

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
FIFTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW



*Icon of the Healing Gadarene Demoniacs*

*Warfare Within Us*

The whole warfare of the demons against us is waged with the one purpose of alienating those who obey them from the glory of God and the grace of the Holy Spirit. But, as I see it, we have already deprived ourselves of such a gift before they even attack us, because we have forsaken the commandments of God and have not been eager to seek Him with all our soul. Had we sought Him we should not have lived so idly and carelessly! Had we been concerned for the things of heaven we should not have shown such great eagerness for the things of earth. Had our thoughts been on things incorruptible we should not have gaped greedily after the things that are transitory and corruptible.

Had we striven for things eternal we should not thus have pursued things temporal. Had we loved God we should not thus have turned away from those who guide us to Him. Had we sought to acquire virtues we would not have abhorred the teachers of virtues. Had we gladly embraced fasting we should not have complained of the lack of food and drink. Had we fought to gain control over our passions we should not have given ourselves unrestrainedly to pleasures. Had we a right and firm faith we should not have performed the works of faithlessness. Had we been found worthy to attain true love we should have known God.

*St. Simeon the New Theologian*

# St. Joseph Byzantine Catholic Church

8111 Brecksville Road ✘ Brecksville, Ohio 44141

"The Byzz Line"



"Living the Word of Christ Together"

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## The True Meaning of Freedom

Independence is the genius of American culture. In our best moments we cherish the freedom of all people. Reverence for liberty and democracy, desire for broad participation and consultation, love of diverse opinions and freedom of expression: These are gifts that we Americans offer the universal Church. Yet recent events in our Church reveal that some Catholics have a long way to go in accepting freedom's demands. And some trends in our society at

large show that other Americans shouldn't be pointing fingers. We all have a lot to learn about freedom.

The spirit of freedom inspired our founders to craft the Bill of Rights—a seal of freedom on the nation founded by the Declaration of Independence. Our First Amendment is one worth pondering this Independence Day: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for redress of grievances."

Our founders recognized that human freedom is God-given and cannot be taken away (the rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are "endowed by (our) Creator" and "unalienable," wrote Jefferson). This was no invention of 18th century liberals. After all, we are made in the image of God, to love, and what is love without freedom? Theology and doctrine express this great insight: that humans are free at the core of our being. We are children of God.

On October 3, 1979, Pope John Paul II celebrated Mass in Logan Square in Philadelphia. During his homily he talked about freedom. In part, he said:

*When the Liberty Bell rang for the first time in 1776, it was to announce the freedom of your nation, the beginning of the pursuit of a common destiny independent of any outside coercion...Every human person, endowed with reason, is free when he is the master of his own actions, when he is capable of choosing that good which is in conformity with reason, and therefore with his own human dignity...Freedom can never be construed without relation to the truth as revealed by Jesus Christ, and proposed by His Church...*

**USA The Message of Justice Peace and Love  
(Daughters of St. Paul, Boston, 1979), pp. 112-114.**

July 5, 2020

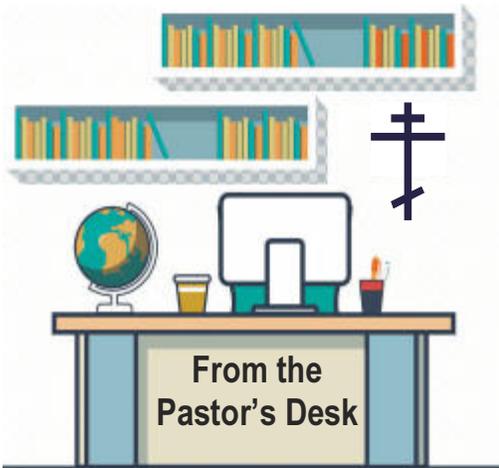
# Glory to Jesus Christ!

## Liturgy Schedule

Monday	July 6	8:00 a.m.	Intention of <b>Phil Maitino</b> by Joe/Marie Lupia
Tuesday	July 7	8:00 a.m.	† <b>Anthony Monaco, Jr.</b> by Dave/Nancy Masseria
Wednesday	July 8	8:00 a.m.	† <b>Elroy/Mary Alice Primuth</b> by Family
Thursday	July 9	8:00 a.m.	Intention of <b>Primuth Family</b> by Eric/Linda Primuth
Friday	July 10	8:00 a.m.	Intention of <b>Judy Churavy</b> by Family
Saturday	July 11	4:00 p.m.	Intention of the Parishioners
Sunday	July 12	10:00 a.m.	† <b>George Marchak</b> by Elsie Marchak

		<b>Altar Servers</b>	<b>Lectors</b>	<b>Greeters</b>
July 11	4:00 p.m.	S. Lupia & J. Mosgo	D. Sedlak	—
July 12	10:00 a.m.	N. & A. Masters, A. & R. Percic	J. Waski	—

Few will have the greatness to bend history itself; but each of us can work to change a small portion of events, and in the total of all those acts will be written the history of this generation. —Robert Kennedy



I'm happy to report that our Saturday attendance is at or above what is normally is at this time of the year. On Sundays we're down, on average, about thirty to forty people. All in all, it's been a great "return!" I'd like to believe that the variety of "options" have contributed to where we currently find ourselves.

