

Saints Peter & Paul
Byzantine Catholic Church
107 South Fourth Street
Minersville, PA 17954

St. Mary's (Dormition of the Mother of God)
Byzantine Catholic Church
131 South Morris Street
Saint Clair, PA 17970

Saints Peter & Paul Rectory: (570) 544-2074

Website: www.sspeterandpaulminersville.com

Email: tvrgjn@outlook.com

Served by: Very Reverend Gregory J. Noga, Pastor

SS. Peter & Paul Cantor: Mr. Paul Konkus

St. Mary Cantor: Dr. Peter Yasenchak

CONFESSIONS: Sts. Peter & Paul: Saturday 2:45-3:30 PM

St. Mary's: Saturday 1:00 – 1:30 PM

SICK CALLS: As scheduled, or anytime in case of an emergency. If anyone is homebound or hospitalized, please call the rectory (544-2074)

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Loving Our Enemies

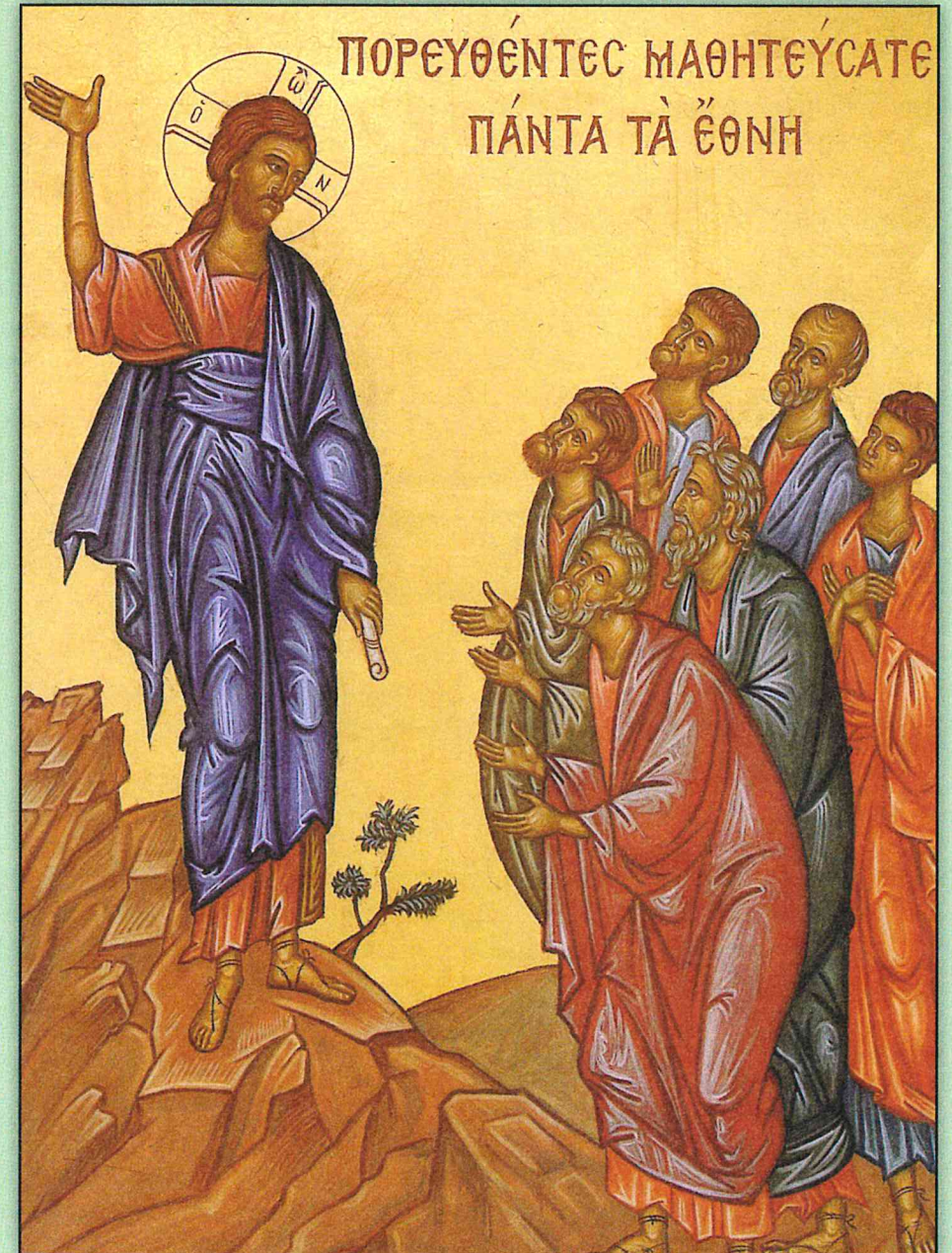
Those who close their eyes to the demands of love fall asleep in the desire for worldly pleasures. Therefore, be watchful. Eating, drinking, carousing, gambling, and hunting are pleasures, but evils of every kind follow in the wake of these vanities. No one can deny that they are enjoyable, but love of God's law must come first, for to love God means to keep His commandments. Which commandments? You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, and you must love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

