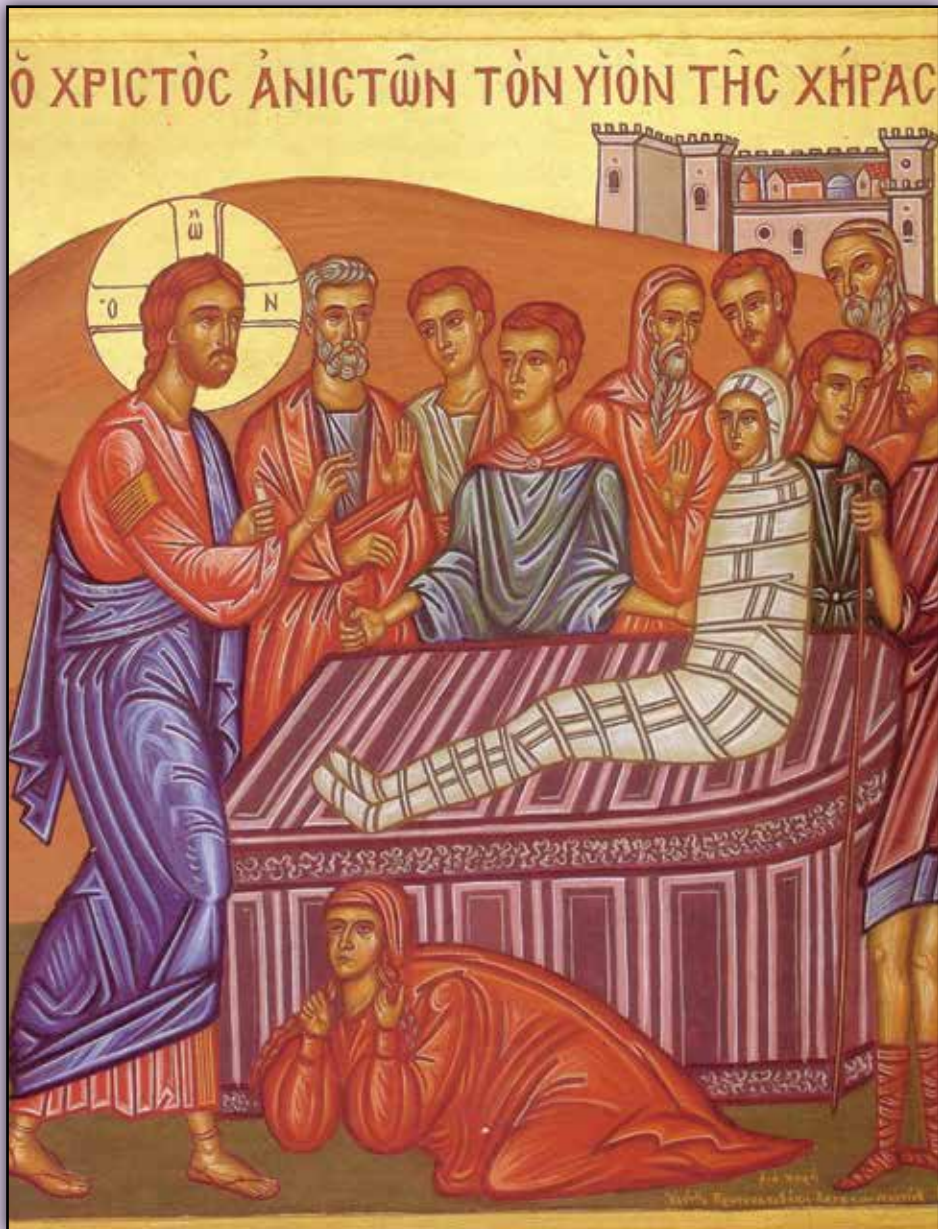


TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Healing of the Widow's Son (Luke 7:11-16)

| October 10, 2021: 20th Sunday After Pentecost | | |
|---|---|--|
| Epistle: Gal. 1: 11-19 | | Gospel: Lk. 7: 11-16 |
| Mon., Oct. 11 | 9:00 | + Msgr. Stephen Hrynuck (Howard Smith) |
| Tues., Oct. 12 | 9:00 | + Andrew Chezik (Family) |
| Wed., Oct. 13 | 9:00 | + Bill Davis (Wife, Michaelene) |
| Thurs., Oct. 14 | 9:00 | + Frank Wysochansky (Legate) |
| Fri., Oct. 15 | 9:00 | + Fr. Thomas Barylak (Father Nestor) |
| Sat., Oct. 16 | No Morning Divine Liturgy 2:00 pm Confessions 4:00 pm For Our Parishioners | |
| Sun., Oct. 17 | 10:00 | + Nicholas Zinsky (Wife, Dorothy) |

THE DISTRACTED MIND AND OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE

Have you ever seen this sign at a church door: “Please turn off your cell phones”? We all know that we need to turn them off before Liturgy. We know that only the gravest emergency should interrupt church. When we think about cell phones, we think about how connected we are, nowadays, to a wide community through the internet. We might think that our age poses a unique challenge for the Christian soul. We are connected with all kinds of news, events, and other people’s passing thoughts, in an instant, and constantly, in a way that human beings never experienced before. However,

the problem of the distracted mind was quite well known to the Fathers and saints of our church, since ancient times. The distracted mind is nothing new. Passing thoughts can spoil our peace. Even if our cell phone is off, we may still be distracted by our thoughts.

