



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

September 19, 2021
Volume 57: Number 38
Schedule of Services and Activities
Week of September 19 - 26, 2021
Celebrating our 94th year of Service to the Lord

Sunday, September 19 – 13th Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 4

8:30 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Panakhya: +Doris Scully

Panakhya: +Alexandra Bohdan (46th Yr. An.) – Sonya Patronik

Panakhya: +Father Vincent Saverino (3 Yr. An.)

Coffee Hour

Monday, September 20

8:00 AM – Butter and onions

6:00 PM – Great Vespers

7:00 PM – Bible Study

Tuesday, September 21 – Nativity of the Mother of God

8:00 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Thursday, September 23

7:00 AM – Peeling potatoes

1:00 PM – Making Sauerkraut

6:00 PM – Making potato balls

7:00 PM – Boy Scouts

Friday, September 24

7:00 AM – Making potato and cheese pyrohy

5:00 PM – Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday, September 25

11:00 AM – Wedding

6:00 PM – Dancing under the Stars

Sunday, September 26 – 14th Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 5

8:30 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful
Coffee Hour

12:00 Noon – Great Vespers for the Feast

RULES FOR ATENDING SERVICES BY OUR SYNOD OF BISHOPS: Those who have **not been vaccinated** must voluntarily wear masks at liturgy or other parish family events. Those who **have been vaccinated** but have been part of any gathering of people – indoors or outdoors – which includes individuals whose vaccination status is unknown to them should voluntarily wear masks during liturgy or other parish family events.

SCRIPTURE READNGS

13th Sunday after Pentecost – Matins: Mark 16:1-8; Liturgy: 1 Corinthians 16:13-24; Matthew 21:33-42

Monday – 2 Corinthians 12:10-19; Mark 4:10-23; Vespers for the Feast: Genesis 28:10-17; Ezekiel 43:27-44:1-4; Proverbs 9:1-11.

Tuesday - Nativity of the Mother of God - Matins: Luke 1:39-49,56; Liturgy: Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28; Day: 2 Corinthians 12:20-13:2; Mark 4:24-34

Wednesday – 2 Corinthians 13:3-13; Mark 4:35-41

Thursday – Galatians 1:1-10,20-2:5; Mark 5:1-20

Friday – Galatians 2:6-10; Mark 5:22-24, 35-6:1

Saturday before the Cross 1 Corinthians 2:6-9; Matthew 10:37-11:1

14th Sunday after Pentecost – Sunday before the Exaltation – Matins: Mark 16:9-20; Liturgy: Sunday before Cross – Galatians 6:11-18; John 3:13-17; Vespers: Exodus 15:22-27; 16:1-2; Proverbs 3:11-18; Isaiah 60:11-16.

THE NATIVITY OF THE MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD



The first great Feast to fall in the Church Year is the Nativity of the Most Holy Mother of God. It is entirely fitting that at the beginning of the new *religious* year all Orthodox Christians should come before the highest example of human holiness that the Orthodox Church holds precious and venerates - that of Mary, the God-bearer, and Mother of God. This day is seen as one of universal joy; for on this day - the boundary of the Old and New Covenants - was born the Most-Blessed Virgin, deigned from the ages by Divine Providence to serve the mystical Incarnation of God the Word.

The first Old Testament Reading of Vespers (Genesis 28:10-17) speaks of the dream of Jacob, one of the Old Testament Patriarchs, when he fled the wrath of his brother Esau. He saw a ladder extending from earth to heaven, with angels ascending and descending. When he awoke, Jacob blessed with oil the stone on which he had slept and called it Bethel, meaning *house of God*. The Most-Pure Mother of God is seen here as that ladder between heaven and earth, uniting earth with heaven in her womb. She who carried God in her womb is truly *Bethel*, none other than the house of God...and the gate of heaven (Genesis 28:17).

The birth of the Most Holy Birth-giver of God took place in the following manner: Her father, the Righteous Joachim, was a descendant of King David, to whom He had promised that from the seed of his descendants would be born the Savior of the world. Her mother, the Righteous Anna, was the daughter of Matthan, and through her father was of the tribe of Aaron and through her mother was of the tribe of Judah. The spouses lived in Nazareth of Galilee.

