

## FATHERS OF THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

**May 24, 2020**

8:40 AM Rosary  
9:00 AM **Health/Blessings for Holy Ghost Parishioners**

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*Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup>*

*NO SERVICES*

*Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>*

9:00 AM **H/B for Vira Shevchuk** – by Mary Smith

*Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>*

9:00 AM **H/B for Randy Rensko** – by Skubiak & Dressler families  
5:00 PM Confessions in the Sacristy (or by appointment)  
6:30 PM BIBLE STUDY

*Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup>*

9:00 AM **+ Julia Gaida** – by Frank & Oriana Crookston & Family

*Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>*

9:00 AM **+ Genevieve Benedick** – by Jeannette Wolansky

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*Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>*

5:00 PM **+ William Taras** – by Evgenija Matczyszyn

***Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>* PENTECOST SUNDAY**

8:40 AM Rosary  
9:00 AM **Health/Blessings for Holy Ghost Parishioners**  
**Panahyda for the deceased**

Responding to Covid-19 is an evolving process. As a church and parish, we continue to adjust and adopt current best practices so that the community may continue to worship. In order to help maintain social distancing, beginning this Sunday, the choir will move back to the choir loft where they can spread out, yet remain a cohesive group. This will also free up more space in the main floor (nave). We will only use every-other pew in the church. Family units may sit as a group but groups should try to maintain distance from other groups in the pews. Additional seating will be available in the cry-room and chairs will be arranged in the vestibule. Markers have been placed along the main aisle six feet apart. When approaching to receive Holy Communion, please use these to maintain spacing. As always, please follow Father Sal's direction for receiving Christ. Should he feel that the communion spoon becomes contaminated during distribution, he will sanitize the spoon before continuing. Furthermore, a reminder that masks and gloves are encouraged. Lastly, as always, if you feel ill or have underlying medical conditions that place you at an increased risk, please continue worshipping at home with our live stream.

**“IF WE FEARED SIN AS COVID 19, WE WOULD BE SAINTS.”**

### **CONGRATULATIONS:**

This week **Charlie & Anna Stump (5/28)** celebrate their wedding anniversary. May God bless you and grant you **many years, Mnohaya i Blahaya Lita!**

### **Congratulations Natalia!**

Natalia Griffiths represented the Walsh Jesuit High School Girls Varsity Bowling Team as an individual bowler at the District Tournament. She qualified by placing among the Top 10 bowlers at the sectional Tournament. At Districts, she was the only Sophomore amongst all the individual bowlers. Although she did not advance to the state finals, she looks forward to returning to districts next year.

### **PENTECOST TRADITIONS:**

Green Saturday (Зелена Субота) is the Saturday of Remembrance of the Dead immediately preceding Pentecost Sunday. On this day the faithful visit and decorate the graves of their ancestors and pray for the repose of their souls and their release from their sins. In memory of the dead, flowers, wreaths and green branches, all representing life and the liberation from death (resurrection) are used not only at the grave sites but also to decorate the homes and churches. This is the origin of our custom of decorating the churches on Pentecost with green branches. On May 31, after Liturgy there will be Panahyda for the deceased. Individual graves blessings will be help upon request the following week.

### **Domestic Church in Action**

“Mission Days” - Once again we are called upon to discover and understand anew that our parish communities and families (domestic churches) are missionary in nature. Such understanding flows from the gift of our Baptism, by virtue of which, and through the power of its mystery, we have committed ourselves to believe, live, serve, and share the experience of our faith in Christ; and not simply with our family members, but with everyone we meet in life. Thus, the mission of our parish community is to allow Christ to enter deeper into our lives, to carry the Good News beyond our own community and to support those who expand the boundaries of the Kingdom of God with their missionary activity and chaplaincy ministry. From the feast of the Ascension to Pentecost, together with our entire parish community, let us pray that the Lord might renew our life in God by the grace and intercession of the Holy Spirit.

