



**ST. GREGORY'S DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK**

Tuesday, October 1 *The Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos*

**7:00 P.M. Divine Liturgy**

Friday, October 4 *Bishop-martyr Hierothus of Athens-St. Francis of Assisi*

**7:00 P.M. Blessing of Animals (Church Hall Entrance)**

Saturday, October 5 *Martyr Charitina of Amisos*

**5:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy**

Sunday, October 6 **Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**The holy and glorious apostle Thomas**

**9:10 A.M. Third Hour**

**9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy**

The Epistle Reading will be Galatians 1:11-19 and the Gospel will be Luke 7:11-16. Supplications will be offered for +Nina DiLelio, given by Toni Wolfe. Please join us in the Church hall following the Divine Liturgy for a time of fellowship and refreshments.

**ON ICONS AND COMMON SENSE**

*In the 4<sup>th</sup> century, St. Basil the Great, in reference to icons, said that "the honor shown the image passes over to the archetype." He also illustrates the concept by saying, "If I point to a statue of Caesar and ask you 'Who is that?', your answer would properly be, 'It is Caesar.' When you say such, you do not mean that the stone itself is Caesar, but rather, the name and honor you ascribe to the statue passes over to the original, the archetype, Caesar himself." So, it is with an Icon.*



Jesus prayed for His friends.

Use the code to find some of His words.

○=A	◐=E	◑=I	◒=M	▨=Q	◑=U	◒=Y
◓=B	◔=F	◕=J	▩=N	◔=R	◕=V	◓=Z
◖=C	◗=G	◘=K	◙=O	◘=S	◙=W	
◚=D	◛=H	◜=L	◝=P	◛=T	◜=X	

He said, "

▩ ◔ ◙ ◑ ◐ ◖ ◓

◑ ◛ ◒ ◒ ◓ ◒ ◑ ◒ ◛ ◒

▩ ◙ ◑ ◒ ◒ ◒ ◔ ◒ ◙

◒ ◙ ◑ ◒ ◒ ◒ ◒ ◒ ◒ ...

◔ ◙ ◑ ◛ ◒ ◒ ◒ ◒ ◒ ◒

◓ ◒ ◒ ◒ ◒ ◒

◙ ◒ ◒ ◒ ◒

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## ***The Golden Rule***



What is the Golden Rule? Simply stated the Golden Rule is “*Do unto others as you would have them do to you.*” (Luke 6:31) Sound familiar? In other words, treat other people like you want to be treated. Now what are some ways that we would like to be treated? What kinds of things would you like other people to do to us or for us? Jesus goes on in today’s passage to talk about four things that we should do to others. He said we should love others, do good to them, lend to them expecting nothing in return and be merciful to them.

How can we **love** other people? St. Paul says in 1Corinthians 13:4-7 that “*love is patient and kind; love does not envy; does not behave rudely; does not seek its own; is not provoked; thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity but rejoices in truth; bears all things; believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.*”

How can we do **good** to others? Right before Jesus taught the Golden Rule, He told His disciples a couple other things to do to others. Jesus said to ‘*bless those who curse you and pray for those who spitefully use you*’ (v.28). What does bless mean? It comes from the Greek word ‘eulogia’ which literally means ‘good words’. So, we should only use good, positive, up-building words when we speak to other people.

How can we **lend** to others expecting nothing in return? Whenever someone asks to borrow something from us we can give it to them happily. Jesus is not talking about giving money to panhandlers or to people who will use money for an evil purpose...

How can we be **merciful** to other people? What does ‘merciful’ or ‘have mercy’ mean? It literally means to heal but it also means to forgive.

So, what’s the Golden Rule? Do unto others as you would have them do unto you? And what are the four ways we do this? 1) Love them, 2) Do good to them, 3) Lend to them, 4) Be merciful to them.

Why should I exercise the Golden Rule? If we do this, if we love our enemies, if we do good, if we lend hoping for nothing in return, especially if we do it to our enemies, that our reward will be great, and we will become “children of God”.

## **Announcements**

### **Welcome Elias George!**

We welcome Elias George Spak, who received the Holy Mysteries of Christian Initiation on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. As a parish family we ask Almighty God to bless Elias George, his parents and his entire family for many happy and blessed years!

