ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE AND NEW ROME

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**Let’s pray for peace in Ukraine Молімось за мир в Україні**

**Tune in to our news, announcements, and online Facebook Livestream Liturgies** [HERE!](https://www.facebook.com/Assumption-of-the-Virgin-Mary-Ukrainian-Orthodox-Church-113456096722198)

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**Sun. 26 Feb. (13 Feb.) FORGIVENESSSUNDAY (CHEESEFARE). Tone 4. Expulsion of Adam from Paradise. St. MARTINIAN (422). Venn. ZOE of Bethlehem & Virgin PHOTINA (5th C.) Ven. EULOGIUS, Archbishop of Alexandria 608**

**Epistle: Romans 13: 11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6: 14-21**

**07:00 PM FORGIVENESS VESPERS.**

**BEGINNING OF THE GREAT FAST AT SUNDOWN**

**Liturgical Meneion & Scripture Readings**

**1st Week of the Great Lent (strict fast).**

**Mon. 27 Feb.** St. Maron, hermit of Syria. St. Cyril, Equal-to-the-Apostles, teacher of Slavs.

**Is. 1:1-20 Gen. 1:1-13 Prov. 1:1-20**

***06:00 PM THE GREAT CANON OF REPENTANCE OF ST. ANDREW OF CRETE.***

**Tue. 28 Feb.** Ven. Paphnutius, monk, and his daughter St. Euphrosyne, nun, of Alexandria.

**Is. 1:19–2:3 Gen. 1:14-23 Prov. 1:20-33**

**06:30 PM Moleben for Ukraine (St. John the Baptist).**

**Wed. 01 Mar.** Martyrs Pamphilus presbyter, Valens deacon at Caesarea in Palestine (307-309).

**Is. 2:3-11 Gen. 1:24–2:3 Prov. 2:1-22**

***06:00 PM THE GREAT CANON OF REPENTANCE OF ST. ANDREW OF CRETE.***

**Thu. 02 Mar.** St. Mariamne, sister of Apostle Philip

**Is. 2:11-21 Gen. 2:4-19 Prov. 3:1-18**

***06:00 PM THE GREAT CANON OF REPENTANCE OF ST. ANDREW OF CRETE.***

**Fri. 03 Mar.** St. Leo the Great, pope of Rome (461). St. Cosmas, monk, of Yakhromsk (1492).

**Is. 3:1-14 Gen. 2:20–3:20 Prov. 3:19-34**

***6:00 PM LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS.***

**Sat. 04 Mar.** Great-martyr Theodore the Tyro (306).

**Heb. 1:1-12 Mk. 2:23–3:5**

**05:00 PM Great Vespers**

**Sun. 05 Mar. Triumph of Orthodoxy. 09:00 AM Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great**

**04:00 PM Sunday of Orthodoxy at St. Nicholas OCA, Bethlehem.**

**Also there is a Service in South Bound Brook**

**PROPERS FOR THE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHYRSOSTOM**

**Tropar of the Resurrection, Tone 4.** When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Your Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and with gladness told the apostles: death is overthrown. Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

**Tropar of the Dormition of the Mother of God, Tone 1.** In giving birth, you preserved your virginity. In falling asleep you did not forsake the world, Birth-Giver of God. You were translated to Life, Mother of Life, and through your prayers you deliver our souls from death.

**Glory … Kondak of the Triodion, Tone 3.** Having foolishly abandoned Your paternal glory, I have squandered on vices the wealth that You have given me. Therefore, with the voice of the prodigal I cry out to You: I have sinned before You, O Compassionate Father, accept me in repentance and make me as one of Your hired servants.

**Now and ever… Kondak of the Dormition, Tone 2.** Neither the tomb nor death had power over the Birth-Giver of God, she is ever watchful in her prayers, and in her intercession lies unfailing hope, for as the Mother of Life, she has been translated to Life, by the One who dwelt within her ever-virginal womb.

**Prokimen of the Triodion, Tone 3.** Make your vows and pay them to the Lord our God.

**Verse:** In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.

**Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4**

**Alleluia Verses Tone 6.** It is good to give praise to the Lord, and to sing unto Your Name, O Most High.

To declare Your mercy in the morning and Your Truth by night.

**Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21**

**Communion Hymn:** Praise the Lord from the Heavens. Praise Him in the Highest. Rejoice in the Lord, you Righteous, praise befits the upright. Alleluia (3X).

**- Our Parish donated $15000 for the purchase of electric generators for the needs of Ukrainian people.**

**- UOL is sponsoring an Easter nutroll sale. An order sheet is in the hall or call Martha Dowling 610-682-4458 to place your order. Cost is $17 each. Last date to order is March 17th and pickup will be Saturday, April 1st from 10-12AM**

**- Two Pysanky Workshops. 4th of March are filled;** 9 AM-12 PM and 1 PM-4 PM.

**- Pierogi schedule: March 9, 23; April 6, 20; May 4, 18. Please volunteer when you can.**

**- Sunday School schedule:** Mrs. Mary Ost (Preschool/Elementary) Sundays 8:55-9:20 AM. **Mrs. Karen Osmun (Secondary) Sundays at 8:45-9:15 AM.**

**- Ukrainian classes for kids** (3-6 y.o.) - Fridays from 4 to 5 PM.

**- Wednesday 12 PM Pan-Orthodox Virtual Bible Study via Zoom. Meeting ID: 576 301 6482. Passcode: 238492.**

- **Wednesday Evening Bible Study via Zoom with a professor of Saint Sophia Seminary** Fr. Demetrios (7 PM). Ask Fr. Oleg for the link.

**- For Food Bank**: baby foods, canned potatoes and meats, tuna, pasta, sauces, mac. & cheese.

**- NEW List of needed Winter support for Ukraine:** winter 0•F sleeping bags (non-bright colors only), new thermal underwear, new thermal socks, balaclavas, winter tactical mittens, toe warmers, men winter/ski warm light boots (9-11sizes), emergency survival kits, emergency burncare dressings, chest seals (Halo), Israeli compression bandages, Celox rapid hemostatic gauzes, any pain relief and antibiotics (pills and IV), NAR CAT tourniquets, Nasopharyngeal airway tubes, high protein bars, military MREs (meals-ready-to-eat), personal water filters (like LifeStraw), Amazon gift cards for buying all needed stuff are welcome.

- Welcome to contribute **articles or pictures to the bulletin**. Let's make bulletins together!

**BIRTHDAYS:**

**26 Feb…Pani Ol’ha Kravchenko**

**28 Feb…Russell Kerick**

**04 Mar…Joann Yurconic**

**МНОГАЯ ЛІТА! MANY YEARS!**

**NECROLOGY: Ukrainian civilians and soldiers killed in the Russian invasion.**

**26 Feb…Priest Michael Zemlachenko ‘15**

**27 Feb…Anna Kowalyshyn ’91**

**28 Feb…Nicholas Panchyshyn (infant) ’30**

**29 Feb…Charles Boyko ’88**

**01 Mar…Wasyl Palanitsa (infant) ’26, Harry Kuchinos ’65, Michael Vitushinsky ‘13**

**02 Mar…Julia Arbatowsky ’63, Thomas Huryn ’72, Elizabeth Paukovits ‘20**

**03 Mar…Dionisij Jankoviyj ’30, Anna Pypiuk ’88. Joseph Petro ’01**

**04 Mar…Mary Martyniuk (infant) ’24, Mary Talalaj (6 yrs. old) ’27, Alex Lubianecki’53**

**ВІЧНА ПАМ’ЯТЬ! MEMORY ETERNAL!**

**PRAYER FOR THE HEALTH & SALVATION OF THE AFFLICTED:** Ukrainian soldiers and civilians wounded during the Russian aggression, Justin Ost, Rosemarie Pypiuk, Helen Crayosky, Nadine Savitz, Barbara Grason, Michael Hnatow, Nicholas Alexander, James Osmun, William Savitz, Vladimir Krasnopera, Tom Petro Jr., William Leszczuk, Jessica Meashock, priest Vasyl Dovgan, Joan Molnar, Raisa Melnychuk, Olha Beizyn, Vasyl Beizyn, Phil O’Brien, child Charlie, Juliana, Shirl Merolli, Kirk Swauger, Stephanie Donnelly, Danny Berro, child Alexandria, Elizabeth Pastushenko, Philippe Chasseuil, Aaliyah Osmun, Brendan Phillips, Adam Hewko, Andrew Thaxton, Susan Ferretti, Judy Albright, Daniel Kochenash, Christopher Mack, Joann Hoodmaker, Norman Betrous, Robert Zarayko Jr.

