

Knowledge of the True God Nurtures Us to Eternal Life

Are we saying that knowledge is eternal life? Are we saying that to know the one true and living God will suffice to give us complete security for the future without need of anything else? Then how is “faith apart from works dead?” When we speak of faith, we mean the true knowledge of God and nothing else, since knowledge comes by faith. The prophet Isaiah tells us this: “If you do not believe, neither shall you understand.” But he is not talking about a knowledge that consists in barren speculations, which is entirely worthless. For one of the holy disciples said, “You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe and shudder.” What then shall we say to this? How is it that Christ speaks the truth when He says that eternal life is the knowledge of God the Father, the one true God, and with Him of the Son? I think, indeed, we must answer that the saying of the Savior is completely true. For this knowledge is life, laboring as it were in birth of the whole meaning of the mystery and

granting to us participation in the mystery of the Eucharist, whereby we are joined to the living and life-giving Word. And for this reason, I think, Paul says that the Gentiles are made fellow members of the body and fellow partakers of Christ, inasmuch as they partake in His Blessed Body and Blood. And our members may in this sense be conceived of as being members of Christ. This knowledge, then, which also brings to us the Eucharist by the Spirit, is life. For it dwells in our hearts, reshaping those who receive it into son-ship with Him and molding them into incorruption and piety toward God through life, according to the Gospel. Our Lord Jesus Christ, then, knowing that the knowledge of the one true God brings to us and promotes our union with the blessings of which we have spoken, says that it is eternal life. It is the mother and nurse of eternal life, being in its power and nature pregnant with those things that cause life and lead to life.

St. Cyril of Alexandria

SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE FIRST COUNCIL



Icon of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicea



PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD
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Divine Liturgy Schedule: Saturday, May 23rd, and 30th, at 4:00pm

PATRONAGE CHURCH SERVICES SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Service	Intention
Sunday of the Fathers of the 1 st Ecumenical Council 5.17.2026	11:00am	Divine Liturgy at: Cathedral Gardens Pavilion	For the Repose of the Souls of: +William and +Martha Rudy From: The Kotula Family
5 th All Souls Friday, 5.22.2026	6:00pm	Vigil Divine Liturgy Panachida	Reading of the Hramoty
Pentecost Sunday 5.24.2026	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	For the Repose of the Soul of: +Dorothy Gaydos From: Maryann Minahan

Sunday of the Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council

Today's Propers can be found on page 196 in the Divine Liturgy book.

HOLY MYSTERY OF REPENTANCE: Confession is available beginning an hour before Divine Liturgy, and ending 15 minutes before the start of services.

HOLY EUCHARIST AND VISITATION OF THE SICK: Eucharist can be brought to a parishioner who is ill, in the hospital, or at home. You can request a visit by either sending our church an email, or contacting either Fr. Vasyl or Deacon Tony, personally.

Slava Isusu Christu! Slava na viki! Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER: The people of Ukraine, that peace may be soon be restored to their land, our parishioners, the founders of our parish, our benefactors, those who are sick, and those who cannot make it to church. Also, Fr. Vasyl Symyon, Charlie Toth, Larissa Toth, Tony Kotlar, Jr., Mary Hrinda, Michael Demyan, Michael Skovran, Mary Ann Ondrish, Betty Charlock, Elizabeth Hresko, John Hanyok, Ann Marie Elwell, James DeWolfe, Clara Valeika, Joe Belensky, Kay Dinko, Doris Ruszin, Veronica Ruszin, Anna Martin, Joseph Repasi, Mary Jo Kelly Wilhelm, Howard Guba, Melanie Copper, Julie Wiegand, Natalie, Edin, and +Walter Lourdes Najera Herder, Mark and Betsey Herder, Greg Rudy, our first responders, and all military service men and women throughout the world. Please help us keep our prayer list up to date. Let us know if we need to remove or add a name by sending an email to our church. *May our Lord Jesus Christ, the Physician and Healer of souls and bodies, grant them peace and good health for many blessed years!*

STEWARDSHIP: You honor God and our Church by continuing to tithe each week. An offertory basket is on the table in the back of our Temple for your weekly donation. You may also mail your donation to our church, or donate using Tithe.ly online at: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2346733>. The link is also on the first page of our website. **“Remember then, it is the Lord, your God, who gives you the power to acquire wealth” (Dt. 8:18).**

PATRONAGE CHURCH’S 3RD ANNUAL PICNIC: We appreciate everyone who assisted in planning, assisting in setting up for our picnic, those that donated food/drinks, items for “Baba’s Auction,” organizing some games, and attending today’s event. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. Help will be needed following the picnic to clean up, and take items back to our church. Thank you!

