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From the Fathers

When you perceive that God is chastising you, fly not to his enemies . . . but to his friends, the martyrs, the saints, and those who were pleasing to him, and who have great power . . .

St. John Chrysostom

A Christian people celebrates together in religious solemnity the memorials of the martyrs, both to encourage their being imitated and so that it can share in their merits and be aided by their prayers.

St. Augustine of Hippo

In this way is he [the true Christian] always pure for prayer. He also prays in the society of angels, as being already of angelic rank, and he is never out of their holy keeping; and though he pray alone, he has the choir of the saints standing with him.

St. Clement of Alexandria

In addition to the study and true knowledge of the Scriptures are needed a good life and pure soul and virtue in Christ, so that the mind, journeying in this path, may be able to obtain and apprehend what it desires, in so far as human nature is able to learn about God the Word. For without a pure mind and a life modeled on the saints, no one can apprehend the words of the saints.

St. Athanasius the Great

The divine Scripture likewise says that the souls of the just are in God's hand and death cannot lay hold of them. For death is rather the sleep of the saints than their death. "For they travailed in this life and shall to the end," and "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints." What then, is more precious than to be in the hand of God. For God is Life and Light, and those who are in God's hand are in life and light.

St. John of Damascus

SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS



Icon of All Saints

The Holy Spirit
Has Descended!
Receive Him
With Love!



Vol 13 #22



SAT., MAY 30

(Vigil Sunday Divine Liturgy)

6:00 p.m.

+Walter Shabella
(14th anniversary of passing today)

requested by: Family

SUN., MAY 31

The Sunday of All Saints

11:00 a.m.

+Msgr. Victor G. Romza
(72nd anniversary of priesthood ordination today)

requested by: Jeanni Chance

12:30 p.m.

Baptism, Chrismation & First Eucharist of Vivienne Joan Vasilchek

Mon., June 1 -
Fri., June 5

No Divine Services scheduled



SAT., JUNE 6

(Vigil Sunday Divine Liturgy)

6:00 p.m.

Health & God's Blessings requested by: wife: Linda, Sons, & Gizmo
Upon: Michael Stanko (70th birthday today)

Health & God's Blessings requested by: brother: Jerry & Pauline Shirilla
Upon: Judy Shirilla

SUN., JUNE 7

The Second Sunday After Pentecost

11:00 a.m.

+Darren Joyce
(9th anniversary of passing 6.10)

requested by: Pamela Kotasek



June 1 – Archbishop William, Norah Davis

June 3 – Lauren Hymes

June 5 – Nicholas J. Dubos, Myla Romito

June 6 – Andy Arendas, Caitlyn Hileman, Michael Stanko

Church Attendance

Saturday 5/23 – **49** (6:00 pm)

Sunday 5/24 – **54** (11:00 am)

Pray for the Homebound, Sick, Hospitalized, & in Recovery updated: May 29, 2026

RESIDING AT HOME – Andy Arendas, Bonnie Cohn, Michael Drotar, Geraldine Dubos, Ted Fesz, Kathi Klimis, Paul Kotch, Atty. Brian Macala, Greta Marks, Patty Orenic, Frank Phillips, Martha Swantek.
The Inn at Ironwood (6699 Ironwood Blvd., Canfield, OH 44406) – Dorothy Leone.
Windsor House at St. Mary's (1899 W. Garfield Rd., Columbiana, OH 44408) – Anne Thomas.
St. Elizabeth Boardman Hospital (8401 Market St., Youngstown, OH 44512) – Dr. John Galida.

Church offerings from May 23 & 24, 2026

Sunday Offering....\$1,905.00

Loose Currency....\$53.00

Candles....\$69.00

Holyday (Ascension)....\$10.00

TOTAL: \$2,037.00



May 24th TOTAL:
\$194.00

Weekly Requirement to Meet Yearly Expenses			
Date	Collection	Required	(Shortage) Overage
May 24	\$2,037	\$2,950	(\$913)
YTD	\$61,980	\$61,950	\$30



Quote of the Week

“A most important thing in life is to stop saying ‘I wish’ and start saying ‘I will...’”

— Charles Dickens



DIRECTIONS: Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.



ALEXANDRITE	GARDEN	LEMONADE	SOLSTICE
BARBECUE	GEMINI	LONGEST DAY	STRAWBERRY
D-DAY	GRADUATION	OUTDOORS	SUMMER
DIPLOMA	HONEYSUCKLE	PEARL	THIRTY DAYS
FATHER'S DAY	JUNE	PICNIC	VACATION
FLAG DAY	JUNETEENTH	ROSE	WEDDING

All Saints Sunday

Today, we acknowledge the assembly of wondrous saints, known and unknown, recognized and not yet fully glorified by the Church on earth: Apostles, Martyrs & Confessors, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and Righteous Ones. As faithful Byzantine Catholics, we hear this word "saint" a lot. However, do we ever think about its meaning? Do we ever reflect on the lives of the Saints?

Oftentimes, we think of a saint as someone who is pure, completely holy, and deified beyond their earthly recognition. If you pay attention to the lives of the "Unknown Saints", you will be quick to notice how a lot of people who have achieved the rank of Sainthood lived difficult lives, well beyond having to adhere to coronavirus quarantines or dealing with recommended fasting periods throughout the Church Year. These are people who, because of their strong faith in God and their zeal to share this faith with others, endured unspeakable tortures, scathing criticisms from friends and family, social ostracization, and, in a lot of cases, death.

What, then, makes them Saints in the Church's and our eyes? Quite simply, their utter assurance in our Lord and their willingness to even die an unjust death for their faith give them cause to be venerated. As we reflect on these things, we turn to ourselves and to today's Gospel while asking the question: "How can I, a great sinner, in some way remain in our Lord's Divine Garden, together with the Mother of God and all the Saints, together with everything that is beautiful and pure in Heaven and on Earth?" The answer that we receive is difficult, but not impossible to receive and act upon.

