

† HOLY ASCENSION †

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit; and they were assured by the blessing that Thou art the Son of God and Redeemer of the world.



Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church Bulletin

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HOLY MYSTERIES

VISITATIONS OF THE SICK AND INFIRM - If you are going into the hospital for any reason, please inform Father Stephen at the Rectory. Our hospitalization code for Christiana and Wilmington Hospitals is UKR.

EMERGENCY CALLS - Please call the Rectory anytime (day or night) in an Emergency!

BAPTISMS - Celebrated by appointment.

CROWNING IN MARRIAGE - Please discuss timing with Father prior to setting a date. At least six months notice is needed. There are three 2-hour courses that must be attended prior to the Wedding.

BULLETIN DEADLINE - The deadline for getting information printed in the Weekly Bulletin is Wednesday.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS - For the Needs of the Parish; 2nd Youth Ministry

June 6, 2021

Volume 57: Number 23

Schedule of Services and Activities

Week of June 6 - 13, 2021

Celebrating our 94th year of Service to the Lord

Sunday, June 6 – Sunday of the man Born Blind – Tone 5

8:30 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Panakhyda: +Paul Andreas (40th Day)

Panakhyda: +Thomas Kasprzak (40th Day)

Coffee Hour

Wednesday, June 9 – Leave-taking of the Resurrection

7:00 AM – Resurrection Matins, Divine Liturgy, Veneration of the Shroud

6:00 PM – Vespertal Liturgy – St. Nicholas – Dover, DE

Thursday, June 10 - Feast of the Ascension

8:00 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Saturday, June 12

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy (Holy Trinity – Whaleyville, MD)

Sunday, June 13 – Sunday of the Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council – Tone 6

8:30 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Coffee Hour



SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday of the Man Born Blind – holy Apostles James (Brother of John) – Matins: John 20:11-18; Acts of the Apostles 16:16-34; John 9:1-38; Apostle: Acts of the Apostles 12:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

Monday – Acts of the Apostles 17:1 – 15; John 11:47-57

Tuesday – Acts of the Apostles 17:19-28; John 12:19-36

Wednesday – Acts of the Apostles 18:22-28; John 12:36-47

Ascension Thursday – Matins: Mark 16:9-20; Liturgy – Acts of the Apostles 1:1-12; Luke 24:36-53

Friday – Acts of the Apostles 19:1-8; John 14:10-21

Saturday – Acts of the Apostles 20:7-12; John 14:10-21

Seventh Sunday of Pascha – Matins: John 21:1-14; Liturgy – Acts of the Apostles 20:16-18, 28-36; John 17:1-13

SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND

One day as Jesus was walking along, He saw a man born blind from birth begging by the roadside. His disciples asked Him who sinned that he should be born blind. Jesus answered them saying, “It was no sin, either of this man nor his parents. Rather it was to let God’s works show forth in Him. I must do the deeds of Him Who sent Me while it is day. The night comes on when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” Having said this, Jesus made mud, rubbed it over the eyes of the man born blind and sent him to wash in the pool of Siloam. The blind man did as he was told, and his sight was restored.

This miracle, one among so many, caused more repercussions than almost any other one recorded. The Pharisees began investigating the reputed miracle, the parents of the blind man were questioned, the blind man himself was expelled from the synagogue. But the disagreement recorded in the Gospel is not of interest to us at this time. What is of interest is Jesus saying, “I am the Light of the world,” which brings out another aspect of the Resurrection. In all the Sunday Gospels of the Paschal season a new aspect of the Resurrection is brought before us, this one being of light.

Light, so elemental in our lives, is often taken for granted. What adds to this continuous disregard for light is the fact that we can turn on artificial light with the flip of a switch. A few years ago when the northeastern part of the United States was without light for one night, we quickly saw how important light is in our lives. Without lights for one night our life style changed. People were stranded in town and could not get home because the commuter trains did not run. There was no television so people had to talk with one

another. Many went to bed early because all activities were cancelled. Now if this had persisted over many days, there would have been a radical change in our lives.

