

Tim Ryan, Fr. Lee Gross and Greg puhak.. Please pray for these friends and relatives of parishioners: Shirley Anne Markham, Jeffrey Mikulak, Francine O'Leary, Russell Plasha, Patricia Delfine, Rev. Joseph Jugan, Steven Goula, Eileen Gray, James Seman, Mike Shuster, Greg Starr, Florence Kunder, Kelly Kunder, Jim Bacigalupi, Katherine Sikoryak, Margaret Hospodar, John Ryaby III, and Guillermina Donalson,.

Prayers for our Parishioners. The particular law of the Byzantine Ruthenian Metropolitan Church directs that the pastor is to celebrate the Divine Liturgy for the people of the parish entrusted to him on Sundays and days of precept [holydays of obligation]" (canon 294). This liturgy intention for all parishioners is "For the Intention of Parishioners." The faithful who attend the Divine Liturgy for the parishioners who participate, according to their state, in praying for that intention. We can continue this prayer for one another during the week by remembering several parishioners' families each week. Please Michael and Amy Tysarczyk and family, Lawrence and Johanna Urgo & family, Jennifer and David Valeck, Lynn Valko, Anthony Vara, John Vernoski, Mary E. Vieira, Mary Elizabeth Vieira, and from the Mission, Steven Krempasky.

One Liturgy. Liturgy every Sunday and holyday of obligation must by canon law be for the intention of parishioners. If a second Sunday Liturgy is offered, an intention can be accepted. Since we have had only one Sunday Divine Liturgy for fourteen Sundays, the Liturgy was for the Intention of our Parishioners. As a result, the intentions requested for the second Liturgy on Sundays have not been offered. The celebrant can pray for additional intentions during the Liturgy, for example, the priest is required to pray for the bishop who ordained him at every Liturgy he offers. The celebrant will pray for the intention parishioners have offered. Please note that this does not persolve the Liturgy intention requested. There was no intention scheduled for the Divine Liturgy for Sunday, November 29th. Any Sunday

liturgy intention previously scheduled will be rescheduled when a priest is assigned which would make two liturgies a possibility again.

Public Liturgies. The Commonwealth of Virginia began Phase Three July 1st. In his episcopal letter of May 13th, Bishop Kurt Burnette announced that churches may reopen for public worship according to the directives of the public health authorities and with the bishop's permission. For churches, Phase Three requirements are the same as Phase One requirements. This means that the Parish Strategic Plan and the Eparchial Checklist is still applicable. This means churches may open at 50% of capacity provided health department requirements are met. It is important for public health not to slacken in observing the Strategic Plan. Bishop Kurt continues to dispense so those who are at risk or feel unsafe may remain at home. Please keep in mind that Divine Law still requires us to keep the Lord's Day holy by prayer and by refraining from unnecessary work. The bishop cannot dispense Divine Law. Further, the Bishop had encouraged all to make a good confession later in the year when it is safe.

Live Streaming. In response to the spiritual needs the Faithful of Epiphany, the Divine Liturgy of the Twenty –sixth Sunday after Pentecost today will be live streamed. Please remember that because of the Lukan Jump, the readings from Luke will actually be those of the Twenty-seventh Sunday after Pentecost.

Praying at Home Together. If you are remaining safe at home, you may consider praying the Divine Liturgy in your homes so that we can be united in praying the same prayers. These are available on the web site of the Metropolitan Cantor Institute of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh, <https://mci.archpitt.org>. The entire People's Molitvennik is available under Publications tab to use when participating in the live streaming Liturgy.

