



## ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES

**Saturday, August 2**

**Our Venerable Fathers Isaac, Dalmatus and Faustus**

Readings: 1 Cor. 1:10-18; Mt. 14:14-22

**NO SERVICE**

**Sunday, August 3**

**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

Readings: 1 Cor. 1:10-18; Mt. 14:14-22

**9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy**

Supplications will be offered for+ **Robert Novak & Stella Novak,**  
**given by family.**

Supplications will be offered for+ **Orysia Barshowski, given by Magdalena Cheresnowsky.**

**Wednesday, August 6**

**The Holy Transfiguration of Our Lord (St. John, McKees Rocks)**

Readings: 1 Cor. 10:28-11:7; Mt. 16:24-28

**10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy (Blessing of the Fruits)**

God's blessing on all parishioners (Fr. Ihor)

**Saturday, August 9**

**Post-feast of the Transfiguration & Archdeacon Lawrence**

Readings: 1 Cor. 1:10-18; Mt. 14:14-22

**4:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)**

**Sunday, August 10**

**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

Readings: 1 Cor. 1:10-18; Mt. 14:14-22

**9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy/ Blessing of the Fruits**

Supplications will be offered for+ **Joseph Pyptyk, given by family.**

Supplications will be offered for+ **Volodymyr Tymiak, given by sister Natalia.**

**Eternal Light Candle Offering for August 3, 2025**

In loving memory of +deceased from the Perkun and Nebesna families,

Requested by the Perkun Family

Jesus came to the disciples when they  
needed Him. He will come to you when  
you need Him, too.

Finish this poem by filling in the blanks with words from the  
list. You will use each word only once.

you	hand	fear	ahead	believe
come	heart	boat	still	inside

"Take heart, have no \_\_\_\_\_,"  
the Lord Jesus said  
To his friends in the \_\_\_\_\_  
in the waves up \_\_\_\_\_.

"I am coming to help you;  
I give you my \_\_\_\_\_.  
Have faith and \_\_\_\_\_,  
and you'll soon be to land.

"The waves will be \_\_\_\_\_;  
the winds will subside.  
My caring and love  
you can feel deep \_\_\_\_\_.

"I'll always be with \_\_\_\_\_,  
and when stormy times start,  
Invite me to \_\_\_\_\_.  
and to stay in your \_\_\_\_\_."



## ***The Procession of the Life-Creating***

### ***Cross of the Lord***

In the ancient world the month of August was a dangerous month! In times of old Constantinople (now Istanbul) and the whole Byzantine world the summer was far more dangerous than the winter. Homes were small and cramped. The days and even the nights were often hot and stifling. Food spoiled quickly. People became ill. The best practice and medicine of the day were not enough to prevent people from becoming sick, let alone heal them. Something more was needed: prayer, fasting, almsgiving and the healing power of the Wood of the Cross.

In the Greek Horologion of 1897 the derivation of this Feast is explained: “Because of the illnesses that occur in August, it was customary, in former times, to carry the Venerable Wood of the Cross through the streets and squares of Constantinople for the sanctification of the city, and for relief from sickness. On the eve (July 31<sup>st</sup>), it was taken out

of the imperial treasury, and laid upon the Holy Altar of the Great Church of Hagia Sophia (the Wisdom of God). From this Feast until the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos (August 15<sup>th</sup>), they carried the Cross throughout the city in procession, offering it to the people to venerate.”

In Eastern Europe this Feast is combined also with the remembrance of the Baptism of Rus'-Ukraine, on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 988. Knowledge of the day of the actual Baptism of Rus'-Ukraine was preserved in the Chronicles of the XVI century: “The Baptism of the Great Prince Vladimir-Volodymyr of Kyiv was on August 1<sup>st</sup>”. In the present practice, the Lesser Sanctification of Water takes place on this day. Because of the Blessing of Water, this first Feast of the Savior in August is sometimes called “Spasiwka - Savior of the Water” There may also be a Blessing of New Honey today, which is why the Feast is also called “Savior of the Honey.”

***Today the Cross of the Lord is carried forth, and the faithful welcome it with love. They receive healing of soul and body, and of every weakness. Come! Let us venerate the Cross with fear and joy!***



**August 3, 2025**

***Eighth Sunday after Pentecost***

***Our Venerable Fathers Isaac, Dalmatus and Faustus***

**Changeable Part:** See the special insert available in the church vestibule.

## **Announcements:**

### **Feast of the Transfiguration**

On Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ. On this day Divine Liturgy with the Blessing of the Fruit will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. at St. George Parish. The Blessing of the Fruit will take place again on Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, as we will continue to celebrate the glorious Transfiguration of Our Lord. If you wish to have your fruit blessed, please place it in the center of the Church on the Tetrapod (Sacramental Table). On that Sunday we will also have Festal Anointing-Mirovanya.

### **RULES FOR AUGUST 1 TO AUGUST 14 THE DORMITION FAST - SPASEEVKA**

The Dormition Fast, or Spaseevka in Ukrainian, begins on the evening of July 31, 2014, after Vespers and will last until August 14, inclusive. **THE TYPICON PRESCRIBES PRAYER, FASTING AND ALMSGIVING (WORKS OF MERCY).** IN THE EPARCHY OF ST. JOSAPHAT, ALONE, WE ARE CURRENTLY OBLIGATED TO DO ANY KIND OF ACTS OF PENANCE (ABSTAINING FROM MEAT IS ONE OF THE POSSIBLE CHOICES) ON FRIDAYS AND ENCOURAGED TO DO ACTS OF PENANCE ON WEDNESDAYS AND ALL OTHER WEEKDAYS; ALL OTHER FASTING MAY BE CHOSEN ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS.

**Flowers for Our Lady**

As we prepare for the Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of the God, we ask for donations towards the flowers around the Tomb of our Lady. If you would like to offer donations for the flowers in honor/memory of a loved one, please use the special blue envelope that is available amongst your personal offering envelopes or the envelopes that are available in the Church vestibule. Thank you for your generosity!

**Collection- May God bless you...**

The total for Sunday of July 27, 2025 was **\$3,523.0 +270.00**  
(Collection: \$3500.00, Loose & candles: \$23.00, Pyrohy: 270.00)

*Sincere thanks to all of you for your kindness and generosity!*



**August Birthdays**

Olga Perkun	8/1	Madison Barr	8/15
Bill Marshall	8/3	Mackenzie Barr	8/15
Maya Marshall	8/4	Luba Burgess	8/22
Ann Kaltreider	8/7	Debbie Label	8/24
Roger Adamiak	8/11		



**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.