Glory be to Jesus Christ! Glory be Forever!

July 28, 2019

Epistle Reading:	Romans 12:6-14	**Gospel Reading:**	Matthew 9:1-8
Next Week:	Romans 15:1-7	***Gospel Reading:***	Matthew 9:27-35

*Take time to read the scriptures to prepare your heart and mind for Sunday's Liturgy.

Services

Sat., Aug. 3rd	**Great Vespers** (Holy Sacrament of Confession to follow)	**7 pm**
Sun., Aug. 4th	**Holy Seven Youths of Ephesus;** **Venerable Martyr Eudoxia**	
	Hours	**9:15 am**
	Divine Liturgy	**9:30 am**

Announcements:

Don't forget! – The Dormition Fast begins at Sundown on Wednesday, July 31st!

Wanted! Canning jars are needed for a surplus of produce! A parishioner from Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church in West Brownsville is raising a garden for the Churches in the Mon Valley. He dropped off a half bushel of green beans last night and has much more to come. They are available to anyone who needs them. All he asks is that he receives canning jars to put them in.

CAUTION! CAUTION! CAUTION!

An Update from Council: **Please use extreme caution around the church!** If you are able to walk, leave the good spot for those who cannot. You are more than welcome to park in the Rectory yard.

Your patience is greatly appreciated!

CAUTION! CAUTION! CAUTION!

Church Traditions Associated with August Holy Days:

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION – AUGUST 6.

Christ was transfigured on the mountain before Peter, James, and John. He shown like the sun and the Father bore witness that this is His Beloved Son. It is customary to bring quantities of fresh fruit to be blessed on the Transfiguration. It is a harvest celebration when fruits are usually of high quality and availability. Grapes, melons and berries are popular as are bananas, pears, apples, plums and peaches.

COMMEMORATION OF THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS – AUGUST 15.

Dormition marks the holy day observing the Falling Asleep and Burial of the Theotokos. It is an observation of the Church's first funeral. This fact along with the long-standing practice of bringing flowers to the Virgin, inspires the faithful to bring flowers (especially those from their own gardens) and sweet-smelling herbs like basil and oregano to be blessed in Church. These flowers and herbs are then dried and burned at home during prayers like incense. Or, in the case of the herbs, used in cooking.

COMMEMORATION OF THE BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST – AUGUST 29.

This holy day is always observed as a solemn fast. Furthermore, it is a pious custom of the faithful throughout the Orthodox world to avoid eating any food served on a dish, plate or platter on this day out of respect for St. John. His head was retrieved from his place of execution at Salome's request and presented to Herod on a platter at his birthday banquet.

Parish News:

- The Parish Council has offered to organize a picnic as a memorial on Walter's behalf. More information to come.

Save the Date: This year's **Annual Fall Festival** will be held on **Sunday, September 29th from 12 pm to 6 pm** or until we're sold out. This means that *we are in need of volunteers* to give of their time and talent at Saturday Sessions and especially on Festival day! Please become a member of our wonderful Kitchen Crew! (Please see the vestibule bulletin board for a listing of all cooking sessions starting at 7 a.m. on Saturdays, unless otherwise noted.) Your help and cooperation are always needed and appreciated! Come join in the fellowship while helping make Baba's specialties.

If cooking isn't up your alley, help in the form of monetary donations are also needed with restocking of supplies! A year in the life of our Parish has been busy with repasts, Presanctified Liturgy, special coffee hours, etc., and some of our festival supplies of wrapped silverware, takeout containers, plates, napkins, plastic wrap, foil, sterno, etc. have been put to good use, but have dwindled. Can you help with restocking of the necessary supplies to help this year's Festival run smoothly? Thank you in advance with your help and God Bless. See either Marie or Mary.

Don't forget! -- When purchasing pop for your cookout this summer, please consider purchasing an extra case of pop and/or water and donating towards this worthy cause.

Your donation(s) DIRECTLY contribute to the success of this endeavor!

HELP WANTED:

- Volunteers need to cut and trim church grass for Summer and Fall. Let a member of Parish Council know if interested.
- Also, there are two openings on our Sunday School Teaching Staff – catechism teachers are needed for our Middle School class and High School class for the upcoming year. Class materials are provided. Please contact Fr. Stephan if interested.

Collection: July 21th: $1,789