Christmas Fast. The forty day Christmas Fast began Sunday, November 15th and continues to

December 24th. Another name for the Christmas Fast is Philip's Fast because November 14th is the feast of Saint Philip and the fast begins according to liturgical time the evening of November 14th. The Christmas Fast offers several feasts: the Entrance of the Mother of God in the Temple, November 21st, Saint Nicholas, December 6th, Conception of Saint Ann (Immaculate Conception), December 8th, two special commemoration Sundays before Christmas and several aliturgical days when the Divine Liturgy is not celebrated, usually on the day of an Old Testament prophet and it can be recalled that the prophets and people of the Old Testament waited for the coming of the Messiah. Fridays remain as days of penance and in the Byzantine Ruthenian Metropolitan Church in the United States the other fasting prescriptions of the Christmas Fast are left to the ability of the individual.

Condolences. We offer our condolences to Dottie Kavcsak upon the death of her husband, Michael Kavcsak, who passed away Sunday, November 15th in The Villages, FL. Mike and his wife, Dottie, were devoted and active parishioners of Epiphany of our Lord, where Mike served as lay councilor, 2000-2003. Interment was at Mt. St. Macrina, Uniontown, PA, near his sister, Sister Perpetua Kavcsak, OSBM. May God grant His departed servant, +Michael, peaceful repose. Vičnaja jemu pamjat'.

Messages from the Pastor. Father John has been sending email messages to the parishioners whose email addresses we have on our roster. If you have not been receiving these email messages, it might be because we do not have your email address, or you have changed it and we do not have it. We would like to have your email address to keep contact with you during this time when some parishioners are remaining safe at home. Simply email the parish

Intentions to be Rescheduled. If you have offered a Divine Liturgy for an intention to be celebrated during the suspension, you will be contacted to reschedule. Jamie has begun rescheduling weekday liturgy requests according

to the date of the request. If you have scheduled a weekday liturgy, that liturgy will remain on the date requested. However, if you scheduled a liturgy on a Sunday, the intention will not be rescheduled until after the pandemic or until Bishop Kurt is able to assign a second priest to be able to celebrate two Sunday liturgies.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS.

EMC Awards Club. The Fall Epiphany Men's Club Awards Club Raffle has begun. The drawing takes place every Sunday for ten weeks. The holder of the winning ticket of each of the first nine drawings is awarded \$50. The winner of the tenth and final drawing takes home \$1000. The winner of the sixth drawing is Emil Koval, #075. Congratulations!

ELG Christmas Bread and Food. ELG will continue their successful Freezer Sales on December 6th and 13th. Pirohi, nut and apricot rolls, and chocolates will be for sale. Also, freshly baked Christmas Bread for Holy Supper will be available. Masks must be worn by customers.

Nativity Candles. If you would like to offer a candle for your family or a loved one, you may do so by calling the Parish Office beginning next Monday, December 7th between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM. A copy of the candles available is posted on the website. The candles will be lit for the first Divine Liturgy of Christmas and remain lit through the Christmas Season.

On-line Giving Now Set Up. Bishop Kurt directed that all parishes have online giving service in place with www.tithe.ly.com by August 31, 2020. Both the parish and the mission now have online accounts with tithe.ly and these can be accessed at the church or mission web sites. To make an online contribution, go to the church web site. On the home page is a link that says Epiphany of our Lord online donation. Click on that and you will be directed to Epiphany's tithe.ly account. Please note that where you see Offertory, that is a drop-down menu that allows the donor to specify what the donation is for: Sunday offertory, Building Fund, St. Nicholas Fund, or eparchial collections. Please show care in the category Recurring Giving. If it is not a donation to be given each week or month, please make that adjustment that this is a one-time donation.

EMC Bingo. Due to the Pandemic, Bingo has been suspended indefinitely. Observance of local, state, Catholic Mutual, and eparchial requirements for safe distancing and sanitizing does not make reopening Bingo economically feasible. We will continue to monitor health and scientific information as it becomes available to guide the determination of opening safely for our parishioners and Bingo patrons.

Parish Bulletin. The parish bulletin will continue to be posted weekly on the Epiphany website: www.eolbcc.org. It will also be posted on the bulletin board in the narthex and photograph of the bulletin can be taken.

