



**Saint John**

The Forerunner



## **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; 2<sup>nd</sup> Youth Ministry

**September 10, 2023**  
**Volume 59: Number 37**  
**Schedule of Services and Activities**  
**Week of September 10 - 17, 2023**  
**Celebrating our 96<sup>th</sup> year of Service to the Lord**

Sunday, September 10 - 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 5

8:30 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Ham and French Toast Breakfast – Donation \$5

Monday, September 11 – Beheading of John the Baptist – Strict Fast Day

8:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

7:00 PM – 9/11 Service at Holy Rosary Catholic Church

Tuesday, September 12 –

6:30 PM – Parish Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 13 - Belt of the Holy Mother of God, Hieromartyr Cyprian

8:00 AM – Akathist to the Veil of the Mother of God

Thursday, September 14 – Church New Year

7:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

Friday, September 15

10:00 AM – Steaming cabbage

Sunday, September 17 - 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 6

8:30 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Coffee Hour

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## SCRIPTURAL READINGS

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Matins: Mark 16: 9-20; Liturgy: 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4; Matthew 22:1-14; Great Vespers: 1) Isaiah 40: 1-3, 9; 41:17-18; 45:8; 48:20-21; 54:1; 2) Malachi 3:1-3; 5-7;12; 18; 4:4-6; 3) Wisdom 4:7, 16-17, 19-20, 5:1-7

Monday – Beheading of John the Baptist: Matins: Matthew 14: 14: 1-13; Liturgy - 1 Corinthians 4:17 - 5:5; Matthew 24:1-13; Day: Galatians 2:11-16; Mark 5 :24-34

Tuesday – Galatians 2:21-3:7; Mark 6:1-7

Wednesday – Belt of the Mother of God – Hebrews 9:1-7; Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28 Day: Galatians 3:15-22; Mark 6:7-13

Thursday – Chruch New Year – 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 4:16-22; Day: Galatians 3:23-4:5; Mark 6:30-45

Friday – Galatians 4:8-21; Mark 6:45-53

Saturday - 1 Corinthians 4:17-5:5; Matthew 24:1-13

15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Matins: Luke 24:1-12; Liturgy: 2 Corinthians 4:6-15; Matthew 22:35-46

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## TWO NEW ICONS OF OUR LADY PF PERPETUAL HELP

On behalf of our Parish Family, I would like to thank Christine Bailey who donated these two Icons of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. He family brought them from the Old Country and now they will reside here at Sts. Peter and Paul. I would like to thank the Bernhard Family for being the go-betweens so that we might receive these treasures. I would also like to thank Subdeacon Marc Jaskolka of our sister Parish of St. Nicholas in Dover, DE for making and donating the beautiful analoys (stands) which we will bless today. These analoys will hold these Icons. For veneration. May God reward their kindness a hundredfold.

## A HISTORY OF THE ICON OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

The image of Our Lady of Perpetual Help is an icon, painted on wood, and seems to have originated around the thirteenth century. Traditionally, the image is also known as “Our Lady of Perpetual Succour.” The icon (about 54 x 41.5 centimeters) depicts our Blessed Mother Mary, under the title “Mother of God,” holding the Child Jesus. The Archangels Michael and Gabriel, hovering in the upper corners, hold the instruments of the Passion— St. Michael (in the left corner) holds the spear, the wine-soaked sponge, and the crown of thorns, and St. Gabriel (in the right corner) holds the cross and the nails. The intent of the artist was to portray the Child Jesus contemplating the vision of His future Passion. The anguish He feels is shown by the loss of one of His sandals. Nevertheless, the icon also conveys the triumph of Christ over sin and death, symbolized by the golden background (a sign of the glory of the resurrection) and the manner in which the angels hold the instruments, i.e. like trophies gathered up from Calvary on Easter morning.

In a very beautiful way, the Child Jesus grasps the hand of the Blessed Mother. He seeks comfort from His mother, as He sees the instruments of His passion. The position of Mary's hands— both holding the Child Jesus (who seems like a small adult) and presenting Him to us— convey the reality of our Lord's incarnation, that He is true God who became also true man. In iconography, Mary here is represented as the *Hodigitria*, the one who guides us to the Redeemer.

