

Ἡ ἁγία

ΜΕΡΟΠΗ



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

December 16, 2018
Volume 54: Number 50
Schedule of Services and Activities
Week of December 16 - 23, 2018
Celebrating our 91st year of Service to the Lord

Sunday, December 16 – 29th Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 4

8:30 – 9:00 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Panakhyda: +Stanley Hambiski (19 Yr. An.); +Helen Hambiski (50 Yr. An.) –
Nancy Hlywiak, Jean Roeth and Family

Coffee Hour – Visit by St. Nicholas – UOL Cookie Sale

Monday, December 17 – Saint Barbara

8:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

6:30 PM – Moleben for Saint Philip's Fast

7:00 PM – Bible Study

Tuesday, December 18

6:00 PM – Great Vespers for the Feast

Wednesday, December 19 – Saint Nicholas

8:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

Saturday, December 22 – Conception of Saint Anna

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

Sunday, December 23 – 30th Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 5

8:30 – 9:00 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Coffee Hour

SCRIPTURE READINGS

29th Sunday after Pentecost – Matins: John 20:1-10; Liturgy: Timothy 1:15-17; Luke 18:18-27

Monday – Great Martyr Saint Barbara – Galatians 3:23-29; Mark 5:24-34; Day – Hebrews 8:7-13; Luke 20:27-44

Tuesday – Hebrews 9:8-10; Luke 21:12-19

Wednesday – Saint Nicholas – Matins: John 10:9-16; Liturgy: Hebrews 13:17-21; Luke 6:17-23; Day: Hebrews 10:1-18; Luke 21:5-7,10-11,20-24

Thursday – Hebrews 10:35-11:7; Luke 21:28-33

Friday – Hebrews 11:8,11-16; Luke 21:37-22:8

Saturday – Saint Anna – Galatians 4:22-31; Luke 8:16-21; Day: Hebrews 5:1-8; Luke 13:18-29

30th Sunday after Pentecost – Matins: John 20:11-18; Liturgy: Colossians 3:12-16; Luke 17:12-19

Saint Barbara

Commemorated on December 4 (17)

The Holy Great Martyr Barbara lived and suffered during the reign of the emperor Maximian (305-311). Her father, the pagan Dioscorus, was a rich and illustrious man in the Syrian city of Heliopolis. After the death of his wife, he devoted himself to his only daughter.

Seeing Barbara's extraordinary beauty, Dioscorus decided to hide her from the eyes of strangers. Therefore, he built a tower for Barbara, where only her pagan teachers were allowed to see her. From the tower there was a view of hills stretching into the distance. By day she was able to gaze upon the wooded hills, the swiftly flowing rivers, and the meadows covered with a mottled blanket of flowers; by night the harmonious and majestic vault of the heavens twinkled and provided a spectacle of inexpressible beauty. Soon the virgin began to ask herself questions about the First Cause and Creator of so harmonious and splendid a world.

Gradually, she became convinced that the soulless idols were merely the work of human hands. Although her father and teachers offered them worship, she realized that the idols could not have made the surrounding world. The desire to know the true God so consumed her soul that Barbara decided to devote all her life to this goal, and to spend her life in virginity.

The fame of her beauty spread throughout the city, and many sought her hand in marriage. But despite the entreaties of her father, she refused all of them. Barbara warned her father that his persistence might end tragically and separate them forever. Dioscorus decided that the temperament of his daughter had been affected by her life of seclusion. He therefore permitted her to leave the tower and gave her full freedom in her choice of friends and acquaintances. Thus Barbara met young Christian maidens in the city, and they taught her about the Creator of the world, about the Trinity, and about the Divine Logos. Through the Providence of God, a priest arrived in Heliopolis from Alexandria disguised as a merchant. After instructing her in the mysteries of the Christian Faith, he baptized Barbara, then returned to his own country.

