



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

Friday, August 29

*The Beheading of St. John the Baptist*

**11:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy**

Saturday, August 30

*Holy Fathers Alexander, John and Paul*

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

Supplications will be offered for +Joseph Janosik, given by Paul Petrun

Sunday, August 31

**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

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

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

The Epistle Reading will be I Corinthians 15:1-11 and the Gospel will be Matthew 19:16-26. Supplications will be offered for +Michael Pensak, given by Berestecky Family. Following the Divine Liturgy, please join us in the Church hall for refreshments and Christian fellowship.

*The last day of August is dedicated in our Liturgical calendar to the Placing of the Honorable Sash of the Theotokos. How do we understand this commemoration? The Sash, this holy relic, was entrusted to the Apostle Thomas by the Mother of God herself. For many years it was kept by pious Christians at Jerusalem after her Dormition. The Deposition that is celebrated on this day took place most likely during the reign of Emperor Arcadius (395-408), when the precious Cincture of the Mother of God was brought from Zela of Cappadocia to Constantinople, and placed in the Church of the Theotokos in the section of Chalcopratia. Nowadays, parts of the holy Sash are in the Vatopedi monastery on Mt. Athos, in Trier monastery, and in Georgia.*



The people were furious with  
Jesus' words.

CODE

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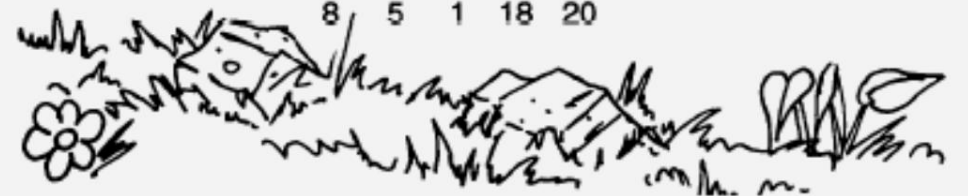
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### *Christian Attitude*

The proper attitude of a follower of Jesus Christ is clearly written on every page of the New Testament: To be a servant to one another. As fallen human beings we have a desire for others to treat us with respect, honor, and deference. Jesus taught us by His own sublime example, that this is wrong. He taught us that in His Kingdom the one who considers himself least is the greatest! As St. Basil the Great wrote: “Though He was in the bosom of His God and Father since before the beginning of time, He emptied Himself and took the form of a servant.”

What is a servant? A servant is someone who is concerned about the needs of others rather than his own needs and who seeks not to receive respect but to give it to others. The paradox is that in this self-emptying (which we call kenosis-κένωσις) that we receive the highest possible honor: the Imitation of Christ our Savior!

### **SEPTEMBER BOOK CLUB - LIBRARY MINISTRY**

#### **You're invited!**

Join us on September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 in the Church Hall for a stimulating discussion of Meg Wolitzer's acclaimed novel, “The Interestings”!

“The Interestings” delves into the complexities of friendship, talent, success, and the choices we make throughout life. The story follows a group of creative individuals who forge a bond at an artsy summer camp in 1974, tracing their journeys from teenage aspirations to the realities of adulthood, including the triumphs and disappointments that shape them. This should be a wonderful September, back-to-school read!

Books are available starting this weekend in the back of the church.

*Dear Parishioners and Friends:*

*Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!*

*Last Sunday was a beautiful celebration, and I wish to thank you all for your prayers, best wishes, cards, and gifts I received on the occasion of my anniversary of priestly ordination. Being together for the Divine Liturgy and the festive luncheon was truly a blessing. May Our Lord reward you for your love, kindness and generosity!*

*Yours in Christ,*

*Fr. Val*



### **Announcements**

#### **Today: Bethany Ministry Meeting**

Following the Sunday Divine Liturgy, a Bethany Ministry Meeting will take place in the parish library. Be part of this important meeting as we plan pastoral visits during this season.

#### **Friday: Beheading of St. John**

This week, we will commemorate the Beheading of St. John the Baptist. To honor the forerunner of Our Lord, John the Baptist, Divine Liturgy will be celebrated Friday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 a.m. By tradition, a strict fast from meat and dairy products is observed on this day. This strict fast is to remind us of the strict life of St. John the Baptist and his martyrdom.

#### **Honoring Grandparents**

In the beginning of the month of September we honor the holy and righteous Joachim and Anna, parents of the Theotokos and grandparents of Our Lord. In our parish family on Saturday and Sunday, September 6-7, we will have a special blessing of grandparents to mark the special relationship Our Savior had with his grandparents and honoring those who are grandparents in our parish community. Following the Sunday Divine Liturgy, we will continue with this celebration in our Church hall with refreshments and fellowship.

**Flowers for the Cross**

For the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, the Cross adorned with flowers will be brought in procession from the Altar Table to the center of our Holy Church. The Cross adorned with flowers will remain on the Tetrapod until Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. If you wish to donate towards the flowers that will adorn the Cross for this special day (in honor or memory of a loved one), please use the envelopes that are available in the Church vestibule.

**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, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025, was \$9,403.20 (Envelopes: \$2,851.00; Online: \$806.20; Loose: \$333.00; Candles: \$125.00; Dormition: \$150.00; Children: \$17.00; Initial Offering: \$15.00; Flea Market: \$106.00; Special: \$5,000.00).

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

**Mark Your Calendars: St. Gregory’s Golf Outing**

This year’s Golf Outing at Lindenwood Golf Club is scheduled for Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup> (11:50 am start).

In the Church vestibule we have sign-up sheets for participation in this fun golf event. Looking forward to a good time on the “links”!!!!

**Church Mice**



***Announcing St. Gregory’s Parish Picnic 2025***

Our St. Gregory’s Parish Picnic will take place on Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup> following the Divine Liturgy. The picnic will be held in our Church hall and on the parish grounds. As part of this event, we will also have games, music, and the PETTING ZOO is coming back!



Our St. Gregory’s Men’s Club will be providing charcoal grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, buns and rolls, and condiments.

Sign-up sheets for this fun event are available in the Church vestibule.

We are asking parishioners whose last names begin with letters A-M to provide desserts and with letters N-Z to provide appetizers/side dishes.

PLEASE BE EXPLICIT SPECIFYING WHAT YOU PLAN TO BRING WHEN YOU SIGN UP to attend. This way we can avoid having too much of any one item. For example, indicate chocolate chip cookies, not just cookies. Or potato salad not just salad. Plan on your contribution feeding 8 to 10 people.

Good dessert ideas include cookies, fruit cobbler, fruit salad or trays, brownies. Good appetizer/side dish ideas include coleslaw, potato salad, pasta salad, baked beans, chips, veggie tray, seven-layer dip and chips, cheese tray.

If you need an idea, please see/contact our parishioners, Mike Kiss or Tom Prokop.

***St. Gregory’s Prayer List***

***Kindly remember in your prayers our parishioners and friends who struggle with sickness, pain, hardship, or any special need: Charles & Maureen Cerny, Mary Olack, Don & Pat Paslowski, Nancy Romza, Andy & 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.*