

Glory to Jesus Christ! St. Mary ~ Holy Protection Byzantine Catholic Church *Glory Forever!*
Слава Иисусу Христу! 4480 Route 981 Latrobe, PA 15650 *Слава на вѣки!*

Pastor: Father Paul-Alexander Shutt, O.S.B. **Confession Schedule:** **Rectory:** 724-423-3673
Parish Email: st.marytrauger@yahoo.com **Saturday** 16:00 – 16:30 **Hall:** 724-423-8838
Website: www.stmarybyzantinecatholic.org **Sunday** 9:00 – 9:30 or by appt.

27 September 2015 / 7524: 18th Sunday after Pentecost

The Holy Martyr Callistratus and His Companions.

Our Venerable Father Nilus, Founder and Hegumen of Grottaferrata Monastery.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE:

Sat. Sept. 26 **17:00 Vigil of the 18th Sunday after Pentecost.**
 Suffrages for + **Walter Furwa** – *Susan Findish.*

Sun. Sept. 27 **10:30 18th Sunday after Pentecost.** Suffrages for **the parish;**
 for **Virginia Barbus** – *Mary Ann Kontir.*

Thurs. Oct. 01 **19:00 Patronal Feast of the Protecting Veil – The Pokrov.**
 Suffrages for + **P. Arthur Shutt** – *Michael and Aimee Kakos.*

Sat. Oct. 03 **17:00 Vigil of the 19th Sunday after Pentecost.**
 Suffrages for + **Anthony Giacobbi** – *Phyllis Zelenak.*

Sun. Oct. 04 **10:30 19th Sunday after Pentecost.** Suffrages for **the parish;**
 for **Walter Furwa** – *Frank & Marilyn Crimboli.*

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	<u>Acolytes</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	
Sat. Sept. 26	-----	L. Knouse	R, Garber, D. Mihalko	
Sun. Sept. 27	E. R. A. Hess	A. Syphan	J. Overdorff, J. Knouse	
Thurs. Oct. 01	Ruggieri, Syphans	S. Vacha	Any two present	
Sat. Oct. 03	-----	J. Kontir	D. Mihalko, J. Snitzer	
Sun. Oct. 04	E. R. A. Hess	T. Tomosky	R. & J. Knouse	

9/20/15 Collection: Adult: \$1110.00 Student: \$11.00 Candles: \$53.00
 Holy Day: \$210.00 **Total: \$1384.00**

Attendance: Saturday 17 Sunday: 50 + 7

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The Gospel of the Apostle and Evangelist Luke. The day after the leaving-taking (the *Apodosis*) of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, the Byzantine Churches both Catholic and Orthodox begin the reading of the Gospel of Saint Luke that will continue until the Great Fast. Luke was a companion of Saint Paul on some of his missionary journeys. Eusebius, a Roman church historian of Greek descent, writes that Luke was

«*by birth an Antiochene and by profession a physician*». When Luke wrote his two-volume set, composed of a gospel and the Acts of the Apostles, is difficult to establish. Most scholars speculate around the middle of *a.D.* 67 or sometime later.

Luke had two goals in mind when writing his gospel: first, it was for the benefit of the Church, and just as importantly, for the non – Jewish or Gentile world, which was becoming more and more interested in this new religious movement that seemed to so many, especially the Roman government, as a politically subversive or revolutionary sect. So Luke writes about the historical Jesus and His Church, but he also wants to present this new Faith in a way that one and all may want to belong to it. There are at least main six points that Luke wishes his readers or listeners to know about the Church's faith:

1. In a world filled with despair and misery, oppression and injustice, **joy** is a chief hallmark of the Kingdom of God.
2. Jesus, in continuity w/ the traditions of His Jewish faith, has a preferential concern for the **poor**, and as a corollary, stresses the spiritual dangers of wealth.
3. Luke greatly emphasizes the importance of **prayer**, another feature of the Kingdom of God.
4. The work of the **Holy Spirit** is central in the life of Jesus and His Church.
5. Being «*by profession a physician*», Luke portrays Jesus as the Great **Physician**, the **Healer** of our souls and bodies.
6. Lastly, Jesus is **BOTH** «*the glory of Israel AND a light of revelation to the Gentiles*». Jesus has come to save all. The call to *theosis* is universal.

There is nothing about Jesus and those who follow «*The Way*» that is treasonable or politically dangerous; and Romans like Theophilus – mentioned in the prologue to the gospel – need not be afraid to believe in Christ and belong to His Church.

Adapted from The Gospel of Luke ~ Good News for the Poor by Lawrence R. Farley

Next Sunday's Readings: 19th Sunday after Pentecost

II Corinthians 11: 31 – 12: 9 *Saint Paul's Visions and Revelations*

Luke 8: 5 – 15 *The Parable of the Sower*

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~ Announcements ~

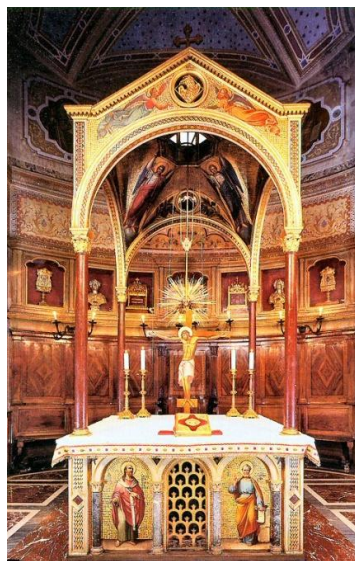
- Last Sunday at the Divine Liturgy, **Cassidy, Caitlyn, Eric, Ryan**, and **Joshua**, along with their teacher **Magistra Joanne**, received special prayers and blessings for the start of a new year of formation in the ancient tradition of our Byzantine Church. Continue to pray for their growth in God's grace. *ad multos annos! εις πολλά έτη!*
- **FR. REGIS'** surgery went very well this past Monday. He thanks you for your prayers; continue to prayer for him during his lengthy convalesce. Kindly remember all of our parishioners who are homebound or in nursing facilities, enduring their illnesses with patience.