During this time a luxurious bathhouse was being built at the house of Dioscorus. By his orders the workers prepared to put two windows on the south side. But Barbara, taking advantage of her father's absence, asked them to make a third window, thereby forming a Trinity of light. On one of the walls of the bath-house Barbara traced a cross with her finger. The cross was deeply etched into the marble, as if by an iron instrument. Later, her footprints were imprinted on the stone steps of the bathhouse. The water of the bathhouse had great healing power. St Simeon Metaphrastes (November 9) compared the bathhouse to the stream of Jordan and the Pool of Siloam, because by God's power, many miracles took place there.

When Dioscorus returned and expressed dissatisfaction about the change in his building plans, his daughter told him about how she had come to know the Triune God, about the saving power of the Son of God, and about the futility of worshipping idols. Dioscorus went into a rage, grabbed a sword and was on the point of striking her with it. The holy virgin fled from her father, and he rushed after her in pursuit. His way became blocked by a hill, which opened up and concealed the saint in a crevice. On the other side of the crevice was an entrance leading upwards. St Barbara managed then to conceal herself in a cave on the opposite slope of the hill.

After a long and fruitless search for his daughter, Dioscorus saw two shepherds on the hill. One of them showed him the cave where the saint had hidden. Dioscorus beat his daughter terribly, and then placed her under guard and tried to wear her down with hunger. Finally he handed her over to the prefect of the city, named Martianus. They beat St Barbara fiercely: they struck her with rawhide, and rubbed her wounds with a hair cloth to increase her pain. By night St Barbara prayed fervently to her Heavenly Bridegroom, and the

Savior Himself appeared and healed her wounds. Then they subjected the saint to new, and even more frightful torments.

In the crowd where the martyr was tortured was the virtuous Christian woman Juliana, an inhabitant of Heliopolis. Her heart was filled with sympathy for the voluntary martyrdom of the beautiful and illustrious maiden. Juliana also wanted to suffer for Christ. She began to denounce the torturers in a loud voice, and they seized her.

Both martyrs were tortured for a long time. Their bodies were raked and wounded with hooks, and then they were led naked through the city amidst derision and jeers. Through the prayers of St Barbara the Lord sent an angel who covered the nakedness of the holy martyrs with a splendid robe. Then the steadfast confessors of Christ, Sts Barbara and Juliana, were beheaded. Dioscorus himself executed St Barbara. The wrath of God was not slow to punish both torturers, Martianus and Dioscorus. They were killed after being struck by lightning.

In the sixth century the relics of the holy Great Martyr Barbara were transferred to Constantinople. Six hundred years later, they were transferred to Kiev (July 11) by Barbara, the daughter of the Byzantine Emperor Alexius Comnenos, who married the Ukrainian prince Michael Izyaslavich. They rest even now at Kiev's St Volodymyr Cathedral, where an Akathist to the saint is served each Tuesday.

Many pious Orthodox Christians are in the habit of chanting the Troparion of St Barbara each day, recalling the Savior's promise to her that those who remembered her and her sufferings would be preserved from a sudden, unexpected death, and would not depart this life without benefit of the Holy Mysteries of Christ.

Troparion - Tone 8

Let us honor the holy martyr Barbara, * for as a bird she escaped the snares of the enemy,
* and destroyed them through the help and defense of the Cross.

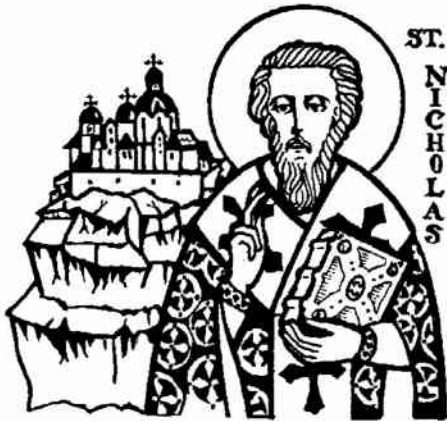
Kontakion - Tone 4

Singing the praises of the Trinity, * you followed God by enduring suffering;* you renounced the multitude of idols, * O holy martyr Barbara.* In your struggles, you were not frightened by the threats of your torturers, but cried out in a loud voice: * "I worship the Trinity in one God-head."

