



January 19, 2020
32nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Parish Schedule

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| Jan 18 (Sat) Divine Liturgy | 5:00pm |
| <i>+John Fekete req by Mary Cvejkus</i> | |
| Jan 19 (Sun) 32nd Sunday After Pentecost | |
| Children's ECF | 9:00am |
| Divine Liturgy | 10:30am |
| <i>+Fr. Edward Lucas req by Connie Dubyak</i> | |
| Jan 21 (Tue) Divine Liturgy | 8:30am |
| <i>+Fr. Gary Messinger, +Fr. Dennis M. Bogda, +Fr. John Cuccaro</i> | |
| Jan 23 (Thu) Divine Liturgy | 8:30am |
| <i>+Msgr Basil Smochko</i> | |
| Jan 25 (Sat) Divine Liturgy | 5:00pm |
| <i>Intention of the Parish Family</i> | |
| Jan 26 (Sun) 33rd Sunday After Pentecost | |
| Sunday of Zacchaeus | |
| Children's ECF | 9:00am |
| Divine Liturgy | 10:30am |
| <i>+Mary Soltis req by Bob & Patty Krohmaly</i> | |

Our Tithe to our Parish - January 12, 2020 - \$1883.00



The Sanctuary Lamp continues to burn before the presence of our Risen Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ in our church during the week of Jan 19 thru Jan 25 for the health and well-being of Tillie and Diana Abraham .

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, Steve Fekete, Kevin Ianni, Clarence Rizzi, Helen Rizzi, Joseph Rusinko Sr, Sue Sabol, Ruth Seech, Debby Vasko



Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Province

HOUSE OF PRAYER

All programs are held at the House of Prayer unless otherwise specified.
Please call 724-438-7149 to register.

Saturday, Feb. 29, 2020

Sacramental Healing in Mystery

Experience Healing in a Sacramental Church

Fr. John Marcucci

9:30am - 3:00 pm Offering: \$35.00, incl. lunch

Registration Due: Feb 24

The Liturgy of the Eucharist and the Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated with validated Scriptural Presentations.

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

March 5 - Apr. 2, 2020

Lenten Bible Study

Sr. Melita Marie, OSBM

9:30am - 11:30am

Free Will Offering - Registration Due: Feb. 20

Bible Study sessions will develop Great Fast (Lent) themes and will include appropriate prayer of praise and petition. Bring your favorite Bible.

Saturday, Mar. 7, 2020

Lenten Prayer Morning

Fr. Valerian Michlik

O Lord, I Cry Out to You, Hear Me!

9:15am - 1:00pm

Offering: \$35.00, incl. lunch

Registration Due: March 3

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered along with a conference and prayer service.

RESTORING DIGNITY

A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY (Literally)

Take control of your money with *Financial Peace University* (FPU)! This nine-lesson course uses biblical wisdom and common sense to help you tackle budgeting, pay off debt, and make your money work for you! FPU includes your member workbook and a year of free online resources through Financial Peace Membership. Join an FPU group today! Contact Leia Shilobod at 724.689.2225 or leia@intechit.net for more info, or go to: www.fpu.com/1100783



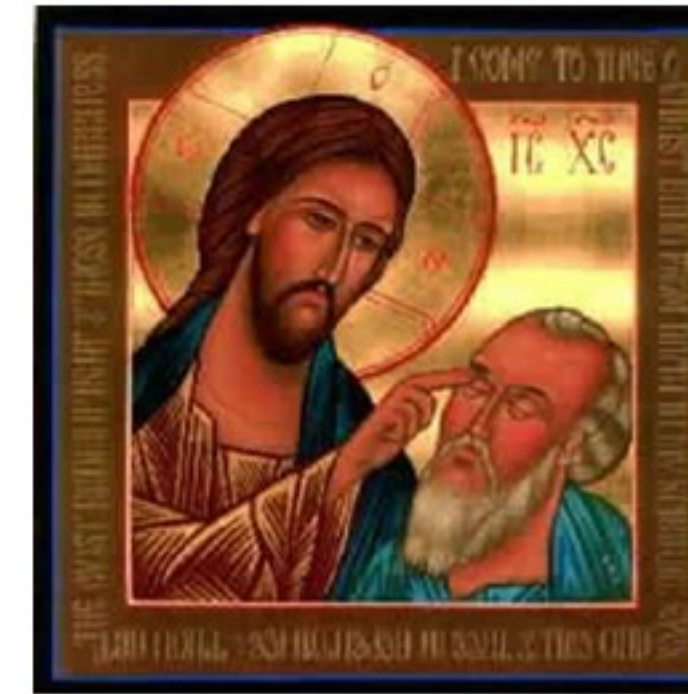
If you would like a statement verifying your 2019 donations to St. Stephen, please call the office on Monday or Tuesday mornings. You may also put a note in the collection basket and the information will be available in sealed envelopes in the vestibule

Ann Prodan asked Father to pass on a note: *I am now residing at The Oaks Senior Residence on Route 48 in White Oak. If anyone passes this way, would you please ride me to church? I no longer drive and I do enjoy attending liturgy. I would certainly appreciate the help. My telephone number is 412-754-0803.*

Today's Gospel tells us the story of a blind beggar who was sitting by the side of the road as Jesus was drawing near to Jericho. He calls out to Jesus to have pity on him ... to heal him.

We have seen a number of such stories in the Gospels ... people who are in need ... and they hear about Jesus ... his reputation for healing and helping others ... and so they seek to gain his attention ... so that Jesus might also heal or help them.

In so many of these stories, we see some common threads that link them together.



The man was certainly destitute, without any possibility of help ... the poor were seen as castoffs of society ... thus he was reduced to begging ... a rather ignominious existence. Begging was as much a cause of shame in the ancient world as it is in our own. Remember the wily manager in another Gospel story (Luke 16. 1-8), who said as he was about to be dismissed by his employer ... *I cannot dig ditches. I am ashamed to go begging.* Begging certainly does not enhance our self-image ... rather, it demeans us ... it robs us of our dignity.

To make matters worse, the man was blind. So, when he heard that Jesus was passing by, he realized that this might be his one chance ... this might be the one way out of his poor situation. So he took a risk ... he called out to him: *Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me!* ... and he waited for a response.

Sure enough ... he quickly received a response ... but not the one he expected. Those who were with Jesus sternly ordered him to shut up! They tried to silence him ... to reduce him to a position of non-existence that he had in their eyes.

But, Jesus treated him differently ... He ordered that the man be brought to him ... he singled him out and spoke to him ... he asked him what he wanted Jesus to do for him.

In a word, he *restored the man's dignity ... he let the beggar speak for himself ...* Jesus treated him as a human being ... worthy of respect ... and this was the first step of healing for the man.