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Parma, Ohio. He formerly served as chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America.

As the first virtual presentation in its 36-year history, this year's seminar will debut on YouTube on **October 25, 2020**, at [YouTube.com/NotreDameCollege](https://www.YouTube.com/NotreDameCollege) or [NotreDameCollege.edu/EasternChurchesSeminar](https://www.NotreDameCollege.edu/EasternChurchesSeminar)
For more information, contact (440) 279-9348 or kivancic@ndc.edu.



Prot. No. 111/2020 L

THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF PARMA

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DECREE

In the Name of the Lord. Amen.

After prayerful reflection and consultation with the College of Consultors and other faithful of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma, I, Bishop Milan Lach, S.J., decree, effective 1 October 2020, the Feast of the Protection of the Holy Mother of God, the completion of the dispensation granted 31 March 2020 (protocol number 41/2020 L) and extended on 12 May 2020 (protocol number 64/2020 L) in which the faithful of the eparchy were dispensed from the obligation of attending Divine Liturgy on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. The termination of the decree is made out of pastoral concern for the souls entrusted to my spiritual care.

Our faith teaches us through the Catechism of the Catholic Church that "The celebration of Sunday observes the moral commandment inscribed by nature in the human heart to render to God an outward, visible, public, and regular worship 'as a sign of his universal beneficence to all.' Sunday worship fulfills the moral command of the Old Covenant, taking up its rhythm and spirit in the weekly celebration of the Creator and Redeemer of his people (2176). The Sunday celebration of the Lord's Day and his Eucharist is at the heart of the Church's life. Sunday is the day on which the paschal mystery is celebrated in light of the apostolic tradition and is to be observed as the foremost holy day of obligation in the universal Church (2177)."

The obligation to participate in the Divine Liturgy is of a serious nature. Failure to observe this precept is objectively sinful. Watching the Divine Liturgy via livestream does not fulfill the obligation.


The elderly and others at increased risk for severe illness and those who care for them, as has been the practice prior to the current health crisis, are not held to the obligation of Sunday worship and are encouraged to use discretion and good judgment in attending Divine Liturgy as well as other activities in which their health or safety may be at risk.

For those not at increased risk of severe illness, the Church has long recognized circumstances in which the faithful may be excused from the obligation of Sunday worship even without a dispensation from the bishop. For example, during a normal influenza season, one who is ill with influenza-like symptoms may, in good conscience, refrain from attending Divine Liturgy due to illness and also as an act of justice towards others in order that the illness is not passed on.

If one wishes to avoid attending Sunday worship in person due to significant fear or some other serious reason, the Church teaches us that we must carefully discern whether the fear is morally justifiable, or whether such fear is inordinate (not reasonable) and, therefore, not based on a prudent examination of reality.

As shepherd and spiritual father, my primary concern is for the eternal salvation of the faithful entrusted to my care. I invite all to join me in praying for the intercession of the Most Holy Theotokos for guidance and protection in the months ahead, that we might all be entrusted to the protection of her holy veil.

Given at the Chancery of the Eparchy of Parma, on this 21st day of September, 2020.


Most Reverend Milan Lach, S.J.
Bishop of the Eparchy of Parma


Notary