That is why we have a narthex. That is the area in the back of the church where we cross ourselves, say a short prayer before we enter. This helps us to take a breath and leave the outside world behind. Now our mind is ready to focus on Liturgy. During the Liturgy, do not get angry with

yourself and say, ‘Why am I thinking about my garden during church? Or someone else’s shoes? Here’s what to do. Immediately move your mind on to something else. “Say Lord have mercy.” Notice where we are in the Liturgy and focus on the actual words being said. Look at an icon and contemplate it. Bring yourself back to where you are standing, or sitting, or kneeling. Make your cross to remind yourself to pay attention. In a minute you will even forget you had the thought. We know that St. John Chrysostom knew about the distracted mind, because there are

so many times in the Liturgy where our attention is called back. For example: “Let us be attentive!” “Wisdom! Let us attend!” “Wisdom, arise!” Literally, we might say that this means, Straighten up! People’s minds always need to be reminded to pay attention! It’s not just us in the 21st century. So... this means we have no excuse. We are still able to quiet our minds, as Christians in earlier ages have been able to do. When our mind is quiet, then we can pray and participate fully in our beautiful Liturgy.

TEN SPIRITUAL REMINDERS

1) Time is a special gift from God. Use your time wisely and it can bring you eternal rewards. Time wasted is gone forever.

2) Be sincere, be humble in all that you do for the greater glory of God, the good of the Church, the salvation of souls, for “What a person is in the eyes of God -- that he/she is, and no more.”

3) Always do your work neatly, accurately, honestly and to the best of your ability.

4) Avoid the near occasions of sin, i.e., certain persons, places, or things that can easily lead you into sin. But, if a temptation suddenly comes your way, don’t let it stay; get rid of it right away!

Instantly, keep giving the temptation the 1-2 to punch: saying a little prayer, turning your attention elsewhere! Then, God’s actual grace will come quickly to help you win and not commit a sin!

5) Each day try to be kind, helpful, patient. Furthermore, never hold a grudge or seek revenge against a person, always remembering what we say to God the Father in the Lord’s Prayer: “and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.”

6) In word and deed, always give good example. Personal good example is the prime requisite for being a good teacher.

7) “Come to me, all you who are

weary and find life burdensome, and I will refresh you” (Mt. 11:28). Accept this perennial invitation of the Lord.

8) Receive the sacraments of Penance and Holy Eucharist worthily, fervently, and frequently.

9) Knowledge always comes before love. The more you know about the Catholic Faith, the more you will love and appreciate it; the more you

will benefit from it; the better prepared you will be to defend it and to teach it to your children/students.

10) “Life is God’s gift to you. What you do with your life – is your gift to God.” Meditate well on this oftenquoted passage, and end up with a good resolution.

By Msgr. John Squiller, STL

LOVE MATTERS MORE THAN MATERIAL ITEMS

“Some time ago, a man punished his young daughter for wasting a roll of gold wrapping paper. Money was tight and he became angry when the child tried to decorate a box with gold wrapping. Nevertheless, the girl brought the gift to her father on his Birthday and said, ‘This is for you, daddy.’ The man became embarrassed by his overreaction a few days before, but his rage continued when he saw that the box was empty. He yelled at her, ‘Don’t you know, when you give someone a gift, there’s supposed to be something inside?’ The little girl

looked up at her dad with tears in her eyes and cried; ‘Oh, daddy, it’s not empty at all. I blew kisses into the box. They’re all for you, daddy.’

The father was devastated. He put his arms around his daughter, and begged for her forgiveness.

A little while later, the girl died in an accident. Her father kept the gold box by his bed for many years and, whenever he was feeling down, he would take out an imaginary kiss and remember the love of the child who had put it there.”

KEEPING OUR CHURCH BEAUTIFUL

In order to keep beautifying our Church, we ask that the following guidelines be followed in respect to posting announcements, flyers,

posters, pictures, etc.

1. All postings must be approved by Fr. Nestor.
2. All postings must be dated.

3. All postings which pertain to “upcoming” events must be removed when the advertised event has ended.
 4. Photos and “news-clippings may remain posted for no more than 30 days (1 month) from the posted date.
 5. The use of tape to affix any postings or pictures to any surface(s) is prohibited.
- For more information, or if you would like to have something posted, please see Patrick Marcinko.

DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS

The 2022 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 family will be accepted for the weekend Divine Liturgies per year. You are always welcome to offer intentions for a weekday Divine Liturgy. There are plenty of openings during the week.

SEPTEMBER FUNDRAISER

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of our September Food Truck Festival and Mum Sale. We are especially grateful to those who volunteered their time at the Festival; to those who loaned us tents, tables, chairs, and garbage cans; to those who offered donations; to the musicians; and, of course, to everyone who patronized the vendors

or purchased mums. Special applause must go to the set-up/take-down guys who have mastered the art of the tent.

