

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 11/11/18

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) ✦ Evelyn L. Kearney (req. by Judy Pisano & Edna Burbules)

Sunday: 8:30 AM (G) Blessings for Larry & Paula Reinhart (req. by John & Mary Ann Matasowski)

11:00 AM (E) ✦ Stephan Juskewycz (req. by Yaroslav and Lesya Bugera)

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)

OUR RETURN TO THE LORD FOR ALL HE HAS GIVEN US:11/4/18 **\$2085.00****REMEMBER IN PRAYER THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND OF OUR PARISH**

Please remember in your prayers all of the sick and homebound of our parish. *Those in their own homes are as follows:* Maureen Huzinec, Marion Pennock, Fred Koeberle, Margaret Krumpe and Karen Muryn Brown. *Those in nursing homes are as follows:* Shirley Crisswell (Brevillier Village), Ed Bosak (Independence Court), Helen Bauman (Sarah Reed Senior Living Center), Helen Law (Parkside at Westminster) and Margaret Krivonak (St. Mary's West). If you know of anyone who should be on this list, please contact Fr. John.

E.C.F. (EASTERN CHRISTIAN FORMATION) –This Weekend– November 11, 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

The Mercy Center for Women serves women and children who may be homeless or need emotional, financial, spiritual, or life-skills assistance. They house 20-25 women and children at any given time. 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. Please drop your donations in the narthex by November 18. See Jen Troncone with any questions.

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.

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

11/13, 11/20, 11/27, 12/4, 12/11, 12/18

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*

NATIVITY FEAST: November 15 – December 24

On November 15 the traditional 40 day fast preceding Christmas begins in the Byzantine Rite. This fast is known as the Nativity Fast or Philips' Fast because it starts the day after the Feast of St. Philip (November 14). This period was set aside by the Byzantine church as a period preparing for the Feast of the Nativity of Jesus Christ. A highly developed liturgical structure never evolved for Philip's Fast, nor was the fast ever as strict. In fact, little mention is made at all about preparing for Christ's nativity until two Sundays before Christmas with the Sunday of the Forefathers. With the secular preparations for this feast beginning sooner and sooner every year, it is only fitting that we observe this traditional fast as a way to keep a proper perspective for Christmas. Christ will not be brought back into Christmas with clever slogans, but only with spiritual preparation through prayer and fasting.

*Prayer for Veterans**God of compassion, God of dignity and strength,**Watch over the veterans of the United States**In recognition of their loyal service to our nation.**Bless them with wholeness and love. Shelter them. Heal their wounds.**Comfort their hearts. Grant them peace.**God of justice and truth, rock of our lives, bless our veterans,**These men and women of courage and valor,**With a deep and abiding understanding of our profound gratitude.**Protect them and their families from loneliness and want.**Grant them lives of joy and bounty.**May their dedication and honor be remembered as a blessing from generation to generation.**Blessed are You, Protector and Redeemer,**Our Shield and our Stronghold. Amen*