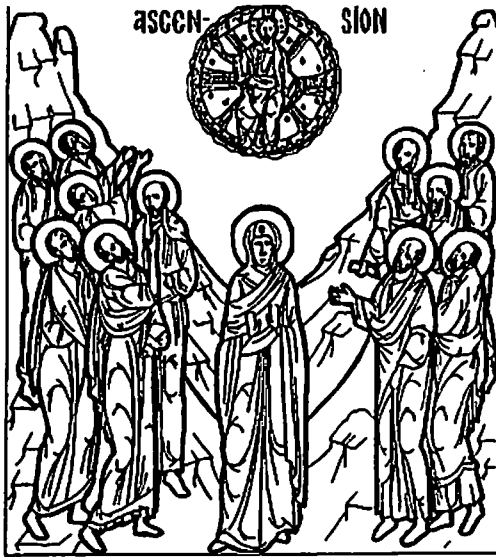
Through light, we are able to see things and know what they are. In fact, we might say that things "come to be" through light. If there were no light, we would not know things as we do now, but we would have to depend on touch and feeling. Without light (sunlight) nothing would be. This is why we say that light is elemental.

If you have ever watched the sun rise, you have a good understanding of what is meant when we say that light is elemental. As the dawn comes in the east, things which we did not see come to be. As the dawn gives way to full sunlight, these objects become even clearer. Through light they come to be even more.

All that we have said about light is true of Jesus Christ and His Resurrection. Everyone lived in the darkness of sin and death before the coming of Christ. The darkness started with the sin of Adam and Eve and was not dispelled until the light of the Resurrection. Jesus is the true light of the world. In His light we are able to see all things as they are. We are able to see that sin need not hold us as slaves, and death does not control us. The light of Jesus is elemental in living the Christian life. Through His light we are able to believe that he is the Son of God, that He resurrected and has given us a share in His new life and that He made all things new through His Resurrection.

In today's Gospel, the man born blind sees light for the first time when he is cured by Jesus. We, too, have been cured by the light of Jesus, and through His light we see that all things have been made anew.

THE ASCENSION



Forty days have elapsed since the Resurrection; the rime had come for Jesus to leave the earth. Whether warned by their Master or drawn there to celebrate the Feast of Pentecost, the Apostles returned to Jerusalem and there Christ gathered them about Himself once more, probably in the Upper Room where the Last Supper was celebrated. For the last time He took His place at the table consecrated by the Eucharistic Banquet where “while eating with them, He told them not to leave Jerusalem but to await the father’s promise.”

Then Jesus rose up and walked towards the Mount of Olives. The Apostles followed, filled with brighter dreams of glory and

earthly happiness than ever before, for the sight of the risen Lord proceeding before them rekindled all their old-time hopes. They began to believe that even now the moment so long expected, when they were to triumph with the Christ, had come at last; and pressing nearer to Jesus they ventured to question Him: “Master, will You now restore the Kingdom of Israel?” Once more and for the last time the Savior checked the surging ambitions of His children. The Apostles realized that this was not the time to question the Master, and they walked on n silence.

They now reached he brow of the hill, which was known as Mount Olivet, “the hill that is over against Jerusalem.” Mount Olivet had been the scene of many famous events in Biblical history. To Christians Mount Olivet is especially a most hallowed place, because it was, during the last days of Our Lord’s public life, the preferred place for the Savior. It was here that the triumphal procession to Jerusalem started; it was here that the fig tree stood, which was cursed by our Lord; it was here that, Jesus viewed the city of Jerusalem and wept over it; it was here that He prophesied the destruction of the Temple, the ruin of the city and the end of the world; it was here that Christ prayed before His Passion; It was here that He was betrayed by Judas and seized by the soldiers.

And now for the last time Christ is on His way to Mount Olivet. This mountain having been the scene of the agony and humiliation of the Son of Man was chosen by Him to be the witness of His glorious Ascension. How tender the words of parting which were now

addressed by the Divine Son to His Virgin Mother and to the Apostles and Disciples! How lovingly and fervently they kissed for the last time the marks of the wounds on the feet and hands of their glorified Lord ! What tears of reverence and love, of mingled joy and sadness, fell from the eyes of this glorious company!