My brothers and sisters, to widen our hearts, we need not depend upon ourselves. Ask God to help you love one another – to love everyone without exception, not just your friends, but enemies as well; not because they are your brothers and sisters in Christ, but so that they may be. Pray that you may

always have a warm, fraternal love for other people, both for those who have become your brothers and sisters, and for your enemies, that they may become such. Whenever you love brothers or sisters you love friends, for they are already with you, joined to you in faith unity. If they live virtuously you love them as people who have been changed from enemies into brothers and sisters. But suppose you love people who do not yet believe in Christ, or if they do, yet believe as the devil believes – they believe in Christ, but still do not love him. You must love just the same, you must love even people like that, you must love them as brothers and sisters. They are not such yet, but you must love them so that they may become such through your kindness. All our love, then, must be fraternal.

Saint Caesarius of Arles

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of Christ Teaching His Disciples

Volume 2022
Christ is among us!

Number 39
He is and will be!

**17th Sunday after Pentecost
Tone 8**

Welcome to the parish communities of SS. Peter and Paul and St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Churches of Minersville and Saint Clair, Pennsylvania. We greet and welcome you to our Church. Our Church is a holy place. Our Church is where we get together in Jesus' Name. It is holy because we come here to worship, to be nourished in faith through Sacred Scripture and preaching, to open our hearts and minds to celebrate the mystery of salvation in Jesus Christ and to dedicate ourselves to a life of holiness and service to the Lord and others. The church building itself reflects this faith and calls us to enter into communion with God. We invite you to share our faith in Jesus Christ, to experience our worship and to live a life dedicated to the service of God and one another in Jesus' Name.

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October 2 – October 8 2022

All Divine Services are livestreamed where noted

Saturday Vigil of Sunday (at SS Peter & Paul)

4:00 p. m. + **Michael Sinko** req. by wife, Regina Sinko

Sunday

8:00 a.m. **H&B Judy Ammon** req. by uncle, Fr. Gregory (at St. Mary)

10:00 a.m. **Health & Blessing of the Parishioners** (at SS. Peter & Paul)
livestreamed

Epistle Readers: 10/1 – Judy Kostura; 10/2 – Ellen Sinkovich; 10/9 – Marie Wanchick; 10/16 – Dolores Kramer; 10/23 – Paulette Murphy; 10/30 – Judy Kostura; 11/6 – Beverly Kostishak; 11/13 – Gail Burgess (If you cannot be present for any time, kindly contact another reader to cover for you).

Candle Offering:

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Today we begin the revised schedule implemented during my convalescence from surgery. I will remember you in my daily prayers and kindly ask a remembrance in your prayers. I hope to return as quickly as possible.

The **Ladies of St. Mary** will have a **Soup Sale** on November 12 and a **Cookie Sale** on December 10.

Coming Soon:

Adult Enrichment Program with breakfast following the Sunday Divine Liturgy. Topics to be explored are the Holy Bible; the Holy Mysteries; the Four Last Things; Contemporary Issues; Tradition versus tradition. If you have a particular subject you would like to know about, write down that topic and give it to Charles Keer or John Kostishak.

A BLESSED FEAST OF THE PROTECTION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD (Oct. 1)!