Joachim and Anna had no children, and all their life they grieved about this, especially since they were now in old age. Scorn and mockery was their lot, for at that time childlessness was reckoned as a shame. But they never murmured and only the more fervently beseeched God, humbly trusting in His will.

Once, during the time of a great Feast, the offering which Joachim took to Jerusalem to offer to God in the Temple, was not received by the priest, who reckoned that a childless man was not worthy to bring sacrifice to God. This greatly grieved the old man and he, counting himself only a sinner among men, decided not to return home, but to flee to a place of solitude in a deserted place.

Anna, having heard how her husband had been humiliated by the priest, began to fast, and in prayer sadly beseeched God to grant her a child. In the wilderness, secluded and fasting, Joachim also prayed to God about this.

The prayers of the Holy Spouses were heard. The angel Gabriel came to them and announced that a daughter would be born to them, whom the whole human race would call blessed. At the command of the Heavenly Messenger, Joachim and Anna returned to Jerusalem where, according to the promise of God, a daughter was born to them whom they named Mary.

This child, the Most-Holy Virgin Mary, pure and virtuous, surpassed not only all men, but even the angels, being manifested as the Living Temple, "the Heavenly Gate, ushering in

Christ to the Universe as the Salvation of our souls.” The Nativity of the Mother of God pre-announced the approaching time when the great and comforting promise of God concerning the salvation of the human race from the slavery to the devil was to be accomplished. The Mother of the First-Born of all Creation was revealed to all of us as a merciful Intercessor to whom we perpetually run for help in all things.

TROPAR - Tone 4: Your birth, O Virgin Mother of God * heralded joy to the universe * for from you rose the Sun of Justice, Christ our God. * He took away the curse; He gave the blessing * and by trampling death * He gave us everlasting life.

KONDAK - Tone 4: By your Nativity, O Most-Pure Virgin, Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness; Adam and Eve, from the corruption of death. And we, your people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you: The barren woman gives birth to the Birth-Giver of God, the Nourisher of our Life.

PRAYER AND THE FAMILY

Prayer is a mysterious power. It is the main nourishment of faith and a companion to the believer. It can't be otherwise, since it is man reaching out to the infinite God, the Creator of all things. It is man talking with God.

Many of us have the idea that the only time we pray to God is when we have failed miserably, or when we need strength greater than our own, or when doors have been shut to us, or when answers don't come, or when there seems to be no way out. Then we pray!

But this is not the norm. We must learn to pray continually. Our Lord said: "Will not God then do justice to His chosen who calls out to Him day and night?" (Luke 18:7). So rather than praying only when things go wrong, His praise should always be on our lips; at times of leisure or work; happiness or sorrow; alone or with others; at home or in Church.

The Apostles devoted themselves to constant prayer (Acts 1:14), but unfortunately today, we have set up boundaries where and when we pray. An area in which prayer is being forgotten is the home. How often have you heard that old axiom: "A family that prays together, stays together!" And perhaps rightly so, it is through prayer that each member of the family comes into a close appreciation for God and each other.

Perhaps the first thing we need is to **DESIRE** to pray as a family. Isn't it amazing that the Fathers of our Church have always looked at each family as a "Little Church"? This is why the Icon corners, the family offering prayer and incense together, the family singing our beautiful Church hymns and Akathists together in the home was so important. It is through

our individual spirituality, and our family spirituality that we can come together as a spiritual Church, as the Body of Christ, to offer God worship and praise. Without a foundation for prayer in our individual and family lives, we cannot expect to come to Church every Sunday and all of a sudden just pray. It is then that we shall see all the distractions in the world: "Someone's clothes didn't match, someone is singing off key, the priest's sermon wasn't good in the first place but it also didn't say anything to me, that person's child is screaming and I cannot concentrate."