Saint Nicholas

Commemorated on December 6 (19)

Saint Nicholas, the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia is famed as a great saint pleasing unto God. He was born in the city of Patara in the region of Lycia (on the south coast of the Asia Minor peninsula), and was the only son of pious parents Theophanes and Nonna, who had vowed to dedicate him to God.



As the fruit of the prayer of his childless parents, the infant Nicholas from the very day of his birth revealed to people the light of his future glory as a wonderworker. His mother, Nonna, after giving birth was immediately healed from illness. The newborn infant, while still in the baptismal font, stood on his feet three hours, without support from anyone, thereby honoring the Most Holy Trinity. St Nicholas from his infancy began a life of fasting, and on Wednesdays and Fridays he would not accept milk from his mother until after his parents had finished their evening prayers.

From his childhood Nicholas thrived on the study of Divine Scripture; by day he would not leave church, and by night he prayed and read books, making himself a worthy dwelling place for the Holy Spirit. Bishop Nicholas of Patara rejoiced at the spiritual success and deep piety of his nephew. He ordained him a reader, and then elevated Nicholas to the priesthood, making him his assistant and entrusting him to instruct the flock.

In serving the Lord the youth was fervent of spirit, and in his proficiency with questions of faith he was like an Elder, who aroused the wonder and deep respect of believers. Constantly at work and vivacious, in unceasing prayer, the priest Nicholas displayed great kind-heartedness towards the flock, and towards the afflicted who came to him for help, and he distributed all his inheritance to the poor.

There was a certain formerly rich inhabitant of Patara, whom St Nicholas saved from great sin. The man had three grown daughters, and in desperation he planned to sell their bodies

so they would have money for food. The saint, learning of the man's poverty and of his wicked intention, secretly visited him one night and threw a sack of gold through the window. With the money the man arranged an honorable marriage for his daughter. St Nicholas also provided gold for the other daughters, thereby saving the family from falling into spiritual destruction. In bestowing charity, St Nicholas always strove to do this secretly and to conceal his good deeds.

The Bishop of Patara decided to go on pilgrimage to the holy places at Jerusalem, and entrusted the guidance of his flock to St Nicholas, who fulfilled this obedience carefully and with love. When the bishop returned, Nicholas asked his blessing for a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Along the way the saint predicted a storm would arise and threaten the ship. St Nicholas saw the devil get on the ship, intending to sink it and kill all the passengers. At the entreaty of the despairing pilgrims, he calmed the waves of the sea by his prayers. Through his prayer a certain sailor of the ship, who had fallen from the mast and was mortally injured was also restored to health.

When he reached the ancient city of Jerusalem and came to Golgotha, St Nicholas gave thanks to the Savior. He went to all the holy places, worshipping at each one. One night on Mount Sion, the closed doors of the church opened by themselves for the great pilgrim. Going round the holy places connected with the earthly service of the Son of God, St Nicholas decided to withdraw into the desert, but he was stopped by a divine voice urging him to return to his native country. He returned to Lycia, and yearning for a life of quietude, the saint entered into the brotherhood of a monastery named Holy Sion, which had been founded by his uncle. But the Lord again indicated another path for him, "Nicholas, this is not the vineyard where you shall bear fruit for Me. Return to the world, and glorify My Name there." So he left Patara and went to Myra in Lycia.

Upon the death of Archbishop John, Nicholas was chosen as Bishop of Myra after one of the bishops of the Council said that a new archbishop should be revealed by God, not chosen by men. One of the elder bishops had a vision of a radiant Man, Who told him that the one who came to the church that night and was first to enter should be made archbishop. He would be named Nicholas. The bishop went to the church at night to await Nicholas. The saint, always the first to arrive at church, was stopped by the bishop. "What is your name, child?" he asked. God's chosen one replied, "My name is Nicholas, Master, and I am your servant."

