

**SLAVA ISUSU CHRISTU! SLAVA NA VIKI!
GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST! GLORY FOREVER!**

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

EPISTLE 2nd Corinthians 11: 31-12: 9
GOSPEL Luke 8: 5-15

Saturday, October 18, 2025, 10:30 a.m.

Health & Blessing of Sr. Margaret Fedyszak
by the Bentivegna Family

Sanctuary Candle:

Health & Blessing of the Parish Family

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

EPISTLE Galatians 1: 11-19
GOSPEL Luke 16: 19-31

Saturday, October 25, 2025, 10:30 a.m.

+Vincent Weir
by Lillian, Patrick & Vivian

Sanctuary Candle:

Memory of +Vincent Weir

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Fr. Martin is available to hear confession immediately after each Divine Liturgy.

WELCOME!

We welcome our guests and visitors, and are happy to have them join us in prayer. If you have not officially registered in the parish, and would like to, please speak with Fred.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Please continue to remember in our prayers all the needs of the parish family, the sick and suffering, those who have asked for our prayers, especially Frantisek Vavrak, George Stojkovic, Helena Hukova, Mateo Stojkovic, Serena Bravo, Stella Bravo, Gabriela Machado, Michelle Bentivegna, Luz Mirella Vargas, Miguel Angel Alarcon, Viviana Rosa Munoz and Laura McKenzie. Let us remember the priests and bishops of the Catholic Church, those people who have been denied their basic human rights and dignity, the oppressed, the lonely, the homeless and those who suffer, and those who have no peace of mind or heart. Please contact Fred to have a name added or removed.

Announcements and Reminders

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION Today is the final day to register for the January 17 Jubilee Divine Liturgy and Luncheon. If you are celebrating your 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, etc., wedding anniversary in 2025 or 2026, and would either like to attend the celebration, or, cannot attend but would like a certificate mailed to you, speak with Fred. If you do not register today, you will not be permitted to attend. Note, there is no fee associated with the luncheon, other than travel expenditures.

PILGRIM VOCATION ICON PROGRAM! The Pilgrim Vocation Icon Program has begun! This program is taking place in every Byzantine Catholic parish in the United States. Everyone in the parish is invited to pray for and

encourage others within the Church that they might respond generously to God’s call in their lives. God relies on generous men and women to minister among us as priests, deacons, monks, and nuns. The Church needs people like you to pray for and encourage them. Sign up today to have the Pilgrim Vocation Icon “The Call of the Disciples” in your home for one week. You will be greatly blessed. Please speak with Fr. Martin or Fred to sign-up.

ST. NICHOLAS LUNCHEON Our annual luncheon will be held immediately following Divine Liturgy on Saturday, December 6. If you are able to attend, please speak with Michelle, Vivian, or Suzanne. Volunteer(s) are needed to power wash the patio. If you are willing to volunteer, please speak with Fred.

Pastoral Message

Dear faithful parishioners, and you who have come to our church for the first time – welcome!

Glory to Jesus Christ!

A farmer sowing seed in his field was a familiar sight to the people following Jesus as he traveled about the Galilean countryside. They knew well the hard and tedious work of plowing and sowing, of patiently allowing time for growth, of harvesting at the peak of fruitfulness.

The parable, as Jesus told it, had the seed falling on four different types of ground: hard, rocky, thorny, and good. Only the seed sown in good soil yielded a plentiful harvest. Jesus described the seed as “the word of God” (Luke 8:11) and that word—the good news of salvation—was what he spoke. The minds of his hearers were as different as the soil in their acceptance of his message and, like the farmer’s seed, would produce varying degrees of fruitfulness.

A farmer is keenly aware of the difference between a poor crop and an abundant harvest and so he checks the quality of his soil in order to achieve the best results. Profitable farming requires perseverance in the hard work of clearing weeds, fertilizing and watering. St. Augustine (in a sermon on this parable) exhorted his listeners like this: “Be changed while you may; turn up with the plow the hard ground, cast the stones out of the field, pluck up the thorns out of it... be unwilling to retain that hard heart from which the word of God may quickly pass away and be lost. Be reluctant to choke the good seed sown in you... with the lusts and the cares of this world... but be the ‘good ground’” (*Sermons on New Testament Lessons*, 23.3).

Our minds are the ground which receives the word of God. How precious and life-giving is that word which is entrusted to us. We are responsible for providing the best of growing conditions for it—hearts and minds open to change. Let us work the soil of our minds by continuing in prayer in every circumstance in our lives, by daily reading and prayerfully reflecting on God’s word in scripture, by repenting of our sins so we can become rich soil in which our heavenly Father can produce good and holy lives a hundred-fold.

*In Christ,
Fr. Martin Vavrak - Administrator*