Executive Order. Governor Ralph Northam announced that Phase Three began July 1st. The parish office was informed that as a result of a recent lawsuit filed by four pastors, the Commonwealth has agreed to not impose more restrictions upon church gatherings than over other businesses and gatherings. This decision has not yet been indicated in the Governor's Orders section in the Commonwealth of Virginia web site. It must be remembered that many of the practices followed in our church are mandated from the Bishop: every other pew closed, six foot markings, wooden spoons or metal spoons that are sanitized in an autoclave, Holy Communion procession, as well as restrictions on fellowship halls and gatherings.

Parish Office Schedule and Safety Protocols. In accordance with Bishop Kurt Burnette's and Governor Northam's most recent Orders, the office hours for Epiphany of our Lord continue to be amended to the following: Monday through Friday - 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Jamie, the administrative assistant, will cover the office during those hours from home two days of the week. She will be teleworking Tuesday afternoon and all day Thursday. She will be physically in the parish office Monday, Wednesday, and Friday only. Lucie, the financial assistant, is working in the office only three days a week. She will be in the office Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Given that response to this crisis is so fluid and schedules can change so quickly, please call the office phone number before venturing out. Parish staff has established safety and health protocols at the parish office, as well. If you have business at the office, please **use the new doorbell**. We will **respond through the intercom** after verifying your presence at the door. Jamie is able to respond to the door from home as well. Please wear **a mask** and use the hand **sanitizer station** when you come into the

office and observe **social distancing**. We are only able to accommodate three adults in the office including two staff members observing safe distancing.

Mission Update. According to Jack McLaurin Montgomery County has approved our Right-of-Way disturbance permit and the mission needs to post a \$1,000 bond. Jack is preparing our Building Permit applications so that SWM and Building Permit application can be approved around the same time. The office has completed finance documents for the heating oil contractor to supply oil. Obtaining service providers and the detail of work to be performed, restoring trash service pick up, as well as planning to set up the Verizon telephone service has begun at the Mission Estate. Icon copies for the icon screen have been received.

Book Store. The Bookstore is open by appointment only. Please contact a Bookstore manager and be prepared to wear a mask and not to use the rest rooms in the Social Hall.

Restroom Availability FYI. There are no campus restrooms open to the public, including our vendors. We have only two buildings being cleaned weekly, the church for our parishioners and the parish office for our office staff. The day care bathrooms are for the exclusive use of the day care children and staff and restricted for their safety.

EPARCHIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bishop's Appeal. The Bishop's Appeal 2020 began October 1st. Parishioners should have received their Bishop's Appeal Pledge forms. Pledges and payments will be accepted through June 1, 2021. Any contributions received after December 31, 2020, must be attributed to the 2021 tax year. The goal for this year's campaign is the same as last year, \$19,800. If we reach goal, we will receive a 40% refund of the total received.

Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

COMING EVENTS

- Byzantine Spirituality
- Parish Office Safety Protocols
- Holiday Office Schedule
- Nativity Candles
- Condolences
- Mission details
- EMC Bingo – Suspended Indefinitely
- On Line Contributions
- Bishop's Appeal
- ELG Christmas Bread

EMC BINGO

Bingo will be suspended for the foreseeable future.

<http://EMCBINGO.com>

November 29, 2020

TITHING & GIVING

Adults	\$5815.00
Building Fund	\$3320.00
Holy Days	\$515.00
Candles	\$207.00
School of Religion	\$22.00
Christmas	\$400.00
Serving those who serve ...	\$440.00
Holy water bottles	\$1.00
Catholic Charities	\$175.00
<u>St. Nicholas Fund</u>	<u>\$589.00</u>
	\$11,484.00

***Correction to the above:** Holy Days = \$505. Cath. Char.= \$185

Tithing & Giving. Above accounting represents weeks 11/08 and 11/15. The next report will cover weeks 11/22 and 11/29. "Online Donation" represents donations for Epiphany contributed by parishioners online and sent to Epiphany from our online giving account. Our online giving is operational and can be accessed through the parish or mission web sites. Thank you for continuing to use your giving envelopes.