She also is our Help, who intercedes on our behalf with her Son. The star painted on Mary's veil, centered on her forehead, highlights her role in the plan of salvation as both the Mother of God and our Mother

According to popular tradition, a merchant acquired the icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help from the island of Crete and had it shipped to Rome towards the end of the fifteenth century. During the voyage, a terrible storm arose, threatening the lives of all on the ship. The passengers and crew prayed to our Blessed Mother and were saved.

Once in Rome, the merchant, dying, ordered that the image should be displayed for public veneration. His friend, who retained the image, received further instructions: in a dream to his little daughter, the Blessed Mother appeared and expressed the desire for the image to be venerated in a Church between the Basilicas of St. Mary Major and St. John Lateran in Rome. The image, consequently, was housed at the Church of St. Matthew, and became known as "The Madonna of Saint Matthew." Pilgrims flocked to the church for the next three hundred years, and great graces were bestowed upon the faithful.

After Napoleon's troops destroyed the Church of St. Matthew in 1812, the image was transferred to the Church of St. Mary in Posterula and remained there for nearly forty years. There, the image was neglected and forgotten.

By divine providence, the forgotten image was rediscovered. In 1866, Blessed Pope Pius IX entrusted the image to the Redemptorists, who had just built the Church of St. Alphonsus, down the street from St. Mary Major. As a boy, the Holy Father had prayed before the image in the Church of St. Matthew. He ordered the public display and veneration of the image and fixed the feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help as the Sunday before the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. In 1867, when the image was being carried in a solemn procession through the streets, a young child was cured, the first of many recorded miracles attributed to Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

To this day, the Church of St. Alphonsus displays the icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and welcome pilgrims for prayer.

In the Orthodox Church, the Icon maintains a special place of veneration. The Virgin Mary is seen as the most effective intercessor before Christ, according to Orthodox Christians and her pleas are never ignored. Orthodox Christians believe that those who are suffering might find solace and comfort in the Mother of God. People frequently invoke Our Lady of Perpetual Help when in need or are facing a challenging situation. The Icon serves as a reminder of both the love that the Mother of God has for all of God's children and the sacrifice that Christ made for all humanity.

The Akathist Hymn to the Mother of God is frequently sung with the prayer before the Icon. This prayer is meant to offer hope in times of despair and comfort for the suffering. The Akathist Hymn is believed to possess healing and miracle working abilities.

**Eikos 12** - Priest: While praising your Offspring, we all praise you, O Birth-giver of God, as a living temple; for the Lord, Who holds all things in His hand, dwelt in your womb, and He sanctified and glorified you, and taught all to cry to you:

Rejoice, Tabernacle of God the Word.  
Rejoice, Holy one, holier than the Holies.  
Rejoice, Ark made golden by the Spirit.  
Rejoice, inexhaustible Treasury of Life.

Rejoice, precious Diadem of godly kings.  
Rejoice, venerable Boast of faithful priests.  
Rejoice, unshakeable Tower of the Church.  
Rejoice, impregnable fortress of the Kingdom.

Rejoice, you through whom trophies are raised up.  
Rejoice, you whom enemies are cast down.  
Rejoice, Healing of my flesh.  
Rejoice, Salvation of my soul.

Rejoice, \* O Unwedded Bride.

**Kontakion 13** - Priest: O all-hymned Mother, worthy of all praise, who brought forth the Word, the Holiest of all Saints, as you receive this our offering, rescue us all from every calamity, and deliver from future torment those who cry with one voice: Alleluia.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia \* Alleluia!

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O all-holy Virgin, Mother of the Lord of the hosts on high, Queen of heaven and earth and almighty Defender of our country, accept from us your unworthy servants this song of praise and thanksgiving and bring our prayer up to the throne of your God and Son, that He be merciful towards our unrighteousness, and extend His grace to those who honor your name and venerate with faith and love your wonder-working Icon. For we are not worthy to be forgiven by Him had you, O Lady, not made Him merciful towards us, for all things from Him are possible to you. Therefore we run to you as you are our swift and undoubted Protector.

