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. 02 Apr. (20 Mar.) FIFTH SUNDAY of the GREAT FAST.TONE 1. Venerable MARY of Egypt. PHOTINA and her sons Martyrs PHOTINOS & JOSIAH (66) Virgin-Martyrs ALEXANDRIA, CLAUDIA, EUPHRASIA, MATRONA, JULIANA, EUPHEMIA & THEODOSIA (310) NICETAS the Confessor (813).**

**Epistles: Hebrews 9: 11-14 & Galatians 3:23-29**

**Gospels: Mark 10: 32-45 & Luke 7: 36-50**

**04:00 PM Pan-Orthodox Vespers at the Greek Orthodox Church at Stroudsburg**

**Liturgical Meneion & Scripture Readings**

**Great Lent**

**Mon. 03 Apr.** St. Ven. James the Confessor, bishop, of the Studium (late 8th c.).

**Is. 48:17–49:4 Gen. 27:1-41 Prov. 19:16-25**

**Tue. 04 Apr.** Ven. Isaac, founder of the Dalmatian Monastery at Constantinople (383).

**Is. 49:6-10 Gen. 31:3-16 Prov. 21:3-21**

**06:30 PM Moleben for Ukraine (Allentown).**

**Wed. 05 Apr.** Monk-martyr Nicon and 199 disciples, in Sicily (251).

**Is. 58:1-11 Gen. 43:26-31; 45:1-16 Prov. 21:23–22:4**

**06:00 PM Liturgy Of The Presanctified Gifts. Common soup.**

**Thu. 06 Apr.** Ven. James the Confessor, bishop of Catania (811).

**Is. 65:8-16 Gen. 46:1-7 Prov. 23:15-24:5**

**Fri. 07 Apr. THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE THEOTOKOS.**

**Heb. 2:11-18 Lk. 1:24-38**

**09:00 AM Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom.**

**Sat. 08 Apr.** **THE RESURRECTION OF THE RIGHTEOUS LAZARUS.**

**Heb. 12:28–13:8 Jn. 11:1-45**

**09:00 AM Divine Liturgy**

**05:00 PM Great Vespers with Litiya. Examination of Conscience and Confessions.**

**Sun. 09 Apr. PALM SUNDAY. 09:00 AM Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom**.

**PROPERS FOR THE LITURGY OF OF ST. BASIL the GREAT**

**Tropar Resurrection, 1.** When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Your Most Pure Body, You arose on the third day, Savior, granting life to the world. Therefore, the Powers of Heaven cried to You Giver of Life: Glory to Your Resurrection, Christ. Glory to Your Kingdom. Glory to Your Divine Plan, only Lover of Mankind.

**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.

**Tropar to Venerable Mary of Egypt, Tone 8.** The image of God was truly preserved in you, O Mother, for you took up the Cross and followed Christ. By so doing, you taught us to disregard the flesh, for it passes away, but to care instead for the soul, since it is immortal. Therefore, Holy Mother Mary, your spirit rejoices with the angels.

**Kondak of the Triodion, Tone 4.** Having suffered the temptations of spiritual winter, let us bring renewed souls and the fruit of good deeds, uplifted in spirit. Behold the Bridegroom Christ is drawing near and giving the crowns of sainthood. Let us be attentive that He might find us worthy to accept the eternal crowns.

**Glory… Kondak to Venerable Mother Mary, Tone 3.** You, who were once defiled by every type of evil, have today become a Bride of Christ through repentance. Emulating the angelic life, you cast down demons with the weapon of the Cross. Therefore, O Glorious Mary, you were made a Bride in the Kingdom.

**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 Resurrection, 1.** Let Your mercy, Lord, be upon us as we have put our hope in You.

**Verse:** Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous. Praise befits the upright.

**Prokimen to Venerable Mary, Tone 4.** God is wondrous in His saints, the God of Israel.

**Epistles: Hebrews 9: 11-14 & Galatians 3: 23-29**

**Alleluia Verses, Tone 1.** God gives me retribution and has subdued peoples under me.

He magnifies the salvation of the king and deals mercifully for His anointed, for David and for his seed forever.

With patience have I waited for the Lord, and He was attentive to me and listened to my supplication.

**Gospels: Mark 10: 32-45 & Luke 7: 36-50**

**In Place of “It is right in truth…”** All of creation rejoices in you, Lady, Full of Grace, the assembly of angels and the human race, Sanctified Temple and Spiritual Paradise, the glory of Virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a child; our God before the ages. He made your body into a throne, and your womb more spacious than the heavens. All of creation rejoices in you, Lady Full of Grace. Glory to you!

**Communion:** Praise the Lord from the heavens. Praise Him in the Highest. The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. They shall not be afraid of any evil report. Alleluia (3X)

**- Paska bread sale, Friday, April 14, 11 AM – 1 PM. Plain - $10, raisins - $12. Please call or sign up downstairs.**

**- Donation** of $50 in memory of +Joan Molnar from Bill and Nadine Savitz. Thank you!

**- The Veterans of Lehigh Valley Post 42 are taking orders for Kobasa for Pascha.** or Bohdan Zelechiwsky at 610-972-3712. Pick Kobasa-$6-8/lb. Signup sheet downstairs.

