



GCU
Christmas in July

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They Marveled and Glorified God

Do you see how He is shown to be Creator of both souls and bodies? He heals the paralysis in both soul and body. The healing of the soul is made evident through the healing of the body, even while the body still remains a creature crawling on the ground. The crowds were slow to recognize who He was: “When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to humans.” ... He proceeded by His daily actions to arouse them and lift up their thinking. It would have been no small thing for Him to be thought greater than all others, as having come from God. If they had established this adequately in their own minds, they would have known in due order that He was indeed the Son of God.

But they did not grasp these things clearly. Because of this they did not come close to recognizing who He was. For again they were saying, “This man is not from God! How can this man be from God?” Their minds churned over these statements continuously. Which thing many now also do; and thinking to avenge God, fulfill their own passions, when they ought to go about all with moderation. For even the God of all, having power to launch His thunderbolt against them that blaspheme Him, makes the sun to rise, and sends forth the showers, and affords them all other things in abundance; whom we ought to imitate, and so to entreat, advise, admonish, with meekness, not angry, not making ourselves wild beasts.

St. John Chrysostom

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of Healing the Paralytic

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



Vol 13 #27



SAT., JULY 4

***11:00 a.m.**

No 6:00 p.m. Liturgy today

(Vigil Sunday Divine Liturgy)

God's Blessings upon our country – 250th Independence Day



SUN., JULY 5

11:00 a.m.

The Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

+Kathleen Straub Hall

requested by: Sister: Liz & Family

(remembrance of 84th birthday 7.4)

Health & God's Blessings

requested by: Family

Upon: Christopher Steven Vokish *(13th birthday July 9)*



Mon., July 6 -

Fri., July 10

No Divine Services scheduled



SAT., JULY 11

6:00 p.m.

(Vigil Sunday Divine Liturgy)

+Mary Lucas

requested by: Family

(29th anniversary of passing 7.6)

Health & God's Blessings

requested by: Brother: David & Sandra VanSuch

Upon: Denise Cutrone *(birthday July 9)*

SUN., JULY 12

11:00 a.m.

The Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

+William C. Marks Sr.

requested by: Sister: Monica & Mike Zipay

(remembrance of 85th birthday today)



July 5 – Jarod Lanzo

July 8 – Curt S. Hileman, Martha Swantek

July 9 – Denise Cutrone, Christopher Steven Vokish

July 11 – Pauline Shirilla

Pray for the Homebound, Sick, Hospitalized, & in Recovery updated: July 3, 2026

RESIDING AT HOME – Andy Arendas, Bonnie Cohn, Michael Drotar, Geraldine Dubos, Ted Fesz, Kathi Klimis, Paul Kotch, 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.

Hampton Woods (1517 E Western Reserve Rd., Poland, OH 44514) – Michael Katula.

Church offerings from June 27 & 28, 2026

Sunday Offering....\$1,795.00

Loose Currency....\$11.00

Candles....\$77.00

Holydays....\$70.00

TOTAL: \$1,953.00

Cemetery: \$400.00



June 28th TOTAL:

\$304.00

Weekly Requirement to Meet Yearly Expenses			
Date	Collection	Required	(Shortage)
June 28	\$1,953	\$2,950	(\$997)
YTD	\$71,486	\$76,700	(\$5,214)



Quote of the Week

“May we think of freedom, not as the right to do as we please, but as the opportunity to do what is right.”

— Peter Marshall

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



Pope Leo congratulates the United States



Pope Leo XIV celebrated the contributions of Catholics and immigrants to the United States in an open letter to Americans for the country's 250th anniversary.

Leo, the first U.S. born pope, wrote that the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, "gave enduring voice to the ideals of liberty, equality, the pursuit of happiness, justice, and democratic self-government." The pope called religious freedom "among the most cherished of these principles," writing that it is

"central to the American promise, protecting both individual dignity and the peaceful coexistence of a diverse people."