Hear us who pray to you: overshadow us with your almighty veil and ask from your God and Son zeal and vigilance for our shepherds, wisdom and strength for the souls of those who govern our cities, righteousness and impartiality for our judges, understanding and humility for our leaders, love and concord for the married, obedience for our children, patience for those who have been offended, the fear of God for those that offend, stoutheartedness for the afflicted, restraint for those that rejoice, and for all of us the spirit of understanding and godliness, the spirit of mercy and meekness, the spirit of chastity and truth. Yes, O all-holy Lady, be merciful towards your feeble people: gather together the dispersed, guide on the right way those that have gone astray, uphold old age, make the young pure, bring up the children and look down upon all of us with the care of your merciful protection. Raise us from the depth of sin and enlighten the eyes of our hearts to see salvation. Be merciful to us both here and after death, during our wandering in the land of this earth and at the Last Judgment of your Son: and make our fathers and mothers, sisters and brothers who have departed this life live the eternal life with the angels and all the saints. For you, O Lady, are the glory of those in heaven and the trust of those on earth. After God, you are the hope and Defender of all who flee to you with faith. We then pray to you and to you as our almighty Helper, do we commend ourselves and one another, now and forever and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY** - is expressed to Anthony Pantelopulos 9/13 & Anna Duncan, 9/16. May God grant them a very happy birthday and keep them for many, happy blessed years!

### **A NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER**

During the summer months, our regular deposits fell short of our monthly bills. Please don't wait until the end of the year to catch up on your weekly donations that were missed during vacation time when you were not present at Church. Unfortunately, our shortfall has placed an undue burden on paying parish bills such as air conditioning and building maintenance that are still incurred during the summer months. Please catch up on missed donations to help our Parish meet our obligations.

Mark Andreas, Treasurer

**MONDAY, 9/11** – Service at Holy Rosary Catholic Church 7:00 PM at the Monument.

**HAM LUNCH** – We will have a ham lunch again today. Donation: \$5. The proceeds are a Parish Fundraiser. Please attend and support the Parish!

**FEEDING THE HUNGRY** – I would like to thank the following for coming on Labor Day and doing such a wonderful job preparing the sandwiches for Emmanuel Dining Hall to feed the homeless: Linda Hnatow, Chairperson, Neil Belles, Kathy Chalfont, Pani Dobrodyka Elizabeth Hutnick, Sarah Hutnick, Elizabeth Kaliakin, Patricia Kozak, Barbara Mancusso, Sonya Patronik, John Plachuta and Michael Tilson. Over 120 sandwiches with lettuce and tomato were taken to the shelter plus a lot of frozen rolls! May God reward your kindness a hundred-fold!

**OPENING OF THE NEW SEMINARY YEAR** – All are invited to the beginning Liturgy opening the 2023-2024 Academic Year of St. Sophia Theological Seminary on Saturday, September 16 beginning at 10:00 AM. During this Liturgy, Subdeacon Andrii Vatyrych will be ordained to the Deaconate. A luncheon will follow. All are invited to attend.

### **GREETER MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

September 10 - Sandy Cramer

September 17 - Lorraine Neff, Sonya Patronik

September 24 - David and Eve Lazaration

October 1 - Zina Twardus and Nancy Tur



**SCHEDULING FOR THE PARISH** – Please remember that all events, work parties, use of the hall must be cleared through the calendar kept by Father Stephen so that dueling events can be avoided.

**MAKING PYROHY** - We will be preparing for our Fall Bazaar with our first Pyrohy session of the fall on Saturday, September 23. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

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

### **READER MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

September 10 - John Plachuta

September 17 - Thomas Sulpizi

September 24 – Pani Elizabeth Hutnick

October 1 - Linda Hnatow

October 8 - Jean Roeth

October 15 – Andrew Duncan

**WINE TASTING** – Our Parish is sponsoring a wine tasting and pairing on Saturday, September 30 beginning at 6:00 PM. The wine will be paired with four courses of food: appetizers, a chicken, beef and pork, and seafood dishes, desserts. The donation will be \$35 per person, \$60 per couple. Please see Linda Hnatow or Father Stephen for advanced reservations.

**SPECIAL COLLECTION – FEEDING THE HUNGRY** –These funds will **ONLY** be used for this or other Philanthropic endeavors of the Parish. The basket will be on the tetrapod. We ask that you be generous in this endeavor. Thank you.

