

## THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



*Icon of the Wicked Tenant Farmers (Matthew 21:33-42)*

<b>August 30, 2020: Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost</b>		
Epistle: 1 Cor. 16: 13-24		Gospel: Mt. 21: 33-42
<b>Mon., Aug. 31</b>	9:00	+ Patrick Marcinko, Jr. (Family)
<b>Tues., Sept. 1</b>	9:00	+ Eugene & Gloria Hughes (Marisa Fabri)
<b>Wed., Sept. 2</b>	9:00	+ Matthew Beckage (Leo Danylak)
<b>Thurs. Sept. 3</b>	9:00	+ Ona Yankow (Tony & Diane Sosnowski)
<b>Fri., Sept. 4</b>	9:00	+ John & Nellie Priblo; +Spurge Chudillo (Dolly Daniels)
<b>Sat., Sept. 5</b>	<b>No Morning Divine Liturgy</b>	
	2:00	Confessions.
	4:00	For Our Parishioners
<b>Sun., Sept. 6</b>	10:00	+ Howard & Olga Smith (Son, Howard)

## BEGINNING OF THE CHURCH YEAR: INDICT

*Maker of all creation, Who sets the times and seasons in Your power, bless the crowning of each year with Your goodness. O Lord, keep in peace Your rulers and Your city. By the prayers of the Mother of God, save us. - Tropar*

According to the Gregorian calendar, the church/liturgical year begins on September 1<sup>st</sup>. According to the Julian calendar the church/liturgical year begins September 14<sup>th</sup>. In this article, we shall refer to the Feast Days according to the Gregorian calendar. The Feast Days according to the Ju-

lian calendar are celebrated thirteen days later, except for Easter which is based upon the spring equinox.

The establishment of the new church year has a long history dating back to ancient Roman times. We refer to the beginning as "Indict." The term comes from the Latin, meaning edict, order or proclamation. Emperor Diocletian (284-305 AD) issued an "indict" for the purpose of collecting taxes, thereby making necessary an assessment of each land estate.

In 312 Emperor Constantine after

his conquest of Verona issued a decree on taxation which went into effect on September 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Church Fathers at the First Council of Nicaea (325 AD), out of gratitude for the legalization and ability to openly profess the Christian faith, adopted this date as the beginning of the new church/liturgical year. The Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Churches today continue this practice of starting the new church year. In the West, however, the new liturgical year begins with the First Sunday of Advent.

The Church or liturgical year for the Eastern Churches is from September 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>. The Holy Days or Feast Days throughout the liturgical year are dedicated to a particular event in the earthly life of Christ and that of the Holy Theotokos (Mother of God) as well as that of numerous saints. The role of Mary the Mother of God in salvation history is important and essential to the salvation of souls, of each and every one of us, faithful Christians.

Already in the early Church, Sunday was a day of prayer and worship in accord with the commandment to "Keep holy the Lord's Day." Sunday is

to be a joyous celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord God and Savior, Jesus Christ. Each Sunday is viewed as a "little Easter." Besides Easter, already in the early Church, the faithful celebrated each year such Feasts as Christmas and the Theophany. These two Feast Days are always celebrated on the same day each year: Christmas (December 25<sup>th</sup>) and Theophany (January 6<sup>th</sup>). Some are always celebrated on a particular day of the week, but actual date may differ from year to year: Easter Sunday, Ascension Thursday, Pentecost Sunday. These Feasts are not only a remembrance of an historical event, but also to become active participants in these past events. Our Lord remains the same throughout the ages: He is the same: yesterday, today and forever. (Heb. 13:8)

The actual date of Easter varies from year to year. It is based upon the spring equinox. Easter, the Feast of Feasts, is celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the spring equinox. Easter may be celebrated as early as March 22<sup>nd</sup> and as late as April 25<sup>th</sup>.

The Church sets aside four periods of extra prayer and fasting:

(1) The Christmas Fast (Pylypiv-

ka) from November 15<sup>th</sup> to December 24<sup>th</sup>.

