



ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, May 17 *Postfeast of the Ascension/Apostle Andronicus of the Seventy*

Tuesday, May 18 *Postfeast of the Ascension/Martyr Theodotus of Ancyra*

9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy
With prayers offered for +Paul Rabick, given by Bob & Clarita Weismann

Wednesday, May 19 *Postfeast of the Ascension/Hieromartyr Patrick of Prussa*

9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy
With prayers offered for +Stefan, +Maria, +Stefan & +Jozef Lorinc, given by Michael Lorinc

6:30 P.M. Chant Rehearsal

Thursday, May 20 *Postfeast of the Ascension/Martyr Thalelaeus of Aegae*

Friday, May 21 *Apodosis of the Ascension of Our Lord*

7:00 P.M. St. Anthony's Chapel

Saturday, May 22 **Fifth All Souls Saturday**

9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy, Sorokousty-Hramoty

Sunday, May 23 **Pentecost Sunday-Descent of the Holy Spirit**

9:40 A.M. Third Hour

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy & Festal Anointing-Mirovanya

The Epistle Reading will be Acts 2:1-11 and the Gospel will be Jn 7:7:37-52 & 8:12. Supplications will be offered for +Helen Beckett, given by Mildred Terek & Family. Supplications will be offered for +Petro Dobrostan, given by Michelle Trush & Family. At the end of the Divine Liturgy we will have the Kneeling Prayers, which mark the beginning of the practice of kneeling in our Holy Church.

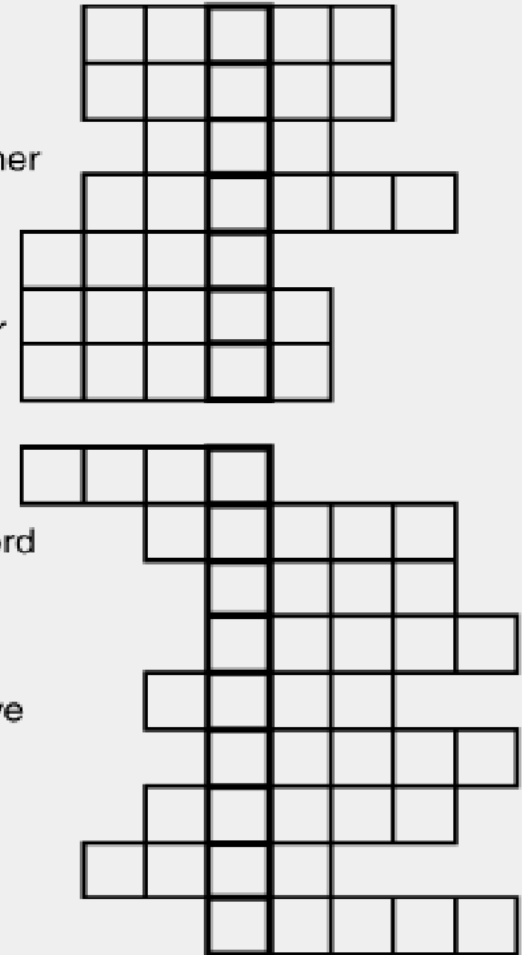
3:00 P.M. Celebration of the Year for Priests

What did Jesus ask God to do?

Write a word to fit each definition.
The letters in the darker boxes will spell the answer.



1. Not sad
2. Our planet
3. Our heavenly Father
4. A parent
5. Strong affection
6. Freedom from war
7. Honesty
8. A group of letters
9. Book of God's Word
10. Free from danger
11. Opposite of goes
12. Opposite of receive
13. Great strength
14. Great honor
15. Carry out orders
16. Twinkle at night





How Frequently Should We Go to Confession?

Enter into the Church and wash away your sin, for there is a hospital for sinners and not a court of law.

-St. John Chrysostom

As we celebrate the First Reconciliation-Confession of our parish children maybe we should take time to focus on this important question. The answer to this question is interrelated with the similar question---

how frequently should we receive Holy Communion? The goal and purpose of the Christian life is to be united with the Lord, which can occur only as we become increasingly like Him, little by little. Therefore, since being united with Him in Holy Communion and overcoming our sins by frequent Holy Confession are very effective means (within a life daily prayer) of moving towards this goal of the spiritual life, ideally we should receive Holy Communion at every Divine Liturgy and go to Confession frequently. Let me ask you this question: How often do you see your doctor? Once a year... More often than that... If you are suffering from a physical illness you visit your doctor on more regular bases. Therefore in order to heal our souls and bodies we are to go to Confession on more regular bases. As a child I remember the practice of so-called “First Fridays”, which encouraged the faithful to go to Confession on monthly bases. What we witness now days is the tendency to receive Holy Communion more frequently, but often without the adequate preparation that includes frequent Holy Confession. It is fairly common today that if a person receives Holy Communion every week, it is considered acceptable that they go to Confession just during the two penitential seasons (Philip’s Fast-Advent and Great Fast-Lent).

We must remember that our sins make us sick in our souls (and sometimes bodies). Therefore, we need to visit our spiritual physician (our Father Confessor) and receive the “Medicine of Immortality” as frequently as possible, if we are to have any hope of overcoming our sins and receiving healing of our sin-sick souls and bodies. Let us strive to do the most possible to be united more fully with the Lord, rather than to settle for the least we can get by with. It is virtually impossible to love the Lord too much, or desire to be united with Him too much. Similarly, it is virtually impossible to receive Christ’s Body and Blood too often, or to go to Confession too often, as long as we participate in these Holy Mysteries with sincere prayer and preparation.