American Byzantine Catholics need to be reminded that on Oct. 6, 1974, the late Metropolitan Stephen (Kocisko) and the hierarchs at that time, blessed and dedicated the Byzantine Ruthenian Chapel at the National Shrine in Washington, D.C. and placed our entire metropolia under the Protection of the Mother of God so this feast should have special significance for us. If you go to our nation's capital, go to the lower level of the National Shrine and pray at this beautiful chapel.

OCTOBER 1 - THE PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS

Orthodox Study Bible

10:38,39 Martha (v.38) and Mary (v.39) are the sisters of Lazarus, whom Jesus raised from the dead (John 1:11). 10:40-42 Martha was distracted (v.40) and troubled about many things (v.41) in providing hospitality for Jesus. But the one thing (v.42) needed was for her to listen to Christ, to hear His words – a priority which certainly does not exclude serving Him. 11:27,28 God's blessing falls not upon those who have prominent family connections, but upon those who hear the word of God and keep it. Jesus is stating a principle, not denigrating His mother: she both heard God's word and kept it, and thus became the most blessed of women (1:28-38,42).

“Faith is the existential, very real and very immediate casting of ourselves and of our cares and our concerns and of everything that we are onto God, and believing against hope, in hope. It is believing when everything around is screams that we are crazy and wrong and that we have misplaced our trust and our hope. That is faith.” Father John Mack

Did You Know That ...

- ...it is the character of a few men to honor without envy a friend who has prospered?
- ...experience is not what happens to a man; it is what a man does with what happens to him?
- ...the man who does not read religious literature has no advantage over the man who can't read?
- ...you should never allow your sense of self to become associated with your sense of employment; if you employment vanishes, your self doesn't?
- ...many a man has found the acquisition of wealth only a change, not an end, of miseries?
- ...if you know a man who cannot bother to do little things, he is the same man who cannot be trusted to do big things?
- ...the most difficult secret for a man to keep is the opinion he has of himself?
- ...no one ever said on their deathbed: "I wish I would have spent more time at work"?
- ...there is one thing alone that stands the brunt of life throughout its length: a quiet conscience?
- ...shallow men believe in good luck; faith filled men believe in cause and effect?
- ...if you love life, do not squander time for it is the stuff life is made of?
- ...a man of honor regrets sincerely a discreditable act even when it has worked successfully?
- ...we should not waste time arguing about what a good man should be; instead be one?
- ...one of the highest accolades is the comment, "If he says so, you can bank on it"?
- ...man born with a talent which he is meant to use gains his greatest happiness in using it?
- ...a man is not finished when he is defeated; he is finished when he quits?



Eternal Life

Just as we resemble the man from earth, so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven. This is what I mean brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; no more can corruption inherit incorruption. Now I am going to tell you a mystery. not all of us shall fall asleep, but all of us are to be changed - in an instant, in the twinkling of an eye, at the sound of the last trumpet. The trumpet will sound and dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. This corruptible body must be clothed with incorruptibility, this mortal body with immortality. When the corruptible frame takes on incorruptibility and the mortal immortality, then will the saying of Scripture be fulfilled: "Death is swallowed up in victory." 1 Corinthians 5: 49-54.

For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, God will bring forth with him from the dead those who have fallen asleep believing in him. We say to you, as if the Lord himself had said it, that we who live, who survive until his coming, will in no way have an advantage over those who have fallen asleep. No, the Lord, himself will come down from heaven at the word of command, at the sound of the archangel's voice and God's trumpet; and those who have died in Christ will rise first. Then we, the living, the survivors, will be caught up with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Thenceforth we shall be with the Lord unceasingly. Console one another with this message 1 Thessalonians 4: 14-17.

The testimony is this: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. I have written this to you to make you realize that you possess eternal life, you who believe in the name of the Son of God 1 John 5: 11, 13.

May he enlighten your innermost vision that you may now the great hope to which he has called you, the wealth of his glorious heritage to be distributed among the members of the church Ephesians 1: 18.

He who wins the victory shall inherit these gifts; I will be his God and he shall be my son Revelation 21: 7.

He is *Revealed*
by many Names...



“...and His name shall be called..” Isaiah 9:6.

The Holy Name of our Lord, God and Saviour was revealed by the angelic visitor. Throughout salvation history, He is referred to in a variety of ways, each of which make known more and more of the enduring love of our Heavenly Father for each of us.