After his consecration as archbishop, St Nicholas remained a great ascetic, appearing to his flock as an image of gentleness, kindness and love for people. This was particularly precious for the Lycian Church during the persecution of Christians under the emperor Diocletian (284-305). Bishop Nicholas, locked up in prison together with other Christians for refusing to worship idols, sustained them and exhorted them to endure the fetters, punishment and torture. The Lord preserved him unharmed. Upon the accession of St Constantine (May 21 (June 3) as emperor, St Nicholas was restored to his flock, which joyfully received their guide and intercessor.

Despite his great gentleness of spirit and purity of heart, St Nicholas was a zealous and ardent warrior of the Church of Christ. Fighting evil spirits, the saint made the rounds of the pagan temples and shrines in the city of Myra and its surroundings, shattering the idols and turning the temples to dust.

In the year 325 St Nicholas was a participant in the First Ecumenical Council. This Council proclaimed the Nicene Symbol of Faith, and he stood up against the heretic Arius with the likes of Sts Sylvester the Bishop of Rome (January 2 (15), Alexander of Alexandria (May 29 (June 11), Spyridon of Trimythontos (December 12 (25) and other Fathers of the Council.

St Nicholas, fired with zeal for the Lord, assailed the heretic Arius with his words, and also struck him upon the face. For this reason, he was deprived of the emblems of his episcopal rank and placed under guard. But several of the holy Fathers had the same vision, seeing the Lord Himself and the Mother of God returning to him the Gospel and omophorion. The Fathers of the Council agreed that the audacity of the saint was pleasing to God, and restored the saint to the office of bishop.

Having returned to his own diocese, the saint brought it peace and blessings, sowing the word of Truth, uprooting heresy, nourishing his flock with sound doctrine, and also providing food for their bodies.

Even during his life the saint worked many miracles. One of the greatest was the deliverance from death of three men unjustly condemned by the Governor, who had been bribed. The saint boldly went up to the executioner and took his sword, already suspended over the heads of the condemned. The Governor, denounced by St Nicholas for his wrong doing, repented and begged for forgiveness.

Witnessing this remarkable event were three military officers, who were sent to Phrygia by the emperor Constantine to put down a rebellion. They did not suspect that soon they would also be compelled to seek the intercession of St Nicholas. Evil men slandered them before the emperor, and the officers were sentenced to death. Appearing to St Constantine in a dream, St Nicholas called on him to overturn the unjust sentence of the military officers.

He worked many other miracles, and struggled many long years at his labor. Through the prayers of the saint, the city of Myra was rescued from a terrible famine. He appeared to a certain Italian merchant and left him three gold pieces as a pledge of payment. He requested him to sail to Myra and deliver grain there. More than once, the saint saved those drowning in the sea, and provided release from captivity and imprisonment.

Having reached old age, St Nicholas peacefully fell asleep in the Lord. His venerable relics were preserved incorrupt in the local cathedral church and flowed with curative myrrh, from which many received healing. In the year 1087, his relics were transferred to the Italian city of Bari, where they rest even now (See May 9).

The name of the great saint of God, the hierarch and wonderworker Nicholas, a speedy helper and suppliant for all hastening to him, is famed in every corner of the earth, in many lands and among many peoples. In Russia there are a multitude of cathedrals, monasteries and churches consecrated in his name. There is, perhaps, not a single city without a church dedicated to him.

The first Ukrainian Christian prince Askold (+ 882) was baptized in 866 by Patriarch Photius (February 6 (19) with the name Nicholas. Over the grave of Askold, St Olga (July 11 (24) built the first temple of St Nicholas in the Ukrainian Church at Kiev. At Novhorod the Great, one of the main churches of the city, the Nikolo-Dvorischensk church, later became a cathedral.

Famed and venerable churches and monasteries dedicated to St Nicholas are found at Kiev. Many of the churches devoted to the saint were those established at market squares, sea-farers and those who traveled by land, venerating the wonderworker Nicholas as a protector of all those journeying on dry land and sea.

