

How do we exercise our freedom wisely?

“If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” (Jn 8: 31-32)

Among the many gifts that God bestowed on our first parents was the gift of freedom. Before the fall, Adam and Eve exercised their freedom in complete accordance with the capacity given to their intellect and will. However, through their act of disobedience, they lost their friendship with God and introduced sin and suffering into the world.

Considering all the human suffering that is caused by sin, we can sometimes question the value of freedom. However, the exercise of free will is at the very core of human existence. God created us to have a personal relationship with himself, to share in his divine life, to reflect his glory, and to possess the complete happiness that only he can give. For God’s friendship to have value, we must be free to accept or reject it.

In giving us freedom, God, as it were, took a chance on us. We are completely free to accept his offer of friendship that will lead to genuine happiness, or to reject it. It is when we reject the will of God that we lose our freedom as children of God and enslave ourselves to sin.

As indicated in St. John’s Gospel, it is in following God’s will that we are set free. We are thus enabled to fulfill the plan for which we were created. It is when we misuse our freedom that we become slaves to sin. Common sense dictates that when drivers follow the rules of the road, they are free to travel anywhere in relative safety. However, when rules are disregarded, they lose this freedom.

Wishing what is best for his people, God gave us the norms for correct behavior. Through the Ten Commandments and the teachings of Jesus Christ, God revealed the path that we must follow. When we exercise our freedom in accordance with his plan, we become free to enjoy the friendship that God is offering and are enabled to achieve true and lasting happiness.

Please remember the sick, shut-ins and deployed of the Parish and our community in your prayers, especially: James Scott, Herb Kirsch & Family, John Kerr, George & Patty Kotrick, Frank Farabaugh, Special Intention for a parishioner diagnosed with cancer (anonymous), Barb Sidwar, Sarah Kelt, Brody Dick, Dustin Kirsch, Joyce Dolges, Bob Manioc, Bill Knapik, Bob Kost, Gina Kuncelman, Paul Booterbaugh Sr., Mickey Clemento, Larry Kost, Joe and Aiden Gray

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For latest news, announcements and notifications, please like us on FaceBook; our FaceBook page is:
St. Mary’s Ukrainian Catholic Church—Northern Cambria, PA
www.stmarysnc.com YouTube Channel: Catholic Explorer

**06/20/2021
4th Sunday After Pentecost**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Loca- tion</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Service / Intention</u>	
06/19	N. Cam.	Sat.	4:00 PM	In Memory of John Paronish Sr	Patricia & Gene Saeger
06/20	N. Cam. Revloc N. Cam.	Sun.	9:00AM 11:00AM 5:00PM	In Memory of Jane Pavelko Private Intentions People of the Parish	Dan Pavelko
06/21	N. Cam.	Mon.		Chuff Family	
06/22	N. Cam.	Tues.		In Memory of Becky Selestok	Garry & Barb Frantz
06/23	N. Cam.	Wed.	8:30AM	In Memory of Herluf Pedersen	Co-workers
06/24	N. Cam	Thurs	8:30AM	In Memory of Herluf & Fay Pedersen	Family
06/25	N. Cam	Fri.		In Memory of Andrew Wadium	Raymond & Marilyn Shaffer
06/26	N. Cam.	Sat.	4:00PM	In Memory of Jane Pavelko	Dan Pavelko
06/27	N. Cam. Revloc N. Cam.	Sun.	9:00AM 11:00AM 5:00PM	In Memory of Anthony & Anna Patrick Private Intentions People of the Parish	Louise Patrick

Tone 3

Let the heavens be glad, let the earth rejoice, for the Lord has done a mighty deed with His arm. He trampled death by death. He became the first-born of the dead; He saved us from the abyss of Hades and granted great mercy to the world.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

You arose from the tomb, O compassionate Lord, and led us out from the gates of death. Today Adam exults and Eve rejoices, and the prophets together with the patriarchs unceasingly acclaim the divine might of Your power.

Now and forever and ever. Amen.

Today the Virgin stands before us in the church, and together with the choirs of saints invisibly prays to God for us. Angels are worshipping with hierarchs apostles, exult with the prophets, for the Mother of God prays in our behalf to the eternal God.

Prokeimen:

Sing to our God, sing; sing to our King, sing.

Clap your hands, all you nations; shout unto God with the voice of joy.

Sing to our God, sing; sing to our King, sing.

Alleluia:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

In You, O Lord, have I hoped that I may not be put to shame forever.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Be a protector unto me, O God, and a house of refuge to save me.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Communion Verse:

Praise the Lord from the heaven; praise Him in the highest. Alleluia (3)

Announcements

Income Report 06/13/2021

Sunday: \$787.00 Loose: \$64.00 Holy Day: 10.00 Diocesan: \$10.00 Energy: \$10.00 Dues: \$5.00
Total: \$886.00 Candle: \$78.00 Building: \$65.00 Cemetery: \$5.00

We wish to express a sincere “Thank-you” to George Fisanich for his generous donation to our parish. May God Bless him for his kindness and generosity.

Outdoor Divine Liturgy

We will have an outdoor Liturgy on Saturday, July 3, 2021 at 4:00pm in the pavilion. Bring a lawn chair. Pray for good weather!!

Kids Cantor School

We will have classes to sing Liturgy for kids from July 5th thru July 7th at 1:00pm. To be held at our sister parish in Revloc. Taught by Fr. Andriy. Please call or text Fr and let him know if you will attending.

The Myrrh Bearers are putting together a “Easter & Christmas Traditions” Booklet. If you have a special recipe or tradition that you or your family does and you would like it included in the booklet, please submit it via the collection basket in an envelope with your name and phone number included.

Vacation Bible School

July 26th thru July 30th 6:00PM—7:30PM at Revloc

July 30th will be family time with a bonfire

Open to any school age child kindergarten and up. Younger children may need to have a parent or guardian present should they need help.

Registration forms at the entrances of the Church.

Please complete and return the form by July 4, 2021

Joke of the Week

One Sunday morning a small boy said to his priest, “When I grow up, I’m going to give you some money.” “Well, thank you,” the priest said, “But why?” “Because my daddy said you’re the poorest preacher we ever had.”