“And after the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, He lifted up His hands and blessed them. And while they looked on, and blessed them, He departed from them, was taken up into Heaven and a bright cloud received Him out of their sight.”

Saint Jerome tells us that the impress of Christ’s sacred feet used to be shown to pilgrims; there remains now only the trace of the left foot, that of the right having been removed by the Turks. It is remarkable that from the direction of this footprint our Lord must have been facing Europe as He mounted into Heaven, just as He faced it during the Crucifixion.

Every year on the joyful festival of Our Lord’s Ascension, a feast that has been most solemnly celebrated in the Church from the remotest antiquity, the soul of every true Christian yields itself up to pious meditation on those mysteries in the life of Jesus which may, indeed, be in some measure conceived by the believing heart, but which cannot be spoken by the human tongue. It is a festival of triumph for Christ and His friends.

On this day Christ in the flesh really left this world. Yet, as Christ in days gone by, promised His Apostles that He would not “leave them orphans,” so He will not leave us orphans, but abides with us in His Holy Mystery of love, so that we may, through its mysterious force, obtain the grace to participate in His Ascension into Heaven.

WHY GO TO CHURCH?

A Churchgoer wrote a letter to the editor of the newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. “I’ve gone for 30 years now,” he wrote, “and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can’t remember a single one of them. So I think I’m wasting my time and the priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all.” This started a real controversy in the “Letters to the Editor” column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher: “I’ve been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me those meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!”

THE ASCENSION

A S C E N S I O N X B F O R T Y D A Y S
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R F T E T O E J G A I N S D K O N G I L
I T N R I G H T H A N D G L N A U Q I J

AFTER - The Ascension came forty days after the Resurrection. **APOSTLES** - The saw Jesus ascend into heaven. **ASCENSION** - Jesus stayed and taught His Apostles for 40 days after His Resurrection and then ascended into heaven. **BAPTISM** - At the time of His Ascension, Jesus told His Apostles to go and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **BETHANY** - The Apostles were gathered on a mount in Bethany to witness the Ascension. **CLOUDS** - Jesus ascended into the clouds. **COME AGAIN** - Jesus will come again to judge the living and the dead. **COMFORTER** - Jesus promised to send the Comforter. **DISAPPEAR** - Jesus disappeared into heaven. **FATHER** - Ascending into heaven, Jesus sits at the right hand of His Father. **FORTY DAYS** - The Ascension occurred 40 days after His Resurrection. **HEAVEN** - Christ ascended into heaven. **HOLY SPIRIT** - Jesus promised to send the Comforter, the Holy Spirit. **PREPARE** - Jesus ascended into heaven to prepare a place for us. **RIGHT HAND** - Jesus sits at the Right Hand of the Father. **THURSDAY** - Ascension falls on Thursday - 40 days after Pascha. **UP** - Jesus ascended up into heaven.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY - is expressed to the following: William Riggins, 6/6; Katherina Smith, 6/8; Natalia Smith, 6/8; Svetlana Duffy, 6/11 & Halyna Feleshchuk, 6/11. May God grant them a very happy birthday and keep them for many, happy and blessed years!

ELECTRONIC DONATIONS (CREDIT CARDS) ACCEPTED – for those who are interested, we can accept donations to the Church through credit cards. See Michael Tilson or Lorraine Neff for details.

DO YOU SHOP ON AMAZON? – Did you know that if you would get on Smile Amazon and choose our Parish as your beneficiary that Amazon would donate a percentage of your purchase to us? Search on Orthodox Wilmington and choose SS Peter & Paul Ukrainian (yes it is misspelled and we've tried to correct it). Try it and help our Parish Family benefit from your shopping experience!

