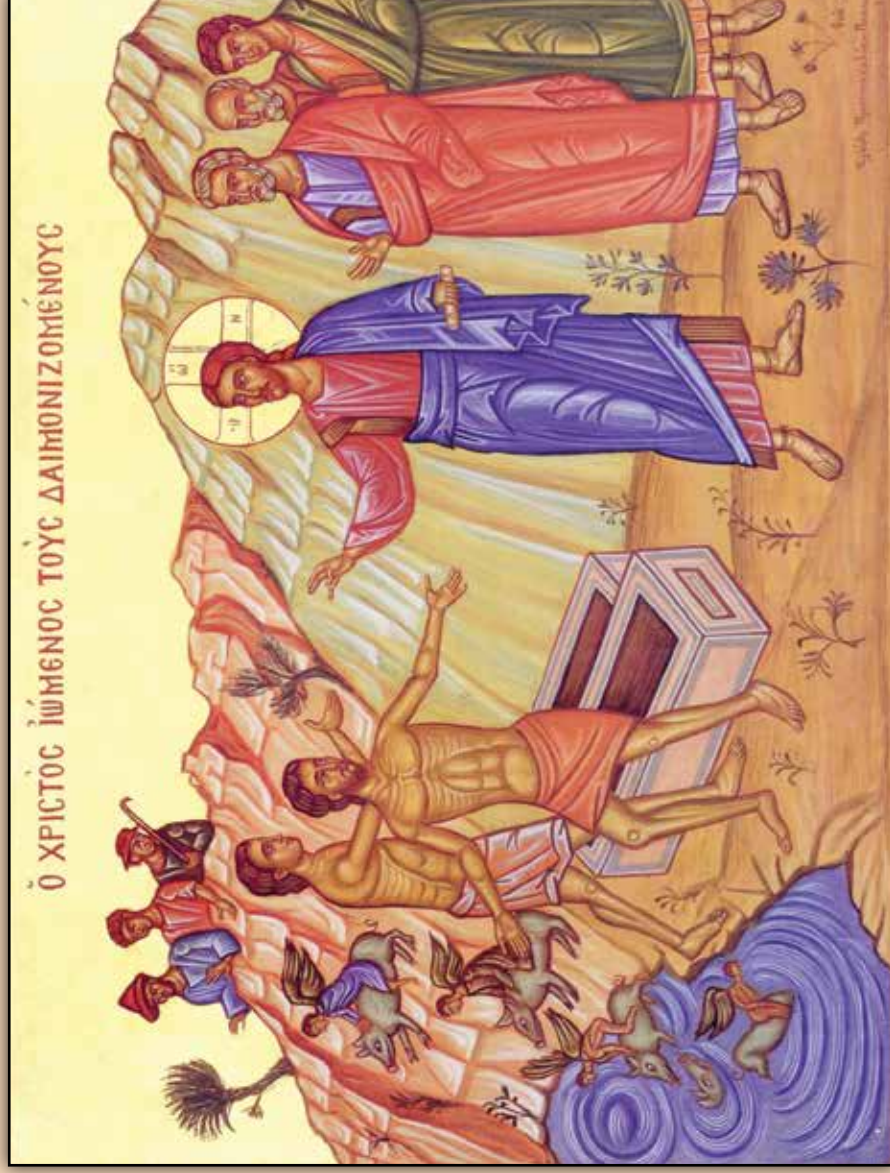


FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Healing Gadarene Demoniacs

June 27, 2021: Fifth Sunday After Pentecost		
Epistle: Rom. 10: 1-10		Gospel: Mt. 8:28 - 9:1
Mon., June 28	9:00	+ Margaret Bistran (Jule Harris)
Tues., June 29	Ss. Peter & Paul	
	9:00	+ Ona Yankow (Husband, Gerald)
Wed., June 30	9:00	+ Fr. John Wysochansky (Andrea Novak)
Thurs. July 1	9:00	+ Ron Thomas (John & Mary Ann Turko)
Fri., July 2	9:00	+ Evelyn & John Yeck, Jr. (Bob & Joan Yeck)
Sat., July 3	No Morning Divine Liturgy	
	2:00 pm Confessions	
	4:00 pm For Our Parishioners	
Sun., July 4	10:00	For Our Country

FEAST OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

Commemorated on June 29th

The Feast of Saints Peter and Paul came to be observed early in the history of the Church. Although they died at different times and places, their commemoration has universally been kept on the same day to highlight the central role they had in the foundation of the early Church. It is for the same reason that they are called the “Leaders of the Apostles” in the Liturgy.