**ORTHODOXY AROUND THE WORLD**

The Feast of the Three Hierarchs was celebrated by Metropolitan Athenagoras at the Church of St. Nicholas in Neochorio, Turkey.

Patriarch Porfirije of Serbia, on an official visit to the US, met with faculty and students at the Seminary of St. Sava, Libertyville, Illinois.

The foundation for a new boys orphanage was laid by Metropolitan Dimitrios in Morogoro, Eastern Tanzania, an area with a high mortality rate. Already, two orphanages for girls have been established.

The Icon, “Queen of Heaven,” written by monks of Mt. Athos in the 19th C. for Mongolia did not reach its destination but was stored in a Museum in Buryatia. A replica has been painted and delivered to the Church of the Holy Trinity in Ulanbatar. A revival of Christianity has occurred since the fall of communism in 1990.

Metropolitan Ephiphaniy of Kyiv met with the Secretary-General of the Ukrainian Bible Society, Oleksandr Babiychuk, to discuss publication of a new Ukrainian translation of the Bible, considered by experts to the best ever produced.

The Church of the Theophany in the village of Churiki, home of New Martyr Natalia (Kozlova), executed by the Communists in 1937 and canonized in 2004 is actively being restored by its parishioners.

Hundreds of Orthodox youth from 15 countries gathered at St. John Climicus Church in Poland from Feb. 12-16 for World Orthodox Youth Day sponsored by the Church of Poland and blessed by Metropolitan Savva of Warsaw.

If the lawyer Himself fasts, how can any of those who have to obey the Law, be exempt from fasting? This is why the human race knew no victory before fasting, and the devil was never defeated by our nature as it is: but this weapon has indeed deprived the devil of strength from the outset. As soon as the devil sees someone possessed of this weapon, fear straightway falls on this adversary and tormentor of ours, who remembers and thinks of his defeat by the Savior in the wilderness; his strength is at once destroyed and the sight of the weapon, given us by the Supreme Leader, burns him up. A man armed with the weapon of fasting is always afire with zeal. He who remains therein, keeps his mind steadfast and ready to meet and repel all violent passions. *(By St. Isaac the Syrian)*

He began His ministry by being hungry, yet He is the Bread of Life. Jesus ended His earthly ministry by being thirsty, yet He is the Living Water. Jesus was weary, yet He is our rest. Jesus paid tribute, yet He is the King. Jesus was accused of having a demon, yet He cast out demons. Jesus wept, yet He wipes away our tears. Jesus was sold for thirty pieces of silver, yet He redeemed the world. Jesus was brought as a lamb to the slaughter, yet He is the Good Shepherd. Jesus died, yet by His death He destroyed the power of death.

*(By St. Gregory Nazianzus)*

There is both a physical and a spiritual fast. In the physical fast the body abstains from food and drink. In the spiritual fast, the faster abstains from evil intentions, words and deeds. One who truly fasts abstains from anger, rage, malice, and vengeance. One who truly fasts abstains from idle and foul talk, empty rhetoric, slander, condemnation, flattery, lying and all manner of spiteful talk. In a word, a real faster is one who withdraws from all evil. As much as you subtract from the body, so much will you add to the strength of the soul.

*(By St. Basil the Great)*

Fasting is wonderful, because it tramples our sins like a dirty weed, while it cultivates and raises truth like a flower. *(By St. John Chrysostom)*

The holy fasters did not approach strict fasting suddenly, but little by little they became capable of being satisfied by the most meagre food. Despite all this they did not know weakness, but were always hale and ready for action. Among them sickness was rare, and their life was extraordinarily lengthy.

