

18 NOVEMBER 2018

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 11/18/18

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) ✕ Rick Ferko (req. by Mike & Jean Ferko)

Sunday: 8:30 AM (G) ✕ Bob Mehok (req. by Mehok Family)

11:00 AM (E) ✕ Petro Stolyarchuk (req. by Yaroslav & Lesya Bugera)

ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS 11/21/18

Tuesday: 6:30 PM (G) ✕ Kenneth and ✕ Helen Warner (req. by Debbie M. Warner)

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 11/25/18

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) For the Parish Family

Sunday: 8:30 AM (G) ✕ Andrew Simkovitch II (req. by Andrew & Christine Simkovitch)

11:00 AM (E) ✕ Andrew Antolik (req. by Mary Jane Carson)

OUR RETURN TO THE LORD FOR ALL HE HAS GIVEN US:

11/11/18

\$1813.00

E.C.F. (EASTERN CHRISTIAN FORMATION) –Next Class– December 9, 9:30 AM

DIVINE LITURGY TIME CHANGE: Sunday, December 9 – Erie 8:30 AM & Girard 11:00 AM

There will be a light brunch after the Liturgy before E.C.F. begins.

MERCY CENTER FOR WOMEN COLLECTION – Today Last Day to Donate

The Mercy Center for Women serves women and children who may be homeless or need emotional, financial, spiritual, or life-skills assistance. This collection will help the women to have Christmas gifts for their children as well as for the Center to be able to provide Christmas gifts for the women. We will be collecting \$5 or \$10 gift cards to Tinseltown movies, Target or Walmart as well as nicer bath and body items, writing journals, and postage stamps.

PARISH BAKING DAYS: Breads will be baked on the following Tuesdays beginning at 8 AM:

11/20, 11/27, 12/4, 12/11, 12/18

LAST CALL FOR NUT ROLLS

Due to the lack of a sufficient number of reliable bakers, it is with sadness and regret that we announce that nut rolls will no longer be made at our parish after this Christmas 2018. However, Paska (Sweet) breads will be baked on selected dates in the future for both Christmas and Easter. We sincerely thank all the volunteers of the past many years for their hard work and dedication in making nut rolls. Nut roll baking is a labor intensive process which is no longer feasible here at this time.

Gratitude

To remember what God has done and continues to do for us, to remember the road we have traveled opens our hearts to hope for the future. May we learn to remember everything that God has done in our lives. –Pope Francis

STRUGGLE WITH GOD

We read in the Old Testament that Jacob wrestled with God. We are to understand from this story that a great thing happened in the life of Jacob. Somewhere in his career he underwent a conversion, an experience with God. At the same point in his life this ambitious man was truly blessed and touched by God's grace. As a result of this very personal experience with God his life was changed. The new name, Israel, given to Jacob at this point signifies the new person he became.

Just as Jacob had a personal "struggle" with God, a personal meeting with Him so each and every one of us must meet Christ personally and decide for him at some point in life.

Fr. John Meyendorff, wrote,

"We are told in the Gospels that religious education implies a positive acceptance of Christ. This is the real conversion. If this marriage does not take place at some time during the life of a Christian, he is simply not a Christian. We have a very clear statement about this in the tradition of the Fathers. What makes a Christian a Christian is this personal commitment to Christ. One's formal belonging to the church through baptism and other sacramental participation remains a mere potential if the individual commitment does not take place. The sacramental gifts of Baptism and Eucharist and of all the sacraments are essential for an objective membership in the body of Christ; but again they are pure potential if they are not taken seriously and if a conversion of the heart and mind does not occur at some point in one's life."

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Our giving tree in the narthex will help 2 organizations this Christmas. The bell shaped ornaments are gifts for Pleasant Ridge Manor residents. The star shaped ornaments are items for Erie DAWN (Dwellings & Advocacy for Women in Need) families. We asking for new items only as they are gifts. Please return gifts by Sunday, Dec. 9. Include the ornament describing your items, but DO NOT wrap your gift as the agencies need to see them prior to distributing them.

Erie DAWN is a ministry that is sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, the Sisters of St. Joseph and the Benedictine Sisters to provide housing, training & support for women in transition. The program is typically 2 years for a woman to graduate to self-sufficiency. In the meantime, our parish is helping these women and their children to experience a blessed and joyous Christmas.

Pleasant Ridge Manor is a residential facility that provides rehabilitation and long-term skilled nursing care. The home, operated by Erie County, strives to offer the highest quality medical attention while meeting the needs of each resident with compassion, dignity & respect. *"But this I say: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Cor 9:6-7*

THANKSGIVING DAY PRAYER

O most generous God, we join all creation in raising to you our words of thanksgiving through Jesus Christ, your Son. For generation upon generation peoples of this land have sung of your bounty; we too offer your praise of the blessings we have received at your hands.

Continue to make our land fruitful and let our love for you be seen in our generous response to those in need. Praise and glory to you Lord God, now and ever, and forever. Amen.