Many village churches in Ukraine were dedicated to the wonderworker Nicholas, venerated by peasants as a merciful intercessor before the Lord for all the people in their

work. St Nicholas did not cease his intercession. Ancient Kiev preserves the memory about the miraculous rescue of a drowning infant by the saint. The great wonderworker, hearing the grief-filled prayers of the parents for the loss of their only child, took the infant from the waters, revived him and placed him in the choir-loft of the church of Holy Wisdom (Hagia Sophia) before his wonderworking icon. In the morning the infant was found safe by his thrilled parents, praising St Nicholas the Wonderworker.

Many wonderworking icons of St Nicholas appeared in Ukraine and came also from other lands. St Nicholas is the patron of travelers, and we pray to him for deliverance from floods, poverty, or any misfortunes. He has promised to help those who remember his parents, Theophanes and Nonna.

St Nicholas is also commemorated on May 9 (22) (The transfer of his relics) and on July 29(11) (his nativity).

Troparion - Tone 4

In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith,* an image of humility and a teacher of abstinence; * your humility exalted you; * our poverty enriched you. * Hierarchy Father Nicholas, * entreat Christ our God that our souls may be saved.

Kontakion - Tone 3

You revealed yourself, O saint, in Myra as a priest, * For you fulfilled the Gospel of Christ * By giving up your soul for your people, * And saving the innocent from death. * Therefore you are blessed as one become wise in the grace of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY - is expressed to the following: Carol Purse, 12/17; Joseph Thurstlic, 12/17; Margaret Krauthauser, 12/18; Dana Bringle, 12/21; Anna Takach, 12/21 & Mary Crystal, 12/22. May God grant them a very happy birthday and keep them for many, happy and blessed years!

HALUSHKI DINNER – will be on Sunday, December 23 for coffee hour. Donation: \$5. Please support this dinner which will help to support our Parish. Thanks!

FLOWERS FOR THE NATIVITY – A requested \$15.00 towards the flowers for the Nativity is asked. You may make the donation in Memory of a loved one or for the health of a loved one. Please see Linda Hnatow for more info.

HOLY SUPPER SIGN UP – Holy Supper will be on Sunday, January 6 beginning at 6:00 PM. We need to have an approximate number of people so that we have enough food. Please sign in and let us know if you can bring some food for the evening. Thanks.

SEMINAR: TECHNICAL & FINANCIAL REVOLUTION – What a fabulous Seminar! Thank you, John Plachuta, for a very informative presentation.

MALANKA NEWS – Our Annual Malanka is scheduled for **Saturday, January 12th**. Our Sisterhood has graciously volunteered to subsidize our Parishioner's tickets for the affair. Price for our Parishioners will be \$20.00 for adults and \$15 for youth. Non-Parishioner prices are still \$35 for adults and \$15 for youth. We will also have a contest to find the Parishioner who brings the most people. Their ticket will be free. We are changing the times for the Malanka: Doors open at 4:30, the Malanka will be from 5:00 – 9:00 PM. Let's fill the hall!!!

GREETER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

December 16 - Nancy Tur, Zina Twardus

December 23 - John and Sandy Cramer

December 30 - David & Eve Lazaration

January 6 - Lorraine Neff, Sonya Patronik & Alexander Smith

READER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

December 16 - John Plachta

December 23 - Irene Maskaly

December 30 - Andrew Duncan

January 6 - Jean Roeth

January 13 - Linda Hnatow

January 20 - Pani Elizabeth Hutnick

January 27 - Jean Roeth

February 3 - Thomas Kasprzak

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!

PYROHY – ORDERS (9-11AM) (302) 798-4588

Monday – Tuesday

January 21 & 22, 2019

February 18 & 19

March 18 & 19

MAKING & PICKUP

Friday

January 25

February 22

March 22

THE POWER OF PRAYER – Please remember your daily prayer for our country.
Today, we begin Day 31.