To all the believers He grants remission of sins until the day of resurrection, if they repent with all their hearts.

-Shepherd of Hermas

Dear Friends in Christ:

Слава Ісусу Христу! Glory to Jesus Christ!

We continue to celebrate the Ascension of Our Lord and on this Sunday we lift up our hearts in prayer for seven wonderful children who are celebrating their First Reconciliation today. They are Mara Elizabeth Darney, Griffin James Mikovitz, Faith Lynn Kelly, Joseph Bernard London, Maria Bernadette London, Riley Joseph Gaus and Alexei Nikolas Heshler. These children have reached what is called “the age of discretion,” that is, they know the difference between right and wrong, and are able to take responsibility for their actions. During this academic year they have undergone special instructions and preparations to take on that responsibility for their actions and their relationship with Christ through the Mystery of Confession.

We thank the parents of our children and our Religious Education Instructors ((Mrs. Rose Ann Kulczycki, Ms. Olga Perkun and Mrs. Kerri Poloka) for teaching and preparing all our children for this special day in their lives. As a parish family let us rejoice as we celebrate the First Reconciliation of our children. Let us offer a prayer on this Sunday for all of our children that participate actively in the life of St. George’s.



Announcements

Today: Sunday of the Holy Fathers of Nicea I

The Sunday after the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ, is dedicated to the memory of the 318 holy and God-bearing Fathers of the First Ecumenical Synod. This took place in Nicea in the days of the Holy Emperor Constantine the Great, in 325 AD. It was during this Church Council that a written summary of our Holy Faith, which is known to us today as the “Creed” was proclaimed. On this Sunday let us reaffirm our faith that Christ is God and through His Body, the Church, He opens up to us the path to God, the path to holiness, the path to perfection.

Liturgical Custom

Please remember that during this Paschal-Easter Season, and continuing until Pentecost Sunday (even throughout the week), we do not kneel during the Divine Liturgy. Kneeling is a sign of penance and contrition – but the joy of Pascha is so much greater in this season that we stand in celebration instead.

5th All Souls Saturday

On Saturday, May 22nd, we will have the final All Souls Saturday for this year. Divine Liturgy with the commemoration of all our departed loved ones will take place at 9:00 a.m. Please come to prayerfully remember your departed family members and loved ones as we prepare to celebrate Pentecost, the Descent of the Holy Spirit.

Next Sunday: Year for Priests

His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI on June 19th, 2009, declared a “Year for Priests” which will conclude in Rome with an international gathering of priests with the Holy Father from June 9-11, 2010. To celebrate this “Year for Priests” the Western Pennsylvania Council of the League of Ukrainian Catholics will sponsor a special program which will take place at St. George’s next Sunday, May 23rd, starting at 3:00 p.m. with the celebration of the Akathist Hymn to the Holy Trinity. Following that a program dedicated to this “Year for Priests” will take place in our Church hall followed by fellowship with refreshments. Please plan to be part of this special Sunday afternoon.

Talent Show

As we slowly come to the end of the school year, please mark your calendars for the upcoming Talent Show of our St. George’s Church School children. This event will take place on Sunday, May 30th, following the Divine Liturgy in our Church hall. All parishioners and friends of St. George’s are invited to this fun event during which we can enjoy and see the wonderful talents of our parish children. Last year we had lots of fun with the performances, so please plan to be here and to support the wonderful children of our Church School.

Pyrohy

Sincere thanks to all our women and men who work so hard on this parish activity. Our total income from last week’s sale was \$790.00 Thank you!

Collection- May God bless you...

The total for Sunday, May 9, 2010 was \$1424.00.

Sincere thanks to all for your kindness and generosity to our Holy Church!

Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council in Nicea

The Church was strengthened into one faith through the preaching of the Apostles and the doctrines of the Fathers. The Church is robed in truth woven of the word of God from above. It teaches truth, and glorifies the great mystery of faith.

Today we celebrate the memory of the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council which is annually celebrated on the Sunday before Pentecost, following Ascension Thursday. As we witnessed on the Feast of the Ascension, when Christ ascended, He reiterated His promise of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles. The Holy Spirit guided the Church, and this guidance is magnificently made manifest in the history of the Ecumenical Councils, when dogmas were confirmed and heresies were corrected. It was the Holy Spirit who guided the Holy Fathers in the councils and confirmed their pronouncements.

There have been seven Ecumenical Councils, which were convened when there was some heresy that endangered the purity of the true faith. The First Ecumenical council that we celebrate today was held in 325 AD in a small town in Asia Minor called Nicea. According to the historical documents, 318 bishops participated in the council, who are called “holy fathers of Nicea” or just ‘holy 318’. The number 318 has a biblical significance as the bishops are seen like 318 servants of Abraham (Gen 14:14). This First Ecumenical Council produced four important documents: 1. Confession of Faith (Symbol), which Arius and two of his supporters declined to undersign and were thereby excommunicated and exiled to Illiricum. 2. The council decided upon the date of Pascha-Easter and controversies on this issue were settled. 3. Twenty Canons to the question of ecclesiastical discipline. 4. A Synodal letter, which was sent to all sister Churches to explain the proceedings of the council and thereby a call to obey the decisions of the council.

Recognizing the divine Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council as heralds of the Faith after the Holy Apostles, the Church of Christ has appointed this present Sunday for their annual commemoration, in thanksgiving and unto the glory of God, unto their praise and honor, and unto the strengthening of the true Faith.



