



Sept. 24, 2017
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Liturgical Schedule

Sept. 23 (Sat) Divine Liturgy 5:00pm

Intention of the Parish Family

Sept. 24 (Sun) SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Divine Liturgy 10:30am

+Marie Klotz req by Carrie & Derek Markle

Sept. 27 (Wed) Divine Liturgy 8:30am

Sept. 29 (Fri) Divine Liturgy 8:30am

Sept. 30 (Sat) Divine Liturgy 5:00pm

Intention of the Parish Family

Oct. 1 (Sun) SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

FEAST OF THE PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS

Divine Liturgy 10:30am

+Richard Heckel req by Jamie & Chris Fekete



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 Sept. 24 thru Sept. 30 for the health and well-being of Fr. Ed Lucas.



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.

James Abraham, Tillie Abraham, Diana Abraham, Rosella Busko, Marion Campbell, Ted Druga, John Fekete, Fr. Edward Lucas, Carl Magdic, Fran Mogush, Clarence Rizzi, Helen Rizzi, Joseph Rusinko, Maria Rusinko, Sue Sabol, Ed Suzina, Mary Soltis, Terry Soltis, Margaret Weber, John Voron Sr.

Our Tithe to our Parish

September 17, 2017 — \$3,640.00

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH



We are happy and privileged to have two seminarians once again assigned to serve in our parish each Sunday. We welcome back **Paul West** who was with us both last year and also over the summer. We offer a hearty welcome also to **Tom Wells** who will join us this year.

We will have more to say about their assignment in future bulletins. Please offer them a hearty welcome to St Stephen Parish!

PARISH OKTOBERFEST

The annual St. Stephen's Oktoberfest will be held on Sunday, October 1, after the Divine Liturgy. A fattened pig will be lovingly roasted and carved for your dining pleasure. Come and enjoy your favorite German sides and desserts including potato salad, and of course, chocolate cake.

There will be a sign up sheet in the back of the church so you can bring a side dish to share. The afternoon will be filled with fun, fellowship and mouthwatering food.



Mark your calendars and by all means, come hungry!

PARISH EASTERN CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Do you know everything there is to know about our Byzantine Faith? Do you have questions about what we do and why we do it? Do you like to eat? Well...St. Stephen's is proud to announce a monthly Parish Eastern Christian Formation Program. This program will take place on the 3rd Sunday of each month after the Divine Liturgy and will involve faith formation, food and fellowship!

The seminarians will be assisting with the breakout sessions (for all ages) that will be incorporated into the gatherings. To help us prepare for our first session on October 15th please put your name on the sign-up sheet in the back of the church. We need to know how much food to provide and our instructors need to know how to prepare for their instruction time. These monthly events will be a great way for ALL our parishioners to nourish their soul and stomachs. You don't want to miss out on this new and exciting fellowship opportunity so sign up today.

KIDS' ECF REGISTRATION

Registration will be taking place during the weekends of September 16-17 and 23-24. Forms will be available in the back of the church to enroll children in preschool through high school. Completed forms can be given to an usher or placed in a designated box in the back of the church.

Classes will begin on Sunday, October 8, and once again St. Stephen's is blessed to have seminarians who will be participating in the program. If you have any questions, please contact Kristen Keleschenyi 412-726-0676 or kbishop25@hotmail.com.

LOYALHANNA CONTINUING CARE CAMPUS

Did you know that PA is among the top 5 states in the union with a high percentage of residents over the age of 65? As we watch our population aging, we are also witnessing many family members facing the difficult question of how to care for aging family members. Many are faced with this responsibility for the first time and are unaware of the resources available.

Loyalhanna Care Center is willing to meet with families facing such issues. You may contact them at:

Loyalhanna Care Center
535 McFarland Road
Latrobe PA 15650
Tel: 724.537.5500

APPROACHING GOD

How do we approach God?

Is it with a sense of fear and trembling ... or a deep sense of trust ... or a child-like confidence ... or as a loving parent or guardian ... or is it with a sense of guilt and anxiety?

Truth is ... we probably approach God with all these feelings at one time or another. It depends on the situation in which we find ourselves on that particular day.

And besides ... God is truly a *mystery* ... a mystery that is both attractive to us and draws us to him ... and yet a mystery that is awesome and makes us fearful at the same time.

A bit of this sense of mystery is caught in the invitation of the Byzantine Divine Liturgy before the reception of the Eucharist:

Approach with the fear of God, with faith (and love).



We approach the Body of Christ (God's presence with us) ... with a spirit of fear and awe, deep reverence and respect ... yet with a true spirit of love and tenderness ... and all this wrapped up in a faith-filled attitude.

Another image of this sense of mystery in the presence of God is seen in today's Gospel reading. After the miraculous catch of fish, Peter realized that he was in the presence of someone more than an ordinary human person ... and so he fell down at the feet of Jesus and said: "Leave me, Lord, for I am sinful man."

Yet, the result was that Jesus does not 'depart' from Peter ... but Peter ends up 'following' Jesus.