### **MISSION FUND COLLECTION:**

Once again, we are called upon to discover and understand anew that our parish communities and families are missionary in nature. The fund collected in our parishes throughout St. Josaphat Eparchy will support pastoral ministry for our faithful in Eastern Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Siberia and places where we do not have established church structures. In addition, a portion of these funds will be designated for our own mission activities within our Eparchy in Tennessee, Georgia, North Carolina and to establish mission parishes in South Carolina and Kentucky. By supporting the Missionary Fund, we support our own mission activities in our Eparchy. Thank you again for your goodness and generosity!

Listed here are 10 points for fruitful Scripture reading.

1. **Bible reading is for Catholics.** The Church encourages Catholics to make reading the Bible part of their daily prayer lives. Reading these inspired words, people grow deeper in their relationship with God and come to understand their place in the community God has called them to in himself.
2. **Prayer is the beginning and the end.** Reading the Bible is not like reading a novel or a history book. It should begin with a prayer asking the Holy Spirit to open our hearts and minds to the Word of God. Scripture reading should end with a prayer that this Word will bear fruit in our lives, helping us to become holier and more faithful people.
3. **Get the whole story! When selecting a Bible, look for a Catholic edition.** A Catholic edition will include the Church's complete list of sacred books along with introductions and notes for understanding the text. A Catholic edition will have an *imprimatur* notice on the back of the title page. An *imprimatur* indicates that the book is free of errors in Catholic doctrine.
4. **The Bible isn't a book. It's a library.** The Bible is a collection of 73 books written over the course of many centuries. The books include royal history, prophecy, poetry, challenging letters to struggling new faith communities, and believers' accounts of the preaching and passion of Jesus. Knowing the genre of the book you are reading will help you understand the literary tools the author is using and the meaning the author is trying to convey.
5. **Know what the Bible is – and what it isn't.** The Bible is the story of God's relationship with the people he has called to himself. It is not intended to be read as history text, a science book, or a political manifesto. In the Bible, God teaches us the truths that we need for the sake of our salvation.
6. **The sum is greater than the parts.** Read the Bible in context. What happens before and after – even in other books – helps us to understand the true meaning of the text.
7. **The Old relates to the New.** The Old Testament and the New Testament shed light on each other. While we read the Old Testament in light of the death and resurrection of Jesus, it has its own value as well. Together, these testaments help us to understand God's plan for human beings.
8. **You do not read alone.** By reading and reflecting on Sacred Scripture, Catholics join those faithful men and women who have taken God's Word to heart and put it into practice in their lives. We read the Bible within the tradition of the Church to benefit from the holiness and wisdom of all the faithful.
9. **What is God saying to me?** The Bible is not addressed only to long-dead people in a faraway land. It is addressed to each of us in our own unique situations. When we read, we need to understand what the text says and how the faithful have understood its meaning in the past. In light of this understanding, we then ask: What is God saying to me?
10. **Reading isn't enough.** If Scripture remains just words on a page, our work is not done. We need to meditate on the message and put it into action in our lives. Only then can the word be "living and effective."(Hebrews 4:12).

**DONATION STATEMENTS FOR 2019:** Statements for tax deductible contributions made to the church 2019 are available in the vestibule. Please contact Fr. Sal if you have any questions or if you need your statement mailed to you

**SAFE ENVIRONMENT:**

Please, be advised that any instance of sexual abuse by a cleric, lay employee or lay volunteer within the boundaries of our parish should be immediately reported to the local police department, child protection services of the county, the pastor of the parish and the Chancery of St. Josaphat Eparchy. A sexual abuser port form is available in the church's vestibule and/or the parish office in English and Ukrainian. The bishop can be reached at the Chancery at 440-888-1522 or by writing to: Most Rev. Bishop Bohdan J. Danylo, Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma, P.O. Box 347180, Parma OH 44134. You may also file a report with Ms. Marika Zaliszczuk, Victim Assistance Coordinator of St. Josaphat Eparchy (412-215-5372). For more information on St. Josaphat Eparchy's safe environment policy and procedures and other pertinent info, please, log onto: <http://stjosaphateparchy.com/safe-environment/>