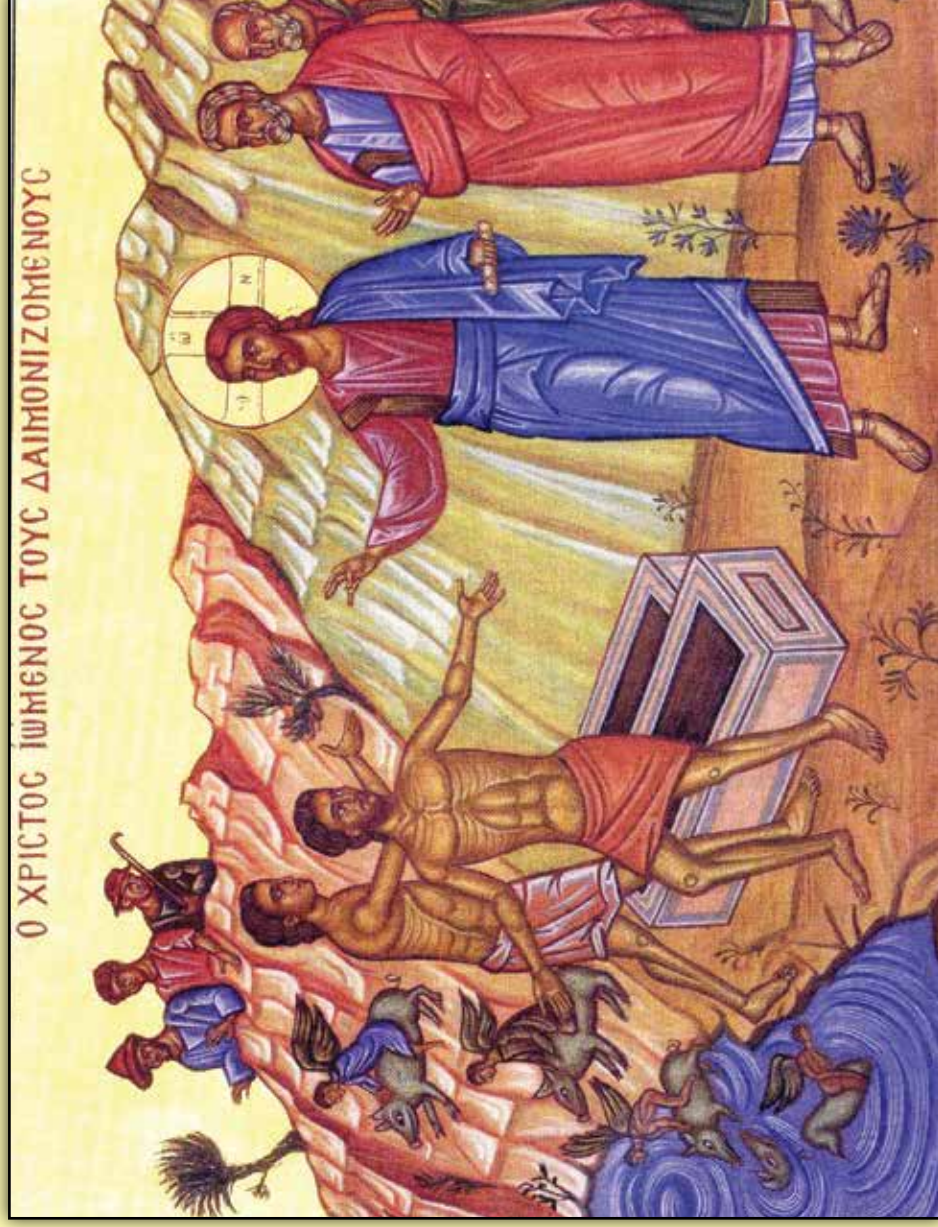


TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of Healing the Gadarene Demoniacs (Luke 8:26-39)

