



ST. GREGORY'S DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Wednesday, August 3 *Venerable Isaac of the Dalmatian Monastery*

7:00 P.M. Lesser Blessing-Sanctification of the Water

Friday, August 5 *Pre Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord*

7:00 P.M. Vespertal Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Fruit

Saturday, August 6 *Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ*

4:30 P.M. Order of Confession

5:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Fruit

Supplications will be offered for +Andy Zeedick, given by Danielle Zeedick

Sunday, August 7 **Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**
Postfeast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord

9:15 A.M. Order of Confession

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

The Epistle Reading will be I Corinthians 3:9-17 and the Gospel will be Matthew 14:22-34
 Supplications will be offered for +Andrew Nazak, given by Jodi, Dylan & Marah Hernandez. Following the Divine Liturgy, please join us in the Church hall for refreshments and Christian fellowship.

“What I see around me would drive me insane if I did not know that no matter what happens, God will have the last word.”

- Elder Paisios of the Holy Mountain

JESUS	JOHN	SUN	TENTS
PETER	MOUNTAIN	MOSES	CLOUD
JAMES	FACE	ELIJAH	SHADOW

P	E	R	T	E	T	E	P	I	N
E	F	A	N	E	C	F	E	S	A
H	A	J	I	L	E	L	T	U	I
E	C	E	A	W	J	I	E	S	T
R	E	S	T	T	O	S	R	E	N
T	U	N	N	D	E	D	H	J	U
E	S	H	U	S	E	N	A	J	O
P	O	O	O	S	U	M	T	H	M
J	L	M	M	O	E	M	O	S	S
C	A	S	E	S	S	E	O	M	E

WHY DO WE WEAR A CROSS?

In pre-Christian times, the Cross was the instrument of a shameful and horrible death. The Romans invented it and used it in order to intimidate the peoples whom they had subjugated. Everyone looked on this instrument of execution the shameful Cross with horror.

But a remarkable change took place with respect to the Cross after Our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified on it. The Lord suffered and died on the Cross. He took horrible sufferings upon Himself in order to save us from sins. The Cross received great glory, such as no other object made by the hands of man has possessed. The Cross became the sign of our salvation, through which we receive the power of God the grace of God.

The Cross is the first and greatest Christian sacred object. When the priest sanctifies water, he immerses the Cross in it, and the water becomes holy. When we wear the Cross on our chest, our body constantly touches it, and from this touch it, too, is sanctified. The Cross that we wear protects us from danger.

During the Soviet Union, believing people would wear a Cross at great risk, since there could be much un-pleasantness from the godless for this. But these remarkable people were not afraid to confess their faith, and they would fearlessly wear a Cross. One ought not to look upon the Cross as some kind of jewelry like a bracelet or brooch. The Cross must adorn our soul and not our clothing, and must constantly remind us that we are Christians, called to live according to our faith, which is founded on the Savior's sufferings on the Cross.

The Dormition Fast Outreach: School Supplies for the Children



As we begin the Dormition Fast, our outreach this year is again to help collect school supplies for local children in need. Donations are needed for all ages from preschool through high school. In the Mother of God Chapel, we have a poster describing this outreach and bins for collecting these items.

We are collecting the following items: new backpacks, colored pencils, 24-pack crayons, erasers, glue sticks, highlighters, markers, notebooks, binders, pen, pencils/mechanical pencils, pencil boxes/sharpeners, rulers, scissors, and calculators. The final day to bring your donations is Sunday, August 28th. As a parish family, let us all be part of this collection and help local kids start school right!

Announcements

Welcome Fr. David!

On this Sunday we welcome in our midst Fr. David Abernethy. We sincerely thank you Fr. David for coming and celebrating the Divine Liturgy for our parish family. We ask Almighty God to bless Fr. David for many happy and blessed years!

Getting ready for the Flea Market!

This week we will be busy with setting-up and preparing our Church hall for the upcoming Parish Flea Market. Below is a schedule for when we will be setting up and pricing items for this upcoming event:

Monday, August 1	11:00 am – 3:00 pm Set-up and pricing
Tuesday, August 2	9:00 am – 12:00 noon Set-up and pricing
Wednesday, August 3	5:00 pm – 8:00 pm Set-up and pricing
Thursday, August 4	5:00 pm – 8:00 pm Set-up and pricing
Friday, August 5	11:00 am – 3:00 pm (if needed)

Dormition Fast Begins

On Monday, August 1st, we will begin in our Holy Church the Dormition Fast. This fast begins August 1st and ends on August 14th and is a time of preparation for the Feast of the Dormition-Falling Asleep of the Mother of God. According to the Pastoral Handbook of the Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh, simple fast or abstinence (from meat) is observed on Wednesdays and Fridays during this fasting period.

