

SS. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

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Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

They Marveled and Glorified God

Do you see how He is shown to be Creator of both souls and bodies? He heals the paralysis in both soul and body. The healing of the soul is made evident through the healing of the body, even while the body still remains a creature crawling on the ground. The crowds were slow to recognize who He was: "When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to humans." ... He proceeded by His daily actions to arouse them and lift up their thinking. It would have been no small thing for Him to be thought greater than all others, as having come from God. If they had established this adequately in their own minds, they would have known in due order that He was indeed the Son of God.

But they did not grasp these things clearly. Because of this they did not come close to recognizing who He was. For again they were saying, "This man is not from God! How can this man be from God?" Their minds churned over these statements continuously. Which thing many now also do; and thinking to avenge God, fulfill their own passions, when they ought to go about all with moderation. For even the God of all, having power to launch His thunderbolt against them that blaspheme Him, makes the sun to rise, and sends forth the showers, and affords them all other things in abundance; whom we ought to imitate, and so to entreat, advise, admonish, with meekness, not angry, not making ourselves wild beasts.

St. John Chrysostom

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of Healing the Paralytic

July 5, 2026: Sixth Sunday After Pentecost		
Epistle: Rom. 12: 6-14		Gospel: Mt. 9: 1-8
This Weekend	4:00 pm For Our Country	10:30 For Our Parishioners
Mon., July 6	9:00	+ Deceased Members of the Spryn & Chmil Family (Paul & Rosemary)
Tues., July 7	9:00	+ Eugene Beggin (Sister, Nancy Kohut)
Wed., July 8	9:00	Intention Available: See Father Nestor
Thurs., July 9	9:00	Intention Available: See Father Nestor
Fri., July 10	9:00	+ Eugene Beggin. (Andrea Novak)
Sat., July 11	No Morning Divine Liturgy. 2:00 pm Confessions 4:00 pm + Ron Dubiac (Howard Smith)	
Sun., July 12	10:30	For Our Parishioners; Baptism

4th of July History & Trivia - Did You Know...

- The major objection to being ruled by Britain was taxation without representation. The colonists had no say in the decisions of English Parliament.
- In May, 1776, after nearly a year of trying to resolve their differences with England, the colonies sent delegates to the Second Continental Congress. Finally, in June, admitting that their efforts were hopeless; a committee was formed to compose the formal Declaration of Independence. Headed by Thomas Jefferson, the committee also included John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Philip Livingston and Roger Sherman. On June 28, 1776, Thomas Jefferson presented the first draft of the declaration to Congress.
- Betsy Ross, according to legend, sewed the first American flag in May or June 1776, as commissioned by the Congressional Committee.
- Independence Day was first celebrated in Philadelphia on July 8, 1776.
- The Liberty Bell sounded from the

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, know-

ing 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!

A MESSAGE FOR OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Summer is here, bringing with it warmer temperatures and increased humidity. To help ensure a comfortable environment for worship and fellowship, we are pleased to remind everyone that a new air conditioning system was installed in our church this past September.

To maintain a pleasant setting for all, we kindly ask for your cooperation as we keep the thermostat set at 75 degrees. This helps us balance comfort while being mindful of energy use.

As many of you know, the cost of the new system was

\$42,000. To date, we have received \$6,575 in generous donations, with the remaining balance covered from parish savings.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to contribute, we humbly ask you to consider making a donation toward the cost of this important improvement. Your support is deeply appreciated and helps ensure that our parish remains a welcoming and comfortable space for everyone.

Thank you for your continued generosity and commitment to our church community.

COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM

The Collection Processing Team #3: Cheryl Matuszewski, and Carol for the month of July 2026 is Team Zadarosni

Sunday Collection for June 27 & 28, 2026: \$2,160.00

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

some counsel and encouragement and then assign a very light penance (often simply saying a few prayers). Exceptions to this nowadays are rare.

So if you are a baptized

IN LOVING MEMORY OF EUGENE “COOKIE” BEGGIN

It is with sadness that we share the passing of Eugene “Cookie” Beggin, who entered into eternal rest on Saturday, June 27th. Eugene was buried from from St. Cyril’s on Friday, July 3rd.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to Eugene’s family and loved ones during this difficult time. As a Parish Community, let us keep them in our prayers and ask God to

Catholic and haven’t gone to Confession for a while, you should go!

grant them comfort, strength, and peace.

Please join us in praying for the repose of Eugene’s soul:

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

May Eugene “Cookie” Beggin be remembered with love and may he rest in the peace of Christ.

A REMINDER FOR VACATION SEASON

It is 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

tower of Independence Hall on July 8, 1776, summoning citizens to gather for the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence by Colonel John Nixon.