### **MEETINGS**

**PARISH BOARD** – Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 PM

**UOL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE** – It is time to renew your membership or start a membership. Our UOL is always willing to work for the Church. One of their many charitable works is to take care of our Parish Library. Dues are \$20 per member (please see Treasurer Nancy Hlywiak. Please join and help support our UOL.

### **MEETINGS**

**PARISH BOARD** – Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 PM

## **TENTATIVE CALENDER OF EVENTS**

Saturday, September 30 – Wine Tasting 6PM

Saturday, October 7 – UOL Sponsored Retreat – Archbishop Daniel

Saturday, November 4 – Fall Bazaar

Tuesday, November 21 – Community Thanksgiving Service – Holly Oak Calvary  
Methodist Church 7PM

Sunday, December 10 – UOL Cookie Sale

**2024** - Saturday, January 6 – Holy Supper

Sunday, January 7 - Nativity of Our Lord

Sunday, February 4 – Annual Meeting – Souper Bowl Sunday (UOL)

Monday, March 18 – 1<sup>st</sup> Day of the Great Fast

Saturday, March 23 – Spring Bazaar

Friday, May 3 – Good and Holy Friday

Sunday, May 5 – Pascha

Saturday, May 11 – Visit Cemeteries

Sunday, May 12 – Mother's Day Dinner

Sunday, June 16 – Father's Day Dinner

Monday, July 1 – Apostles' Fast

Sunday, July 14 – Patronal Dinner

Saturday, August 3 – UOL Flea Market

Saturday, November 2 – Fall Bazaar

Tuesday, November 26 – Community Thanksgiving Service – Atonement Methodist

## **MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

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

September 10 – John Plachuta and Linda Hnatow

September 17 – John Plachuta and Linda Hnatow

September 24 – Matthew Andreas Victor Kaliakin

October 1 – Matthew Andreas and Victor Kaliakin

October 8 – Lorraine Neff and John Plachuta

October 15 – Lorraine Neff and John Plachuta

## **CLEANING OF THE CHURCH MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

Week of September 11 - Earle and Jennifer Robinson

Week of September 18 - Michael Tilson & Linda Hnatow, Irene Maskaly

Week of September 25 - John Plachuta and David Lazaration

Week of October 2 - Mark & Laura Andreas

Week of October 9 - Earle and Jennifer Robinson

Week of October 16 - Thomas and Lynn Sulpizi

Week of October 23 - Nancy Hlwiak, Jean Roeth, Zina Twardus

**REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL** – Metropolitan Antony, Archbishop Daniel, Archimandrite Raphael, Father Vasili Andrejuk, Father George Bazylevsky, Father Vasyl Dovhan, Father Oleh Hucul, Father Andrew Molewski, Father John Nakonechney, Father James Norton, Father Gerald Ozlanski, Father Volodymyr Wronskyj, Father Michael Zaparyniuk, Matushka Andrejuk, Matushka Laura Odell, Matushka Lisa Weremedic, Pani Matka Oksanna Bazylevsky, Pani Matka Annette Zaparyniuk, , Alicia, Nerry, Mykola, Brennan, Deborah, Galina, Dolores, Julian, Madison, Maria, Marie, Matt, Michele, Mykola, Penelope, Rita, Ryan, Randy Allen, Carolyn Angelo, Colby Atkinson, Shannon Austin, Stephania Bacha, Joyce Belles, Neil Belles, Ethel Bernhard, Yaroslav Bilinsky, Irene Billon, Maria Borowenski Betty Bosland, Becky Bosley, Angie Brengle, Paul Brengle, Patricia Bringle, Richard Bringle, Thomas Bringle, John Brick, Fedir Bukacz, Christine Cain, Mark Cello, Kathy Chalfont, Mildred (Myrophora) Christo, Erik Colazo, Alex Czernik, Sharon Dalaski, Stephen Dalecki, David Dalldorf, Peter DiVirgilio, James DudrickKathleen Dugan, Margaret Durell, Maria Economou, Mary Eagleton, Rose Eldridge, Thomas Fagan, Archantula Fanjoy, James