"Remember then, it is the Lord, your God, who gives you the power to acquire wealth." (Dt. 8:18)

LITURGY AND LIFE

Prayer Intentions. Please remember in prayer: Msgr. George Dobs, Michael Mikulak, David Sayen, Mary McDonnell, Justine Ferrari, Louis Shanks, Caroline Zurun, Mary Beth Vieira, Irene Markovich, Mary Gaydos, Betty Markovchick, John Vernoski, Marge Rusnak, Paul Vrabel, Richard Wytko, and



EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Byzantine Catholic Church
3410 Woodburn Road, Annandale, VA 22003
Phone: 703-573-3986 --- Fax: 703-573-0344
Very Rev. John G. Basarab - Pastor

Glory to Jesus Christ Glory Forever!	November 29, 2020	Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na Viki!
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DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sun. Nov. 29 10:30 AM Intention of Parishioners
Twenty-seventh Week after Pentecost
Tues. Dec. 01 10:00 AM +John Basarab by Elizabeth Basarab
Wed. Dec. 02 Aliturgical Day
Thur. Dec. 03 Aliturgical Day
Sat. Dec. 05 10:00 AM +LaDonna Rodock by Jim and Jamie Bacigalupi

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST OUR HOLY FATHER NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER

Sun. Dec. 06 10:30 AM Intention of Parishioners

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE – December 6, 2020

Sun. Dec. 06 One server will be assigned under Phase Three Reopening Plan.

USHER SCHEDULE – December 6, 2020

Sun. Dec. 06 Ushers check with Bob Wargo for assignments next Sunday.

All public services in church in Phase Three in Virginia can have 50% of capacity.
People in attendance must wear masks and maintain social distancing.

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD Byzantine Catholic Church

The Sacraments – Our Life in Christ

Mysteries (Sacraments) of Initiation - (Baptism, Chrismation, Holy Eucharist). We follow the command of the Lord to baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19). Chrismation (Confirmation) and Holy Eucharist (First Holy Communion) is imparted at the same time immediately following baptism

Mysteries (Sacraments) of Initiation of Infants – is scheduled at the Divine Liturgy on Saturdays or Sundays during the year except certain fast periods. Sponsors must be Catholics in good standing and supply a sponsor card attesting to that from their parish. While two Catholics in good standing is usual, one baptized non-Catholic can function as a Christian Witness with the Catholic sponsor. Both must be at least sixteen years of age. Details are available at the parish office.

Mysteries (Sacraments) of Initiation of Adults – follows a period of catechumenate. This is a period of spiritual formation. Please see the priest or deacon.

Mystery (Sacrament) of Crowning in Marriage – According to the Pastoral Policy and Guidelines for Marriage Preparation for the Catholic Church in New Jersey, couples wishing to marry must inform the pastor one year before the date of the wedding and be free to marry in the Catholic Church. Couples will meet with the priest and deacon in four sessions – to begin the pre-nuptial investigation, to take FOCCUS, a communications, values and religious inventory approved for use in the Catholic dioceses/eparchies, to complete the pre-nuptial investigation and for a session on the theology of the mystery (sacrament). They are also required to attend Pre-Cana or Engaged Encounter.

Mystery (Sacrament) of Repentance – The Mystery (Sacrament) of Repentance is regularly available each Saturday 11:30 AM – 12:00 Noon. In addition, confessions are heard during the Christmas Fast (Advent) and the Great Fast (Lent) at other scheduled times. Visiting confessors are also scheduled at special times during the Great Fast. Confessions are also heard on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Great and Holy Parishioners who are seriously ill and those with life endangering medical conditions as well as those who are to undergo surgery should avail themselves Week to prepare for the observance of the Lord's Resurrection.

