

PARISH CALENDAR

30 Wednesday—Vigil for the Holy Day of Obligation of the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord. 7:00 pm Vesper/Liturgy.

May 1—Thursday Holy Day Feast. 9:00 am Liturgy.

May 2—Fish & Pierogi Dinner. Come give us a hand ... and invite your friends!

May 2-4—“Life in Christ” Archeparchial Ministry Conference for catechists, adult faith formation teams and directors of youth ministry at the Antiochian Village, Ligonier, Pennsylvania. Call Sr. Celeste Strohmeier at 412-231-4000 ext. 23 or youthministry@archeparchy.org

May 4—We'll honor **Father Stephen's 30th Anniversary of Ordination** to the priesthood with a continental breakfast after the 10:00 am Divine Liturgy. **ECF End-of-Year Picnic**—Encanto Park beginning at approximately 1:00 pm.

May 3—**Mother's Tea** to benefit the GCU scholarship fund. 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Contact: Joanie Mahar 602.920.0607 or Diane Papke 480.686.9331.

May 10—**Fifth All Souls Saturday** 9:00 am Liturgy with the reading of the names.

May 11—**Pentecost Sunday & Mother's Day Brunch** after the Sunday morning liturgies.

May 21—**Accordion Club Dinner**, 5:30 to 7:00 pm in the parish hall. Menu: baked chicken breast, rice & gravy, vegetable.

✠ MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS:

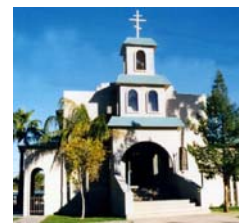
“Myrrh-bearers” **Women's Retreat**—A retreat experience for girls and women from 7 years of age through adulthood. June 27-29 at Mount Claret on Lincoln Drive. For more information refer to the flyers on the Greeting Table. Plan now.

ByzanTEEN Youth Rally 2008 “Moved by the Spirit in the Windy City” Thursday, July 31—Sunday, August 3, at University of St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, Illinois. July 1 deadline for registration. See Father Stephen for registration forms.

✠ **ALTAR SOCIETY**—The Milton Family are the church cleaners for this week.

✠ **GCU LODGE 999 SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE** applications and letters of recommendation are to be returned on or before May 15th. If you did not receive an application in the mail and are interested, please call Steve Durkit 480-471-7278.

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC PRO-CATHEDRAL

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Catering: 602-997-4563

Served by: Mitred Archpriest Stephen G. Washko, Rector
Deacon John Montalvo III, Deacon James Danovich and Deacon Michael Hanafin
Sr. Christopher Malcovsky, OSBM, Pastoral Associate
Sr. Jean-Marie Cihota, OSBM, Director of Education

APRIL 28, 2008

SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND



WE ARE CALLED TO LIVES OF HOLINESS AND TO EVANGELIZE. On the day of Ascension angels asked, “Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky” (Acts 1:11)? Looking at the sky never made a person holy. St. Paul indeed writes to the Colossians: “Set your heart on what pertains to higher realms where Christ is seated at God’s right hand. Be intent on things above rather than on things of earth” (Col. 3:1-3), but this is not a matter of day dreaming. It is a matter of prayer and cooperation with God’s grace.

When Jesus ascended into heaven he returned to the Father with the infinite merits of his life on earth. He returned with the glory of his life, death and resurrection. He returned with his mission accomplished.

During his life on earth he had preached the coming of God’s kingdom as the heart of the Good News. His ministry was a sign of its arrival and his reign was announced, but his reign is nevertheless yet to be fulfilled ‘with power and great glory’ by the king’s return to earth. According to the Lord, the present time is the time of the Spirit and of witness It is a time of waiting and watching” (CCC 671-672). Many of Our Lord’s parables, for example, The Sower and the Seed, The Wheat and the Weeds, The Watchful Servants, show that there is a period of probation and maturation on earth. It is on earth that we must be the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

The promise of the Kingdom always had conditions—fidelity to the Gospel of Christ and obedience to his commands. If Christ did not return to heaven “empty-handed,” can we? “Happy now are the dead who die in the Lord! . . . ‘Yes, they shall find rest from their labors, for their good works accompany them’” (Rev. 14:13). We cannot hope to be admitted to his kingdom if on earth we are not living, active, zealous disciples of Christ!

SCHEDULE OF LENTEN SERVICES & DIVINE LITURGIES

26 Saturday 5:00 pm	Vigil for Sunday p. 104 and special handouts Vesper/Liturgy +Mary O'Connor by Donald & Charlotte Gullucci
27 SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND, p. 189 8:00 am 9:45 am 10:00 am <i>ECF Classes</i>	+Helen Danko by Diane Papke Matins --Easter Canon (use folders) For our parish family and friends
28 Monday 9:00 am	Apostles Jason & Sosipater, p. 370 Happy Birthday Joel Weisheit by Mary Washko
29 Tuesday 9:00 am	Nine Holy Martyrs of Cyzice, p. 381 +Virginia Torscher by Fr. Stephen
30 Wednesday 7:00 pm	Vigil for the Holy Day of Obligation, The Ascension of our Lord Vesper/Liturgy for our parish family and friends
1 Thursday 9:00 am 7:00 pm	Ascension of our Lord, p. 191 +Rose Gonzales by Peter & Carma Reiss <i>At St. John of Desert, Melkite Church</i> for the intention of our fellow Christians in Iraq. Sponsored by the Eastern Catholic Clergy of Arizona.
2 Friday 9:00 am	Post-festive, p. 191 God's blessing on Sharon by Dr. Richard Hill
3 Saturday 9:00 am	Liturgy for the Catholic Daughter of America
Vigil for Sunday page 104 & special handouts 5:00 pm	Vesper/Liturgy God's blessing on Chris & Lisa by Sue Hill
4 SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE 1ST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL, p. 196 8:00 am 9:45 am 10:00 am <i>ECF Classes</i>	+George Kunak by Dorothy Kruszewski The ThirdHour For our parish family and friends