Garrett, Lisa Gee, Peter Glenn, Ivan Golovnirov, Kathleen Gortva, Staci Gray, Charles Gunther, David Hamilton, Richard Haslam, Rick Hastings, Celeste Heiser, Victoria Herrschaft, Carla Hitchings, Greg Hitchings, Alicia Hlywak, John Hlywak, John Hnatow, Michael Hnatow, Daniel Holoviak, Jennifer Huertes, Sally Hutnick, Joette Jago, Stephen Johnson, Linda Josepinson, Michael Kapelus, Charles Kaszytski, Walter Katolik, Diane Keyser, Wendy Klinedinst, Judith Kocinski, Lorissa Kozakova, Ludmyla Krawchenko, Mykola Krawchenko, Volodymyr Krasnopera, Sue Kreisa-Christian, Marlene Kuhar, Ron Lazaration, Karen Livick, Charles Lontor, Alla Lysenko, Jeremy Madea, Andrew Makolynyk, Jean Marano, Frederick McCarthy, Beth McKirachan, Fred McKirachan, Stephen McNulty, Ronald Michel, Mary Ann Michalcewicz, Michelle Michalcewiz, Lisa Miller, Matthew Miller, Mary Elizabeth Moran, Barry Morris, Elsie Moroz, Karen Needham, Julie Neff, Lorraine Neff, Ann Nester, Laurie Newman, Betty Painter, Anastasios Pantelopulos, Anthony Pantelopulos, Linda Phillips, Joseph Pierson, Barry Pinkowicz, Bernice Pinkowicz, Ryan Pinkowicz, Daphne Pantelopulos, Joseph Porini, Robert Powers, Joanne Procak, Joseph Ptak, Carol Purse, Sharon Reigh, Christopher Riehl, Arlene Roginski, Wyatt Roland, Andrea Roman, Jeff Rozwadowski, John Ruczhak, Glenn Runyan, Carol Rusk, Isaac Schmidt, Joella Seale, Clay Seman, John Serth, Larissa Serth, Dawn Sheets, Justin Sheets, Emily Smitheman, Kimberly Smitheman, Georgie Smolyar, Alexandra Sparco, Natalia Stanford, Rich Steinman, Joseph Stevens, Noel Strobino, Charles Joseph Sweeney, Evelyn Synczyszyn, Michael Synczyszyn, Pavlo Tabak, Nicholas Taylor, Sue Taylor, Elenora Thomas, Lydia Thomas, Brysen Tomei, Dominic Tomei, Mark Tomei, Violet Tomei, Aria Tonner, Mariel Trimble, Martha Vignali, Jack Vognetz, Margaret Vognetz, Marilyn Wagner, Olena Wasylevska, James Watts, Chris Way, Leah Way, Barbara Weeks, Peter Weremedic, Laura Worley, Jack Ziegler & James Zook.

## **KILLING THE MESSENGER FAILS TO SILENCE THE MESSAGE!**

**E**very Orthodox Christian is familiar with the tragic details that led to the beheading of St. John the Baptist. Soon after baptizing Christ in the Jordan, John was arrested and imprisoned by Herod Antipas, the son of the infamous ruler of the same name, who reigned at the time of our Lord's birth. His "crime" was speaking out against the King for his marriage to Herodias, his brother Philip's wife.

Not content with merely seeing the Baptist in captivity, Herodias devised a plan for his untimely demise. When Herod promised her daughter Salome anything she wanted after pleasing the King with her dancing at his birthday celebration, she instructed her to make this gruesome request: "I WANT YOU TO GIVE ME AT ONCE THE HEAD OF JOHN THE BAPTIST ON A PLATTER."

It is interesting to note that soon after this terrible deed had been carried out, Herod and Herodias were driven into exile by Prince Aretas, whose daughter had been Herod's lawful wife! It is recorded that they lived in great need and poverty for the rest of their lives.

It is equally fitting that Salome's life ended in tragedy as well. While living in Spain with her exiled mother and step-father, Salome fell into the frozen Sikaris River. The ice broke, and Salome found herself in the water up to her throat. After struggling as the ice pierced her neck, she was eventually decapitated. Ironically, her body was washed away, and those who found Salome's head brought it to her mother on a platter, in a manner similar to how she had once received the blessed head of the Baptist!