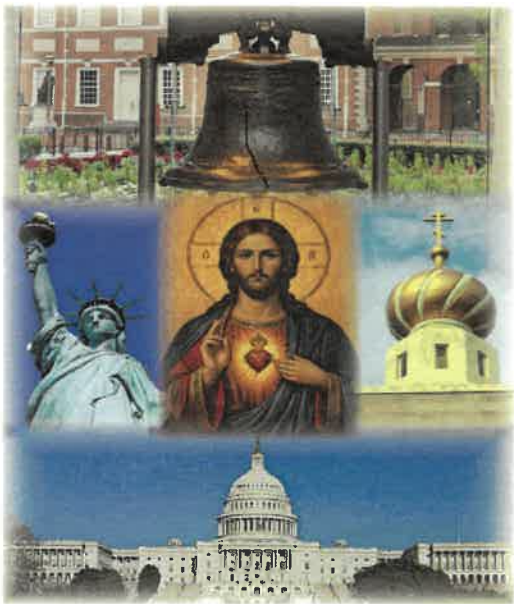
That freedom has allowed the Catholic Church to flourish in the U.S., serving the nation in many fields including "education, the preferential care for the poor, healthcare, and basic social services," Leo wrote. The pope also underscored the importance for the country's history of the "God-given dignity of every human life." Recognizing that dignity means "safeguarding human life from its beginning at conception until natural death" and caring for the "vulnerable, the suffering, and the forgotten," he wrote. It also means "welcoming, protecting, and assisting immigrants," who "have helped to shape the nation's character," Leo wrote.

The pope's letter to Americans closed with an invocation of the "Immaculate Conception, patroness of this country, that she will continue to watch over America and protect all who dwell therein."

U.S. Bishops consecrates America to Sacred Heart

On June 11, 2026, as part of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. bishops consecrated the United States of America to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Parishes around the country are encouraged to join the bishops in celebrating the consecration of our nation to the Sacred Heart.

"O most sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy of us."



AMERICA 250

ANNIVERSARY

COLONIES

CONCORD

CONGRESS

CONSTITUTION

DECLARATION

FEDERALISM

FRANKLIN

FREEDOM

HANCOCK

INDEPENDENCE

JEFFERSON

LEXINGTON

LIBERTY

LIBERTY BELL

PATRIOT

RATIFICATION

REPRESENTATION

Y	N	N	A	R	Y	T	L	J	U	R	T	P	Z	P	U	K	P	W	N	F
I	N	D	E	P	E	N	D	E	N	C	E	C	X	L	S	C	Q	A	O	R
Q	L	R	V	L	E	X	I	N	G	T	O	N	V	J	E	O	U	S	S	A
A	L	E	J	A	P	M	L	A	I	V	G	Y	D	F	M	C	W	H	R	N
S	E	V	M	F	R	E	E	D	O	M	N	R	M	X	I	N	Y	I	E	K
H	B	O	C	O	N	G	R	E	S	S	O	N	S	R	Q	A	R	N	F	L
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C	E	I	L	E	G	E	C	S	R	V	T	A	R	E	C	W	E	N	N	N
O	B	O	Y	J	W	E	E	E	E	E	N	R	E	C	E	R	V	R	Y	V
N	I	N	J	P	B	I	P	A	F	R	E	A	D	P	N	Z	I	N	T	O
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T	F	T	J	O	B	L	A	O	V	I	E	C	F	G	E	B	N	2	T	Z
I	C	S	L	L	F	V	R	P	G	G	R	E	T	G	N	C	A	S	G	U
T	A	O	I	S	H	K	N	J	A	N	P	D	R	Q	N	C	C	G	S	D
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N	N	O	I	T	A	C	I	F	I	T	A	R	W	T	L	Y	A	E	B	A

REPUBLIC

THIRTEEN

REVOLUTION

TYRANNY

SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL

WASHINGTON

SOVEREIGNTY

YORKTOWN

Last Monday was a Holyday of Obligation!

The first precept of the Church teaches that the Christian faithful attend The Divine Liturgy on **ALL Sundays of the year, as well as on ALL Holydays of Obligation.** Besides ALL Sundays, there are 5 Holy Days of Obligation in our Byzantine Catholic Church. The Feast of Saints Peter and Paul was a Holy Day of Obligation this past Monday, June 29th. Did you attend Church? Only a serious or honorable reason should've prevented you from attending. When you purposely miss a Sunday (Sat. vigil) or Holyday of Obligation without a serious or honorable reason or dispensation from a priest, the Church teaches you are in the state of sin. The Sacrament of Confession is the remedy for this.



Big Boy locomotive event next Sunday in Struthers

Just a note that downtown Struthers will be closed to traffic from 7:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. as they celebrate the Big Boy locomotive next Sunday. Along with the train stop on **Sunday, July 12th**, at 11:30 a.m. until noon, several vendors and concerts will take place throughout the morning and day. For complete schedule, search the web.

