

# **ST.GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES**

St. Eudocimus, venerable

Readings: 1 Cor. 4:9-16; Mt. 17:14-23

(McKees Rocks) 6:30 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy

**Sunday, Aug. 1** Tenth Sunday after Penetcost /Procession of the Life-giving Cross

Readings: 1 Cor. 4:9-16; Mt. 17:14-23

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for+ John Pyptyk, given by family

<u>Thursday, Aug.5</u> Pre feast of Transfiguration of Our Lord

Readings: 2 Pet. 1:10-19; Mt. 17:1-9

(St. George) 7:00 P.M. Vesperal Divine Liturgy/ Blessing of fruits

Supplications will be offered forall decesed Pyrohy Workers

St. Domitius, Venerable Martyr

Readings: Phil. 2:5-11; Lk. 10:38-42 & 11:27-28

(McKees Rocks) 6:30 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy / Blessing of fruits

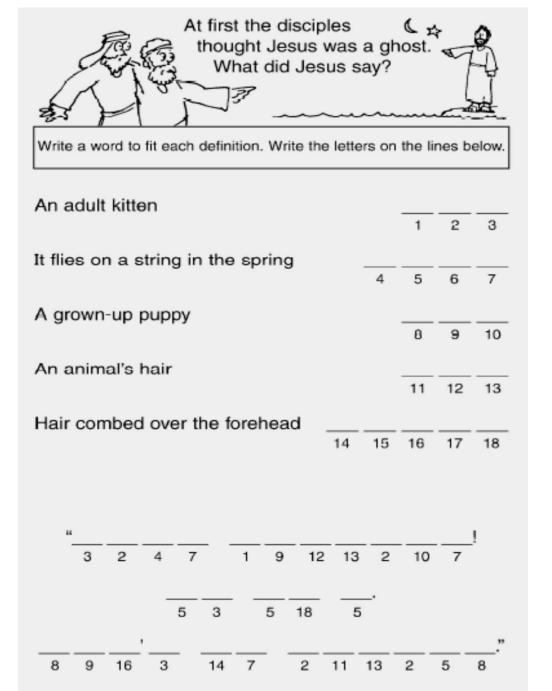
**Sunday, Aug.8** Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Readings: 2 Cor. 9:2-12; Mt. 18:23-35

9:10 A.M. Third Hour

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy/ Blessing of fruits

Supplications will be offered for+ deceiced members of +Perkun & +Nebesna families, given by Maria Perkun





# The Holy Martyr Archdeacon Lawrence

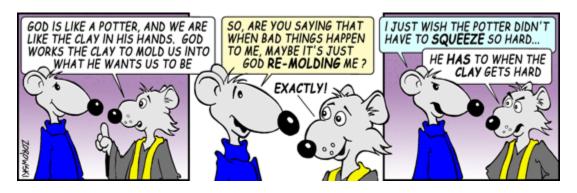
Every year on August 10<sup>th</sup> we honor the memory of a third-century martyr, the holy archdeacon Lawrence of Rome. The life of this faithful servant embodies the ideals of care for the poor and of cheerful faith in the face of suffering.

Serving the Church faithfully, Archdeacon

Lawrence had the duty of using Church funds to care for the poor and needy. During the persecution of the Church he was commanded by the Roman Emperor Valerian to turn over the treasures of the Church in which he served. At the appointed time, Archdeacon Lawrence appeared in court along with a crowd of the poor, diseased, and unwanted of Rome. The furious emperor demanded, "I told you to bring me your treasures! What is this rabble doing here?" Archdeacon Lawrence coolly replied, "Your honor, these are the treasures of the Christian Church."

For his audacity, Archdeacon Lawrence was sentenced to a particularly cruel death. He was trussed up like a chicken and roasted on a gridiron over a slow fire. But even in his torment he gave thanks to God, and mocked the emperor for his paganism and unbelief. After he had roasted for some time he remarked to his torturers, "Better turn him over now; he's done on this side." Dying, the holy martyr uttered: "I thank You, Lord Jesus Christ, that You have accounted me worthy to enter into Your gates" -- and with these words he gave up the spirit.







