

St. Basil Catholic Church

A Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Church of the Eparchy of Passaic
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Served by:

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

~ LITURGY SCHEDULE ~

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

EPISTLE 1st Corinthians 9: 2-12
GOSPEL Matthew 18: 23-35

Saturday, August 8, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

For the Faithful of the Parish

Sanctuary Candle:

Health & Blessing of Danny Leckliter by Nanny

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

EPISTLE 1st Corinthians 15: 1-11
GOSPEL Matthew 19: 16-26

Saturday, August 15, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

For the Faithful of the Parish

Sanctuary Candle:

Health & Blessing of Danny Leckliter by Nanny

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Fr. Martin is available to hear confession immediately following each Divine Liturgy, or by appointment.

~ 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, Helena Huk, Danny Leckliter, and George Stojkovic. 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.

PLAN AHEAD: ADVANCE FUNERAL ARRANGEMENT PROGRAM Losing a loved one is never easy, and the last thing families should have to worry about during such a difficult time is navigating funeral logistics and unexpected costs. Funeral home services, burial sites, and related church fees can add up quickly, often creating financial and emotional strain on grieving family members at the worst possible moment. To help ease this burden, we're pleased to introduce a new program that allows you to make advance arrangements for your church plans and associated fees. By planning ahead, you can clarify your wishes, and spare your loved ones the added stress of making difficult decisions while grieving. Taking this step now is a meaningful gift to your family and one less thing for them to carry later. Please see Fred for more information and to begin making your arrangements.

~ PASTORAL MESSAGE ~

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

St. Augustine:

The Lord puts the parable of the unforgiving debtor before us that we may learn from it. He has no desire for us to die, so he warns us: *This is how your heavenly Father will deal with you if you, any you, fail to forgive your brother or sister from your heart.*

Take notice now, for clearly this is no idle warning. The fulfillment of this command calls for the most vigorous obedience. We are all debt to God, just as other people are in debt to us. Is there anyone who is not God's debtor? Only a person in whom no sin can be found. A is there anyone who has no brother or sister in his debt? Only if there be someone who has never suffered any wrong. Do you think any can be found in the entire human race who has not in turn wronged another in some way, incurring a debt to that person? No, all debtors, and have others in debt to them. Accordingly, God who is just has told you how to treat your debtor, because he means to treat hi the same way. There are two works of mercy which will set us free. They briefly set down in the gospel in the Lord's own words: *Forgive and you will be forgiven*, and Give *and you will receive*. The for concerns pardon, the latter generosity. As regards pardon he says, "Just as you want to be forgiven, so someone is in need of forgiveness." Again, as regards generosity, consider when a beggar asks you for something that you are a beggar too in relation to God. When we pray we are all beggars before God. We are standing al door of a great householder, or rather, lying prostrate, and beg with tears. We are longing to receive a gift—the gift of God himself.

What does a beggar ask of you? Bread. And you, what do you ask of God, if not Christ who said: *I am the living bread that has come down from heaven?* Do you want to be pardoned? Then pardon others. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Do you want to receive? Give and you will receive. If we think of our sins, reckoning up those we have committed by sight, hearing, thought, and countless disorderly emotions, I do not know whether we can even sleep without falling into debt. And so, every day we pray; every day we beat upon God's ears with our pleas; every day we prostrate ourselves before him saying: *Forgive us our trespasses, as we also forgive those who trespass against us.* Which of our trespasses, all of them or only some? All, you will answer. Do likewise, therefore, with those who have offended you. This is the rule you have laid down for yourself, the condition you have stipulated. When you pray according to this pact and covenant you remember to say: *Forgive us, as we also forgive our debtors.* (Sermon 83, 2. 4: PL 38, 515-516)

Rev. Martin Vavrak – Administrator