### **Tuesday: Protection of the Mother of God**

On Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, we will celebrate the Feast of the Protection of the Mother of God. To celebrate this special day on which we implore the defense and assistance of the Queen of Heaven, Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 7:00 p.m. Please come to honor the Mother of God’s constant protection whenever we prayerfully seek that protection, that shelter, in distress.

### **Friday: Blessing of Animals**

On Friday evening, October 4<sup>th</sup>, as we will celebrate the life of St. Francis of Assisi, who is honored as one of the patron saints of animals and livestock, we will have the blessing of animals in our parish family. This blessing will take place outside at 7:00 p.m. in front of the Church hall. Bring your pet and plan to come and to be part of this prayerful event.

### **October: Cancer Awareness**

Starting on Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m., we will be celebrating the Akathist Hymn to the Mother of God “Healer of Cancer.” As we will be celebrating this Divine Service during the month of October, we invite all to this Prayer Service who are in need of the healing touch of the Queen of Heaven. The hymns of this particular Akathist Service will console anyone who is suffering from cancer, or who has loved ones that are ill. Come and bring a friend for this Divine Service that gives strength and hope during a time of suffering and pain.

### **Cookie Sale Meeting**

In preparation for the upcoming “Taste of Heaven Cookie Sale” our first meeting will take place following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> in the Church hall. The previous cookie sales were very successful because of our wonderful St. Gregory’s parishioners who donated more than 600 varieties - the best in the South Hills. Everyone is invited to attend, and we are always open to new ideas and suggestions. The cookie sale is planned for Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. Sign-up sheets will be available.

### Presentation on the GCU

Plan to be here on Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, as we welcome Jeff Long, National Sales Director for the GCU. Jeff Long will be visiting our parish to discuss the fraternal benefits and financial products that GCU has to offer. This presentation will take place following the Divine Liturgy in our Church hall. Be here for fellowship, refreshments, and great information.

### Getting Married?

If you are planning on getting married in 2025, you must contact the parish office at least six months prior to your intended wedding date to begin the marriage preparation process. All marriage preparation must be completed no later than six weeks prior to your intended wedding date. Marriage preparation consists of not only meeting with the parish priest and filling out the necessary paperwork, but also participating in the Archeparchial Marriage Preparation Program (Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>). If you have any questions, please contact the parish office.

### Haven't Seen Someone in a While?

Visit them or give them a call or an email. It is nice to hear from a friend from Church. Let them know that you miss seeing them and hope that everything is okay.

### Collection- May God bless you...



The total for Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, was \$4,148.69 (Envelopes: \$2,371.00; Online: \$474.69; Loose: \$95.00; Candles: \$85.00; Children: \$3.00; Memorial +Mike Pillar: \$1,120.00).

*The QR code will take you to our donation portal. Your engagement, support and prayers are very much appreciated.*

### ***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, Nancy Romza, Joan Sakmar, Rita Smochko, Michael Sirochman, and Agnes Yanchak.***

*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.*

### **Fall Harvest Dinner Line Dance**

On Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 PM we will hold a Fall Harvest Dinner Line Dance in our church hall. Tickets for this dance will be \$20 per person and include a BBQ Dinner Buffet followed by line dancing music and instruction. Dinner buffet will include pulled pork, chicken, Cole slaw, garlic potatoes, rolls, and assorted desserts.



Line dancing instruction and music will be provided by our own parishioners, Jonathan and Straton. In addition, the drawing for the Steeler Football Tickets and Tailgate Raffle will take place. Non-alcoholic beverages will be provided. You are welcome to bring your own bottle (BYOB).

Dinner tickets will be sold after Saturday and Sunday Divine Liturgies or see any Men's Club Member. The last day to purchase tickets will be Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **Steeler Football Tickets and Tailgate Raffle**

WIN two tickets to the Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup> Pittsburgh Steelers versus Baltimore Ravens football game and a tailgate cooler packed with surprises.

Drawing will be held on Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Fall Harvest Dinner Line Dance.

Raffle tickets cost \$20.00. The package has an approximate \$300 value and is on display in the chapel. The package includes two tickets to the Steelers Football game, a Steeler logo soft side cooler, two Terrible Towels, two Steeler cozies, and assorted tailgate snacks.

Raffle tickets are available after the Saturday and Sunday Divine Liturgies or see any Men's Club Member. The last day to purchase tickets will be November 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Fall Harvest Dinner Line Dance.