Perhaps we need to get back to the basics. How you might ask? Perhaps we need to start with a few prayers from our Church that our family can say together during the day. One of our most beautiful morning prayers thanks God for the new day, for new strength and for hope. We may pray: "As I rise from sleep, I thank You, O Holy Trinity, for through Your great goodness and patience You were not angry with me, an idler and sinner, nor have You destroyed me in my sins, but have shown Your usual love for mankind; and when i was prostrate in despair, You have raised me up to keep the morning watch and glorify Your power. And now enlighten my mind's eye and open my mouth that I may meditate on Your words; understand Your commandments; do Your will; sing to You in heartfelt confession and sing praises to Your all-holy name: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen." (Midnight Service of the Orthodox Church)

Perhaps we can pray before and after every meal with our prayers of blessing and thanksgiving:

"O Christ our God, bless the food and drink of Your servants, for You are Holy now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen."

"We thank You, O Christ our God, that You have satisfied us with Your earthly gifts. Do not deprive us of Your heavenly Kingdom, but as You entered into the midst of Your disciples, O Savior, and gave them peace, enter also among us and save us. Amen."

At night, we can pray this beautiful prayer taken from Small Compline:

"O Lord our God, as You are good and the Lover of Mankind, forgive me all my sins which I have committed today in word, deed or thought. Grant me peaceful and undisturbed sleep; send Your guardian Angel to protect and keep me from all evil. For You are the Guardian of our souls and bodies, and unto You do we send up glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen."

Remember to say the prayer for our parish Community every day. Use the Psalms as daily prayers and meditations. The hardest part of any journey is beginning. The beginning of any journey lies in the first step. Let us begin to take our prayer life seriously. Let us take our family prayer life just as seriously. Then we will notice a difference when our "Little Churches" come together to form our big Church during our regular Divine Services. Then we will notice a more prayerful attitude in our Church and our Community. Then will our Parish Community be rewarded with peace and prosperity for being the faithful, prayerful servants of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY - is expressed to the following: Victoria Muntyanu, 9/21: Richard Bringle, 9/22 & Nadia Fomin, 9/25. May God grant them a very happy birthday and keep them for many, happy and blessed years!

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.

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 may not occur.

MEETINGS

UOL MEETING – Sunday, September 19 during coffee hour

PARISH BOARD MEETING – Wednesday, October 13 @ 6:45 PM

MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER

As many of you know, summer is a time for relaxation and vacation. Hopefully, many of you had the opportunity to have some time for some fun in the sun. Unfortunately, the vacation time has reflected in the attendance at Sunday services and in our collections. The past three weeks we have collected about \$2,500. Unfortunately, we need \$2,700 a week in order to our utilities, our mortgage, Father's salary, property insurance, maintenance, trash and other bills. On behalf of our Parish Board, I am asking that you be generous in the next weeks collections so that we may overcome this financial deficit. May God reward your kindness. Michael Tilson, Treasurer

KARAOKE NIGHT – Thanks to all who participated.

WE NEED DONATIONS – OF Coke Products, bottled water, paper towels and bathroom tissue.

DANCING UNDER THE STARS – Saturday, September 25 from 6 – 10 PM. This year's themes will be **Music Through the Decades: 20's, 30's 40's and 50's**. The Donation is \$20 per person which includes appetizers, a meal, wine, beer, soda and dessert. It is always a great time. Please plan to attend.

SCHEDULE CHANGES:

Bible Study will be moved to Monday, September 20 at 7PM

Priest Retreat three days has been cancelled because of covid and travel, it will be a Zoom conference on October 9

UOL Retreat has been canceled because of the Priest's Retreat – may be rescheduled later

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 Ukrainiaan (yes it is misspelled and we've tried to correct it). Try it and help our Parish Family benefit from your shopping experience!