TRUSTEES MINISTRY SCHEDULE

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

December 16 – Linda Hnatow and Lorraine Neff

December 23 - Linda Hnatow and Lorraine Neff

December 30 – Ann Duncan and Irene Maskaly

January 6 - Ann Duncan and Irene Maskaly

January 13 – Linda Hnatow and Lorraine Neff

January 20 – Linda Hnatow and Lorraine Neff

January 27 – Victor Kaliakin and Ann Duncan

February 3 - Victor Kaliakin and Ann Duncan

CLAYMONT COMMUNITY CENTER – provides holiday food baskets to more than 225 local families. They need frozen turkeys, canned vegetables, boxed stuffing and boxed mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, evaporated milk, macaroni & cheese & other nonperishable holiday food items. We shall be collecting them here at the Parish after the Bazaar & delivering them to the Center before December 23. Please support those in need.

CLEANING OF THE CHURCH MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Week of December 17 - Mark & Laura Andreas, Paul Andreas

Week of December 24 - John Plachuta and David Lazaration

Week of December 31 - John Cramer, Victor Melnychenko & Joseph Thurstlic

Week of January 7 - John Plachuta and David Lazaration

Week of January 14 - Nancy Hlywiak, Jean Roeth, Zina Twardus

Week of January 21 - Jodi, Michael and Andrew Hamilton

Week of January 28 - Michael Tilson & Linda Hnatow, Irene Maskaly

Week of February 4 - Dawn Daniels, David Duncan & Kathy Duncan

SPECIAL THANKS – to all of our Pyrohy workers!!! May God reward you for your kindness. See you next year!!!

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES – are offered to Thomas Sacco on the falling asleep in the Lord of his mother, +Dorothy. Funeral services were celebrated last Tuesday and Burial on Wednesday. Let us pray, asking God to place the soul of His newly departed servany, +Dorothy in the abode of the Saints, where there is no pain, sorrow nor mourning but only life everlasting. May her memory be eternal. Let us also pray for her family that God may give them His strength in this, their hour of need.

MEETINGS - MINISTRIES

PARISH BOARD MEETING – Tuesday, January 8 @ 6:30 PM

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.

Tentative 2018 Schedule

Sunday, December 16 – St. Nicholas (UOL Cookie Sale)

Tentative 2019 Schedule

Sunday, January 6 – Holy Supper (Reservations are being accepted)

Saturday, January 12 – Malanka – Millcreek Fire Company

Sunday, February 3 – Parish Annual Meeting – Election of Officers

Sunday, February 3 – UOL Souper Bowl Sunday

Monday, March 11 – First Day of the Fast

Saturday, April 13 – Spring Bazaar

Sunday, April 28 – Pascha

Sunday, May 5 – St. Thomas Sunday – Cemeteries

Sunday, May 12 – Mother's Day Dinner

Sunday, June 16 – Father's Day Dinner

Monday, June 24 – First Day of the Apostle's Fast

Sunday, July 14 – Patronal Feast Dinner

Monday, July 15 – 19 – Summer Camp

Saturday, August 3 – UOL Flea Market

Saturday, November 2 – Fall Bazaar

Tuesday, November 26 – Community Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, December 15 – UOL Cookie Sale