St. Peter, whose original name was Simon, was a fisherman in Galilee when Jesus called him to be a

Disciple. “Come after me and I will make you fishers of men.” (Mt. 4: 19). After Jesus’ Ascension, Peter was the spokesman of the Apostles, and a witness of Christ’s divinity. He delivered the first sermon on Pentecost and received the first Gentiles into the church. From Jerusalem He went to preach the gospel in Asia at Antioch (Ga. 2:11), then to Cappadocia, Galatia, Pontus, and finally Rome. He was crucified, head downward, most probably in 67 A.D.

St. Paul, known as Saul before his

conversion, was born at Tarsus in the Roman province of Cilicia. As a youth, he went to Jerusalem to receive his education in Judaism from the celebrated rabbi, Gamaliel (Acts 22:3). At the time of Jesus' ministry he had already left Jerusalem. Saul did not see the Lord

during His earthly ministry. By the grace of God, Saul was miraculously converted on the way to Damascus around the year 34 A.D. After receiving baptism Paul left for a long retreat in Arabia to prepare himself for his future mission. He was most zealous to preach the gospel of Christ to the world. He established many churches and visited many other churches. To these he



wrote numerous letters which form a significant part of the New Testament canonical writings.

The Icon of Peter and Paul is simple and direct, striving only to represent the holiness and wisdom of the two Apostles whose lives were totally devoted to witnessing

the Good News of Jesus Christ and our salvation. They stand majestically, as pillars of the Church and teachers of the Lord Jesus. The liturgy hails the chief Apostles with beautifully composed hymns. Peter is called the “rock of faith” and Paul “pride of the universe.” Together they are celebrated as “luminaries of those in darkness, two rays of the sun and pillars of divine

doctrines, and friends of Christ.”

(adapted from God With Us Icon Series)

CHURCH TRADITIONS & ETIQUETTE

Modern culture is rather casual in its approach to worship and sacred space. In our Church we adhere to long-standing traditions that express the reverence which is due to God, to each other, and to ourselves. Respect for God and His house translates to respect for all of His creation. The following guidelines are customs and traditions of etiquette that we need to be aware of as Catholic faithful. Please read the following information prayerfully and with an understanding for the Church's obligation to shepherd with love and compassion for all the faithful.

Entering the Church. Arrive on Time - The time to arrive at church is before the service starts. If you arrive after the Divine Liturgy has begun, try to enter the church quietly and at the appropriate moment. We must not be walking in or around the church when the Gospel is being read, when a procession is taking place, or at any time that the priest is facing the congregation.

Fast before the Liturgy. It is a Church law that one fasts for at least 1 hour before receiving Holy Commu-

nion. Water and medicine can be consumed, of course. The purpose is to help us prepare to receive Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. Please be quiet while in church. Once you enter the church – it is not the time or place to visit with those around you. If you must talk - do so as quietly and briefly as possible. Remember that your conversation might be disturbing someone who is in prayer, which is much more important. Sssshhhh.

Leave quietly. We encourage you to visit with others, but once you are outside of the church you won't disturb others who want to stay and pray. So, please leave quietly and then visit afterward.

Cell phones should never be used in Divine Liturgy for calls or texting. The exceptions are emergencies (big ones, not everyday ones) and if you do use one, please walk out of church to do so. Also, if you are using the phone for readings or prayers, this is appropriate, but try to be discreet.

Proper Church Attire. Church is a sacred place with its traditions. When we come to worship we should respect those traditions. Our clothes should

be modest and tasteful. Inappropriate attire such as tight pants, mid-thigh dresses and skirts, low cut blouses

can be perceived as disrespectful and could be offensive to other worshipers. Thank you for your consideration.

TO THE PARENTS OF OUR YOUNG CHILDREN

- Sit toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what's going on at the altar. They tire of seeing the back of others' heads.

- Quietly explain the actions of the Liturgy (what the priests, deacon, altar boys are doing).

- Sing the hymns and responses. Children learn how to worship in church by copying you.

- Incidental noise and movement are not reasons to take your child out of church. If a child's crying or movements become a distraction to others,

then it is time to leave until they are calm.

- If you have to leave the church with your child, do so but please come back. Our Lord said, "Let the children come to me and forbid them not, for such is the Kingdom of Heaven."

- Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and one another. Let them know that they are at home in our house of worship.

Baba's Wisdom

When I asked Baba why she loved the Mother of God so much she would tell me this story. I never got tired of hearing it.

"One day, Our Lord was sitting at the gates of heaven on His Judgment Seat. He decided that he needed a day off, so He called St. Peter and asked him to cover for Him. Our Lord gave St. Peter a list of names of those He expected and after each name he had noted the eternal destination of the person coming. St. Peter said that he

understood the directions and he took over the job. When Our Lord returned at the gates later in the day, He asked St. Peter how things had gone. St. Peter assured Him that everything had gone very well. But when Our Lord took a look around, He noticed someone who was not destined for heaven on the list He had given St. Peter. He figured St. Peter had made a mistake. But as he looked further, He saw more and more people who were not supposed to be admitted to heaven. So Our Lord

asked St. Peter for an explanation. St. Peter said: ‘Every so often when I told someone that they could not be admitted, they would go to the side door and Your Mother would let them in.’” Baba’s devotion to the Mother of God might seem naïve to many, but Baba

knew that she needed help to get into heaven as we all do. She would say: “When you want something important, you ask your friends to pray for and with you. Well, I figure the best person to pray with and for me would be Jesus’ Mother.”