✠ **PRAYERS NEEDED FOR** Robert Crossley, John Bayus, Alice Johnson, Fran Philpot, William and Elizabeth Gelety, Martha Maleta (Freedom Plaza Nursing Care), Carmen Aragon (grandmother of Deacon John), Fr. Christopher Zugger, Florence Gunt, Mary Hrinko, George Chelena, Louis Rabiej, Jim Cochlin (brother of Jane Brown), Tom Gerez (Dorothy Dumnich's son-in-law), Robert Rankin (father of Fr. Robert Rankin), Olga Uram, Luddy Popovich, Daniel Mundall, Fr. Joseph Ridella (one of our retired priests), Julia Menlicavage, Daniel Dougherty.

✠ **MARY MIHALKO** fell asleep in the Lord this past Friday afternoon. Kindly remember Mary and her family in your prayers. Funeral arrangements will be announced this morning after the Blessing.

✠ **7-DAY CANDLES – ETERNAL LIGHT:** +Frank S. Slonka by Kathy Slonka. **TETRAPOD:** +Michael Mraz. **TETRAPOD:** Health of Florence Gunt by Alice Garcia. **SHROUD OF THE DORMITION:** Available. **SHROUD OF OUR LORD:** Health of Louis Rabiej by Alice & Abigail Garcia. **CHRISTMAS ICON:** Available. **THEOPHANY ICON:** Health of Martha Maleta by Alice Garcia. **PENTECOST ICON:** Health of Louis & Diane Rabiej by Martin, Ken & Kahlua. **RESURRECTION ICON:** God's blessing on Louis Rabiej by Fr. Christopher Zugger. **ST ANTHONY:** Available.

✠ **FISH & PIEROGI DINNER** this coming Friday—the first Friday of the month. We need your help and encouragement. Don't forget to tell your friends.

✠ **PHOTO PARISH DIRECTORIES** are available in the back of the church. Each directory has a name on it in order to make sure that each household of our parish has a directory. Special thank you to Mary Popovich and Kathy Slonka for working on this project for the last 5 months.

✠ **MAGGIE'S PLACE** will receive a check in the amount of \$832.00 at the May 3 GCU meeting. A big THANK YOU to EVERYONE who supported Lodge 999 in our quest to help Maggie's House!

✠ SPECIAL ADDRESSES FOR OUR SHUT-INS:

John Bayus is at "The Place at Glendale." His daughter's address for his mail: 6323 Abraham Lane, Glendale, AZ 85308. He welcomes cards and letters.

Frances Philpott is in Five Roses Adult Care, 18202 N. 67th Avenue (South of Union Hills). Stop by and visit.

Louis Rabiej is at St. Joseph Hospital.

✠ **BISHOP GERALD'S EPISCOPAL LINEAGE** Here is an interesting site. Bishop Gerald Nicholas Dino can trace his lineage at least back to the early 1500's in the episcopacy. <http://www.catholic-hierarchy.org/bishop/bdinog.html>

Episcopal Lineage / Apostolic Succession: Bishop Gerald Nicholas Dino (2008), Archbishop Basil Myron Schott, O.F.M. (1996), Archbishop Judson Michael Procyk † (1995), Bishop Michael Joseph Dudick † (1968), Archbishop Stephen John Kocisko † (1956), Archbishop Nicholas Thomas Elko † (1955), Eugène-Gabriel-Gervais-Laurent Cardinal Tisserant † (1937), Pope Eugenio Maria Giuseppe Giovanni Pacelli † (1917), Pope Giacomo della Chiesa † (1907), Pope St. Giuseppe Melchiorre Sarto † (1884), Lucido Maria Cardinal Parocchi † (1871), Costantino Cardinal Patrizi Naro † (1828), Carlo Cardinal Odescalchi, S.J. † (1823), Giulio Maria Cardinal della Somaglia † (1788), Hyacinthe Sigismond Cardinal Gerdil, B. † (1777), Marcantonio Cardinal Colonna † (1762), Pope Carlo della Torre Rezzonico † (1743), Pope Prospero Lorenzo Lambertini † (1724), Pope Pietro Francesco (Vincenzo Maria) Orsini de Gravina, O.P. † (1675), Paluzzo Cardinal Paluzzi Altieri Degli Albertoni † (1666), Ulderico Cardinal Carpegna † (1630), Luigi Cardinal Caetani † (1622), Ludovico Cardinal Ludovisi † (1621), Archbishop Galeazzo Sanvitale † (1604), Girolamo Cardinal Bernerio, O.P. † (1586), Giulio Antonio Cardinal Santorio † (1566), Scipione Cardinal Rebiba † (no year given)

✠ **ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL.** Paid up pledges: 35, totaling \$17,200.00, sent to the Eparchy. Pledges on payment schedule: 24, totaling \$4,500.00. 59 households have responded as of April 4. Parish goal for parish: 139 households x \$200 = \$27,800.00. *80 households have not responded. \$5,150.00 needed to make our goal.* Give what you can to help our Eparchy which also helps our parish through the rebate. Make your check payable to **"St. Stephen Church."**