(2) The Great Fast (Lent) from the Monday after Cheesefare Sunday up to celebration of the Resurrection.

(3) Petrivka (Peter's Fast) from the Sunday of All Saints to the Feast Day of SS. Peter & Paul

(4) Spasivka (Dormition Fast) from August 1<sup>st</sup> to August 14<sup>th</sup>.

The spiritual reason for these times of extra prayer and fasting is to prepare ourselves for the celebration of a great and joyous feast.

Besides these periods of fasting, our Church has designated certain days or times when the faithful would be able to eat meat even on a Friday. These days of dispensation from the

regulations of abstinence are placed the week after the celebration of such great feasts as Christmas, Theophany and the Resurrection (Easter). This is in accord with the words of Our Lord Himself: "How can the wedding guests fast as long as the groom is with them?" (Matthew 9:14-15)

Indeed, the Liturgical Year is a vibrant celebration of faith that is expressed in a lively and active faith community, whose center is Jesus. It unites true-believers who render praise, glory and honor to the Most Blessed Trinity. As we await our eternal destination, let us daily and incessantly, with one voice and heart, give glory, thanks and praise to the Creator, God Almighty.

*by Fr. D. George Worschak*

## **DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS**

The 2021 Divine Liturgy Intention Book has arrived. Divine Liturgy Intentions may be offered for those who are deceased, ill or for family, friends and special occasions for loved ones. I noticed that many people in our parish often "order" the Divine Liturgy for their loved ones on Saturday or Sunday but NEVER come to church for

the requested Liturgy, while there are people who are asking for Liturgies on a weekend and want to come but those days are already taken by someone who called at the beginning of the year and "preordered" Divine Liturgies for the entire year.

In order to be fair to everyone, no more than 4 Intentions from a fam-

ily will be accepted for the weekend Divine Liturgies per year. You are al-

ways welcome to offer intentions for a weekday Divine Liturgy.

## CONTINUING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Eastern Catholic Education Directors (ECED) will again present free online course offerings as part of the God With Us online faith formation program during the fall and spring 2020-2021.

To register visit EasternCatholic.org or GodWithUsOnline.org. At these

websites you can access recordings of previous God With Us online webinars as well as find further study resources, the Byzantine Gospel reflections, make donations and sign up for upcoming events and webinars. It will be a valuable religious education resource.

## PRE-RUMMAGE SALE, FURNITURE SALE

### INCOME

Furniture Sales & Donations .....	7,103.90
Pizza .....	69.50
50/50 Raffle .....	481.00
<b>Total: .....</b>	<b>7,654.40</b>

### EXPENSES

General .....	192.88
50/50 Raffle Winner .....	240.50
<b>Total: .....</b>	<b>433.38</b>

**Net Profit:.....\$7,221.02**

## THE LAW OF THE GARBAGE TRUCK

One day I hopped in a taxi and we took off for the airport. We were driving in the right lane when suddenly a black car jumped out of a parking space right in front of us. My taxi driver slammed

on his brakes, skidded, and missed the other car by just inches!

The driver of the other car whipped his head around and started yelling at us! My taxi driver just smiled and

waved at the guy. And I mean, really friendly. So I asked, “Why did you just do that? This guy almost ruined your car and sent us to the hospital!” This is when my taxi driver taught me what I now call, “The Law of the Garbage Truck.”

He explained that many people are like garbage trucks. They run around full of garbage (frustration, anger, and disappointment, etc.). As their garbage piles up, they need a place to dump it and sometimes they’ll dump it on you.

Don’t take it personally. Just smile, wave, wish them well, and move on. Don’t take their garbage and spread it to other people at work, at home, or on the streets.

The bottom line is that successful people do not let garbage trucks take over their day. Life’s too short to wake up in the morning with regrets, so... love the people who treat you right & pray for the ones who don’t. Life is ten percent what you make it and ninety percent how you take it!

## **SATURDAY 4 PM DIVINE LITURGY**

Due to multiple requests, the Saturday Divine Liturgy will be moving back to 4 pm as of next Saturday, September

5<sup>th</sup>. Confessions will be heard at 2 pm. The Sunday Divine Liturgy will remain at 10 am until further notice.