CEMETERY MONUMENTS

Just a reminder that families are responsible for maintaining their monuments at the Cemetery. There are some monuments that are ready to fall over

and are a hazard. If they fall, someone could be injured. Please make arrangements for any necessary repairs to be made.

87TH ANNUAL SEMINARY DAY

This event will be held Sunday, July 25, 2021 at St. Nicholas Church picnic grounds in Primrose (just outside Minersville) PA. This annual event is sponsored by the 12 parishes and faithful of the South Anthracite Deanery under the leadership of their pastors.

Plans for the day already include a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with the clergy of the deanery at 11 A.M. and Drive-Thru Food Sale will start at 1 P.M. with delicious ethnic and regional foods prepared by the parishes of the deanery.

CHURCH RAFFLE

The CHURCH RAFFLE will take place on July 4th. We are asking Parishioners to make their raffle returns as soon as

possible. Ideally, all returns should be made by June 27th for the drawing on the following Sunday, July 4, 2021.

IT’S VACATION TIME... (BUT NOT FOR CHURCH BILLS)

It’s that time of year again...Vacation Time. We take time out of our normal routine for rest and relaxation. Sometimes we stay at home; some-

times we take trips to visit friends, explore new places or go on adventures. We may even forget about our normal routines for a little while.

Unfortunately, our bills and financial obligations never take a vacation. This includes our Church's bills, which always seem to INCREASE during summer time. Please, when

you prepare to go on vacation, don't forget about YOUR CHURCH! You can always mail in your Sunday Collection envelopes and then can enjoy your vacations.

ST. CYRIL'S RUMMAGE SALE SET-UP FOR JUNE 2021

The next Rummage Sale Set-up, at the school gym. will Monday, June 28th, and Tuesday, and June 29th Wednesday, June 30th from 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m (new dates and time) Additionally on Monday, June 28th, (2nd shift) we will be open in the evening from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Can you spare some time to help out for the benefit of your church, St. Cyril's? (even though you may volunteer for other organizations!!!) When you are sitting at home on Monday or Tuesday or Wednesday in the morning, perhaps you can come down to the School gym? You can be sitting at the table, putting stickers on items, or help in other areas. All are welcome to volunteer, all parishioners, and friends. (Teenagers and adults) after 10 years, you know what is involved. Every hour you volunteer helps in the final outcome, the financial help to St. Cyrils. It's comfortable working in the school gym, it is not too hot and not too cold.

Come and socialize with your fellow parishioners and friends and do some shopping too!!! There are a variety of areas, where you can lend a helping hand.

The dates have been set for Friday, September 24th, and Saturday, September 25, for St. Cyril's Rummage Sale/Furniture Sale for the 11th year. Any questions, call Lauren at cell 646-241-9443 or 570-383-0319 or Father Nestor 570-291-4451. During this time, your donations will be accepted.

COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM...

The Collection Processing Team Jr., Leonard Mitchko, and Michael for the month of June 2021 is Team Shumek.
#2: Eugene Zinsky, John Turko,

Sunday Collection for June 19 & 20, 2021: \$2,284.00

Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

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Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

Asking Jesus to Leave

Of all the miracle stories of Jesus, the one recorded in today's Gospel reading stands out as unique. In most other occasions when Jesus healed or cured, the result was that more people came and asked to be cured. However, in the case of Jesus expelling demons from the man in the Gadarene territory, the result was that the whole village came out and asked Jesus to leave that area! (Matthew 8:34)

Ingratitude is certainly not the reaction we would expect the townsfolk to have since a member of their community restored to his right mind by the command of Jesus. Previously, he was prone to fits of madness and the source of his madness was understood to be demonic possession. Jesus commanded the demons to leave the man and restored the man to his right mind. Had this been the end

of the story, perhaps the people would have been filled with gratitude. However, Jesus sent the demons into a herd of swine, which then jumped over a cliff and drowned.

Why did Jesus send the demons into the swine? According to Jewish law, pork is considered to be an unclean product. Jews were to have no contact with pork. Because of this, the Jews of that town were breaking their own religious law.

By expelling the demons into the swine, Jesus not only healed a man, but also reestablished a forgotten value system in a town. Unfortunately, the inhabitants were not ready to receive this lesson. It is no surprise, then, why they met Jesus with such ingratitude and asked Him to leave their district.