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***OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP  
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH***

4136 Jacob Street, Wheeling, WV 26003  
Rectory (304) 232-2168 Church Hall (304) 232-1777

*Rev. Father Jason Charron  
(412) 639-1416*

**Sunday, May 17, 2020  
Sunday of the Man Born Blind**

*Epistle: Acts 16:16-34*

*Gospel: John 9:1-38*

**Sunday, May 24, 2020  
Sunday of Fathers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Ecumenical Council  
Divine Liturgy 8 am**

**DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS**

**SUNDAY, MAY 17** – For the health of Esther Grimm  
-requested by Mary Ann & John Mysliwicz

**SUNDAY, MAY 24** – For the health of Vera Kohut  
-requested by Pete Kohut, Sr.

**SUNDAY, MAY 31** – For the repose of Mary Kanick Stein  
-requested by sisters Cindy Burke & Karen Wojcik

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**DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE**

Sunday, May 10 – Divine Liturgy 8 am & 10 am  
Sunday, May 17 – Divine Liturgy 8 am  
Sunday, May 24 – Divine Liturgy 8 am  
Sunday, May 31 – Divine Liturgy 8 am

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**PIEROGI NEWS**

The pierogi program is back! We made pierogi last week with the help of 5 people. They did a wonderful job of making 12 dozen of sauerkraut pierogi and 40 dozen of potato and cheese pierogi in just about 2 hours and 30 minutes. This week we will be making more, including potato and onion pierogi, so we could use more help if you are available. Once again we will be starting at 3 pm.

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## **SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND**

“Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him” (John 9:3). These words are heard in the reading of today’s Gospel. It would seem that a great misfortune had afflicted this man: he was born blind, and he never saw the beauty of God’s world. When people saw this man blind from birth, they immediately thought that God had sent him this misfortune as a severe punishment for his sins, or those of his parents, because children are often punished for their parents’ sins. The Apostles thought the same when they saw the blind man, and they asked Jesus: “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents that he was born blind?” (John 9:2). They heard the unexpected reply from his lips: “neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him” (John 9:3).

At first glance this is hard to understand: why should an innocent man be afflicted with such a misfortune? We are used to seeing God’s glory and mercy in blessings that he sends us, not in misfortunes, sorrow, and afflictions; we thank the Lord when we receive His blessings and generosity, not when He sends us afflictions. When we meet with even the slightest reverse we cry out: “O Lord, why have you punished us!”

But then a joyful day came for the blind men, for the sun rose in the heavens for him, and he saw the sky and earth. What a great joy for him, who so thirsted to see God’s world! “For since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind” (John 9:32), the blind man said after he was healed. But, he saw not only simple, physical light, but his spiritual eyes were opened, and with the eyes of faith he saw the Light of Truth, the Sun of Righteousness – the Savior. Through God’s mercy he who had been blind, both physically and spiritually, apprehended the Fountain of Goodness – Christ.

Have you ever noticed how people who have always enjoyed good health and are outwardly very successful, people who had little cause to suffer in life, are often insensitive, cruel, and blind to the sufferings of others? But if a misfortune befalls them, they cease to be proud and arrogant, and become kind-hearted, tender, and attentive to their brothers and sisters. Is it often the case that illness or unhappiness makes us better, and opens our minds to many things that we did not see before?

The Fathers of the church say that God sends afflictions to those whom he loves (Proverbs 3:12). He who is successful in everything and has no need of anything is forgotten by God. And indeed, all the righteous suffered, but the Glory of God shown even more brightly in them.

“Blessed is the man whom you chastise, O Lord” (Psalm 94:12). If the clay the Savior made to heal the blind man and his command to the blind man to wash his eyes in the pool of Siloam accomplished this great miracle, then the spiritual healing power of the Word of God, which opens and illumines our souls through the Light of Revelation, will act even more beneficially on us. In asking for God’s mercy, let us say to the Lord in the words of the hymn: “I come to You, O Christ, blind from birth in my spiritual eyes, and call to You in repentance: You are the most radiant Light of those in darkness!”

So, too, as we have encountered the coronavirus pandemic these last few months, we need to open our spiritual eyes to God, asking for forgiveness, repenting for our sins and exclaiming, **You are the most radiant Light of those in darkness!** Become more considerate and understanding of our fellow human beings. Be aware of everyone's feelings and be kind to each other, pray for each other, and help each other. Remember those (especially the elderly) who have been in their homes alone and are suffering from depression and loneliness.

### **PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SHUT-INS**

***Lord God, through the prayers of Mary, Our Mother, bring your healing presence to all who are sick, injured, or troubled. Amen***

Esther Grimm, Ann Comas, Mark Zien, Delores Zien, Walter Zien, Karene Dzmura, Lisa Baron, Dave, Rosella George, Dawn Paluch, Sister Mary Bowman, Mary Ann Meyers, Shelley Weaver, Vera Kohut, Mary Rose Koreny, Leo Zambori, Mary Ann Paluch, Pete Kohut Sr., Betty Rushkevich, Carolissa Woodruff, Jean Fisher, Dominic Alexander, Elliana Jewell George, Dillon Osecky, Garrett Holubek, Paula Earl, Debbie Deagel, Sharon James, Freddie Bulinski, Barbara (Harasuik) Brayec, Deb Howe, Declan McCombs, Veronica Piehowicz, Marty Joe Michaels, Janice McCart, Traci Renner, Ruth Gorczyca, Charron Family Intention, Steve Kanick, Carol Latz, Sandy Zombek, Barb Sago, Sue Stoehr, Joe Gonchoff, Joanne Potts, Margaret Piszczor, Mary Ann Mysliwicz

*If you would like to submit a name for our prayer list please write the name on a piece of paper and drop it in the collection basket.*

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### **Financial Report – May 10, 2020**

*Sunday Collection: \$1,841.00      Second Collection: \$96.00*

*Candles: \$26.00*

**Total Collection: \$1,963.00**