## **MUM SALE**

This is a new fundraising idea that will take very little effort on our part. The mums are from Kettell’s Greenhouses, which is known for the quality of its products. Information fliers and order forms have been mailed to each of our parishioners. Please share them with your neighbors and friends. Orders and payment must be received

by September 10<sup>th</sup>. Pick-up will be coordinated with our next Food Truck Festival on September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. The mums are \$8 for a 9-inch pot or \$20 for a 12-inch pot. Color choices are red, yellow, orange, or purple. Phone orders: Jule (570) 357-6171; or, Michaelene (570) 209-2026.

## **FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL**

Our second Food Truck Festival will be held Saturday, September 19th and

Sunday, September 20th. The first one was successful; but, this one has the appearance of being even better. We have secured several excellent vendors: R and R Potato Pancakes prepare their delicacies from an old family recipe. Grumpy Crab will be back, as will Russen's, Roseanna's Pizza, Krista's Creations and Lou's Funnel Cakes. 2WayzOne Passion

will offer Mexican/American food. We will feature a Kids' Korner, selling toys and treats. On Sunday, Texas BBQ, Murtz Desserts, and Chilly Willy will join the vendors. There will be music and free balloons for kids. Please join us; tell your friends and neighbors; and, help support our Parish.

### **RAFFLE TICKETS**

A raffle will be held in conjunction with the Food Truck Festival. First prize is half of the ticket sales. Second prize is a \$300 Waterford crystal bowl. Third Prize is a gift basket. Tickets have

been mailed for parishioners to either purchase or sell. Please call Jule (570) 357-6171 if you would like more tickets. We appreciate everyone's efforts to support the parish.

### **PASTA DINNER & \$5,000 RAFFLE**

St. John Vianney Parish, Montdale & Royal, is having a Drive Thru Pasta Dinner & \$5,000 raffle on Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup> noon to 3:00p.m. Dinner tickets are \$10 and raffle tickets are \$25 each or five for \$100. Pasta Dinner tickets must be purchased by

September 27<sup>th</sup> and can be purchased outside of the Church at Masses on September 19-20 & 26-27 or by contacting the Parish Office 570-254-9502, ext. 1 [ccrc402@comcast.net](mailto:ccrc402@comcast.net). Raffle tickets can be purchased at the drive thru.

### **COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM...**

The Collection Processing Team for the month of August 2020 is Team #4:

Joe Smagula & Ronald Barkofsky.

**Sunday Collection for Aug. 22 & 23, 2020: \$**

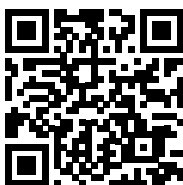
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Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

### *He Who is not With Me is Against Me*

When our Lord spoke in parables, He often used allegory familiar to His listeners. In today's Gospel reading, the vineyard represents Israel; the vineyard owner represents God; and, the managers (the tenants) of the vineyard represent the political and religious leaders of the time. Just as the responsibility of the vineyard managers was to produce a profit for the vineyard owner, so was it the responsibility of the religious leaders in the time of Jesus to bring God's people to fruitfulness in knowing, loving and serving God. But, they failed in this, just as the vineyard managers in the parable failed to bring a profit to the vineyard owner.

In response to this, the vineyard owner sent his servants to the vineyard, just as God sent the prophets into the world. However, like the

prophets, the servants in the parable were rejected, mistreated, ignored, even killed. Finally, the vineyard owner sent his son to reason with the managers, but they killed him out of jealousy. Jesus, too, was rejected and ultimately crucified at the hands of devious and jealous men.

Are we, at times, like the managers of the vineyard who rejected the Son? How often do we knowingly distance ourselves from God and His commandments? There is a pride in the human heart that urges us to take control of our own lives even if it means disobedience to all that we know to be right and true. Our Lord tells us that "he who is not for Me is against Me." (Matthew 12:30) When we act in such a way we really are no different from the tenant farmers in the parable.