



September 30, 2018

**Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

Liturgical Schedule

**Sept 29 (Sat) Divine Liturgy 5:00pm**

**Sept 30 (Sun) Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
Divine Liturgy 10:30am**

**Oct 6 (Sat) Divine Liturgy 5:00pm  
*Special Intention***

**Oct 7 (Sun) Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost  
Divine Liturgy 10:30am**

Our Tithe to our parish

September 23, 2018 - \$1,152.25



*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, Marion Campbell, John Fekete, Carl Magdic, Fr. John Petro, Clarence Rizzi, Helen Rizzi, Joseph Rusinko, Sue Sabol, Mary Soltis, Terry Soltis, Margaret Weber, John Voron Sr



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 September 30 thru October 6 for +Joseph Hreha. *“Eternal Memory”*

November - Pirohi Project (dates to be announced)

Turkey Bingo - November 4th

St. Stephen Parish Dinner - January 13, 2019  
(A sit down dinner at Antonelli Event Center,  
100 Colony Dr, Irwin)



We will be ordering 2019 donation envelopes soon. Please call the office or place a note in the collection basket for any corrections or additions.

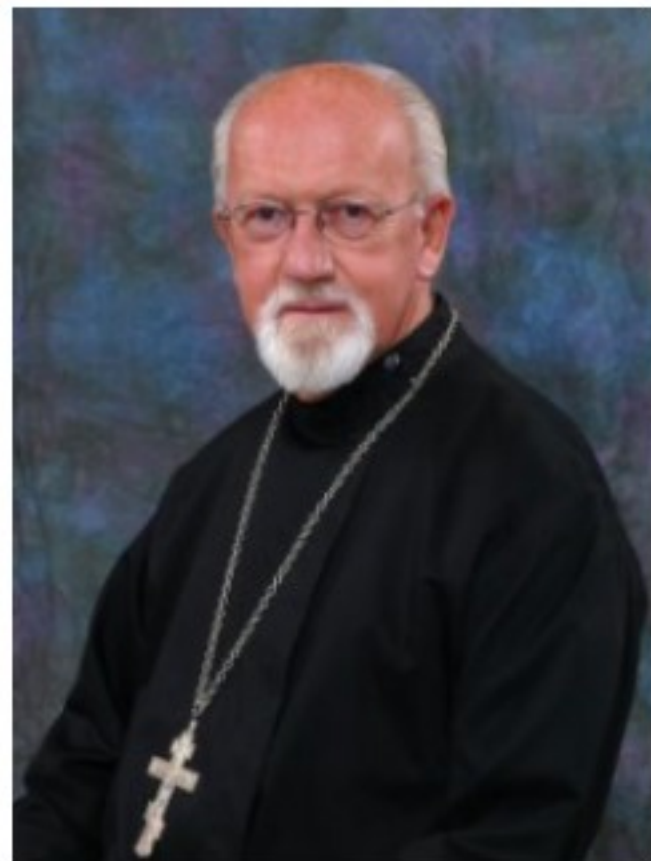
## PARISH GATHERING

1968 was arguably the most historic year of modern times. For the first time humans orbited the moon (Apollo 8). In our country, it was also the year of the assassinations of Bobby Kennedy and Martin Luther King. In Europe it was the time of general strikes in plants and factories in Paris and throughout the country. In Belgium the student riots over linguistics issues brought down the government and resulted in the splitting of the ancient university into two sections, one French-speaking and the other Dutch-speaking. Among our parishioners it was the year of marriages of Patty and Ron Balta, Eileen and Norman Heinack, Rose Marie and Paul Rupnik.

It was also the year Fr. John was ordained to the priesthood. (Yes, he is that old.)

In commemoration of this event, we will have a simple parish gathering (cake and coffee) after the 10:30am Liturgy on Sunday, 28 October. In order that we might come together as a parish family for this event, there will be **no Saturday evening Liturgy that weekend**. Please plan to come together as a parish and celebrate our life as a parish family.

And at the request of Fr. John, **no gifts please**.



## FEAST OF THE HOLY PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS OCTOBER 1

Among the Marian feasts that we celebrate in our Byzantine Tradition, the feast of the Holy Protection of the Mother of God carries special warmth.

The protective warmth of a mother ... the care and concern for her children ... the comforting embrace that a mother offers her children ... these are all deeply-imbedded images in the human psyche. Indeed, those who have been privileged to experience such warmth and tenderness truly know the power of a mother's care.

The same is true of nations and peoples. In the Christian Tradition, whenever there have been times of danger and difficulty, turmoil and turbulence, Christians have instinctively turned towards Mary, the Mother of God, the Theotokos, for solace and protection.

Once when the great city of Constantinople was besieged by enemies, the terror-stricken people gathered in the church dedicated to the Most Holy Mother of God ... the church where the relic of her mantle was preserved. There they kept an all-night prayer vigil.

The church was filled to capacity with the distressed people.



Among the worshippers was St. Andrew (known as “the Fool for Christ”, since he pretended to be an illiterate fool ... so as not to draw attention to his holiness); his disciple Epiphanius was also there with him.

After the service, St. Andrew saw the Mother of God approaching from the main doors of the church, in the company of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Theologian. She proceeded towards the altar where she knelt in prayer, amid many tears. Then she arose, removed the bright veil from her head, and stretched it out in protection over the people in the church.

News of the miracle spread like a flash throughout the city, and the people realized it was a sign of her maternal protection for them. The enemy was quickly routed and the city saved.

This incident is the source of our present feast. It reminds us also that we are not alone ... that we have a Mother in heaven who is constantly praying for us and protecting us.