Congratulations to the raffle winners: 1st prize of \$295 was won by Judy Kosydar; 2nd prize of a vase went to Ryan Dively; and, the basket of cheer 3rd prize went to Sandy Kosakavitch. The winner of the Cheryl’s Wreath’s raffle was J. Ganatra.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Vendors: \$1,334.00
Raffle: 296.00
Donations*: 598.55
Mums: 387.50
Total September Fundraiser: \$2,616.05

**Includes tip jars and individual monetary donations*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2021/2022 UPDATE

Religious education for children attending grades one through eight began this Saturday, October 9, 2021.

Classes for grade one take place in the rectory basement. Parents can enter through the gates in the back of the church and accompany their child to class.

Classes for children in grades three

through eight take place in the church by entering through the front door.

Please follow the wearing of face masks as required in your school districts.

If there are any questions please call Sandra Berta at 570-383-9487 and she will be more than happy to help you.

PASTA DINNER

The Women's Society of St. Joseph Melkite Catholic Church on North St. Frances Cabrini Avenue, West Scranton, is sponsoring its annual Pasta Dinner, Wednesday, October 20, 2021. Penne with meatballs, salad, bread, dessert will be available in the hall for Takeout

or Curbside. 4pm to 6 pm. Adults are \$9.00 and children age 5-11 are \$4.00. Tickets at the door or Call ahead/email to preorder for takeout or curbside 570-343-6092, melkite.scranton@gmail.com. See us on facebook or melkitescranton.org.

PIGS-IN-THE-BLANKET DINNER

Eureka Hose Company No. 4 will sponsor take-out only Pigs-in-the-Blanket Dinner on Saturday October

23rd, 3 to 7 pm at the Fire Station 717 East Grant St. Olyphant. Limited \$10.00 tickets available from members. Dinner

includes two piggies, potatoes, green beans and roll and butter.

ST. CYRIL'S POST RUMMAGE SALE 2021:

We thank everyone who donated their time and dedication to the St. Cyril's Rummage Sales of 2021. On Tuesday, October 12th, 2021 will be the Post-rummage sale re-organization of the school gym. We "played it forward" with many items for FREE to the public on the sidewalk, right after the sale, this past week. (doors, furniture, household items, etc...)

All dedicated volunteers will work together again to get everything back in order. Starting at 9:30 a.m. until noon, Oct. 12th. The remaining Halloween costumes and decorations will be donated to the United Neighborhoods of Scranton, this week in time for Halloween 2021. Updates regarding rummage and furniture sale fundraiser for 2021/2022 will be updated on Tuesday, October 12th, and in future bulletins. Contact Lauren Telep, Cell 646-241-9443.

The winner of the 50/50 Raffle from the Fall '21 Rummage Sale of \$177.00 is Roberta Bullet of Carbondale.

THANKS TO THE COMMUNITY!!

The success of our Spring '21 and Fall '21, 11th annual fundraiser rummage sales at St. Cyrils was helped by the donations and discounts from the following businesses: We are forever thankful for their generosity. Duplicraft of Scranton, Quinns Food Market, Giant Food Market, Abbys Soda, Free (photos) publicity from The Scranton Times and the Valley Advantage newspapers, The Way, The Giant Wall & Floor Covering, Staples, Dunkin Donuts, Roseanna's Pizza, Main Line Pizza and Hoagies, local church bulletins, local business for posting the flyer, Olyphant Police Department and Olyphant Maintenance, American Legion of Olyphant, VFW of Peckville, the media including Facebook sharing and the Scranton Market Place listings. Special thanks to the community for all the merchandise donated for the benefit of the St. Cyrils rummage sales.

COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM...

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

Sunday Collection for Oct. 2 & 3, 2021: \$

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

Jesus the Lord of Life

How do you respond to the misfortunes of others? In a number of places the gospel records that Jesus was “moved to the depths of His heart.” Our English word “compassion” is a weak translation of the Hebrew word for “sympathy.” Why was Jesus so moved on this occasion? Jesus not only grieved the untimely death of a youth, but he showed the depth of his concern for a woman who lost not only a husband, but an only child as well.

The scriptures make clear that God takes no pleasure in the death of anyone (e.g., Ezekiel 33:11); God desires life, not death. Jesus not only had compassion, He also had power – the ability to restore life and make whole again. Jesus, however, incurred grave

risk by approaching the bier, since contact with a dead body made one ritually impure. His touch not only restored life but brought freedom and wholeness to soul as well as body.

This miracle is reminiscent of the prophet Elisha who raised another mother’s son (see 2 Kings 4:18-37). Jesus claimed as His own one whom death had seized as its prey. By His word of power He restored life for a young man marked for death. Jesus is Lord not only of the living but of the dead as well. Jesus triumphed over the grave and He promises that because He lives, we also shall live in Him (John 14:19). Do you trust in the Lord’s power to give life and hope in the face of misfortune and despair?