CLEANING OF THE CHURCH MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Week of September 20 - Earle and Jennifer Robinson

Week of September 27 - Michael Tilson & Linda Hnatow, Irene Maskaly

Week of October 4 - John Plachuta and David Lazaration

Week of October 11 - Mark & Laura Andreas

Week of October 18 - Earle and Jennifer Robinson

Week of October 25 - Nancy Hlywiak, Jean Roeth, Zina Twardus

GREETER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

September 19 - Lorraine Neff, Sonya Patronik & Alexander Smith

September 26 - David and Eve Lazaration

October 3 - Nancy Tur, Zina Twardus

October 10 - John and Sandy Cramer

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

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

September 19 – Ann Duncan and Victor Kaliakin

September 26 – Lorraine Neff and Thomas Bringle

October 3 – Lorraine Neff and Thomas Bringle

October 10 – Linda Hnatow and Ann Duncan

October 17 – Linda Hnatow and Ann Duncan

October 24 – Victor kaliakin and Lorraine Neff

TENTATIVE CALENDER OF EVENTS

Sunday, September 19 – Religious Education Begins

Monday, September 20 – Bible Study Resumes (7PM)

Friday, September 24 – 6:00 PM – Coptic Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday, September 25 – 1:00 – 4:00 PM – Wedding from the Coptic Church

Saturday, September 25 – Dancing Under the Stars

Saturday, October 9 – UOL Retreat - CANCELLED

Saturday, October 9 - Clergy Retreat – ZOOM

Saturday, October 23 – UOL Book Sale

Saturday, November 6 – Fall Bazaar

Tuesday, November 23 – Community Thanksgiving Service (Holy Rosary)

Sunday, November 28 – St. Philip’s Fast Begins

Sunday, December 12 – UOL Cookie Sale

READER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

September 19 – John Plachuta

September 26 - Andrew Duncan

October 3 - Linda Hnatow

October 10 - Pani Elizabeth Hutnick

October 17 - Jean Roeth

FALL PYROHY SCHEDULE –

Monday, September 20 - Butter and Onions

Thursday, September 23 – Peeling potatoes, making balls, pinching sauerkraut pyrohy

Friday, September 24 – Pinching potato and cheese pyrohy

Monday & Tuesday, October 4 & 5 – Taking orders for the Bazaar

Monday & Tuesday, October 11 & 12 – Taking orders for the Bazaar

Friday, October 15 – Peeling potatoes, making balls, pinching sauerkraut pyrohy

Saturday, October 16 – Pinching potato and cheese pyrohy

Monday, October 25 – 250 lbs of Butter and Onions

Saturday, October 30 – Making holubtsi

Tuesday, November 2 – Peeling potatoes

Wednesday, November 3 – Pinching potato pyrohy

(More will be added to the schedule)

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL – Metropolitan Antony, Archimandrite Raphael, Father Vasili Andrejuk, Father George Bazylevsky, 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, Matushka Andrejuk, 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, Kathleen Dugan, Larry Dugan, Margaret Durell, 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, Elizabeth Kaliakin, 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, Sophia Zomcahk & James Zook.

BELOVED ICON: THE KAZAN MOTHER OF GOD

The Holy Virgin occupies a place of pre-eminence among the vast array of Saints in the Church. She is called "*Theotokos*," a Greek term that has come to be used throughout the Church. The word means Birthgiver or Mother of God, and its use is essential for the proper understanding of the Person of Christ.

A sign of this exalted esteem of the Birthgiver of God is the great number of beloved icons that are devoted to Mother and Child, the Christ. Among these is the one called "*The Kazan Mother of God*."

It first came to note in the 16th century, when a young maiden was directed in a dream to inform Church authorities of the location of a special icon, following a disastrous fire in the area. The girl proceeded to unearth the icon, which was miraculously unharmed. It was then carried in solemn procession to a cathedral. The icon was highly venerated, and believed to cause a number of healing miracles of those who were ill. This design has been popular model for iconographers ever since.

The icon is unique in a number of ways. The Mother of God is depicted to the shoulders only, and bears features that reflect both a tenderness and seriousness as she contemplates the Child she holds. The Infant-Christ appears upright, full-face, and rather serious, too. Only one hand is visible in the Kazan icon: that of the Christchild, raised in blessing. One gets the sense that the Child has an indication of the suffering and passion that awaits Him.

For hundreds of years, then, this icon has inspired the faithful of the Church in their prayer and meditation. Let it do so for us, as well.