Wednesday: Blessing of Water

With the beginning of the Dormition Fast the Lesser Blessing of Water will be celebrated on Wednesday evening, August 3rd, at 7:00 p.m. Join us for this beautiful Divine Service and to receive Holy Water. During this upcoming Dormition Fast, plan to also attend the special Divine Services, honoring the Most Holy Theotokos.

Flowers for our Lady

As we prepare for the Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of the God we ask for donations towards the flowers around the Tomb of our Lady. If you would like to offer donations for the flowers in honor/memory of a loved one, please use the special blue envelope that is available amongst your personal offering envelopes. As part of the Dormition outreach, these flowers will then be delivered to our St. Gregory's homebound parishioners. We thank you for your kindness and generosity!

Next Saturday & Sunday: Order of Confession

As part of our preparation for the Dormition-Assumption of the Mother of God, we will welcome next Saturday & Sunday, August 6-7, Fr. John Chirovsky, spiritual director at our Byzantine Catholic Seminary who will be here to administer the Mystery of Confession. If you have not availed yourself of this life-giving Sacrament, please be sure to do so as part of the Dormition Fast.

Let us remember that as frequent communicants we should make a confession during this and all penitential periods, and whenever the conscience is burdened. As a community of faithful, let us receive this healing sacrament of our Holy Church.

13th Comedy Night at St. Gregory's

This fun event will take place on Saturday, August 20th. Tickets are \$25.00 each and include snacks, soda, and beer. Ethnic food will be available for purchase while it lasts the evening of the event. Table reservations are being taken by contacting Mike Kiss in person or by phone at 412-818-1295 or email at MKISS@CALLEQUITY.NET. Tickets are now available after the Saturday Vigil and Sunday Divine Liturgy.

St. Gregory's Golf

We will have a Church golf outing at Lindenwood Golf Club on Sunday, August 28th. The tee times start at 11:00 a.m. with food to follow. Space has been reserved for 9 foursomes. There is a sign-up sheet in the Church narthex. Please sign up soon so we can organize this fun event. The cost will be \$62 which will include greens fees, cart fees, and prizes. Food and drink (beer & soft drinks) can be purchased from the restaurant during and after the event. Any questions, please call our parishioner Ben Popson (724) 984-5414. Looking forward to a good time on the links!

St. Gregory's Prayer List

Kindly remember in your prayers our parishioners and friends who struggle with sickness, pain, hardship, or any special need: Maureen Cerny, Theresa Lokes and Michael Sirochman.

If you would like to add your name or the name of a loved one to this list, please contact the parish office via phone or email. In the Church vestibule, you are invited to add the names of the sick and any other intentions you would like to be remembered in our Prayer Intention book.

True perfection consists in having but one fear: the fear of losing God's friendship!

Saint Gregory of Nyssa

Bus trip to Our Lady of Lebanon Shrine Sunday, August 14

Be part of a day of faith and fun as St. Gregory Church joins in on a daytrip to the Shaker Woods Festival in Columbiana, Ohio and the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon in North Jackson, Ohio on Sunday, August 14.

Bus pickup from St Gregory's will be at **11:15 a.m.** The first stop will be the famous Shaker Woods Festival in Columbiana, Ohio. Dressed in period costumes, over 200 artisans and craftspeople from across the U.S. offer their handmade wares and demonstrate their skills along the rustic pathways of the Woods. The Festival also features an extensive area of Shaker-style food concession s.

From Shaker Woods, the bus will travel to North Jackson to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon for the Shrine's 57th Annual Assumption Pilgrimage. Byzantine Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos will be celebrated by Metropolitan Archbishop William C. Skurla at 7:00 p.m. with responses sung by the Archieparchial Choir. Following the Divine Liturgy, a Candlelight Procession will be held.

Prior to Divine Liturgy, travelers will have the opportunity to stroll the grounds of the Shrine, browse the Gift Shop, and dine in the Cedars Dining Hall, where outstanding Lebanese cuisine and desserts will be available for purchase.

Cost per person for this day of recreation and reflection is \$35, which covers bus transportation and admission to the Shaker Woods Festival. There is no admission charge for the Shrine. To reserve a seat for this bus trip, please sign up in the narthex of St. Gregory's or call the parish office at (412) 835-7800. Reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis and will be taken until all seats are filled.

For more information about the venues, please visit <https://shakerwoods.com> and <https://www.ourladyoflebanonshrine.com>

"Everywhere are people of God. You never know if the one you see today might tomorrow be a saint."

- Mother Gavrilia (Papayannis)

