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Drawing All to Himself

O the marvelous power of the cross, the glory of the passion! No tongue can fully describe it. Here we see the judgment seat of the Lord, here sentence is passed upon the world, and here the sovereignty of the Crucified is revealed.

You drew all things to Yourself, Lord, when You stretched out Your hands all the day long to a people that denied and opposed You, until at last the whole world was brought to proclaim Your majesty. You drew all things to Yourself, Lord, when all the elements combined to pronounce judgment in denouncement of that crime; when the lights of heaven were darkened and the day was turned into night; when the land was shaken by unwonted earthquakes, and all creation refused to serve those wicked people. Yes, Lord, you drew all things to Yourself. The veil of the temple was torn in two and the Holy of Holies taken away from those unworthy high

priests. Figures gave way to reality, prophecy to manifestation, law to gospel. You drew all things to Yourself in order that the worship of the whole human race could be celebrated everywhere in a sacramental form which would openly fulfill what had been enacted by means of veiled symbols in that single Jewish temple.

Now that the multiplicity of animal sacrifices has ceased, the single offering of your body and blood takes the place of that diversity of victims, since you are the true Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, and in Yourself you fulfill all the rites of the old law, so that as there is now a single sacrifice in place of all those victims, so there is a single kingdom formed of all the peoples of the earth.

St. Leo the Great

SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS



Icon of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross -- September 14th

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



Vol 13 #37

GOODBYE
SUMMER

SAT., SEPT 12

6:00 p.m.

(Vigil Sunday Divine Liturgy)

+Anna P. Drotar
(18th anniversary of passing 9.8
& remembrance of birthday 9.16)

requested by: Family

+Judy Shirilla
(40th day of passing 9.5)

requested by: Brother: Jerry & Pauline Shirilla

SUN., SEPT 13

11:00 a.m.

**The Sunday Before the Universal Elevation
of the Cross – Grandparents Day**

Health & God's Blessings Upon Grandparents

Mon., Sept 14



6:00 p.m.

The Feast of the Universal Elevation of the Cross

– Solemn Holyday – Mirovanije
Fr. John Welch, Celebrant

+Stephen Kotasek
(66th anniversary of passing 9.20)



requested by: Granddaughters



SAT., SEPT 19

6:00 p.m.

(Vigil Sunday Divine Liturgy) – Mirovanije

+Stephen "Mickey" Burich
(remembrance of 50th wedding ann. 9.17)

requested by: M/M Ken Kish

+Stevie Dimoff
(remembrance of 51st birthday 9.20)

requested by: Dimoff Family

+John Lucas
(32nd anniversary of passing 9.20)

requested by: Family



SUN., SEPT 20

11:00 a.m.

**The Sunday After the Universal Elevation
of the Cross – Mirovanije**

+Conrad John Straub
(remembrance of 90th birthday 9.4)

requested by: Sister: Liz & Siblings



September 13 – Gregory Stanko
September 14 – Pope Leo

Pray for the Homebound, Sick, Hospitalized, & in Recovery updated: September 11, 2026

RESIDING AT HOME – Andy Arendas, Bonnie Cohn, Michael Drotar, Geraldine Dubos, Michael Katula,
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.

Church offerings from Sept. 5 & 6, 2026

Sunday Offering....\$2,597.00

Loose Currency....\$45.00

Candles....\$83.00

Holyday (Aug. 29)....\$10.00

TOTAL: \$2,735.00



September 6th TOTAL:

\$264.00

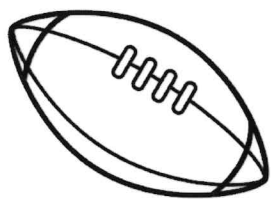
Weekly Requirement to Meet Yearly Expenses			
Date	Collection	Required	Overage
Sept. 6	\$2,735	\$2,950	(\$215)
YTD	\$95,617	\$106,200	(\$10,583)



Quote of the Week

"A year from now you
may wish you had started
today."

— Karen Lamb



NFL TEAMS

Word Search



BENGALS	CHIEFS	GIANTS	RAIDERS
BRONCOS	COMMANDERS	JAGUARS	RAVENS
BROWNS	COWBOYS	LIONS	SEAHAWKS
BUCCANEERS	DOLPHINS	PACKERS	STEELERS
CARDINALS	EAGLES	PANTHERS	TITANS
CHARGERS	FALCONS	PATRIOTS	VIKINGS

John 3:16

We hear in today's Gospel the commonly quoted verse that God loves so much that He sent His Son into the world to enter into human nature to redeem it, make it new again, and fit for life with Him who is Life: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." However, we must understand that belief involves much more than mere citing something or knowing something. For Byzantine Catholics, belief is always accompanied by action. Following through with a life that becomes grafted into the Life that God the Holy Trinity is as a perpetual relationship and movement of love. It's not enough to simply say, "I believe in God. There, I've said it, I have salvation," for we know that the "demons believe and shudder" (James 2:19).