Our Peace

“It is he who is our peace, and who made the two of us one by breaking down the barrier of hostility that kept us apart” Ephesians 2:14.

“He is our Peace.” What a consolation to our troubled soul we have everything in Him! In this poor old world, we have tribulation, trial, disappointments, sorrow of all kinds, but there will never be a time when we may not pillow our head upon His shoulder and be at peace. Christ our Saviour has reconciled both Jew and Gentile and the old wall of separation is finally broken down. He reconciled us with our Heavenly Father by establishing His Body, our blessed Church to continue His salutary work in the world. Remember His words that last night with His disciples: **“Peace is my farewell to you, peace is my gift to you; I do not give it to you as the world gives peace. Do not be distressed or fearful. You have heard me say, ‘I go away for a while, and I come back to you,’ If you truly loved me you would rejoice to have me go to the Father, for the Father is greater than I”** John 14: 26, 28. There is no peace in anyone or anything but our Lord. We may look everywhere else, but we will not be satisfied. We have been created by our God to be fulfilled only in Him. Blessed Lord Jesus Christ, we look only to You with glad hearts praying that the peace of God which surpasses all understanding may gird our hearts and souls each day of our lives.



The Old Country Priest says...

There is a vitality, a faith commitment and response, a life force, a supernatural energy, a quickening that is translated through you into tangible action and because there is only one of you in all time, this expression is unique. And if you do not cooperate with God's grace, it will never be made known through any other medium and be lost. The world will not have it because you did not lend yourself to God Who works through you.

Kind Encouragement

An out-of-towner drove his car into a ditch in a desolated area. Luckily, a local farmer came to help with his big strong horse named Buddy.

He hitched Buddy up to the car and yelled, “Pull, Nellie, pull!” Buddy didn't move.

Then the farmer hollered, “Pull, Buster, pull!” Buddy didn't respond.

Once more the farmer commanded, “Pull, Coco, pull!” Nothing happened.

Then the farmer nonchalantly said, “Pull, Buddy, pull!” And the horse easily dragged the car out of the ditch.

The motorist was most appreciative and very curious. He asked the farmer why he called his horse by the wrong name three times.

The farmer laconically said, “Oh, Buddy is blind and if he thought he was the only one pulling, he wouldn't even try!”

Wisdom From Western Saints

Lord, take pity on my infirmities, so that I may be able to bear them patiently St. Francis of Assisi.

Here is the great lesson: We must discover God's will, and recognizing it, we must endeavor to do it joyfully, or at least courageously St. Francis deSales.

How pleasing it is to Jesus Christ for us to recall often his passion; and how it pains him when we neglect to meditate on it. St. Alphonsus Ligouri.

Put the glory of God before anything. Let the infinitely good God be the end of your words, your thoughts, and your actions St. Ignatius.

Take courage, and turn your troubles, which are without remedy, into material for spiritual progress. Often turn to our Lord, who is watching you, poor frail little being as you are, amid your labors and distractions. He sends you help, and blesses your affliction St. Francis deSales.

It is for the devil and his followers to be sad, but for us, always to be cheerful and happy in the Lord St. Francis of Assisi.

Whoever scrupulously calculates beforehand the difficulties and chances of an undertaking, or whoever lets himself be too easily carried away by fear, will never accomplish great things St. Ignatius.