- **2015 FESTIVAL NEWS:** *Gross Income: \$16,992.54! Net Income: 13,391.14!*
- **GRANTS RECEIVED:** TWICE this week our parish received fantastic news: (1) a **\$1500** grant from **The Michael and Aimee Kakos Fund** of *The Community Foundation of Westmoreland County*. This grant has been designated for our handicap accessibility project. (2) A second donation from our **local GCU Lodge** of **\$400** also given with the same intention. We are most appreciative to our local GCU and Michael and Aimee for these incredibly generous donations.
- **FACTOID:** According to «The Official Catholic Directory – 2015» there are 57,407 Ruthenian Byzantine Catholics in the United States.
- **CEMETERY PLOTS** are \$500 for parishioners; \$700 for non-parishioners.
- **FALL BINGO THIS SUNDAY** in the social hall of **St. Nicholas Church, Greensburg** from 13:00 to 16:00. Admission: \$5 per person. Doors open at 12:30. For additional information, please call 724 – 832 – 8122.
- **CHANGE OF TIME:** Our patronal feast day – **The Protecting Veil of the Theotokos**— will be celebrated at **19:00 (NOT at 17:30) on Thursday, 1 October** with the serving of the Divine Liturgy followed by a Gospel procession. There will be no dinner. If you have an icon of the *Protecting Veil*, bring it to carry in an outdoor candle light procession.



Our Venerable Father Nilus, Founder and Hegumen of Grottaferrata Monastery, Italy is commemorated on this day.

The **Exarchic Monastery of Santa Maria in Grottaferrata**, also known as the **Greek Abbey of Saint Nilus**, was founded in 1004 by a group of monks from Calabria led by St. Nilus of Rossano, a charismatic leader and a very important figure of his time. When St. Nilus, the monks' spiritual father, died shortly after founding the Abbey, St. Bartholomew the Younger, his favorite disciple and cofounder of the monastery, assumed their leadership. We, monks who follow the teachings of St. Nilus and St. Bartholomew still live and work within the walls of this ancient Abbey. We are **Catholics of the Byzantine-Greek rite** and belong to the **Order of Basilian Monks**, established by the Catholic Church for all Byzantine-rite monasteries in Italy. Today, Grottaferrata is the last of the many Byzantine-Greek monasteries that dotted Sicily,



southern Italy and Rome itself in the Middle Ages. It is also unique in that, having been founded fifty years before the Great Schism that divided Catholics and Orthodox, it remained in communion with the Church of Rome while preserving the Byzantine rite and monastic tradition of its founders.

Visit this link – <http://www.abbaziagreca.it/en/index.asp> – to learn more about this great spiritual treasure of our Byzantine Catholic Church.



Dear parishioners of St Mary Byzantine Catholic Church,

When Pope Francis announced his visit to the United States, he filled millions of Americans with joy. I'm definitely one of them. And I'm sure you are as well. But our Holy Father is aware — like all of us — that we're not living in joyous times. Not when there's so much struggling out there, often out of sight.

It's especially true in Egypt right now. During the chaos that rocked that country during the Arab Spring, extremists turned their hate on the most vulnerable. Their frequent target? **Egypt's Coptic Christian minority.** For now, the worst anti-Christian violence has subsided. But many families live in a constant state of unease. Scattered attacks on people and property still occur, but they're rarely mentioned in the news — as if these Christians no longer exist.

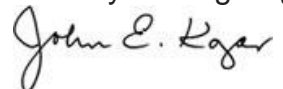
Since 2011, more than 400,000 Christians have fled Egypt. Those who remain are treated as second class citizens — in a land they've called home for 2,000 years. Soon, there may be no Christians left. If you're an Egyptian Christian, after all, local authorities often restrict how and where you can worship. Christian orphans taken in by the state are given new Muslim identities. And since few businesses will hire them, many Christian parents have slid deeper into poverty, dooming their children to life on the street. **At Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA), we're helping local churches and religious sisters look after these innocent people.** But we desperately need your helping hand.

Donate to CNEWA, and you'll help Egypt's Christian children — many of them orphaned or disabled — receive vital care and education. You'll give families access to pastoral services to keep their faith strong. And you'll support the training of new sisters and priests, who'll keep these struggling communities alive.

As we celebrate the joy that Pope Francis brings to our lives, let's carry it to these good people as well. Let's answer his call to help the vulnerable, without hesitation.

Please help them. Pray for them. Contribute what you can. Let's make sure Egypt's Christians survive.

Thank you for giving and God bless you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John E. Kozar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Msgr. John E. Kozar
President
Catholic Near East Welfare Association
1011 First Avenue
New York, NY 10022-4195