November 1, 2020: 22nd Sunday After Pentecost		
Epistle: Gal. 6: 11-18		Gospel: Lk. 8: 26-39
Mon., Nov. 2	No Divine Liturgy Today.	
Tues., Nov. 3	9:00	+ John Yeck, Jr. (Brother Bob & Wife Joan)
Wed., Nov. 4	9:00	+ Daniel & Olga E. Telep (Lauren Telep)
Thurs. Nov. 5	9:00	+ Martha Myshrall (Father Nestor)
Fri., Nov. 6	9:00	+ Michael J. Korzemba (Legate)
Sat., Nov. 7	No Morning Divine Liturgy	
	2:00	Confessions.
	4:00	+ Loretta Havrilchak (Family)
Sun., Nov. 8	10:00	For Our Parishioners

TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Around 2,400 years ago, an elderly and respected man stood trial for his life. When he was about to be condemned to death, he said something that has remained with us even today. The man was the Greek philosopher Socrates and in that most important moment he stated before his judges, "The unexamined life is not worth living." In other words, one who goes about life without considering what he does, why he does it, where his life is headed, and how he might improve himself is not really living.

In this we are reminded that there are two types of "life" that we can

speak about -- bodily life and spiritual life. It is very possible to be alive in the body and dead in the spirit. It is also possible to die in the body and be alive in the spirit.

In the Gospel text today we learned of Jesus' journeys "to the other side of the sea" where he meets one who is in every way like the "living" dead. There Jesus confronts "life" apart from God -- which is described in the most horrific terms, the "life" of the demons -- and drives it out of the man and into the sea.

While the story of the demoniac may seem to be an extreme example,

it helps us see what life apart from God looks like in its ultimate end.

Jesus, who is God, comes to us in our sin (the demoniac), under the dominion of the devil and “living in the tombs.” Notice that Jesus does not wait for us to come to him, but in the mystery of the Incarnation, he takes on our human nature, and he himself enters into our life as he entered the land of the Gerasenes --- and there he comes to heal us, and to “raise us up” that we may no longer be under the dominion of death but under the dominion of life.

Just like the demoniac. We who have received this gift of new life in Christ Jesus are called to live accordingly.

Does the demoniac go back to live in the tombs? No! His life has changed! He is no longer living in death but in the light of Christ.

The Gospel concludes by telling us that “the man from whom the demons

had gone begged that he might be with Jesus; but Jesus sent him away, saying “return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city everything that Jesus had done for him.

The story of this healing should remind us that our heart must be centered upon Christ. He has given us newness of life in this new life must be shared with others.

When is the last time that we “proclaimed throughout the whole city how much Jesus has done for us?”

When is the last time we intentionally brought Christ into a conversation in our homes and with our friends? When is the last time we invited someone to come to church with us?

We have received a new life in baptism -- but are we living it? Or are we still in the tombs? Do we preferred their friendship of the devil over the friendship of Christ?

ELECTION DAY

While walking down the street one day, a politician was tragically hit by a car, and died.

His soul arrived in heaven and was met by Saint Peter at the Pearly Gates. “Welcome to heaven,” said St.

Peter. “Before you settle in, it seems there is a problem. We weren’t expecting you, and we weren’t prepared – so we’re not sure what to do with you. “No problem, just let me in,” said the politician.

“Well, I’d like to, but I have orders from my higher ups. What we’ll do is have you spend one day in hell and one in heaven. Then you can choose for yourself where to spend eternity.” “Really? But I’ve made up my mind. I want to be in heaven,” said the politician. “I’m sorry, but we have our rules.” And with that, St. Peter escorted him to the elevator and he descended down, down, down to hell.

The doors opened and he found himself in the middle of a lush green golf course. In the distance was a clubhouse and standing in front of it were all his friends and other politicians who had worked with him. Everyone seemed very happy and in formal evening attire. They ran to greet him, shook his hand, and reminisced about the good times they had while getting rich at the expense of the people.

