





**Joanne Beard** underwent hip replacement surgery on July 1 and will have approximately a 6-8 week recovery. Continue to pray for her quick recovery.



The **candles** on the tetrapod and before the iconostas are available for sponsorship. Envelopes on the table in the narthex can be used to offer the \$20 for the 6 candles. The candles will burn all week as an offering for the intentions of the sponsor. Remember, offering candles which are consumed in the church is a physical prayer and sacrifice before God. Candles which are not sponsored, and thus have no prayer intention, will not burn throughout the week.



Mark July, 28th on your calendars as our next church picnic.



### Church Arrangement

Given the positive response, St. Mary's is maintaining the current pew arrangement for the time being. This is the traditional arrangement for Eastern worship and will hopefully enhance our worship of the Lord by allowing more interaction. Seating will always be available to those who desire or need it. It is customary in churches without pews to sit on the floor during the homily and to move closer to the priest to hear the Gospel, both of which were the case during Christ's preaching, such as with the Sermon on the Mount. Please feel free to do so as well.



### Handling the Holy Bread ("Antidoron")

After taking Communion, at the end of the Divine Liturgy, and at Vespers/Vigil with a "Litya" or "Blessing of Bread", it is traditional to eat a piece of holy bread or antidoron—the peripheral bread from which Holy Communion was prepared and various commemorations made. While antidoron is not the Body and Blood of Christ, it is still blessed bread, and as such, we should take precaution to eat it carefully so that crumbs don't fall to be trampled underfoot. Monitor the children as they take the antidoron, teaching them to eat respectfully.



### Pray for the Sick, Recovering, and Shut-Ins:



**Theresa Glagola** at Sundale  
**Kathryn Ramezan** at home  
**Joanne Beard**

**May we keep all our ailing and healing parishioners in our prayers every day.**

Please let Father Jim know to include any family and parish members who are ill, hospitalized, or need a visit for blessing, anointing, confession, or request of prayers. Kindly call Father Jim at (304) 918-3297 Thank You.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES** go to:

**Anyone celebrating theirs this week**



May God bless you with Peace, Health, and Happiness!  
For many happy and blessed years!



Sanctuary Candles Intention is for the health of **Janet McCabe**



In the Eastern Church, the various prayers for the departed have as their purpose: to pray for the repose of the departed; to comfort the living; and to remind those who remain behind of their own mortality, and the brevity of this earthly life.



### **Offertory Collection for June 30th 2024**

Envelope Offerings	Loose Offerings	Candles	Feast Day	Peter's Pence	Total
\$240	\$80	\$23	\$125	\$5	\$473

Church Attendance for Sunday was: 32

## Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

Romans 15:1-7

Those of us who are strong must resolve to put up with the failings of the weak and not please ourselves. Each of us must consider his neighbor's good for the purpose of building him up. Even Christ never sought to please himself, but, as it is written, "The insults of those who insult you have fallen upon me." For everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that by perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we may continue to have hope.

May the God of perseverance and encouragement grant that you may live in harmony with one another, following in the example of Jesus Christ, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

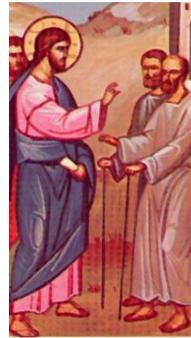
Therefore, accept one another for the glory of God, just as Christ has accepted you.

Matthew 9:27-35

As Jesus proceeded from there, two blind men followed him, crying out loudly, "Son of David, have pity on us." When he had gone indoors, the blind men approached him. Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I can do this?" They replied, "Yes, Lord, we do." Then Jesus touched their eyes, saying, "Let it be done for you according to your faith." And their sight was restored. Then Jesus sternly warned them, "See to it that no one learns about this." But as soon as they had departed, they spread the news about him throughout that entire district.

As they left, a man who was possessed and unable to speak was brought to him. When the demon had been driven out, the man who had been mute was able to speak. The crowds were amazed, and they said, "Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel." But the Pharisees responded, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons."

Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every kind of illness and disease.



### Prayer

Commit yourself to mentioning others by name in your daily prayers. Train yourself to remember those you met during the day and mention them by name before the Lord in your evening prayers. Concentrate on mentioning people who suffer from all sorts of problems: war, flood, earthquake, volcano, spiritual loss, moral collapse, deviation, family problems, health issues, etc. You will see that you will embrace the universe with your spirit, just as your Christ embraced it before you. Pray with sincere tears, and God will reveal to you the benefits of your prayer. Let prayer change you. If, after years of praying, you remain the same as you were before, then you should realize that prayer has not yet become your culture.

<https://www.antiochian.org/regulararticle/2089>

### *They Saw Because They Believed*

At that point, two blind men follow the Lord as He was passing by. But if they could not see, how could the blind men know of the Lord's departure as well as His name? Moreover, they called him "Son of David" and asked to be made well. In the two blind men, the entire earlier pre-figuration is complete. The ruler's daughter seems to be from these people, namely, the Pharisees and John's disciples, who already made common cause in testing the Lord.

To these unknowing persons the law gave evidence as to the one from whom they sought a cure. It indicated to them that their Savior in the flesh was of the line of David. It also introduced light to the minds of those who

were blind from past sins. They could not see Christ but were told about Him.

The Lord showed them that faith should not be expected as a result of health but health should be expected because of faith. The blind men saw because they believed; they did not believe because they saw. From this we understand that what is requested must be predicated on faith and that faith must not be exercised because of what has been obtained. If they should believe, He offers them sight. And He charges the believers to be silent, for it was exclusively the task of the Apostles to preach.

*St. Hilary of Poitiers*