GREETER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

June 6 - David and Eve Lazaration

June 13 - Nancy Tur, Zina Twardus

June 20 - John and Sandy Cramer

June 27 - Lorraine Neff, Sonya Patronik & Alexander Smith

AUTONOMY LOST AND REGAINED - The Ukrainian Orthodox Metropolia of Kyiv, 1633-2019 (<https://www.ukrhec.org/exhibits>) Check out the newest exhibit at our Ukrainian History and Education Center.

MEETINGS

PARISH BOARD MEETING – Tuesday, June 8, 2021 @ 6:30 PM.

CLEANING OF THE CHURCH MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Week of June 7 - Mark & Laura Andreas

Week of June 14 - Earle and Jennifer Robinson

Week of June 21 - Nancy Hlywiak, Jean Roeth, Zina Twardus

Week of June 28 - Earle and Jennifer Robinson

Week of July 5 - Michael Tilson & Linda Hnatow, Irene Maskaly

Week of July 12 - John Plachuta and David Lazaration

FATHER MAY HAVE JURY DUTY – On Monday, June 14th, I may be called to jury duty. In case of emergency, please call Father Jerry at (302) 798-7935.

READER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

June 6 - John Plachuta
June 13 - Andrew Duncan
June 20 - Pani Elizabeth Hutnick
June 27 - Linda Hnatow
July 4 - Jean Roeth

TRUSTEES MINISTRY SCHEDULE

(Please find a substitute if you cannot make a given week)

June 6 – Linda Hnatow and Ann Duncan
June 13 – Victor Kaliakin and Lorraine Neff
June 20 – Victor Kaliakin and Lorraine Neff
June 27 – Thomas Bringle and Linda Hnatow
July 4 - Thomas Bringle and Linda Hnatow
July 11 – Ann Duncan and Victor Kaliakin

TENTATIVE CALENDER OF EVENTS

Sunday, June 20 – Pentecost – Father’s Day Dinner – Graduate Sunday
Monday, June 28 – Apostle’s Fast Begins
Sunday, July 18 – Metropolitan Antony: Blessing of the Patron’s Path
Saturday, August 7 – UOL Flea Market
Monday, September 13 – Bible Study Resumes
Saturday, September 18 – Karaoke Night (6:00 PM)
Saturday, November 6 – Fall Bazaar