To the extent that the flesh of the faster becomes thin and light, spiritual life arrives at perfection and reveals itself through wondrous manifestations, and the spirit performs its actions as if in a bodiless body. External feelings are shut off, and the mind that renounces the earth is raised up to heaven and is wholly immersed in the contemplation of the spiritual world. (*Venerable Seraphim of Sarov)*

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.*(Ephesians 4:32)*

Nothing makes us so like God as our readiness to forgive the wicked and wrongdoer. … Christ is seeking in every way possible to hinder our conflicts with one another. For since love is the root of all that is good, by removing from all quarters whatever mars it He brings us together and cements us to one another. For there is not one, not a single one, whether father or mother or friend, who loves us as much as the God who created us.

Fasting is wonderful, because it tramples our sins like a dirty weed, while it cultivates and raises truth like a flower. *(By St. John Chrysostom)*

In the Orthodox Church, the last Sunday before Great Lent – the day on which, at Vespers, Lent is liturgically announced and inaugurated – is called Forgiveness Sunday. On the morning of that Sunday, at the Divine Liturgy, we hear the words of Christ: "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you..." (Mark 6:14)

Then after Vespers – after hearing the announcement of Lent in the Great Prokeimenon: "Turn not away Thy face from Thy child for I am afflicted! Hear me speedily! Draw near unto my soul and deliver it!", after making our entrance into Lenten worship, with its special memories, with the prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian, with its prostrations – we ask forgiveness from each other, we perform the rite of forgiveness and reconciliation. And as we approach each other with words of reconciliation, the choir intones the Paschal hymns, filling the church with the anticipation of Paschal joy. Forgiveness stands at the very center of Christian faith and of Christian life because Christianity itself is, above all, the religion of forgiveness. God forgives us, and His forgiveness is in Christ, His Son, Whom He sends to us, so that by sharing in His humanity we may share in His love and be truly reconciled with God. Christianity has no other content but love. (By Fr. Alexander Schmeman)

Additions in Ukrainian

**Недільні Апостольські читання**

**Римлян 13:11-14:4.** 11 Так чинiть, знаючи час, що вже пора нам вiд сну встати. Бо нинi ближче до нас спасiння, нiж коли ми увiрували. 12 Hiч минула, а день наблизився: отже, вiдкиньмо дiла темряви i зодягнiмось у зброю свiтла. 13 Як удень, будемо поводитися благопристойно, не в розгулах i пияцтвi, не в перелюбствi й розпустi, не в сварках і заздрощах; 14 а зодягнiться в Господа нашого Iсуса Христа i піклування про плоть не обертайте на похотi. Hемiчного у вiрi приймайте без суперечок про погляди. 2 Бо один вiрить, що можна їсти все, а немiчний їсть овочi. 3 Хто їсть, не зневажай того, хто не їсть; i хто не їсть, не осуджуй того, хто їсть, тому що Бог прийняв його. 4 Хто ти, що осуджуєш чужого раба? Перед своїм Господом стоїть вiн або падає. I буде поставлений, бо Господь має силу поставити його.

**Недільні Євангелії**

**Матвія 6:14-21.** 14 Бо якщо ви прощатимете людям провини їхні, то простить і вам Отець ваш Небесний. 15 А коли не будете прощати людям провин їхніх, то і Отець ваш не простить вам провин ваших. 16 Коли ж постите, не будьте сумні, як лицеміри, бо вони потьмарюють обличчя свої, щоб показати людям, що постять вони. Істинно кажу вам: вони вже мають нагороду свою. 17 Ти ж, коли постиш, намасти голову твою і вмий обличчя твоє, 18 щоб не показувати людям, що ти постиш, але Отцю твоєму, — Який у таїні; і Отець твій, Який бачить таємне, воздасть тобі явно. 19 Не збирайте собі скарбів на землі, де черв і тля точать і де злодії підкопують і крадуть. 20 Збирайте ж собі скарби на небі, де ні черв, ні тля не точать і де злодії не підкопують і не крадуть, 21 бо де скарб ваш, там буде й серце ваше.