- June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress, looking to promote national pride and unity, adopted the national flag. “Resolved: that the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation.”
- The first public Fourth of July event at the White House occurred in 1804.
- Before cars ruled the roadway, the Fourth of July was traditionally the most miserable day of the year for horses, tormented by all the noise and by the boys and girls who threw firecrackers at them.
- The first Independence Day celebration west of the Mississippi occurred at Independence Creek and was celebrated by Lewis and Clark in 1805.
- On June 24, 1826, Thomas Jefferson sent a letter to Roger C. Weightman, declining an invitation to come to Washington, D.C., to help celebrate the 50th anniversary

of the Declaration of Independence. It was the last letter that Jefferson, who was gravely ill, ever wrote.

- Both Thomas Jefferson and John Adams died on Independence Day, July 4, 1826.
- The 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence did not sign at the same time, nor did they sign on July 4, 1776. The official event occurred on August 2, 1776, when 50 men signed it.
- The names of the signers of the Declaration of Independence were withheld from the public for more than six months to protect the signers. If independence had not been achieved, the treasonable act of the signers would have, by law, resulted in their deaths.
- Thomas McKean was the last to sign in January, 1777.
- The origin of Uncle Sam probably began in 1812, when Samuel Wilson was a meat packer who provided meat to the US Army. The meat shipments were stamped with the initials, U.S. Someone joked that the initials stood for “Uncle Sam”. This joke eventually led to the idea of Uncle Sam symbolizing the United States government.
- In 1941, Congress declared 4th of

July a federal legal holiday. It is one of the few federal holidays that

have not been moved to the nearest Friday or Monday.

Happy Independence Day!!!

5 MYTHS ABOUT CONFESSION THAT TOO MANY PEOPLE STILL BELIEVE (MAYBE EVEN YOU!)

The Sacrament of Confession (or Reconciliation) is a widely misunderstood part of the Catholic faith – which is unfortunate, because it is also one of the most important!

Here are five of the most common myths about the Sacrament of Confession:

Myth 1: Confession shows Catholics don't really believe Christ's sacrifice was enough.

Truth: This objection usually comes from Protestants who wonder why a person needs any more forgiveness if they've already put their faith in Christ. Thus, they see Confession as something separate from and additional to the grace of Jesus.

There are two problems with this objection.

First, the power of Confession depends entirely on Christ's sacrifice. Christ earned infinite grace on the cross, and the Sacrament of Confession

is one important way that grace is applied to an individual. In other words, Confession is not a source of grace separate from Christ; it is an instrument for its application.

Second, this objection usually comes from a misunderstanding of the Christian life. Some Protestants think that after a person's initial conversion, there is no additional cooperation and growth in grace needed for salvation. The Catholic Church, on the other hand (following the Bible), teaches that the Christian life is one of continual conversion and growth in holiness by the grace of Christ.

Myth 2: Confession was invented by the Catholic Church and is not in the Bible.

Truth: This might surprise some people, but the core of the Sacrament of Confession is explicitly established by Christ himself in Scripture.

In the Gospel of John, after He has risen from the dead, Jesus appears to

his disciples, and this happens:

"Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.' And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.'" (John 20:21-23)

Right there, Jesus explicitly gives his Apostles the power to grant or withhold the forgiveness of sins, which is the basis for the Sacrament of Confession. And the Church practiced this from the beginning. To be sure, the precise way this has looked in practice has varied quite a bit over time, but the core is right there in the Bible (cf. CCC 1447).

Myth 3: Confession is optional.

Truth: Confession is definitely *not* optional for Catholics. It is, in fact, required in two ways.

First, according to the precepts of the Church, all Catholics are required to go to Confession at least once each year.

Second, the Sacrament of Confession (or the desire thereof with perfect contrition) is necessary for salvation for baptized individuals in a state of mortal sin (cf. Council of Trent).

So the Sacrament of Confession isn't just a nice, optional form of Catholic counseling if you want it. Rather, it is an essential part of being a practicing Catholic and attaining final salvation.

Myth 4: Confession is only for "really bad people."

Truth: The previous answer to Myth 3 helps to correct this myth. If you are Catholic, you are required to go to Confession once a year anyway.

But most importantly, we are all sinners. As Scripture says,

"If we say we have not sinned, we make him [Jesus] a liar, and his word is not in us." (1 John 1:10)

So if you don't think you need the grace of Christ's forgiveness, you may need to take a closer look at your spiritual life.

Myth 5: Confession is scary.

Truth: If someone has never gone to Confession or hasn't gone in a long time, they might expect that the priest will be shocked by their sins and react cruelly or harshly.

The experience of the vast majority of Catholics today attests that the opposite is the case. If anything, most priests are too easy. Priests have heard everything before (sin is common and boring), and they usually respond with