

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
ELIJAH - GREAT PROPHET



Icon of Saint Elias -- July 20th

July 20, 2025: Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

Epistle: Rom. 12: 6-14

Gospel: Mt. 9: 1-8

This Weekend	4:00 pm + Gene Maslar (Bill & Jane Granza) 10:30 For Our Parishioners
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Mon., July 21	9:00 + Elaine Crambo (Joe & Carol Avaschieri)
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Tues., July 22	9:00 + Mary Patricia Brown (Howard Smith)
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Wed., July 23	No Divine Liturgy Today.
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Thurs. July 24	9:00 + Dr. James Tarity, Jr. (Jemille Zaydon)
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Fri., July 25	9:00 + Joanna Bious (Daughter, Sandra)
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Sat., July 26	No Morning Divine Liturgy 2:00 pm Confessions 4:00 pm + Joseph & Helen Sembrat (Sharon, Joseph & Jeanne)
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Sun., July 27	10:30 For Our Parishioners
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FEAST OF THE HOLY MARTYRS BORYS AND HLIB

Commemorated July 24th

Among the first saints that the Ukrainian Church canonized are the prince-martyrs Borys and Hlib (named at baptism Roman and David). They were the younger sons of St. Volodymyr (Vladimir) the Great who baptized Rus'-Ukraine.

When a serious illness struck Vladimir, there were no brothers in Kyiv. Svyatopolk, one of the eldest sons of Vladimir, first learned of the death of his father, but, having evil designs, decided to hide the news from his

brothers. After this, Svyatopolk himself began to reign in Kyiv.

Returning home from a military campaign, Borys learned the news of his father's death and Svyatopolk's insidious plan to take over his father's throne. Although deeply upset by this news, Borys did not plan any evil upon his older brother.

When the soldiers under Borys' command learned about the evil plan of Svyatopolk, they entreated their prince to go to Kyiv and remove him by

force, so then Borys would sit on his father's throne. But the saintly prince could not, even in his mind, lift a hand against his brother. The soldiers left and Borys remained with only a servant.

Svyatopolk then sent messengers to Borys with the guise of fraternal love, but actually his true intentions were concealed. At night he ordered men to kill the younger brother. They came to the river Alt when it was dark and, as they approached him, they heard Borys pray. Seeing the killers, the prince did not stop praying nor did he try to escape, but prayed and humbly went to sleep. The killers attacked him. They killed Borys and, with him, and his servants who were also there. The evildoers wrapped Borys' body, which was yet warm, placed it on a wagon and carried it away. But on the way they noticed signs of life. Svyatopolk, having learned that the brother is still breathing, sent two men to finish him off. One of them pulled the sword and pierced the heart of Prince Borys.

They brought body of the blissful martyr prince to Vyshhorod and there he was secretly buried near the temple of St. Basil the Great.

Svyatopolk, after murdering his

brother Borys, continued to multiply his acts of lawlessness. The terrible trail on which he stepped in, led him to new crimes. He attempted to justify himself - if he ceases to commit iniquity, then his brothers would not seek revenge, or to do the same to him (that is, take away his life) or to flee from the parental throne. So that he would have no rivals, Svyatopolk decided to kill all his brothers.

His next victim was Hlib, the youngest of the sons of Vladimir the Great. Hlib ruled in Murom, where he remained, not yet knowing about his father's death and Svyatolkovsky's crime against Borys. Modesty, meekness, humility were his virtues gaining for the young prince a love and respect from all who knew him.

Receiving news of his father's illness from Svyatopolk and wishing to see him, Hlib rose and went hurriedly to Kyiv. The sad news about Vladimir's death also brought news of Borys' death. Having heard this, Hlib cried and prayed, lamenting that he would rather die together with Borys than to live without him in this deceptive world.

Despite receiving the sad news, Hlib continued the journey, hoping with his humility to humbly awaken

in Svyatopolk fraternal love and so save his life. While sailing through the river of Smyadin to the Dnieper, the prince and his warriors saw the ship sent to them by Svyatopolk. The princely teams of the warriors took up arms in battle to defend Hlib. The young prince would sooner die than place his warriors in danger and thereby ordered them to offer no resistance. Svyatopolk's mercenaries grabbed Hlib, who did not think of resisting. His cook Turchin was ordered to kill his master, stabbing the young prince without any hesitation,

as an innocent lamb.

In 1019, Prince Yaroslav found the bodies of the brothers and transferred them to the church of St. Basil in Vyshhorod. A church was built to honor them.

The Holy princes Borys and Hlib were the first Ukrainian saints. Their veneration had begun several years after their death, already in 1021. Officially, they were canonized in 1072. There were many indications of healing with the touch of the relics of the prince martyrs: the crippled, the blind, deaf were healed, cured.

PRACTICING WHAT YOU PREACH

An honest man was being tailgated by a stressed-out woman on a busy boulevard. Suddenly, the light turned yellow just in front of him. He did the right thing, stopping at the crosswalk, even though he could have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection. The tailgating woman hit the roof, and the horn, screaming in frustration as she missed her chance to get through the intersection. As she was still in mid rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit her car with her

hands up. He took her to the police station where she was searched, fingerprinted, photographed, and then placed in a holding cell. After a couple of hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects. He said, "Ma'am, I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn and yelling at the guy in front of you." "I also noticed the 'What Would Jesus Do?' license plate holder, the 'Honk If You

Love Jesus' bumper sticker, the 'Do You Follow Jesus This Closely?' bumper sticker, and the chrome-

plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk." "I thought you had stolen the car."- *Author Unknown*

A REMINDER FOR VACATION SEASON

It's that wonderful time of year once again — Vacation Time! A season for rest and relaxation, when we temporarily step away from our daily routines to recharge. Whether we stay at home or venture out to visit friends, explore new destinations, or embark on exciting adventures, vacations offer a much-needed break for the soul. During these moments, it's easy to let our usual obligations slip from our minds.