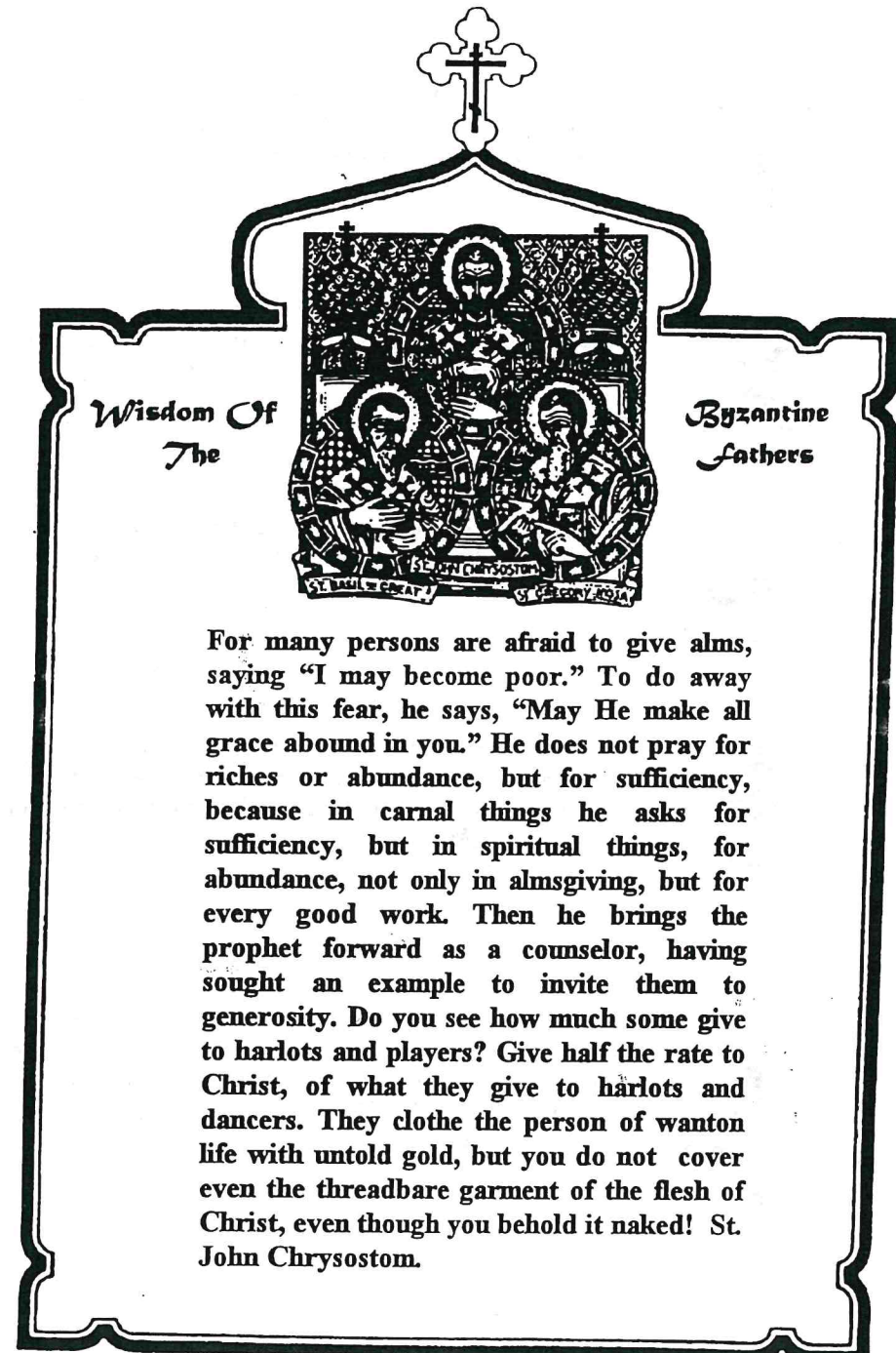
Let sleep find you holding your Bible and when your head nods, may it rest on the sacred page St. Jerome.

At the end of woe suddenly our eyes shall be opened, and in the clearness of light our sight shall be full: which Light is God St. Juliana.

A sick person ought not wish to perform the labors of one in health; let him put in their stead equanimity and patience, and not completely break down his health St. Ignatius.

The misfortune of evil does not kill you, but instructs you; human tribulation teaches you, it does not destroy you. The more afflicted in this world, the greater is our assurance for the next; the more we sorrow in the present, the greater will be our joy in the future St. Isadore of Seville.

To give and not count the cost; to fight and not heed the wounds; to toil and not seek rest; to labor and not ask for reward save knowing that we do Your will St. Ignatius.



*Wisdom Of
The*

*Byzantine
Fathers*

For many persons are afraid to give alms, saying "I may become poor." To do away with this fear, he says, "May He make all grace abound in you." He does not pray for riches or abundance, but for sufficiency, because in carnal things he asks for sufficiency, but in spiritual things, for abundance, not only in almsgiving, but for every good work. Then he brings the prophet forward as a counselor, having sought an example to invite them to generosity. Do you see how much some give to harlots and players? Give half the rate to Christ, of what they give to harlots and dancers. They clothe the person of wanton life with untold gold, but you do not cover even the threadbare garment of the flesh of Christ, even though you behold it naked! St. John Chrysostom.