MOTHER’S DAY CELEBRATION: Thank you to everyone who assisted in last Sunday’s celebration for Mother’s Day. We also want to thank the GCU for their generous donation of cakes and cookies for this event.

THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC LITURGICAL PRACTICE OF OBSERVING “ALL SOULS”

SATURDAYS: Please join us for our 5th and final “All Souls” service for the year, with the reading of the “Hramoty,” on **Friday, May 22nd, at 6:00pm**. Everyone is encouraged to attend this “All Souls” service, for by your presence and personal prayers, it strengthens the bond with your departed loved ones, and indeed keeps their memory eternal.

EASTERN CATHOLIC FORMATION (ECF): Our next class for children will be held after Divine Liturgy on **Sunday, May 24th**.

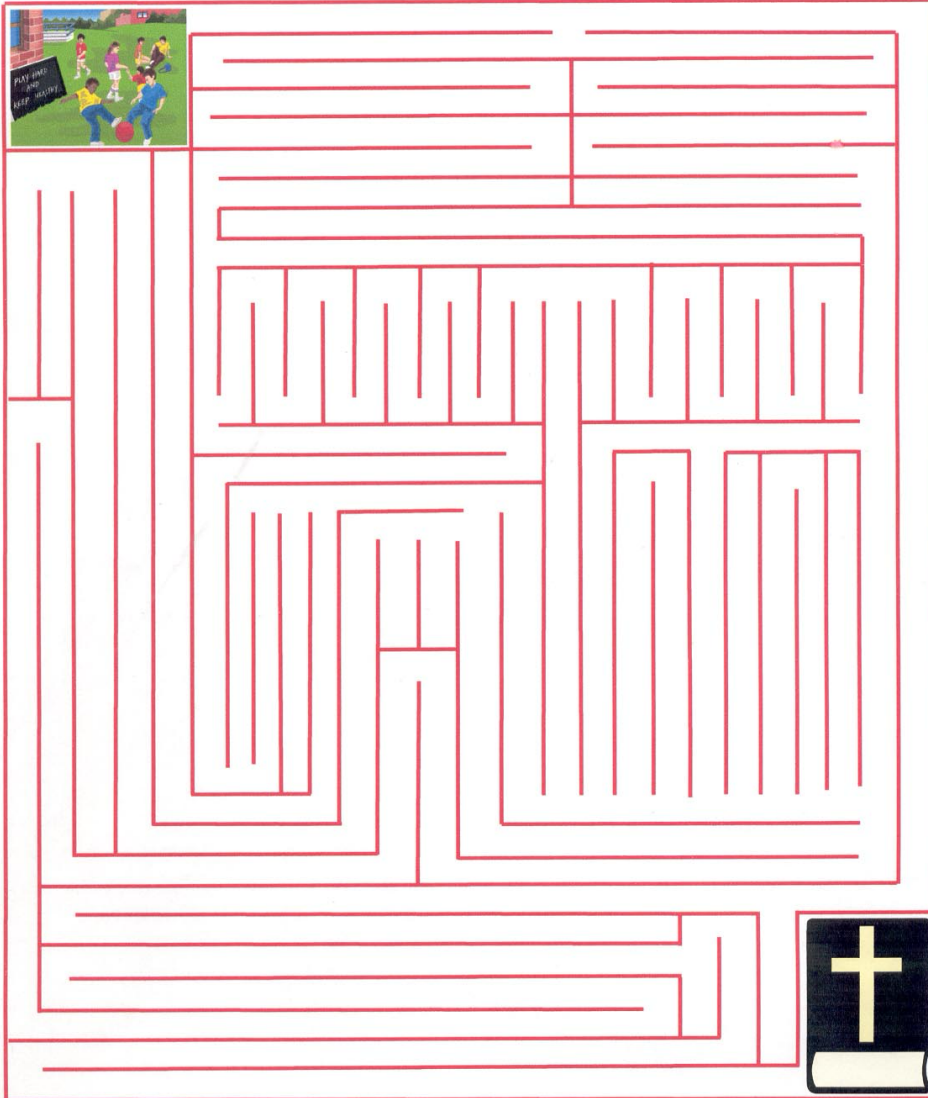
92ND ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE (OTPUST) IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP: Save the date – **September 5th and 6th, 2026**. The Byzantine Catholic Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great located in Uniontown, PA, welcome you to join them for this annual event. More details will be available this summer.

ADULT ENRICHMENT: The next session will take place on **Sunday, May 31st**. The Herder’s and Bobby’s will be sharing photos and information about their trip to Greece. All are welcome to attend!

