

St. John Chrysostom, Columbus, OH *Parish Weekly Schedule*

Sunday November 27

28th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30a Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
For the Faithful

~ Coffee and refreshments will be served in the parish hall following the services. Everyone is welcome!



Monday November 28

9a-1p Office Hours

Wednesday November 30

9a-1p Office Hours

Thursday December 1

9a-1p Office Hours

Friday December 2

9a-1p Office Hours

Saturday December 3

10a *Church Cleaning*
All Hands on Deck!



Sunday December 4

29th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30a Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
For the Faithful

~ Coffee and refreshments will be served in the parish hall following the services. Everyone is welcome!

11:15am ECF Classes and
Visit from St. Nicholas



We wanted to thank everyone who gave of their time and effort to help us make the rolls and pirohi for this year's Cookie Sale. Your work and sacrifice are greatly appreciated. Also, a thank you to those who helped with our Sunday Parish Bakes. We could not have done it without any of you.

Rose Ann Jirles, rolls
Pat Papai, pirohi
Lisa Sulich, cookies

Eastern Christian Formation Classes

Children's ECF Classes are scheduled for the following dates: December 4th and 18th. December 4th is also the Visit from St. Nicholas, all children are especially welcome to spend time with our special visitor!

Cookie Sale News

All Order forms are due in TODAY! If you have forgotten yours, please get it to Teresa by tomorrow, Monday, November 28th.

Gift Shop

We have some boxes of Christmas cards available in the Gift Shop in the narthex of the church.

Church Cleaning

To prepare our church for the Birth of our Savior, we are cleaning and decorating the church interior on Saturday, December 3rd. We need 8-10 people beginning at 10am. Please call the office during posted hours or Pat Papai at 614-578-5698. Please call so that we know that there will be enough people to help.

Philip's Fast Reflection

At this time of year when everything literally seems to speed up, as Christmas shopping, decorating, cooking and even celebrations begin to overwhelm our calendars the Eastern Catholic church suggests that we take some time to step out of the frenzy around us to focus on God and others. November 15 marks the beginning of the St. Philip's Fast. It is given to us by the Church as a 40 day time of preparation before the Feast

of the Nativity.

Is this an unreasonable request and just further evidence that the Church is out of step with the realities of North American culture? Or is it actually something that can enhance our mental, physical and spiritual health as well as make our actual celebration of Christ's birth more meaningful? Is it possible that by refocusing ourselves we could be free from the massive materialistic and familial build which can be coupled with a potential depressive let down often found in the pre-Christmas or post-Christmas 'blues' that pervade our culture as we face our broken family relationships, escalating credit card debt and other effects of so called 'ideal' Christmas celebrations?

Please don't get me wrong I still love Christmas but I have also suffered the negative effects of what might be termed the distortions of Christmas which focus on material wealth and a picture perfect family. So the question still arises as to how practically one might live out this counter-cultural pre-Christmas season. Should we decline all festive invitations, don sackcloth and ashes, and never set foot into a mall? I think it hardly likely that anything like that is being asked of us. Rather, the real trick of the St. Philip's Fast in all of this is to refocus our vision while walking through the ordinary activities our lives, as well as to build a culture in our homes which supports a Christ centred focus.

One way we can do this is to keep our eyes on Christ by not looking at what makes us happy but lovingly looking at how we can serve others. Is there a senior's residence I can take my children to for a visit or to participate in some activity? Seniors love it when children come to visit—they are a sign of life and hope. Is your parish doing anything for the less fortunate this Christmas—hampers or food donations? Yes—then get involved, no—then start something. We

need to be engaged with our communities—to bring light, hope and healing—and not just at Christmas. But, this is a great time to start.

Another practical thing we can do is to “unplug” our Christmas. (And I am not talking about Christmas lights—those are too important to give cheer on cold dark Saskatchewan winter nights.) My suggestion is that instead of focusing on electronics which tend to isolate family members how about gifts of board games, crafts or books. Perhaps even do some family reading time and talk about the books you are reading or read aloud one of the ‘great books’ like Van Dyke’s *Fourth Wise-man* or Dickens’s *Christmas Carol*.

Then there is the question of fasting during the party season. Please remember what the Church Fathers tell us about fasting. They remind us to be practical and to start with what we are capable of and to work up from there. The goal is free ourselves from our selfish desires. They also tell us that the demands of love come first—so if someone lovingly invites you to participate in meal or other gathering they have prepared then love might demand that you ‘fast from fasting’. On the other hand I know for some introverts this Christmas “merry-making” is truly a burden—so participating might be their sacrifice. In all we must remember the demands of love—is my action one of loving and putting the needs of others first? Also we might try to plan our own celebrating for Christmas and the days following the feast. You might be the key to helping someone else through their post-Christmas blues by inviting them to your continuing celebration of “God With Us!”.

Oh and just a quick word about St. Philip. Did you know that he is the patron saint of Pastry Chefs? (This likely stems from St. Philip being the apostle who asked Christ where they were going to get enough bread to feed the thousands who had come to hear Christ on a hillside one day.) So as you do your pre-

Christmas cooking and baking be sure to invoke his intercession not only for successful baking but also that all your preparations will be peaceful, as opposed to stressful, and that you and your family will have opportunities to reach out to others this Christmas with the love of Christ. While you are at it please remember to ask for St. Philip’s intercession for those who are wondering where their next meal will come from, pray for a miracle comparable to the ‘loaves and fishes’. Then maybe ask Christ what you can do to help make miracles happen. Who knows what will what God might call you to!

***Jesus, is the reason for the season!
Happy St. Philip’s Fast!***

*taken from:
<http://www.skeparchy.org/familyandlife>*

**Come, O Jesus,
our Savior
redeem
and save us!**

Prayer List

For the sick in our parish families, please remember in your prayers:

The Priest Eugene Linowski			
Ron Doctor	Ray Doskotch	Julia Fedeczko	Julie Fultz
Charlene Grabner	John Grabner	Ev Houston	Esther Imhoff
Frederick Kowalski	Marilyn Kimbrel	Donald Krofcheck	Victor Lonzrick
Christine Loya	Bill Martin	Joe Martin	Paul Mech
Ed Nyahay	Dave Olszyk	Mic O’Halloran	John Oshinski
Paula Oshinski	Bob Parks	Maria Rakowsky	Betty Sikora
John Sikora	Dennis Stinich	Bernie Turanchik	Ruth Turanchik
Anastasza Wojchak			

That the Lord God, for the glory of His name, visit his sick servants with His Holy Spirit and cure every illness and affliction, let us pray.

Special Dates this Week!

Happy Birthday!

Gloria Gaskey	November 30
Pat Papai	November 30
Wulf Mech	December 1



Michael & Ann O’Halloran
December 1, 1990
Celebrating 26 years Crowned in Marriage

May God grant them many Happy and Blessed Years!

Church Cleaning

December

12/3- All Clean
12/17 – Paula/Cathy



Collection Counting

Nov. 20	Mark Frye
Nov. 27	Alex Rakowsky
Dec. 6	Kathy Krofcheck
Dec. 11	Jerry Stasek