



August 16, 2020

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Parish Schedule

Aug 15 (Sat) Divine Liturgy 5:00pm
+Rosalind Bache req by the William Bache Family

Aug 16 (Sun) ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Divine Liturgy 10:30am
+Ruth Seech req by Bernadette Karoffa

Aug 22 (Sat) Divine Liturgy 5:00pm
+Sophia & Michael Prodan req by Anna Prodan

Aug 23 (Sun) TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Divine Liturgy 10:30am
+Ruth Seech req by Ray Seech (51st Anniversary)

Our Tithe to our Parish - August 9, 2020 - \$2,511.00

To all those who have been so faithful in your donations, especially during these trying times, we offer a huge Thank You! Our parishioners have been very conscious in the support of our church that allows us to continue to meet our expenses and even the extra items that come up.



Sanctuary Lamp continues to burn before the presence of our Risen Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ in our church during the week of August 16 thru August 22 for the health and well-being of Norman Heinack.

Let us remember in our prayers all of our friends and parish family members who are sick at home or in a nursing facility and for all who are in need of our prayers.



Tillie Abraham, Diana Abraham, Ron Bishop, Jude Bodnar,
Pamela Seech Dawson, Steve Fekete, Kevin Ianni, Ted Race,
Clarence Rizzi, Helen Rizzi, Rose Marie Rupnik, Joseph Rusinko Sr.

UPDATES ON EDUCATIONAL WING

During the past two winters there have been a number of leaks in the heating system in the Educational Wing of our church. More than a few of the expansion valves have leaked and needed to be replaced. All this has been taken care of already.

Later, some of the floor tiles (original to the building) began to come loose because of the leaking water from the broken valves and needed to be replaced. Our Parish Advisory Council studied the situation, contacted contractors to discern the best possible solutions, weighed the options and finally chose Pecora Flooring (located nearby on Route #30) as the contractor to install a new flooring.



The entranceway and hallways, all the classrooms and storage areas have been covered with an interlocking style of flooring material. It is the COREtec Plus waterproof – Luxury Vinyl Tile stone impregnated in a marble texture. To finish the project, a 4” rubber cover molding has been installed in all areas. This is very durable and should last our parish for many decades.

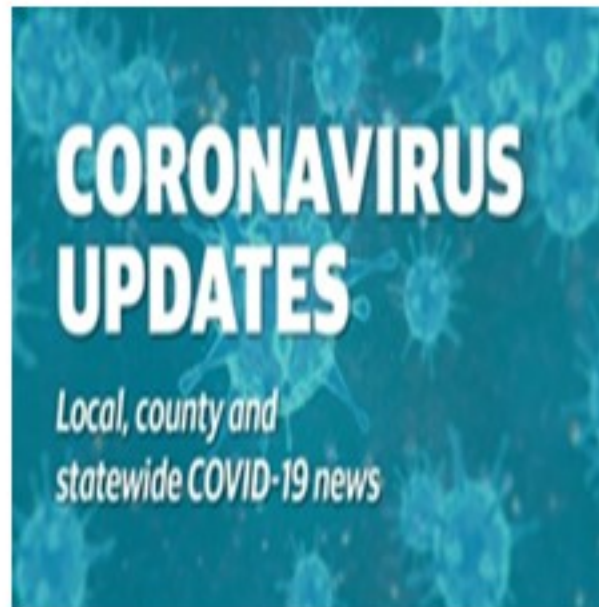
Of course such a quality product does not come cheaply. We have endeavored in all our projects to use quality materials and workmanship so that it will not need replacing in ten years. The total cost of this project is \$13,435.00.

Thankfully we do have the funds to pay for this, but it does cut deeply into our reserves. So we are all grateful for the ongoing generosity of our parishioners for renovations and general upkeep. You are invited to visit this area and clearly see where our money is being spent.

PARISH UPDATE

A FEW NOTES FROM OUR PARISH ...

- ◆ We have now begun to open our Divine Services to all our parishioners. Happily, about half of our usual congregation are joining, but we also realize that many are still not comfortable joining in community Services.



Thus the Divine Liturgy is live-streamed on the parish Facebook page each Sunday at 10:30 am. Thankfully there are quite a few folks who are viewing this page. This is a way of our parish reaching out to others who may be interested in our parish and our way of evangelizing both the local community as well as those who are interested from a distance. Be sure to let your family and friends know about this.

- ◆ To insure safety, after each Service, all the pews and often-touched surfaces are wiped down and sanitized so that they are ready for the next Service.
- ◆ All parishioners are wearing masks as required, and Fr John wears a mask both at the Preparation of the Gifts before the Liturgy and also at the time of Communion. Hand sanitizing takes place at the appropriate times.
- ◆ Pews are marked so that appropriate safe-distancing is observed.
- ◆ Hand sanitizers are available at all entrances so that parishioners may cleanse their hands upon entering and exiting the church.

NOT THE QUANTITY ... BUT THE QUALITY ...

Today's Gospel parable is told by Jesus in response to a question posed by Peter: How many times must we forgive our brothers or sisters who offend us? ... *Even seven times???*

And Jesus answers: *Not seven times ... but seventy times seven times!!!*



Then Jesus tells the parable that we hear today ... about the official who owed a tremendous amount ... a figure that was humanly impossible to repay ... and his master forgave him completely ... and soon thereafter, the servant met a fellow servant who owed him a very small amount ... and he absolutely refused to forgive him.

In other words, Jesus was not simply saying that we need to forgive each other a certain number of times (seventy times seven ... You can do the math yourself!).

Rather, he is speaking about our *ability to accept forgiveness*.

For the true mark of our ability to receive forgiveness from God ... is our very ability to forgive each other. If we have truly allowed God to forgive us and allowed ourselves to humbly accept this forgiveness ... then we will be *generous* in our willingness to forgive others.

But, if we find ourselves clinging to grudges ... nursing hurts ... rehearsing old wounds ... in other words, if we cannot forgive others ... then it is a clear sign that we have not yet allowed God's forgiveness to penetrate our hearts.

It is a very strong parable and teaching by Jesus ... and one upon which we each need to meditate.