In today's Gospel, we hear of Moses lifting up the serpent in the wilderness—a reference to the poisonous snakes that God sent to humble the Israelites as they grumbled against Him. Moses prayed for God's mercy on the people, so God instructed Moses to make a serpent from copper and lift it high on a pole so that anyone who was bitten by the poisonous snakes and looked upon the snake that Moses lifted, would be healed. What a great mystery! As God would have it, the image of the cause of their death became the remedy for that death—and, as with all the great signs of the Old Testament, it points to something greater to be fulfilled in the New Testament with the coming of the Messiah, God incarnate, and His defeat of sin and death on the cross. Whereas the copper snake miraculously saved the people of Israel from a temporal death by snakes, they still eventually died a mortal death. But Christ's death on the cross is no temporal victory. Here too, the instrument of healing is itself an instrument of death—just like the snakes that killed the Israelites. Greater is the death caused by sin, if left unhealed and undefeated: a snake can kill the body, but sin can kill the soul. Christ entered death as Man and defeated it as God, the Giver and Author of Life.

When we speak of belief and God's love, we're speaking of something deeper than the intellectual or even spiritual acknowledgement of God. We're speaking of participation in His divine life. This is what we call deification or theosis in the Church. St. Peter refers to it in his Epistle as becoming "partakers of the divine nature" (II Peter 1:4). St. Paul speaks of us becoming sons by adoption, co-heirs with Christ through our participation in His life (Ephesians 1), in the human nature He redeemed by His incarnation, His entry into that human nature. This, by the way, is why Christ is referred to as the "new Adam." Of our own participation in Christ's saving work, St. Paul also speaks, saying, "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ" (Gal. 3:27). Through baptism, and then living out our baptism throughout our lives, denying ourselves to follow Christ's will, His way, participating in the Holy Mysteries (Sacraments), receiving Christ's precious and holy Body and Blood, praying and communing with Him, we demonstrate true belief, for belief is much more than mere assent: it is relationship and communion with God through the Sacramental life that He Himself has ordained and through which we are united with Him, further up and further in, as we deny ourselves and take up our cross to follow Him.

John 3:16 is to be understood then within this context with the cross before our eyes. The cross is the supreme expression of God's love for us: the Creator of all, the Giver of all life, was willing to become one of His own creation, be tortured, and lifted up on the cross, the most ignoble of deaths in the Roman world—and one of the most painful—to defeat sin and death on our behalf, to conquer death, so that, in this way, you and I who have been baptized in Him and continue in Him may become fellow conquerors.

For this reason, we make the sign of the Cross, we life high the Cross, we wear the Cross, and on Monday, the day of the Cross, we will venerate the Cross, glorifying God. We follow Him, we live in Him. We prioritize the life that He alone is over all the temporal and passing things of this world, that we may be saved. We say, "Amen!" to the words of St. Paul, who proclaims, "God forbid that I should glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world" (Gal. 6:14).

History of Grandparents Day

Grandparents Day always falls on the first Sunday after Labor Day. Marian McQuade noticed that the senior citizens in her community and local nursing homes were lonely without visits from friends and family. So, she educated youth about the importance of connecting with our elders and encouraged them to "adopt" a grandparent. Meanwhile, she urged politicians to designate a National Grandparents Day. In 1977, West Virginia's Senator Randolph, among others, requested that the president "issue annually a proclamation designating the first Sunday of September after Labor Day of each year as 'National Grandparents' Day'." President Jimmy Carter signed the proclamation on August 3, 1978, and regarded Marian McQuade as the Founder of National Grandparents Day!



The Feast of the Universal Elevation of the Cross this Monday



On **September 14th**, we celebrate the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-creating Cross, one of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Church Year. This solemn feast celebrates two events. The first event commemorates the finding of the Cross by St. Helena, the mother of St. Constantine the Great in the year 326. Such a throng of faithful gathered upon hearing that the Cross had been found, that Macarios, Patriarch of Jerusalem, took the Cross to an elevated place and raised it so that all might be able to see it and venerate it. The Cross was kept in Jerusalem until 614 when the Persians attacked the city and plundered the Church of the Resurrection. The Cross remained in the possession of the Persians for 14 years. From the "Life of St. Anastasius, the Persian" we know that during its "exile" the Cross was the instrument of many miracles. The second event commemorated was the recovery of the Cross by Emperor Heraclius. It was brought to Constantinople and placed in the Great Church of the Holy Wisdom (Sophia). **Join us for the Holyday Divine Liturgy this Monday, September 14th at 6:00 p.m.**

Holupki dinner next Sunday

There will be a Stuffed Cabbage Dinner **next Sunday, September 20th from 12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m.** at the Hall. You can either EAT IN or TAKE OUT. This \$15 Dinner includes: 2 Stuffed Cabbage (holupki), real mashed potatoes, a vegetable, bread/butter and dessert. Drinks will be available for eat in only. Place your pre-orders by texting/calling Regina at 330-720-2100.



