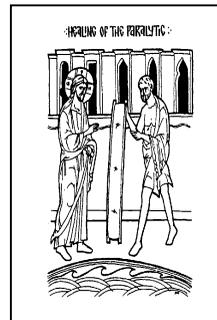
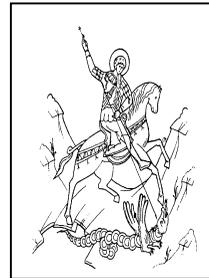
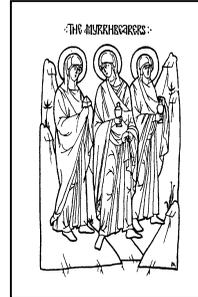


ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
185 E. Main Street Uniontown, PA 15401

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY 4-11-2021

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

- Sunday, April 18 SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARERS**
9:00 a.m. +Mary and Andrew Cihota
(Church) Req. by Helen Ponzurick
- Monday, April 19 John the Hermit (Venerable)**
8:00 a.m. +Paulette Maravich
(Church) Req. by Courtney Minerd
- Tuesday, April 20 Theodore the Hairshirt Wearer (Venerable)**
No Liturgy
- Wednesday, April 21 Januarius and Others (Bishop - Martyr)**
No Liturgy
- Thursday, April 22 Theodore Sykeot (Venerable)**
8:00 a.m. +Stephen Petruska
(Church) Req. by Wife Theresa and Family
- Friday, April 23 GEORGE (GREAT – MARTYR)**
SIMPLE HOLYDAY and Day of SIMPLE ABSTINENCE
9:00 a.m. For the Parish Family
(Church)
- Saturday, April 24 Sabbas (Martyr)**
5:30 p.m. +Tina Cossick
(Church) Req. by Family
- Sunday, April 25 SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC**
9:00 a.m. +Deceased Members of the Adamik Family
(Church) Req. by Theresa Petruska and Family



Offering = \$2285.00 Candles = \$129.00 Holy Day = \$174.00 Palm Sunday = \$10.00
 Easter Flowers = \$100.00 Easter = \$275.00 Loose Cash = \$23.00
 Reimbursement = \$800.00 TOTAL = \$3796.00

PRAYER REQUESTS – Kara, Cathy, Anita, Thomas, Michael, Karen, Joan, Shirley, Rachel, Shirley, Frank, Marsha, Cynthia, Linda, Annette, and Andrea, Connie, Chris, Melba, Conner, Nancy, Kris, Marty, Chris, Tim, Tom, Rene, Buzzy, Pete, Alice, Mason, Melanie, Melvin, Jean, Joyce, Richard, Jean, Cathy, Joan, Mark, Bertie, Clancy, Paulette, Shirley, Paul, Chris, Melba, Bob, Dominic, Connie, Dave, Kathleen, Nadine, Robert, PJ, Ceil, Rose, JA, Patty, Ted, Josephine, Janet, Carl, Michael, Butch, Betty, Theresa, Helen, Ann, Norma Jean, Louis, August, Maryann, Gerry, Raymond, Ida, Barb, Dolores, Patty, Bonnie, Kay, Arlene, Bill, Cindy, Charlene, George, Janet, George, Sharlene, Dan, Janice, Connor, BA, Jay, Larissa, Charlie, Monica, Jack, JT, Ruthann, Cathy, Georgia, Robin, Vince, Dianne, Mickie, David, Troy, Traci, Trevor, Carolyn, Ray, Cherisse, Tanner, Kylie, Bailee, Carter, Cole, Cooper, Connie, Riley, Patrick, Jamie, Chris, Cindy, Mike, Dianne, Helen, Donna, John, Ed, Charlotte, Debbie, Dan, Lisa, Colleen, Mary Ann, Jeff, Riley, Elaine, Tammy, James, Ashley, Chris, Patrick, Michelle, Olivia, Barbara, Susan, Bernie, Herb, Carol, Wendy, Mark, Dennis, Don, Mike, Bill, Michael, Darla, Larry, Sophia, Wanda, Louis, Paul, Pat, George, Dorothy, Hannah, Michelle, George Jr., Debi, JoAnn, Dan, Joan, Rita, Edward, Barb, Dave.

PLEASE CALL IN – Because of the number of people wishing to attend the Liturgy, it is more important than ever that you please continue to call us on THURSDAYS only at 724-434-5355 to RSVP your attendance at Divine Liturgy on Saturday and Sunday.

BULLETINS – If you wish to receive the weekly (Sunday) bulletin on a regular basis by email, please write your e-mail address on a slip of paper and put it the offertory. If you are home-bound and wish to receive a bulletin regularly, please call the church office at 724-438-6027 and leave a message. Also, all church services held at St. John the Baptist and at St. Stephen are listed on the St. John website www.stjohnbaptist-byzath-uniontown.org

✠ **CHOOSE LIFE!** For those tempted to choose death as a solution to end life problems, we pray to the Lord.