Anointing of the Sick – Parishioners who are seriously ill and those with life-threatening medical conditions as well as those who are to undergo surgery should avail themselves of the sacrament of penance and anointing of the sick. If surgery is scheduled, please consider confession and anointing at the church before entering the hospital since there is more privacy for confession and less chance of interruption for confession and anointing. If you are unable to come to church, please call the rectory. Families of parishioners who have a medical emergency should contact the rectory office so one of the priests can go the hospital.

Holy Communion and Visitation of the Sick – Holy Communion is brought to our parishioners who are ill at the hospital or at home by the deacon on Sundays and at other times by arrangement. Please contact the deacon or the rectory office by Friday prior to the Sunday communion visitation.

Funeral Services – The Office of Christian Burial is offered in ways to accommodate the needs of the family. The Epiphany Ladies Guild as part of their charity offers a Mercy Meal for families at the Parish Center following the interment. Epiphany of our Lord cemetery is a portion of Fairfax Memorial Park. Parishioners who are interested in purchasing cemetery plots should see the deacon.

Byzantine Catholic Mission of Montgomery County - Divine Liturgy: Sunday 10:00 AM; Religious Education & Social Hour 11:15-12:15: 20501 Goshen Road, Gaithersburg, MD; (301) 482-0282.

Parish Administration

"The Church is not an organization with sacraments but a sacrament with organization."

Parish Clergy

Very Rev. John G. Basarab, Pastor
Deacon Elmer Pekarik, Deacon Peter Turko

Parish Office Staff

Jamie Bacigalupi, Administrative Assistant
Lucie Cantsilieris, Financial Assistant

Parish Council of Administration

Emil Koval, Greg Puhak, Sally Green

Parish Office Hours: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM Monday- Friday

9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Sunday

School of Religion - School of Religion classes meet on Sundays between Liturgies (9:20 AM - 10:20 AM) throughout the school year (September - June). Classes are offered for children grades Preschool & Kindergarten - High School

Announcements may be dropped off in the Parish Office, faxed to the office (703-573-1088) or email to epiphanyofourlord@verizon.net.

Registration - Individuals who wish to register in the Parish should stop by the Parish Office and complete a census form.

<p>Epiphany of our Lord Church, Annandale, VA http://www.eolbcc.org Epiphany of our Lord does not conduct business on the website email.</p>
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PARISH USTAV

The Order for the Divine Liturgy
Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

PLACE RIBBONS AT:

BLUE p. 11 Mark and Follow Ordinary Parts of the Divine Liturgy
GREEN p. 125 Resurrection Tone 1

ALL MELODIES FOR THIS SUNDAY ARE: A

EXCEPT:

1. The Divine Liturgy begins on p. 11 BLUE
2. Typical Psalms and Beatitudes pp. 16-17, 23-24
3. At the Troparia:
Troparion of the Resurrection Tone 1 p. 125-126 GREEN
Kontakion of the Resurrection Tone 1 p. 126 GREEN
4. Scripture readings:
Prokeimenon of the Resurrection Tone 1 p. 127 GREEN
Epistle: Ephesians 5:9-19
Alleluia of the Resurrection Tone 1 p. 127 GREEN
Gospel: Luke 13:10-17

ONLY-BEGOTTEN SON – JEDINORODNYJ SYNE

Slava Otcu i Synu i Svjatomu Duchu, i nyňi i 4n a4i, 4n a v'iki v'ikov. Amiň. Jedinorodnyj Syne, i 4n a4 Božij, bezsmerten syj, i izvolivyj spasenija našeho radi voplotitisja ot svjatyja Bohorodicy i 4n a4i-d'ivy Mariji, nepreložno vočelov'ičivysja, raspnysja že, Christe Bože, smertiju smert' popravjy, jedin syj Svjatyja Trojcy, sproslavl'ajemyj Otcu i Svjatomu Duchu, spasi nas.