However, there is one reality we cannot escape: bills and financial responsibilities never seem to take a vacation. This includes the operational costs of our Church, which, paradoxically, often increase during the summer months. Whether it's the upkeep of church facilities or

utility bills, these vital needs continue to require support, even as we are away enjoying time with loved ones.

So, as you pack your bags, finalize travel plans, or settle into your summer routine, please keep your Church in mind. Ensuring that your Sunday Collection envelopes are mailed in while you're away is an easy and thoughtful way to maintain your contributions to the Church's mission. This simple act allows you to fully enjoy your vacation, knowing you have supported the work that continues to uplift our community.

Thank you for remembering your Church during this busy season, and may your summer be filled with joy, relaxation, and renewal!

FRONT STEPS RUG REPLACEMENT AND REPAIRS

We wish to inform our congregation and visitors of some recent developments concerning the front steps of our Church. Many of you may have noticed that the rug on the steps had become worn and torn

in several places, posing a potential tripping hazard for all who enter.

We are deeply grateful to a generous donor, Ann O. Nymous, who kindly provided the funds to purchase a brand-new rug for the

Church's entrance. Such thoughtful acts of generosity help to ensure the safety and comfort of everyone who comes through our doors.

During the process of removing the old rug, our installer observed that the steps themselves are in need of some repairs. We want to assure you that these necessary repairs

will be addressed promptly. Once the work on the steps is completed, the new rug will be professionally installed, restoring both the beauty and safety of our Church entrance.

We look forward to welcoming you with renewed warmth — and a secure, beautiful new rug — very soon.

IMPORTANT REMINDER OF CEMETERY REGULATIONS

The following regulations must be adhered to in an effort to keep our Cemetery in a decent condition and be able to keep it maintained.

- **FLOWERS** may be planted in the ground in front of monuments. **Flower beds** may NOT extend out from the monument more than one foot and may not extend beyond the width of the monument. Urns or other containers used for planting must be placed close to the monuments in order to allow for grass cutting.
- **FLOWER BEDS MUST BE MAINTAINED** in a reasonable manner. They should not become unsightly.
- **NEW SHRUBS AND TREES ARE NOT PERMITTED.** Existing shrubs **MUST BE**
- **TRIMMED OR THEY WILL BE REMOVED.**
- **VIGIL LIGHTS** must be in an enclosed container and must be placed close to the monument.
- **MARBLE CHIPS, GRAVEL OR METAL as a border for monuments are prohibited.** They may cause injury to our caretakers or damage grass cutters. Artificial flowers may not be placed in the ground because they may cause injury to caretakers or damage grass cutters. If any one does place them in the ground, they will be removed.
- **ANY AND ALL OBSTACLES to the cutting of the grass will be removed.**
- **TRASH** should be placed in the cans that are provided.

24TH ANNUAL LEBANESE-AMERICAN FOOD FEST

Event Overview

Join us for the 24th Annual Lebanese-American Food Fest, where the vibrant flavors of Lebanon meet the warmth of Scranton's community spirit. Savor authentic Lebanese dishes, delightful pastries, and your favorite picnic classics, all while enjoying fellowship and festivities in a welcoming setting.

Dates:

- Friday, August 8, 2025 — 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM
- Saturday, August 9, 2025 — 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM
- Sunday, August 10, 2025 — 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Location

St. Joseph Melkite Greek-Catholic Church
130 N. St. Frances Cabrini Ave (off

lower Jackson St),
West Scranton, PA

What to Expect

- Great Lebanese Food and Pastries: Indulge in homemade specialties from savory shawarma and kibbeh to sweet baklava.
- Local Picnic Favorites: Enjoy familiar classics that everyone in the family will love.

More Information

- Website: melkitescranton.org
- Facebook: facebook.com/melkitescranton
- Menu: Check back in August for the full menu announcement!
- Contact: Email melkite.scranton@gmail.com or call the rectory at 570-343-6092 for more information.

COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM

The Collection Processing Team #3: Marlene Zelno, Cheryl Matuszewski, and Carol Zadarosni for the month of July 2025 is Team

Sunday Collection for July 12 & 13, 2025: \$

Sincere thanks to all of you for your kindness and generosity.

Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

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Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

Elijah's (Elias') Journey

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, he and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, please. The LORD has sent me on to Bethel." Elisha replied, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The guild prophets who were in Bethel went out to Elisha and asked him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master from you?" He replied, "Yes, I know that. Be still."

Elijah said to him, "Stay here, please. The LORD has sent me on to the Jordan." Elisha replied, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two went on together. Fifty of the guild prophets followed and stood facing them at a distance, while the two of them stood next to the Jordan.

Elijah took his mantle, rolled it up and struck the water: it divided, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground. When they had

crossed over, Elijah said to Elisha, "Request whatever I might do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha answered, "May I receive a double portion of your spirit." He replied, "You have asked something that is not easy. Still, if you see me taken up from you, your wish will be granted; otherwise not." As they walked on still conversing, a fiery chariot and fiery horses came between the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind, and Elisha saw it happen.

He cried out, "My father! my father! Israel's chariot and steeds!" Then he saw him no longer. He gripped his own garment, tore it into two pieces, and picked up the mantle which had fallen from Elijah. Then he went back and stood at the bank of the Jordan. Wielding the mantle which had fallen from Elijah, he struck the water and said, "The LORD, the God of Elijah - where is he now?" He struck the water: it divided, and he crossed over. (2 Kings 2:1-15)