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

Live the Gospel of Life

Respect Life Reflection

Twenty-five years ago, Pope St. John Paul II wrote that the Gospel of life is at the *heart* of Jesus' saving message to the world (*Evangelium vitae* 1). In taking on human flesh, dwelling among us, and sacrificing his very life for our redemption, Christ reveals the profound dignity of *every* human person. This God-given dignity does not change with our stage of life, abilities, level of independence, or any other varying circumstance.

Rather, it is rooted in the permanent fact that each of us is made in the image and likeness of God, created to share in the very life of God himself. The human person is a “manifestation of God in the world, a sign of his presence, a trace of his glory” (EV 34). And we must reflect this truth in how we act and how we treat one another.

The truth of the Gospel of life is at the foundation of who we are as followers of Christ. In his earthly life, Jesus provided the perfect model for how we are to love our neighbor and live out the Gospel call: “Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me” (Mt. 25:40).

Jesus calls each of us to “care for the other as a person for whom God has made us responsible” (EV 87). The Gospel of life is intrinsic to the whole Christian life and foundational to the decisions we make on a daily basis. For, “the Gospel of God’s love for man, the Gospel of the dignity of the person and the Gospel of life are a *single and indivisible* Gospel” (EV 2, emphasis added).

In his encyclical on the Gospel of life, Pope St. John Paul II recognizes the full range of threats against human life, from poverty and malnutrition to murder and war. He places particular emphasis, however, on threats to life at its beginning and end—precisely when it is most in need of protection. In modern times, children in their mothers’ wombs and those approaching the end of their lives are certainly among the “least of these” in our world’s estimation. Practices such as abortion and assisted suicide tragically reject the truth that human life is always to be cherished and defended with loving concern.

As the Church celebrates the 25th anniversary of Pope St. John Paul II’s prophetic encyclical, let us reflect on how we personally live out the Gospel: *Do I talk about and act towards others as I would talk about and treat Jesus himself? Do I inform myself of the Church’s teachings and engage in the civic arena as first a follower of Christ? Do I support and advocate for laws and policies that protect and defend human life? Do I help pregnant and parenting mothers in need? Am I ready to support a loved one nearing death?*

Excerpts from *Evangelium vitae*, © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Copyright © 2020, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington.

The Inheritance of the New Covenant

From a Sermon by Saint Gaudentius of Brescia, Bishop

The heavenly sacrifice, instituted by Christ, is the most gracious legacy of his new covenant. On the night he was delivered up to be crucified he left us this gift as a pledge of his abiding presence.

This sacrifice is our sustenance on life’s journey; by it we are nourished and supported along the road of life until we depart from this world and make our way to the Lord. For this reason he addressed these words to us: *Unless you eat my flesh and drink my blood, you will not have life in you.*

It was the Lord’s will that his gifts should remain with us, and that we who have been redeemed by his precious blood should constantly be sanctified according to the pattern of his own passion. And so he commanded those faithful disciples of his whom he made the first priests of his Church to enact these mysteries of eternal life continuously. All priests throughout the churches of the world must celebrate these mysteries until Christ comes again from heaven. Therefore let us all, priests and people alike, be faithful to this everlasting memorial of our redemption. Daily it is before our eyes as a representation of the passion of Christ. We hold it in our hands, we receive it in our mouths, and we accept it in our hearts.

It is appropriate that we should receive the body of Christ in the form of bread, because, as there are many grains of wheat in the flour from which bread is made by mixing it with water and baking it with fire, so also we know that many members make up the one body of Christ which is brought to maturity by the fire of the Holy Spirit. Christ was born of the Holy Spirit, and since it was fitting that he should fulfill all justice, he entered into the waters of baptism to sanctify them. When he left the Jordan he was filled with the Holy Spirit who had descended upon him in the form of a dove. As the evangelist tells us: *Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan.*

Similarly, the wine of Christ’s blood, drawn from the many grapes of the vineyard that he had planted, is extracted in the winepress of the cross. When men receive it with believing hearts, like capacious wineskins, it ferments within them by its own power.

And so, now that you have escaped from the power of Egypt and of Pharaoh, who is the devil, join with us, all of you, in receiving this sacrifice of the saving Passover with the eagerness of dedicated hearts. Then in our inmost being we shall be wholly sanctified by the very Lord Jesus Christ whom we believe to be present in his sacraments, and whose boundless power abides forever.

Reading: Romans 8:10-11 If Christ is in you the body is dead because of sin, while the spirit lives because of justice. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will bring your mortal bodies to life also, through his Spirit dwelling in you.