- In the church proper where every other pew is roped off and distancing is maintained by our ushers (to date there have been no crowding issues).
  - In cars by tuning in to 104.3 FM anywhere in the lot (Communion available outdoors).
  - In the air-conditioned hall via closed circuit on a big screen (Communion available outdoors or in church).
- In front of the church benefitting from the outdoor speakers. Bring your own chair or grab one of ours (Communion available outdoors or indoors).
  - In the vestibule where chairs are stacked for your usage (Communion available indoors or outdoors).

Each person receives Communion on their own stainless steel spoon provided by the church (which is then purified and cleaned for future use). The outdoor Eucharist is distributed by a deacon wearing a mask. In the event of rain, Communion will be distributed beneath the overhang. If rain is in the forecast those opting for that location should bring an umbrella. The church is sanitized following each service. Both weekend liturgies are being live streamed on YouTube (via stjoebyz.com) and archived in the event you wish to watch at a time other than 4:00 and 10:00. (Many thanks to the dedicated film crew.)

Once again, moving forward let's be FAITH DRIVEN and EUCHARISTIC CENTERED, not fear based!



## Weeping Icon Coming to St. Joe's

A replica of the Weeping Icon of Klokochovo is circulating among the Byzantine Catholic Churches in Northeast Ohio. This icon of the Mother of God has been venerated in Eastern

Slovakia with great devotion and love since 1670. We will have it in our parish **July 8-17**, culminating with an **Akathist Service** at the St. John Paul II outdoor chapel on the **17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** Next week's Byzz Line will contain information on the history of this miraculous occurrence. Our nation and world needs the intercession of Mary during these troubled times. Make plans to be part of this special evening of prayer.

## First Confession/Eucharist

Next Saturday **Molly Percic and Mariella Masters** will make use of the Sacrament of Confession for the first time. On Sunday they will repeat their baptismal vows and Profession of Faith and receive the Eucharist for the first time with cleansed souls. (**Andrew Kirschner** will make his first confession at a later date.)

## Parish Sympathies

**Helen Lawer** was buried this past week at the age of 85. For the past number of years she has resided at The Oaks Healthcare Facility in Brecksville and has been on our monthly Communion visitation list. In blessed repose grant rest O Lord to Your Handmaid Helen and may her memory be eternal!

## Not Meeting in July...

Most of our groups/organizations (**Advisory Board, Ladies' Auxiliary, Men's Club, A-OK Club**) will not be meeting (even virtually) for the month of July. Stay tuned for the August arrangements.

## Your Weekly Offering

June 28, 2020

Sunday:	\$3,385.00
e-giving:	175.00
Students:	12.00
Cash:	48.00
Candles:	58.00
Holy Days:	686.00
Fuel:	30.00
Building Fund:	25.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$4,419.00</b>

**Have you considered e-giving? We can set up direct debit for you. Call the office at 440-526-0016 or e-mail us at [stjoebyz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stjoebyz@sbcglobal.net)**

## BeAGiver

The BeAGiver project for this year will not take place. The **A-OK Club**, initiators of this activity, have not met since the Coronavirus shut-down. They hope to resume this outreach, so wonderfully received, next year during the month of July.

## E-giving Donations

A few more people have resorted to e-giving during this time of the Coronavirus. If that is something that interests you, contact Michele in the office for details (**440-526-0016**).

## Lector Schedule

New lector schedules can be found in the mail slots and on our website.



Please remember all the sick/suffering in your prayers, especially **Mike Prischak** (S.W. General); **Mary Jo Keshock** (home); **Kathryn Durst** (home) and **Bea Chrusic** (home).

Someone you know may need this information:  
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# Freedom of the Bells

By Bertha A. Kleinman

Across the hills and valleys of our good old U.S.A.,  
Oh, ring the bells for freedom on our Independence Day!  
Across the world's misgiving ring the mission bells of hope,  
Their chordant chimes uplifting over dale and mountain slope,

The olden faith resurging where the Pilgrim feet have gone,  
Oh, sweet the mighty chorus, ring the bells, and steady on!  
Set your carillons a-chiming to entheme this day of days;  
Let the belfry bells re-echo in their litany of praise.

From the battlements and bulwarks, from the armaments at sea,  
Ring the battle hymn of freedom for a land that's proud and free.  
Let the armed throng rededicate to wage a new crusade,  
Let the navied hosts make answer with their banners on parade.

And writing their allegiance where the clouds indite the scroll,  
Oh, hear the squadrons ringing as they lift to sky patrol.  
America! America! Oh, ring in roundelay  
Your renaissance of liberty this Independence Day!

## PARISH INFORMATION

**ACTIVITY CENTER & HALL RESERVATIONS:** 440-526-0016

**CONFESSIONS:** One half hour before liturgies for fifteen minutes and by request

**MEN'S CLUB:** 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

**LADIES' AUXILIARY:** 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

**A-OK CLUB:** 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

**COFFEE SOCIAL:** Every Sunday after liturgy

**EASTERN CATHOLIC FORMATION (ECF) CLASSES:** Sundays 9:00 a.m.–10:20 a.m.

**BULLETIN INFORMATION DEADLINE:** Tuesday noon

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