Civic Club meeting next Sunday as new season begins

The Civic Club will have its first meeting of the new season **next Sunday, September 20th** at 12:15 p.m. in the Hall bar room. The Civic Club has initiated numerous exciting programs the past few years and has raised a generous amount of money for worthy causes. We hope to continue growing. The club is open to any parishioner who wants to make a positive difference in the church and in the community. If this sounds like you, please join us on the 20th!"

9 Tickets remaining to be sold as of the morning of September 12th:
96,135,138,160,165,169,176,184,188



Sympathy extended

+GERALD "JERRY" MACALA, 82, of Alta Loma CA, formerly of Campbell fell asleep in the Lord on Monday, August 17, 2026. He is the brother of Jack (Betty), Elaine (Alex) Papp, Monica (Bill) Ohlin, and the late +Eileen DeNiro. He was a former St. Michael's parishioner, alter server, and married in the church in 1964 to the late Sue (Kish) Macala. May God grant to His departed servant, +Jerry, blessed repose and eternal memory, vicnaja jemu pamjat.



Pastor to speak on Vocations in Sykesville, PA

This Monday evening, our pastor will be at Holy Trinity Byzantine Catholic Church in Sykesville, PA. He will celebrate Great Vespers with the youth choir singing the responses. Then he will give a presentation on Vocations. Please pray for safe travels as he heads out east.

Wine needed for R.R. card game

A special Thanks to All who donated bottles so far towards the Reverse Raffle. At this point, there should be enough liquor bottles. Now we are in need of wine bottles. Consider donating a wine bottle of better quality. Place donations in the back of the church in the marked bag. For any questions or info, see Atty. Brian Macala.

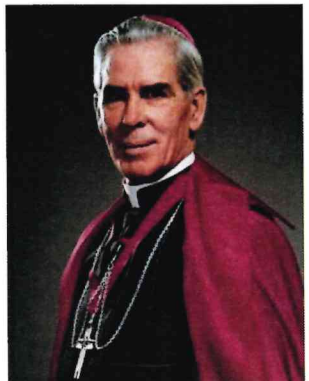
'PACK THE VALLEY' Volunteers still needed; sign-up now!

On **Thursday, October 15th from 1-3 p.m.**, Direction Home is hosting *Pack the Valley* at the Canfield Fair, Michael Kusalaba Event Center, 7265 Columbiana-Canfield Road, Canfield. The goal is to pack over **170,000 meals** for families in need right here in the Mahoning Valley. It's a fun, assembly-line style event and it only takes a few hours of your time to help feed thousands of people. Out St. Michael Church would like to put together a team of **10-14 volunteers** to lead a meal packing line. All supplies and training are provided—we just need willing hearts and helping hands! If interested, please sign up in the narthex.

+Fulton J. Sheen to be Beatified; one step away from sainthood

The Mass of Beatification will be celebrated **Thursday, September 24, 2026**, at 2:00 p.m. Central Time at The Dome at America's Center in St. Louis, Missouri. Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle will celebrate the Mass as the representative of Pope Leo XIV.

Archbishop +Fulton J. Sheen was born May 8, 1895, in El Paso, Illinois, and ordained a priest of the Diocese of Peoria in 1919. An internationally renowned preacher, author, missionary and broadcaster, Sheen served as national director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith and later as Bishop of Rochester, New York. His radio and television ministries brought Catholic teaching to millions and helped pioneer the use of modern media for evangelization. He died December 9, 1979. His remains are entombed at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Peoria. His Beatification moves Sheen one step closer to canonization and becoming the first American-born bishop to be declared a saint.



YOUNG ADULT PILGRIMAGE

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SEPTEMBER 26

Register by September 22
via QR code

9:15 am	Confession
9:45 am	Third hour
10:00 am	DIVINE LITURGY
12:00 pm	Lunch (Cedars Hall)
1:00 pm	TALK and activity by Fr. KEVIN MARKS Director of Vocations, Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh (Cedar Hall)
2:30 pm	Visit with the Antonine Sisters (Antonine Village)
3:30 pm	Moleben to the Theotokos (Tower Chapel)
4:00 pm	Departure



Registration Fee: \$20
Includes lunch and all activities.



The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry
The Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh
www.archpitt.org