# August 1, 2021

Tenth Sunday after
Pentecost, Tone 1; The
Procession with the Holy
Relics of the Precious and
Life-Giving Cross of the
Lord; the Seven Holy
Martyred Maccabees, Their
Mother Solome and Their
Teacher Eleazar; Beginning
of the Dormition Fast
(Spasivka)

<u>Changeable Part:</u> Pages 12-13 In the Booklet of Changeable Parts (Small white book)

# **Announcements:**

### Feast of the Transfiguration (St. George)

On Friday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate the Holy Transfiguration of Our Lord. To celebrate this Major Feast Day, we will have Thursday evening, August 5<sup>th</sup>, a Vesperal Divine Liturgy with the Blessing of the Fruit at 7:00 p.m. The Blessing of the Fruit will take place again on Sunday, August 8th, as we will continue to celebrate the after-feast of the glorious Transfiguration of Our Lord. If you wish to have your fruit blessed (at any of the Divine Services this week), please place them in the center of the Church on the Tetrapod.

## **Children's Outing-Sign-up sheet!**

On Thursday, August 19<sup>th,</sup> we will have this year's children's outing to the Kennywood Amusement Park for both parishes, St. George and St. John. We will meet at the park at 10:00 p.m. We have a sign-up sheet in the vestibule.

#### **Dormition Fast**

On Sunday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, we begin in our Holy Church the Dormition Fast-"Spasiwka". This Fast begins August 1<sup>st</sup> and ends on August 14<sup>th</sup>, and is a time of preparation for the Feast of the Dormition-Falling Asleep of the Mother of God. This great Feast of the Dormition is also called the Summer Pascha as it commemorates the death, burial, resurrection, and ascension of the Virgin Mary. During this upcoming Dormition Fast-Spasiwka, plan to also attend the special Divine Services, honoring the Most Holy Theotokos.

## Collection (St. George) - May God bless you...

The total for Sunday of July 18, 2021 was \$357.00 + Pyrohy: \$951.00

(Regular: \$355.00, Loose & candles: \$2.00, Pyrohy: \$951.00)

The total for Sunday of July 25, 2021 was \$2,110.38

(Regular: \$2022.38, Loose & candles: \$88.00)

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





## **Prayer of Protection from the Coronavirus**

O God Almighty, Lord of heaven and earth, and of all creation visible and invisible, in Your ineffable goodness, look down upon Your people gathered in Your Name. Be our helper and defender in this day of affliction. You know our weakness. You hear our cry in repentance and contrition of heart.

O Lord Who loves mankind deliver us from the impending threat of the coronavirus. Sent Your Angel to watch over us and protect us. Grant health and recovery to those suffering from this virus. Guide the hands of physicians, and preserve those who are healthy that we may continue to serve You in peace and glorify Your Most Honorable and Majestic Name, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

## Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Blessing of Fruit



In our Holy Church the offering of first fruits takes the form of a thanksgiving and blessing. The produce is then consumed by the faithful and their loved ones, or it can also be given to the poor and infirmed. The Liturgical concept behind the blessing is the faithful offering back to God a token of that which He in His loving-kindness has provided, God blessing these first fruits and returning them to the faithful for their benefit and blessing.

The blessing of first fruits traditionally begins on the Great Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord with the blessing of grapes. In localities where grapes are not grown, other early-ripening fruits such as apples, plums, pears, etc. may be offered. At the end of the Divine Liturgy the priest blesses the first fruits, asking "...that the Lord may bless them, that they may be to us unto rejoicing, and that He may accept a gift of these fruits unto the cleansing of our sins..." The blessing of grapes, as well as other fruits and vegetables on this day is the most beautiful and adequate sign of the final transfiguration of all things in Christ. It signifies the ultimate flowering and fruitfulness of all creation in God's Paradise where all will be transformed by the glory of the Lord.

It has also been a venerable tradition (especially amongst farmers) that as the harvest season progresses, the first fruits of each species be brought to the Church to be blessed, using a similar format, but a different prayer: "...that the Lord may receive our gift unto His eternal treasury and grant us an abundance of earthly goods..."

## **Blessing of Grapes - Representation of transformation**

Grapes are blessed because they show physical transformation and represent a religious transformation.

- The transformation of flowers into fruit
- The transformation of fruit into wine
- The mystical transformation of wine into the Blood of Holy God the Son within the Holy Trinity / Our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ in the Divine Liturgy.
- All fruits represent new life. Mature fruits are blessed in thanksgiving for a good harvest. New life and a good harvest are Holy God's gifts to us.