Our Lord tells us that we must confess Him before men, confess Him by our way of life, by the way we dress, by the way we speak, by the way we treat others, and by our words, not remaining silent regarding the Good News of the Cross and Resurrection of Christ, which is a stumbling block to many but life and the hope of salvation to us. The Lord tells us that, if our close family and their demands upon us are more important to us than the Lord's call, we are not worthy of Him. The Lord tells us that our true family is a spiritual family, the family of the true followers of Christ, and if our earthly family should ask us to deny Christ or compromise our faithfulness to Him, we must refuse and choose the Lord's commandments over their demands and desires for us.

No matter how good we think we are in life (and, of course, there are those who profess to do absolutely no wrong, even to the point that they refuse the Mystery of Repentance), we should reflect on the lives of the Saints we learn about and so admire and pray to. We should follow their examples and seek to imitate their simple faith, not only for ourselves to grow closer to God, but to also lead others to the grace and love of our Lord.

Let us pray today for all of the Saints, for all of those who are persecuted because of their belief in God, and for those that help to guide us in our faith. Let us consider seriously our Lord's call for us and ponder where we came from four months ago to where we are now: have we grown in our faith? Although we consider it glorified (and it is in the eyes of God), the lives of the Saints were anything but easy. Ultimately, we must ask ourselves: "are we up to the challenge?"



Isn't it heavenly...Archbishop William turns seventy

On **Monday, June 1st**, our Metropolitan Archbishop William C. Skurla will celebrate his 70th birthday. Parishioners are asked to sign the special card in the narthex and our pastor will deliver it to him. May God grant to his servant, Archbishop William, peace, health, and happiness for many blessed years, na mnohaja i blahaja l'ita! Happy 70th Birthday Archbishop!



REBORN IN WATER & SPIRIT

Our Saint Michael Parish offers our prayerful best wishes and Congratulations to **VIVIENNE JOAN VASILCHEK** who will receive the Holy Mysteries of Initiation (Baptism, Chrismation, and Eucharist) this afternoon, Sunday, May 31, 2026. She is the daughter of Valencia & John Vasilchek and sister of Laurianna. May God grant to His newly enlightened handmaid, Vivienne, peace, health, and happiness for many blessed years, na mnohaja i blahaja l'ita.

Civic Club raffle winners

St. Michael's Civic Club offers a special Thank You to ALL those who supported their Raffle Fundraiser. The winning tickets were drawn last Sunday at the end of the Sunday Divine Liturgy.

1st Prize – Gina Bigley 2nd Prize – Keri Vokish 3rd Prize – Kevin Sinkele

Calling all wedding Jubilarians this year



The Archeparchy of Pittsburgh will pay tribute to couples who are celebrating their **10, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, and additional years that are multiples of five** wedding anniversary in this year of 2026. A special Liturgy will be offered on **Sunday, September 20, 2026** at St. Elias Church in Munhall by Archbishop William for couples to attend if they wish. If you have celebrated or going to celebrate one of these milestones this year of 2026, please inform our pastor so he can send your names in. You will receive a special certificate from the Archbishop.

Invite to Minor Orders

On **Sunday, June 21st at 3:00 p.m.** at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Munhall, PA, **Randy Tomko** will be ordained to the Minor Orders of Lectorate and Sub-diaconate. These are the first two orders one must receive before being ordained a deacon. Randy is a parishioner of St. Michael Church, Hermitage, but has helped here at our parish with serving and cantoring several times. You are invited to attend and a bus might be provided. Please let Father know asap if you would like to attend.

Liturgy stipend reminder

Just a reminder that a Divine Liturgy intention stipend is \$20. This was approved years ago by the Council of Hierarchs for our Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Church.

The flowers at our parish flag pole are in memory of **+John Muzina, USAF** & **+Paul Hospodar, US Navy.**

Traditional SS. Peter and Paul Fast begins tomorrow

According to our Byzantine Catholic tradition, there is a period of fasting before the celebration of the feast of Saints Peter and Paul, which is on June 29th. This *non-obligatory* fast begins the Monday following All Saints Sunday and continues until the feast itself. Since the date for the beginning of the fast changes every year depending on when Easter falls, the length of the fast varies from more than five weeks to maybe just a few days. In church Slavonic, it is known as **PETROVKA**. The origin of this fast is quite ancient. It began to be observed shortly after the Great Fast became firmly established in the liturgical cycle of the Church in the fifth century. Evidence from ancient sources seems to indicate that the fast developed as an alternate to the Great Fast. It seems a fast was set up after the joyous Paschal Season and before the feast of SS. Peter and Paul for those who were unable to maintain the rigors of the Great Fast.



The feast of SS. Peter and Paul has always been an important feast day throughout the Church. Peter and Paul have always been accredited as being the first and greatest among the Apostles. Peter is important for being the rock upon which the Church of Jesus Christ is established. The faith of Peter is the firm foundation on which the Church stands. The Apostle Paul is important mostly because he was the Apostle to the Gentiles. He was the first to preach to and convert non-Jews on a large scale and with such zeal.



Flag Raising Ceremony

Sunday, June 14 ~ Noon

Join us after the ceremony for an all-American picnic featuring hot dogs, fried chicken, potato salad, and apple pie.

Please add your name to sign up sheet if you'd like to attend.

~Sponsored by the GCU~

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\$25 - Bogey's
\$25 - Tavern 26
\$25 - McDonald's
\$25 - Panera
\$25 - Target

**\$5 a chance
Drawing June 14, 2026**