Donations still needed for VBS

Many supplies and food will be part of Vacation Bible School Week, **July 13-17**, for our kiddos. If you would like to make a donation to help with supplies or food, you may do so with the special envelope marked VBS donations in the narthex. Checks can be made out to St. Michael Church. Include your name if you would like credit towards your yearly contribution statement. **A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO ALREADY MADE DONATIONS TO VBS.**

Faith & Fun Day for Altar Servers

The Vocations Office of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh is sponsoring a Faith & Day for parish altar servers on **Monday, July 27th** in Pittsburgh. Altar servers who would like to attend, please let Father know asap. The day will include the Divine Liturgy with Archbishop William, Pirates game at PNC Park and much more.

'Harvest Moon Bingo Mania' in Hermitage

St. Michael Church in Hermitage is having a Bingo Mania Night for both the Girls and the Guys on **Saturday, September 26th!** Full Harvest Moon Night! Doors open 5:00 p.m. and Bingo begins 6:00 p.m.; Admission is \$30 (Ages 18 & up); includes 13 Game Bingo Packet + Dauber! Fabulous Harvest Moon Basket Raffle! 50/50 Raffle! Winner receives Half the Cash! Delicious Homemade Concessions. BYOB! We reserve for large groups! Make your reservation today! Phone or Text: Megan 724-699-0613, Renee 724-813-0830, Rozanne 724-854-0868 or Donna 724-877-6736.

Prayer before Traveling

O Lord Jesus Christ our God, the true and living Way, be my Companion, my Guide, and my Guardian during my journey. Deliver and protect me from every danger, accident, and misfortune. Preserve me from all evil and lead me safely to my destination and back home again. For You are the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and to You do I ascribe glory, together with Your eternal Father and Your All-Holy, Good, and Life- Creating Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

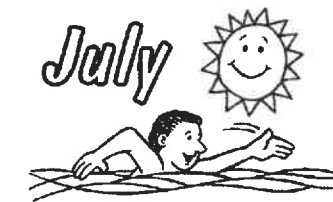
Put it on the big screen...someone is turning thirteen

Our St. Michael Parish extends Happy Birthday wishes to **CHRISTOPHER VOKISH** who celebrates his "**13th Birthday**" on Thursday, July 9th. May the Lord God grant to His servant, Christopher, peace, health, and happiness for many blessed years. Happy 13th Birthday Christopher!



Independence Day History

On July 4, 1776, the Second Continental Congress, meeting in Philadelphia in the Pennsylvania State House (now Independence Hall), approved the Declaration of Independence. Its purpose was to set forth the principles upon which the Congress had acted two days earlier when it voted in favor of Richard Henry Lee's motion to declare the freedom and independence of the 13 American colonies from England. The Declaration was designed to influence public opinion and gain support both among the new states and abroad -- especially in France, from which the new "United States" sought military assistance. As a scholar well-versed in the ideas and ideals of the French and English Enlightenments, Jefferson found his greatest inspiration in the language and arguments of English philosopher John Locke, who had justified England's "Glorious Revolution" of 1688 on the basis of man's "natural rights." Locke's theory held that government was a contract between the governed and those governing, who derived their power solely from the consent of the governed and whose purpose it was to protect every man's inherent right to property, life and liberty. Jefferson's theory of "natural law" differed in that it substituted the inalienable right of "the pursuit of happiness" for "property," emphasizing that happiness is the product of civic virtue and public duty. The concept of the "pursuit of happiness" originated in the Common Sense School of Scottish philosophy, of which Lord Kames was the best-known proponent. Jefferson emphasized the contractual justification for independence, arguing that when the tyrannical government of King George III of England repeatedly violated "natural law," the colonists had not only the right but the duty to revolt. The assembled Continental Congress deleted a few passages of the draft, and amended others, but outright rejected only two sections: 1) a derogatory reference to the English people; 2) a passionate denunciation of the slave trade. The latter section was left out, as Jefferson reported, to accede to the wishes of South Carolina and Georgia, who wanted to continue the importation of slaves. The rest of the draft was accepted on July 4, and 56 members of Congress began their formal signing of the document on August 2, 1776.



SUMMER IS HERE – and a time for Vacations – much needed vacations! A time to re-create and come back to the pilgrimage of life! It is a time of summer breezes, beautiful flowers, and many times – poor church attendance. We still have a need to gather as God's people and to worship – even if we are on vacation or traveling, there are many opportunities to give time to the Lord! As you leave, have a wonderful, safe and happy time! And when you return, know that you were missed and we are happy to see you back with us – with such renewed life.

When you travel, remember to visit our Byzantine parishes. There is no vacation from honoring the Lord's Day as we should attend The Divine Liturgy.