They played a friendly game of golf and then dined on lobster, caviar, and the finest champagne. Also present was the devil, who was really a very friendly guy, having a good time dancing and telling jokes. They were all having such a good time that before the politician realized it, it was time to go. Everyone gave him a hearty farewell and waved while the elevator rose out of sight. The elevator went up, up,

up and the door reopened in heaven, where St. Peter was waiting for him – “Now it’s time to visit heaven.”

So, 24 hours passed with the politician joining a group of contented souls, moving from cloud to cloud, playing harps and singing. They had a good time and before he realized it, the 24 hours had gone by and St. Peter returned. “Well, then, you’ve spent a day in hell and another in heaven. Now choose your eternity.”

The politician reflected for a minute, and then answered: “Well, I would never have said it before; I mean, heaven has been delightful, but from what I saw, I think I would be better off in hell.” So, St. Peter escorted him to the elevator and the politician went down, down, down to hell.

Then the doors of the elevator opened and he found himself in the middle of a barren land, covered with foul smelling waste and garbage. He saw all his friends again, but now they were dressed in rags, picking up the trash and putting it in black bags as more trash kept falling to the ground. The devil came over to him and put his arm around his shoulders.

“I don’t understand,” stammered the politician. “Yesterday I was here and there was a golf course and club-

house, and we ate lobster and caviar, drank champagne, and danced and had a great time. Now there's just a wasteland full of smelly garbage, and my friends look miserable. What happened?" The devil smiled at him and

said, "Yesterday we were campaigning; today you voted!"

**Tuesday is election day, so
CHOOSE WISELY!**

AN ELECTION PRAYER TO MARY

O Most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Mercy, at this most critical time, we entrust the United States of America to your loving care.

Most Holy Mother, we beg you to reclaim this land for the glory of your Son. Overwhelmed with the burden of the sins of our nation, we cry to you from the depths of our hearts and seek refuge in your motherly protection.

Look down with mercy upon us and touch the hearts of our people. Open our minds to the great worth of human life and to the responsibilities that accompany human freedom.

Free us from the falsehoods that lead to the evil of abortion and threaten the sanctity of family life. Grant our country the wisdom to proclaim that God's law is the foundation on which this nation was founded, and that He alone is the True Source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

O Merciful Mother, give us the courage to reject the culture of death and the strength to build a new Culture of Life.

HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER

We will be hosting three fundraisers this holiday season: a Thanksgiving and a Christmas bake sale; and, a poinsettia sale. The bake sales will feature homestyle baked goods from Carm's located at Jerry's For All Seasons. They will include a large

variety of cake rolls, kolachi, and pies. The poinsettias are florist quality plants in either red, pink, or white. For your convenience, we have arranged that all items to be delivered to our Parish Hall on 207 River Street. Order forms have been mailed to all parishioners. Please

help by sharing the information with friends, neighbors and coworkers. If you have any questions, please call: Jule 570-357-6171, Michaelene 570-

209-2026, or Mary Ann 570-489-4648. Thank you for your continuing support of our fundraising projects.

ANNUAL TURKEY-FEST DINNER

Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church will host their annual Turkey Fest Dinner as a take-out only drive thru event on Saturday, November 7th with pick-ups from 12:00 (noon) to 3pm in our parish parking lot. The event will feature our traditional turkey dinner. Dinners

will be \$12.00 for adults and \$8.00 for children. Drive-up customers will be welcomed, but reservations are strongly encouraged. Tell your friends and family. Non-perishable food items will be collected for donation to a local food pantry.”

VALLEY COMMUNITY LIBRARY’S WINTER PHOTOS

Support the library this winter by getting a professional picture taken of you, your child, family, or your pet! Appointments on November 14th, from 10:00 to 2:00 will be for people and families only, while photo appointments on November 15th from 10:00 to 12:00 will be for pets and

their owners only. We have a holiday background prepared and a digital copy of your picture will be emailed to you within one week. Call or stop by the library at 739 River St. Peckville, PA 18452 to sign up. Payment will not be taken in advance. Cash or check on the day of the event only.

87TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UKRAINIAN FAMINE

The Ukrainian American Community will commemorate the 87th Anniversary of the Holodomor Ukrainian Famine Saturday, November 21, 2020 at 2 p.m. with a Requiem Service in St. Patrick’s Cathedral, 51st Street and Fifth Avenue, New York

City. Join Bishop Paul Chomnycky and the faithful in remembering the millions of innocent victims of the Ukrainian genocide of 1932-1933. May their memory be eternal!

This Memorial Service will be live-streamed at the following link:

saintpatrickscathedral.org/live.

THIRD SESSION OF THE ARCHIEPARCHIAL SOBOR

Archbishop Borys has announced the third session of the Archieparchial Sobor, which will take place virtually (via ZOOM) on assigned dates. The assigned date for our Deanery is Saturday, December 5, 2020. Any interested in participating in this event is asked to contact Father Nestor.

“IF AND WHEN” RUMMAGE SALE INFORMATION.

The 10th annual fundraiser Rummage Sale at St. Cyril's for 2020/2021 is still on hold. The School gym has a lot of merchandise and we are starting preparation for the “If and when” rummage sale.

On Wednesday, November 4, and Thursday, November 5th, the school gym will be open at 10:00 a.m. for 2 to 3 hours. All parishioners are welcomed to help out after Halloween, and the election will be over by then. We are merchandising and pricing Christmas decorations and domestics. Wear a mask and keep social distancing. Donations will be accepted at this time and the pink flyer in the church lobby gives additional information.

We do have furniture, couches, dressers, an assortment of tables, lamps, baskets, chairs, a few Thanksgiving decorations, etc ... available for purchase, at this time. If you need any of these items, stop by this coming week (or call Lauren to set another time to come to the school gym) By volunteering a few hours a week, for the “if and when” the Rummage Sale can be held, we will be ready for opening day. Contact LaurenTelep at 570-383-0319 or cell 646-242-9443. Thank you for all your help.

COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM...

The Collection Processing Team Zelno, Dorothy Zinsky & Cheryl for the month of November 2020 is Matuszewski.
Team #3: Helen Pagnotti, Marlene

Sunday Collection for Oct. 24 & 25, 2020: \$

Thank you to everyone who continues to support our Parish financially in our weekly collections. If you are still staying at home due to the pandemic, and are able to send any amount, it would be a blessing.

Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

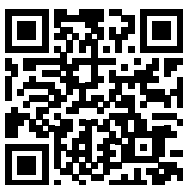
135 River St., Olyphant, PA 18447-1435

Telephone: 570-291-4451 Fax: 570-489-6918

Web Site: stcyrils.weconnect.com

E-Mail: sscyrilandmethodius@comcast.net

Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor



Physicians Who Work for Free

On November 1st, we celebrate the feast of two remarkable brothers who lived during the early years of the Christian Church. Cosmas and Damian were born of wealthy parents in Asia Minor who gave their sons the best education in the Roman Empire.

They were interested in medicine and became physicians at an early age. During this same time, the two brothers also became Christians. Their unique combination of medicine and prayer attracted the attention of many. Through their commitment to Christ they endeavored to become healers not only of the body, but of the soul as well. Consequently, their fame spread and they soon developed a reputation as being miracle-workers who could heal with an herb as well as with a prayer.

About this same time, the brothers made a

most unique pledge: they pledged not to take any money for their services. They healed thousands of people from diseases of body and soul and never accepted anything for their efforts. Their reputation spread even more rapidly as they became known as “unmercenarys” – someone who does not expect payment of any kind in return for services rendered.

In a sense, each of us can become unmercenarys in the same spirit as were Saints Cosmas and Damian. Each of us can freely give something of ourselves without expecting anything in return. Perhaps we can give our time to a person in need without expecting an equal favor in return. Perhaps we can freely give advice without being offended if it is not followed. Or, perhaps we can give the gift of forgiveness without receiving an apology in return.