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL – Metropolitan Antony, Archimandrite Raphael, Father Vasili Andrejuk, Father Paul Bigelow, Father John Bohush, Father Oleh Hucul, Father Nestor Kowal, Father Andrew Molewski, Father John Nakonechney, Father James Norton, Father Victor Wronskyj, father Volodymyr Wronskyj, Pani Dobrodyka Lisa Weremedic, Mykola, Brennan, Deborah, Charles, Galina, Dolores, Krystyna, Julian, Madison, Mykola, Rita, Ryan, Randy Allen, Carolyn Angelo, Colby Atkinson, Shannon Austin, Stephania Bacha, Joyce Belles, Neil Belles, Mary Berbick, Ethel Bernhard, Yaroslav Bilinsky, Betty Bosland, Angie Brengle, Paul Brengle, Patricia Bringle, Richard Bringle, John Brick, Fedir Bukacz, George Burns, Christine Cain, Mark Cello, Betty Charney, Mildred (Myrophora) Christo, Erik Colazo, Mary Crystal, Patricia Crystal, Alex Czernik, Sharon Dalaski, Stephen Dalecki, Peter DiVirgilio, John Dmytryk, James Dudrick, David Duncan, Rose Eldridge, Thomas Fagan, Stephen Farrell, James Garrett, Peter Glenn, Ivan Golovnirov, Kathleen Gortva, Staci Gray, Charles Gunther, David Hamilton, Mary Eleanor Hamilton, Rick Hastings, Dolores Helms, Victoria Herrschaft, Daniel Holoviak, Caroline Humphrey, Richard Humphrey, Sally Hutnick, Joette Jago, Stephen Johnson, Linda Josepinson, Rosalie Ann Kane, Josephine Kapelus, Sandra Kasch, Thomas Kasprzak, Charles Kaszytski, Julia Kaszytski, Diane Keyser, Barbara Kyrlic, Judith Kocinski, Ludmyla Krawchenko, Mykola Krawchenko, Emma Krasnopera, Volodymyr Krasnopera, Marlene Kuhar, Karen Livick, Charles Lontor, Alla Lysenko, Andrew Makolynyk, Paul Markow, Natalia McDonough, Ronald Michel, Lisa Miller, Matthew Miller, Mary Elizabeth Moran, Barry Morris, Elsie Moroz, Michael Moroz, Karen Needham, Julie Neff, Ann Nester, Laurie Newman, Betty Painter, Anastasios Pantelopulos, Linda Phillips, Joseph Pierson, Barry Pinkowicz, Bernice Pinkowicz, Ryan Pinkowicz, Valentina Plachuta, Joseph Porini, Robert Powers, Joanne Procak, Lynn Procak, Joseph Ptak, Carol Purse, Sharon Reigh, Christopher Riehl, Arlene Roginski, Wyatt Roland, Andrea Roman, Fred Royer, Alla Rudawsky, John Ruczhak, Glenn Runyan, Carol Rusk, Maria Russak, Dana Sargent, Charles Scully, Doris Scully, Joella Seale, Clay Seman, Larissa Serth, Dawn Sheets, Justin Sheets, Richard Simmons, Emily Smitheman, Georgie Smolyar, Rich Steinman, Joseph Stevens, Charles Joseph Sweeney, Evelyn Synczyszyn, Wasyl Szeremeta, Tatiana Szwec, Pavlo Tabak, Nicholas Taylor, Sue Taylor, Elenora Thomas, Lydia Thomas, Stella Thomas, Brysen Tomei, Dominic Tomei, Mark Tomei, Violet Tomei, Aria Tonner, Anna Tur, Charles Tyrawsky, Richard Twardus, Martha Vignali, Jack Vognetz, Margaret Vognetz, Marilyn Wagner, John Wardigo, Olena Wasylevska, James Watts, Chris Way, Leah Way, Peter Weremedic, Stephen Wienkowitz, Laura Worley, & James Zook.

AN EXAMPLE OF CHRISTIAN COURAGE

ST. MYROPE was born in the third century in the city of Ephesus. She grew up at a time when Christians endured severe persecution for their Faith. During a particularly intense time of suffering in her home town, Myrope and her family fled to the Greek Island of Chios.

The young girl, however, found little peace there, for a pagan prince named Numerius delighted in seeking out Christians – torturing some and executing others. During one of his terrible purges, Numerius was astounded to hear of the conversion to Christianity of Isidore, one of his high ranking soliders. After executing him, Numerius merely tossed his body in a shallow grave.

When the compassionate Myrope learned of this, she secretly took Isidore's body to his family for a proper burial. Numerius was enraged

when he heard what had happened, and he threatened to kill several of his prison guards if they did not find out who was responsible for such an act of insubordination. When Myrope realized innocent men would suffer for her actions, she came forth and admitted her deed of kindness. She was savagely beaten and thrown into prison. Although she was given every opportunity to renounce Christ in exchange for her freedom, Myrope steadfastly refused.

Finally, Myrope had a vision of Isidore, surrounded by angels. *"Peace be with you, Myrope,"* he exclaimed. *"You will soon receive the crown prepared for you."* That evening, she fell asleep in the Lord. Immediately, a myrrhlike fragrance filled the entire prison. Myrope's vision had come true – the "crown of martyrdom" was now hers.