SVJATYJ BOŽE – HOLY GOD

Svjatyj Bože, Svjatyj kr'ipkij, Svjatyj bezsmertnyj, pomiluj nas. (3)
Slava Otcu, i Synu, i Svjatomu Duchu, i nyňi i prisno, i vo v'iki v'ikov. Amin.
Svjatyj bezsmertnyj, pomiluj nas.
Svjatyj Bože, Svjatyj kr'ipkij, Svjatyj bezsmertnyj, pomiluj nas.

IŽE CHERUVIMY – LET US WHO MYSTICALLY

Iže Cheruvimy tajno obrazujušče, i životvorjassčej Trojc'i trisvjatuju p'isň prinosjasšče, vsjakuju nyňi zitejskoje otveržim pečal'.

Amiň. Jako da Carja vs'ich podimem, anhel'skimi nevidimo dorinosima činmi. Alliluia. Alliluia. Alliluia.

SVJAT, SVJAT, SVJAT – HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Svjat, svjat, svjat, Hospod' savaoth, ispolň nebo i zeml'a slavy Tvojeja: osanna vo vyšnich, blahosloven hrjadjy vo imja Hospodne, osanna vo vyšnich.

TEBE POJEM – WE PRAISE YOU

Tebe pojem, Tebe blahoslovim, Teb'i blahodarim, Hospodi, i molimtisja Bože naš.

DOSTOJNO JEST' – IT IS TRULY PROPER

Dostojno jest' jako voistinnu blažiti t'a bohorodicu, prisnoblaženuju i preneporočnuju i Mater' Boha našeho. Česňijsuju Cheruvim i slavňišuju bez sravnenija Serafim, bez istl'inija Boha Slova roždšuju, suščuju Bohorodicu, t'a veličajem.

OTČE NAŠ – OUR FATHER

Otče naš, iže jesi na nebes'ich, da svjatitsja imja Tvoje. Da prijdet carstvije Tvoje, da budet vol'a Tvoja, jako na nebesi, i na zemli. Chl'ib naš nasuščnyj dažd nam dnes'. I ostavi nam dolhi naša, jakože i my ostavl'ajem dolžnikom našim. I ne vvedi nas vo iskušeniye, no izbavi nas ot lukavaho.

VID'ICHOM SVIT ISTINNYJ – WE HAVE SEEN THE TRUE LIGHT

Vid'ichom svit istinnyj, i prijachom Ducha nebesnaho, obr'itochom v'iru istinnuju, nerazd'ilnij Svjat'ij Trojc'i poklanjajemsja, T'a bo nas spasla jest'.

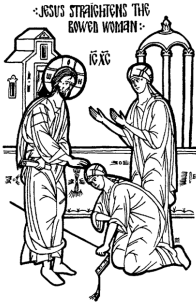
DA ISPOLŇATSJA – MAY OUR MOUTH BE FILLED

Da ispolňatsja usta naša chvalenija tvojeho Hospodi, jako da pojem slavu tvoju, jako spodobil jesi nas pričastitsja svjatym tvojim, božestvennym, bezsmertnym, i životvor'ascim Tajnam; utverdi nas Bože vo Tvojej svjatyni vsja dni poučatisja pravd'i Tvojeje. Alliluja.

Meditation on Today's Readings

26th Sunday after Pentecost

"The whole crowd rejoiced at the splendid deeds done by Him" Luke 13:10-17



As Jesus is journeying to Jerusalem with the Twelve and the disciples, large crowds gather around Him. Every Sabbath Jesus participates in Sabbath worship and preaches after the reading from Sacred Scripture. One time, according to the account appointed for today, Jesus sees a woman crippled and doubled over. She does not ask for a cure because it is the Sabbath and the third commandment prohibits work. However, Jesus simply cannot wait. He calls her to Him, puts His divine hand on her and cures her. The president of the Synagogue does not want to directly confront Jesus so he warns the crowd that curing people on the Sabbath violates the third commandment which God gave to Moses on Mt. Sinai. The official was really stretching it, but his anger reveals the opposition Jesus had caused among Pharisees

and Sadducees and also shows that scholars through the centuries had spent much study on defining what "work" was and was not. By the first century, the purpose of the Sabbath rest God commanded as a sign to the People of God that they were not slaves but free sons and daughters of God who should imitate God their Father who "rested" to appreciate His good work, His creation, was hidden under the complication of rules as to what was and was not work.

