

04 OCTOBER 2026

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

19TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10/4/26

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) ✠ Sandra Szoszorek (req. by Don & Pauline Kowalski)
Sunday: 8:30 AM (G) ✠ Mary Ann Hrinda (req. by Klier Family)
11:00 AM (E) ✠ George Smilo (req. by Laura Bole)

SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE 7TH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL 10/11/26

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) ✠ Terri Ferko (req. by Mike Ferko)
Sunday: 8:30 AM (G) ✠ Andy Simkovitch (req. by Andrew Simkovitch & Christine Skidmore)
11:00 AM (E) ✠ Ron Riel (req. by wife, Kathy)

OUR RETURN TO THE LORD FOR ALL HE HAS GIVEN US:
09/27/26 \$747.00

CHRISTIAN CUPBOARD-OCTOBER COLLECTION – Boxed Instant Mashed Potatoes
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.godwithusonline.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.

SAVE THE DATE - Erie & Girard Byzantine Fellowship Dinner – Sunday, Oct 18
Join your Byzantine family at 12:00 PM at the Sts. Peter & Paul Social Center. There is no charge for this catered dinner. This is an effort to enhance and build up the community spirit of Byzantine Catholics in Erie County. The sign-up window has closed. See you all on the 18th!

FROM THE DESERT FATHERS
What we achieve or accomplish is not who we are. Our value does not come from what we do. Let God reveal to you, moment by moment and layer by layer, how precious you are to him, just as you are. We do not have to perform; we do not have to excel; we do not have to earn his love.
Receive the security of his love. Rest in him and know that you do not have to prove your worth to God. You are of inestimable value, a treasure in his sight.

FINDING SERENITY

In chapter 8 of Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus falls asleep in a boat He was in with the apostles. A storm blows up and the apostles wake Jesus up and ask Him for help. Jesus calms the storm.
Often after the storms of our lives have passed, we can look back calmly on them and see God at work during those times. But how many of us can truly say that when we were in the midst of the storm (whatever that incident), we were able to place our fears and troubles in God’s hands and have complete serenity that all would be well because God would take care of us? Yet this is the secret to true serenity – the kind Jesus had in that boat, - and that His disciples lacked until after He had quieted the wind and the waves.
To reach this state of serenity requires us to have “mid-storm” faith – faith that Jesus is with us, even if He appears to be sleeping (i.e., not answering our prayer as we have asked). All we need to remember is that He is in the midst of that storm with us, and call upon Him, as did His disciples in the storm on the Sea of Galilee. Then, knowing that He is with us, we shall emerge victorious from whatever storms batter down on our lives.

Worry Less, Trust More
Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself. (Matthew 6:34)

Life is full of things to worry about: relationships, job security, finances, health, world peace, the health of the planet. We want to protest, “But, Jesus, we must worry about tomorrow. We must plan, save, and prepare for the days and years ahead!”
I doubt we will ever eradicate all worry, and I doubt Jesus is dismissing all prudent planning for the future. But we can prevent it from being the driving force of our lives, and his words challenge us to loosen the grip we have as we strive (in vain) to be “in complete control.” Prepare, yes, but be open to surprise. Plan, yes, but be flexible. Save, yes, but always be generous to those in need, trusting that God will somehow bless our giving.
Bottom line: God loves us more than we can imagine and will ultimately provide all we really need in life.
-Living Faith

MADE IN HIS IMAGE

When God made us, he made us in his image and declared that we are good. Our behaviors and tendency toward sin may bring us down and cause us pain, but it was never God’s intention for us to suffer or be separated from Him. Our first parents, Adam and Eve, changed that, but their sin was not the end of the story. God went to plan B.... the plan of redemption through Jesus Christ. In him, we are baptized into the way of grace and transformation in the Spirit of God.
Day by day, God sets us free from our sins and restores our relationship with him. He is the almighty Change Agent, the Makeover Specialist for our souls. He will never give up on us, and neither should we.

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

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