RULES FOR ATTENDING ALL SERVICES: *

If you are not vaccinated, masks **MUST** be worn during the service – if you do not have one, a mask will be provided. * **PLEASE:** if you have a fever of over 100°, or have any symptoms: **PLEASE STAY HOME!!** If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to **CALL ME** (302) 798-4455. I will be happy to assist you in any way that I can.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL – Metropolitan
Antony, Archbishop Daniel, Archimandrite Raphael, Father Vasili Andrejuk, Father John Bohush, Father Vasyl Dovhan, Father George Hnatko, Father Oleh Hucul, Father Andrew Molewski, Father John Nakonechney, Father James Norton, Father Victor Wronskyj, Father Volodymyr Wronskyj, Pani Dobrodyka Lillian Hnatko, Pani Dobrodyka Lisa Weremedic, Alicia, Nerry, Mykola, Brennan, Deborah, Galina, Dolores, Julian, Madison, Matt, Michele, Mykola, Rita, Ryan, Randy Allen, Carolyn Angelo, Colby Atkinson, Shannon Austin, Stephania Bacha, Joyce Belles, Neil Belles, Ethel Bernhard, Yaroslav Bilinsky, Maria Borowenski Betty Bosland, Becky Bosley, Angie Brengle, Paul Brengle, Patricia Bringle, Richard Bringle, Thomas Bringle, John Brick, Fedir Bukacz, Christine Cain, Mark Cello, Betty Charney, Mildred (Myrophora) Christo, Erik Colazo, Patricia Crystal, Alex Czernik, Sharon Dalaski, Stephen Dalecki, David Dalldorf, Peter DiVirgilio, John Dmytryk, James Dudrick, Mary Eagleton, Rose Eldridge, Thomas Fagan, James Garrett, Peter Glenn, Ivan Golovnirov, Kathleen Gortva, Staci Gray, Charles Gunther, David Hamilton, Rick Hastings, Celeste Heiser, Victoria Herrschaft, Carla Hitchings, Greg Hitchings, Anthony Hnatow, Michael Hnatow, Daniel Holoviak, Jennifer Huertes, Caroline Humphrey, Richard Humphrey, Sally Hutnick, Joette Jago, Stephen Johnson, Linda Josepinson, Rosalie Ann Kane, Sandra Kasch, Charles Kaszytski, Julia Kaszytski, Diane Keyser, Wendy Klinedinst, Judith Kocinski, Lorissa Kozakova, Ludmyla Krawchenko, Mykola Krawchenko, Emma Krasnopera, Volodymyr Krasnopera, Sue Kreisa-Christian, Marlene Kuhar, Karen Livick, Charles Lontor, Alla Lysenko, Andrew Makolynyk, Jean Marano, Paul Markow, Frederick McCarthy, Victor Melnychenko, Ronald Michel, Lisa Miller, Matthew Miller, Mary Elizabeth Moran, Barry Morris, Elsie Moroz, Michael Moroz, Linda Muldoon, Karen Needham, Julie Neff, Ann Nester, Laurie Newman, Ivan Otamas, Betty Painter, Anastasios Pantelopulos, Anthony Pantelopulos, Linda Phillips, Joseph Pierson, Barry Pinkowicz, Bernice Pinkowicz, Janylyn Pinkowicz, Ryan Pinkowicz, Valentina Plachuta, Joseph Porini, Robert Powers, Joanne Procak, Joseph Ptak, Carol Purse, Sharon Reigh, Christopher Riehl, Arlene Roginski, Wyatt Roland, Andrea Roman, John Ruczhak, Glenn Runyan, Carol Rusk, Isaac Schmidt, Doris Scully, Joella Seale, Clay Seman, Larissa Serth, Dawn Sheets, Justin Sheets, Emily Smitheman, Kimberly Smitheman, Georgie Smolyar, Rich Steinman, Joseph Stevens, Noel Strobino, Charles Joseph Sweeney, Evelyn Synczyszyn, Pavlo Tabak, Nicholas Taylor, Sue Taylor, Elenora Thomas, Lydia Thomas, Brysen Tomei, Dominic Tomei, Mark Tomei, Violet Tomei, Aria Tonner, Mariel Trimble, Anna Tur, Richard Twardus, Martha Vignali, Jack Vognetz, Margaret Vognetz, Marilyn Wagner, Olena Wasylevska, James Watts, Chris Way, Leah Way, Barbara Weeks, Peter Weremedic, Stephen Wienkowitz, Laura Worley, & James Zook.

A JOYFUL FAREWELL

One of life's most difficult tasks is to bid a final farewell to someone. What a sad and emotional experience this can be! With this in mind, it is, perhaps, a bit puzzling to read in St. Luke's account of our Lord's Ascension that the Apostles returned to Jerusalem "with great joy" after witnessing Christ's glorious departure from this world to His heavenly home. How could they possibly rejoice at the prospect of never seeing their Master again?

The joyful reaction of the Apostles to the Ascension indicates that they fully understood *WHO* Christ was, *WHAT* His mission encompassed, and *WHY* He couldn't remain with them on earth. Jesus was God Incarnate. He lived as a Man among us for one divine purpose: *TO SHOW US THE WAY TO ACHIEVE OUR SALVATION*. After accomplishing this through His teachings and His example, and after conquering death by virtue of His Resurrection, Christ's work here was finished!

In order to provide us with the greatest amount of assistance in our personal struggle to show our worthiness to be numbered among the righteous in God's kingdom, our Lord had to leave us. Still, He did not leave us as orphans! No, as He promised His disciples at the Mystical Supper prior to His Crucifixion, Christ's exit opened the door for the entrance of the Holy Spirit into the world, Who could *BE IN ALL PLACES AND FILL ALL THINGS!*

As we celebrate this Feast Day, let us do so joyfully! We are all disciples, called upon by the Saviour to obey Him, to live like Him, and to spread His Gospel to others. We eagerly await that wonderful day when He will come again with glory!