Children's Corner

Stay True!

Stay on the path and follow the word of God.



2025 BISHOP'S APPEAL: Please consider making a donation towards the Bishop's Appeal now through **June 30, 2026**. Checks must be made payable to: Eparchy of Passaic, and mailed to: 445 Lackawanna Avenue, Woodland Park, NJ 07424-2969. Please write in the memo the name of our church. You can also pledge online at: www.eparchyofpassaic.com, then click on "Giving." Thank you to those who have already donated to support our Eparchy!

GCU SPECIAL MATCHING FUNDS FOR THE SISTERS OF ST. BASIL: The GCU Board of Directors has approved a Special \$10,000 Matching Funds Event for the Sisters of St. Basil in Uniontown's expansion at the Mount Saint Macrina House of Prayer through **May 31, 2026**. The GCU will match donations made to the Building Fund on the Sisters' website by visiting www.sistersofstbasil.org, click on "Donations," then "Building Fund." Or, you can mail a check (note that it is for the "Building Fund" in the memo) payable to: Sisters of St. Basil, 500 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA 15401. If you have any questions, please email the GCU at events@GCUUSA.com or call 800-722-4428, ext. 3924. Thank you for your support!

PILGRIMAGE PREPARATION VOLUNTEER "HELPING HANDS DAY:"

The Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great warmly invite you to join them in preparing for the 92nd Annual Pilgrimage (Otpust) in September in Uniontown, PA. Your service will help transform the grounds into a place of welcome and peace, ready to embrace pilgrims with beauty and grace. Volunteers are needed on the following dates:

1. **Saturday, May 30th** (sponsored by the GCU): volunteers are asked to please meet in the Trinity Center for coffee and donuts at 9:30am, followed by a brief prayer service. Work will begin at 10:00am. Bring lawn tools (including brooms, rakes, weed whackers, etc.) for outside work. Bring brooms, mops, dush pans, etc., for any indoor cleaning. Lunch will be served. To register or for additional information, please contact Sr. Joanne at 724-438-4940, or the GCU at 800-722-8644.
2. **Saturday, August 22nd**: another organized preparation day, with a **rain date set for Saturday, August 29th**. Volunteers are asked to meet at the Trinity Center at 9:30am. Please bring brooms, weed whackers, blowers, weeding tools, rakes, and clippers. Lunch will be provided. For further information, please contact Sr. Joanne.

HOLY ANNUNCIATION MONASTERY "HELPING HANDS DAY:" The GCU is returning to Holy Annunciation Monastery, 403 West Country Road, Sugarloaf, PA 18249, for Helping Hands Day on **Saturday, June 13, 2026**, from 9:00am – 1:00pm. A Liturgy will be also held that day beginning at 8:00am. Whether you enjoy being outdoors tending gardens or prefer lighter, indoor tasks like assembling bakery boxes, there's a place for you here. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Following a morning of teamwork, we will enjoy lunch as a group. For more information, please contact Kevin Yurkanin at 570-956-4517 or tyurkanin@gcuusa.com.

2026 BYZANTINE CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULT CONVOCATION: This summer, encounter *“The Heart of the God-Bearer,”* on **July 31st to August 2nd**, at St. Mary’s Byzantine Catholic Church in Hillsborough, New Jersey. **Young adults ages 18-35** will gather for fellowship, communal praying of the Liturgy of the Hours, and talks from speakers like Mother Natalia of *Christ the Bridegroom Monastery* and co-host of the *What God Is Not* podcast and Very Rev. Paul Varchola West, MFA, MDiv of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Levittown, PA; host of the *“Building Athos in Our Hearts Podcast;”* and *“Spiritual Father of the Springs in the Desert ministry.”* Join us for three days of faith, friendship, and transformation. For more information and regular updates, go to <https://www.heartofthegodbearer.org/>. *Online registration is open from now until June 30th!* Not a young adult? Contact us if you’re interested in helping sponsor scholarships to help the young adults in our Church grow and share their faith!

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH: We are glad that you have chosen to participate in the Divine Liturgy with us today, and we pray that it will be a spiritually nourishing experience. All Catholics may receive the Eucharist if you are in good standing and prepared. We receive the Body and Blood of Christ in our mouth by spoon. Please DO NOT stick out your tongue. ***If you would like to become an active part of our parish community, be added to our email list, and register as a parishioner,*** please complete a “Census” form. Forms are located on the bookrack in the Narthex, or on our website, and can either be mailed to our church, or placed in the offertory basket in the back of our Temple. On-line donation information can be found under “Stewardship” in this bulletin.

“My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples” (Isaiah 56:7).