Types of Crosses



TAU (or "T"): This is so-called because it resembles the Greek letter of that name. This was the typical Cross used for Roman crucifixions.



ST. ANDREWS: According to Church tradition, this is the type of Cross on which St. Andrew the First-called Apostle was put to death.



GREEK: This Cross has arms of equal length and was probably developed by the Greeks as having a more perfect form.

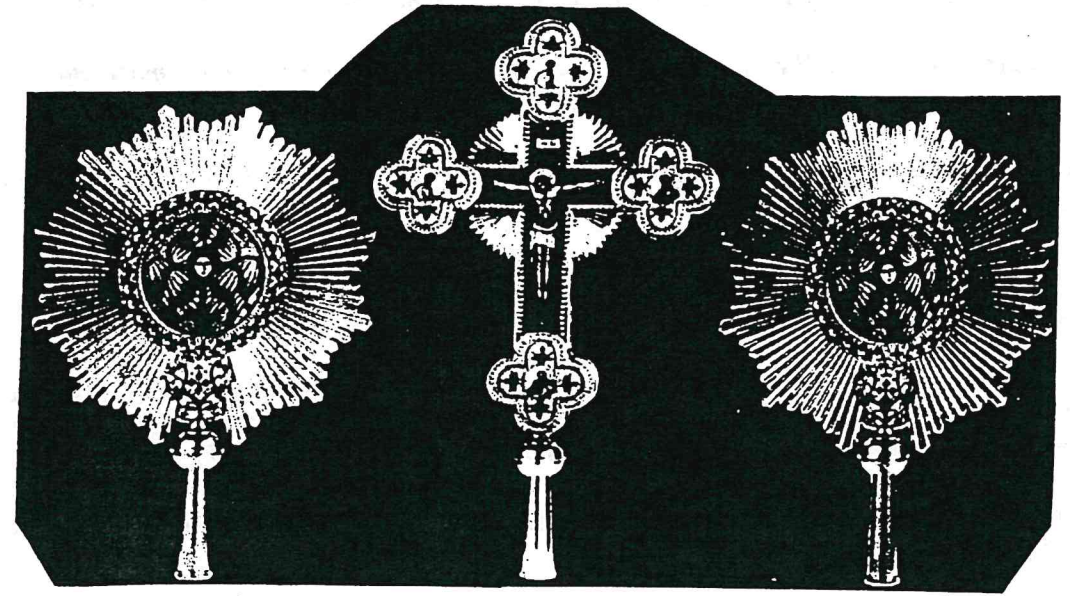


PATRIARCHAL: This Cross has two horizontal arms with the upper one shorter than the lower. The top arm represents the inscription placed by Pilate on the Cross (Matt. 27:37).



PAPAL: This has three arms, each longer than the other, the two top ones signifying the crosses of the two thieves crucified beside Christ. This Cross is used only in Papal processions.

What Is This?



Processional Cross and Ceremonial Fans

Behind the holy altar table and above the tabernacle placed in the center of it, is the Processional Cross and adjoining Ceremonial Fans. When not utilized in leading a procession, the cross is a reminder of the mystery which takes place upon the altar table during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. On one side is depicted our Lord outstretched upon it for our sins. During the Paschal season, it is turned around so that exposed is the eternal reality of Christ's triumphal Resurrection iconographically depicted on the reverse side. On either side of the Processional Cross are placed Ceremonial Fans, with which, in ancient times, the Holy Gifts were fanned signifying the six winged Seraphim and all the other ranks of bodiless powers who hover about and minister at the Divine Liturgy, and are represented on them. They are a reminder to the communicants that our worship is not in isolation, but in company with all the heavenly powers, who without ceasing forever sing the praise of the Blessed Trinity. In the Divine Liturgy, we join the eternal worship of our God, Who, in the Old Covenant, commanded angels be depicted in the Holy of Holies as a sign of His presence because they also surround the Heavenly Throne. The Ceremonial Fans are carried in procession and utilized during the Divine Liturgy and serve as reminder of the time "when the Son of man comes in glory, and all the angels with him" Matthew 25: 31.