

23 AUGUST 2026

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 8/23/26

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) ✠ Martin M. Pushchak (req. by Gomo Family)
Sunday: 8:30 AM (G) ✠ Dolores Hlifka Weiss (req. by Christine Skidmore)
11:00 AM (E) Blessings for Jonathan & Michelle Kowalski (req. by Don & Pauline Kowalski)

BEHEADING OF JOHN THE BAPTIST 8/29/26

Friday: 6:30 PM (E) For the Parish Family

14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 8/30/26

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) ✠ John and ✠ Pauline Habursky (req. by nephews)
Sunday: 8:30 PM (G) ✠ Brittany Osborne (req. by Paul & Doris Pangratz)
11:00 AM (E) Blessings for Vlad & Larisa Stepanyan (req. by Yaroslav & Lesya Bugera)

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

08/16/26 \$618.00

CHRISTIAN CUPBOARD AUGUST COLLECTION – Cake Mix

Proverbs 14:31 – “Anyone who oppresses the poor is insulting God who made them. To help the poor is to honor God.”

EASTERN CATHOLIC FORMATION

God with Us Eastern Catholic Formation is the official catechetical apostolate of the Eastern Catholic Bishops of the United States. The website address is: www.godwithusononline.org This website now makes available radio podcasts, online lectures, a monthly newsletter, books and other education materials which serve to promote a better understanding of Eastern Catholics and their expression of the Catholic faith in the United States. The resource material on this website is constantly updated or changed to better meet the needs of its users.

ERIE BYZANTINES AFTERNOON AT THE BALLPARK – Sunday, August 23

Today is the day!! If you signed up and ordered your tickets, join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship at the UPMC Park. Game time is 1:35 PM and gates open at 12:35 PM. Tickets include reserved seating in the Right Field Beer Garden and an All-You-Can-Eat buffet.

Uniontown Pilgrimage – Saturday & Sunday, September 5 & 6

The sisters of St. Basil the Great invite you to the 92nd Annual Pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help at Mount St. Macrina, Uniontown, PA. In 1934 Pope Pius XI gave an icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help to the Sisters of St. Basil and asked them to spread devotion to the Mother of God, under this title. More information is available at www.sistersofstbasil.org . The theme for this year is: *Theotokos: Beacon of Hope*

SAVE THE DATE - Erie & Girard Byzantine Fellowship Dinner – Sunday, Oct 18

Join your Byzantine family at 12:30 PM at the Sts. Peter & Paul Social Center. There will be no charge for this catered dinner. This is an effort to enhance and build up the community spirit of Byzantine Catholics in Erie County. More details to follow.

TO THE HEIGHTS OF HEAVEN

At the Dormition, Mary’s body is borne into heaven so that her physical presence before God might continue to be a cause of the enlivening of the Holy Spirit in all those on earth seeking salvation.

Mary’s being “proclaims the greatness of the Lord,” and her very body bears the godly greatness that she proclaims. The fact that God assumes Mary bodily into heaven stands as a living indication to us of the all-encompassing fullness of salvation. God’s grace transforms and perfects every aspect of our human life. God’s mercy is utterly comprehensive, reaching out to elevate and sanctify even our fallen bodies.

Mary proclaims in her Magnificat that God “has looked upon his handmaid’s lowliness.” What is apparent to “look upon” is the seeming lowliness of Mary’s body as well as her humble state in life. All ages continue to call Mary blessed in the same way that Mary does: by “looking upon” Mary’s lowly body that has been lifted up to the very heights of heaven to signify the unending, transcending force of divine grace.

Humble Prayer

In praying, do not babble like pagans, who think that they will be heard because of their many words. (Matthew 6:7)

Many words do not necessarily make good prayer. God hears your prayer not because of countless words but because of God’s immense love. This truth is suggested by Jesus just before he teaches his disciples the Lord’s Prayer.

Jesus is trying to open our hearts to recognize and value the spirit of prayer. He is indirectly saying, don’t try to get heaven’s attention by a lot of wordy prayers. As a child seeks the comfort of a loving parent, let your needs be known. Heaven leans down and listens to the prayer of a humble spirit. The One to whom you pray is holy; remember the hallowedness of God’s name. Pray that the reign of God may surround you during your sojourn on earth. Yearn to do God’s will. Lovingly anticipate your daily bread. Learn forgiveness. Learn to do good and not evil. Then your heart will be filled with the spirit of prayer.

-Loving Faith

STRENGTH IN WEAKNESS

We don’t have to face life’s difficulties by ourselves. When we are confused, the Holy Spirit leads us with divine guidance. When we are weak, the Holy Spirit upholds us with divine strength. These are all signs of God’s compassionate presence with us. We’re not in control of our lives as much as we might like to be. Things don’t always turn out as we hope. We fail in some areas where we try so hard to succeed. These are painful situations that don’t sit well with our egos. And yet, there is a great blessing here. If we were always successful by ourselves, we wouldn’t be open to the joy of our partnership with God. It’s our weakness that opens us up to God’s power and love.

JESUS PRAYER – Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner

SCRIPTURE PRAYER - *May the Word of God dwell in our hearts and guide the actions of our lives.*