Jesus Himself describes the situation He just remedied in terms of liberation just like the time when He, with the Father, and the Holy Spirit, liberated the Hebrews from slavery to Egypt. Here He says that the woman in her infirmity was bound by the suffering caused by Satan who tempted the first man and woman and in so doing brought the world and its inhabitants to this suffering state. Jesus makes a stinging justification for His action by reminding the congregation that the commentary about what is or is not work on the Sabbath allows them to untie their ox or donkey to bring it to water and food yet they do not see as acceptable work that God would want to free this woman, a human being, made in the image of God?

In his apostolic letter *Dies Domini* or *Day of the Lord*, Pope St. John Paul II emphasized that Sunday, the weekly Easter, is made holy by gathering for the Eucharistic Divine Liturgy where the Risen Jesus is present. He continues to remind the reader that the Divine Liturgy does not end at the dismissal. Remember the Byzantine Liturgy dialogue: "Let us go forth in peace". "In the name of the Lord." St. John Paul reminds "Once the assembly disperses, Christ's disciples return to their everyday surroundings with the commitment to make their whole life a gift, a spiritual sacrifice pleasing to God (Romans 12:1)". They do this, the pope wrote, by evangelizing and by bearing witness of service in their lives.

"Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord"

Ephesians 5:9-19

The epistle to the Ephesians was written by Saint Paul from his captivity in Rome in the first part of the 60's. Although Saint Paul spent two years in Ephesus, the lack of greetings for specific persons indicates that while it was meant for the church at Ephesus it was probably a circular or encyclical letter intended to be shared with all the churches in Asia Minor. The epistle begins with a magnificent hymn which praises the salvific plan of God the Father, carried out by Christ – God the Son –, for the benefit of the elect (the members of the Church) and all mankind. This is the theme for the entire letter.

The holy fathers have appointed this part of the epistle to be read twice during the year, on Pentecost Monday and on the Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost.

The Holy Spirit, speaking through the apostle, is teaching the importance of unity in this part of the epistle, unity with and in God and unity with the other members of the Church. The words, "Awake, O Sleeper..." seem to be an early Christian hymn possibly from a baptismal liturgy. Certainly, the other verses indicate the change that takes place in a person who has been baptized into Christ's death and made a new man or woman in Christ's resurrection. Such a person must live a life of perpetual vigilance: imitating Christ by the power that comes from the sacraments established by Christ seen in the references to light that refers to the enlightenment of the intellect that comes in baptism, and living in charity and unity of behavior with Christian brothers and sisters in Christ's Church.

In order to remain faithful to baptismal promises, one must engage the means to do so, that is, self-knowledge, *asceticism* according to the situations that confront a person, obedience to God's commandments, the exercise of the virtues, and fidelity to prayer.

From the *Navarre Bible—New Testament, Navarre Bible-Luke, and the Ignatius Study Bible-The Gospel of Luke.*

Children's Corner





Ages 7+ November 29, 2020 • Ephesians 5:8-14


Live as Children of Light


Paul contrasts the way life is before and after we accept Christ.

Write the name of each object. Put the 1st and last letters of each word in the blanks in order to complete the sentence.

1  I P L

2 

3 

4 



For you were once

but now you are light in the Lord.

Enter your SECRET CODE to unlock games @ games.childrensbulletins.com

SECRET CODE
KKNSY4