

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 ~

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
EPISTLE 1st Corinthians 3: 9-17
GOSPEL Matthew 14: 22-34

Saturday, July 25, 2026, 10:30 a.m.
For the Faithful of the Parish

Sanctuary Candle:
Health & Blessing of Danny Leckliter by Nanny

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
EPISTLE 1st Corinthians 4: 9-16
GOSPEL Matthew 17: 14-23

Saturday, August 1, 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!

THE WALKING ON THE WATER

After feeding the multitude physically and spiritually, the Lord sent His disciples to the other side of the lake, dismissed the crowd and went up into a mountain to pray. Again and again we read that the Lord withdraws to pray alone to God the Father. Here he gives us another example how we should act. Being God Himself, the Lord had no need to pray to God the Father. But as man He prays to God, for humanity has a constant need to be in communion with the Source of Life.

While He was praying, a storm arose on the lake. Knowing that the disciples were in trouble, at about the fourth watch of the night (6 a.m.), the Lord came to their help, walking on the water. And He seemed to be passing by, but the disciples cried out in fear, thinking He was a ghost. Then He said: "Take courage; it is I, do not be afraid." The Greek words translated by "it is I" here literally mean: "I am". This is the name of God as given to Moses at the burning bush (Exodus 3.14). Only God is self-existent and uncreated; He is the only Being whose Existence depends on no other being; which is why He can truly say: "I AM".

Then Peter said: "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." Jesus said: "Come." When Peter got out of the boat, he walked on the water towards Christ. But when he became aware of the strong wind, he became afraid and began to sink. "Lord, save me!" he cried, and immediately the Lord caught him by the hand, saying: "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat the wind ceased and immediately they were on the other side. As long as Peter was filled with longing to be with Christ and looked only at Him, He was safe. But as soon as he looked at the stormy waves and wind, he began to lose faith, forgetting Who it was towards Whom he was walking - the Lord of creation.

The boat with the disciples was in trouble just before dawn. The Lord came to their rescue, and as soon as He entered the boat they arrived. This is a foreshadowing to the state of the Church in the last times, when the Lord will come and rescue His elect just when they look like going under.

Rev. Martin Vavrak
Administrator