- Pierogi schedule: 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.

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

**- Bible Study via Zoom every Tuesday during Great Lent at 7 PM with a professor of Saint Sophia Seminary Fr. Demetrios. Ask Fr. Oleg for the link.**

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

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

**BIRTHDAYS:**

**03 Apr…Walter Seremula**

**06 Apr…David Dworakivsky**

**07 Apr…Karen Osmun, Walter Dworakivsky**

**08 Apr…Patricia Kuchinos, Michael Kuchinos, Jared Kroboth**

**МНОГАЯ ЛІТА! MANY YEARS!**

**NECROLOGY:**

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

**03 Apr…Florence Andrus ’53 04 Apr…Anna Wagel ’72**

**05 Apr…Michael Mizhak ’22, Katherine Korutz ’45, Mary Antoniuk ’90,**

**Mary Grundstrom ‘99 06 Apr…Anna Fanok ’69, Olga Tripolone ’08 07 Apr…Gregory Zaoba ’32, Katherine Wentz ‘78**

**ВІЧНА ПАМ’ЯТЬ! MEMORY ETERNAL!**

**PRAYER FOR THE HEALTH & SALVATION OF THE AFFLICTED:** Ukrainian soldiers and civilians wounded during the Russian aggression, Barbara Grason, Paul Kochenash, Rosemarie Pypiuk, Helen Crayosky, Nadine Savitz, Linda Hnatow, Nicholas Alexander, James Osmun, William Savitz, Vladimir Krasnopera, Tom Petro Jr., William Leszczuk, Jessica Meashock, priest Vasyl Dovgan, priest Yurij Siwko, Raisa Melnychuk, Olha Beizyn, Vasyl Beizyn, Mary Berger, 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**

On Memorial Saturday Metropolitan Benjamin of Minsk and Zaslav consecrated the new Church of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary at the Memorial Complex in Katyn on the 80th anniversary of the massacre of 149 people mostly elderly and children by the Nazi Army in 1943.

The Church of Bulgaria celebrated the 10th anniversary of the enthronement of Patriarch Neofit in the Cathedral of St. Nedelya in Sofia. The Bulgarian Orthodox Church has 15 bishops, 2,600 parishes, 120 monasteries and more than 6 million followers.

The Sunday of the Adoration of the Holy Cross was observed by Orthodox faithful with an outdoor Hierarchal Divine Liturgy on the Square of the Dormition Pecherska Lavra in Kyiv.

Metropolitan Epiphaniy led the All Night Vigil Service in St. Michael’s Golden Domed Cathedral of the OCU in Kyiv on the eve of the Third Sunday of the Great Fast commemorating the Adoration of the Cross.

March is the “Month for Life” in Romania and the Archdiocese of Isaibegain construction of a maternity center for women in crisis marriage and pregnancy under the patroness of St. Emilia.

Patriarch Theophilos III and 5 other bishops led the Divine Liturgy in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem on the Sunday of the Adoration of the Holy Cross.

**The Feast of the Annunciation** is one of the earliest Christian feasts, and was already being celebrated in the fourth century. There is a painting of the Annunciation in the catacomb of Priscilla in Rome dating from the second century. The Council of Toledo in 656 mentions the Feast, and the Council in Trullo in 692 says that the Annunciation was celebrated during Great Lent. The Greek and Slavonic names for the Feast may be translated as "good tidings." This, of course, refers to the Incarnation of the Son of God and the salvation He brings. The background of the Annunciation is found in the Gospel of St Luke (1:26-38). The troparion describes this as the "beginning of our salvation, and the revelation of the eternal mystery," for on this day the Son of God became the Son of Man.

**Feasts of Mary throughout the year: Feasts in which Mary had a Role:**

Nativity of Mary Maternity of St. Ann

Protection of Mary Nativity of Christ

Entrance into the Temple The Synaxis

Annunciation The Encounter of Our Lord; Dormition

**Akathist Saturday.** About the year 626, the Persians, Avars, and Slavs came with a great host and besieged the imperial city of Constantinople while the Emperor Heraclius and the main body of the Byzantine army were absent in the East. Enemy ships filled the sea, especially the Golden Horn, and on land the adversaries were ready for attack with foot-soldiers, horses, and engines of war. Though the citizens courageously withstood them, yet they were few in number and would be unable to repulse the attack of such a great host. Hence, they could not count on any other means of salvation, except the protection of the Theotokos. And truly, suddenly a violent tempest broke up all the ships and submerged them, and the bodies of the invaders were cast out near the Blachernae quarter of the city where the famous Church of the Theotokos stood. Taking courage from this, the people went forth from the city and repulsed the remaining forces, who fled out of fear. In 673, the city was miraculously delivered yet again, this time from an invasion of the Arabs. Then in 717-718, led by the Saracen general Maslamah, the Arab fleet laid siege once more to the city. The numerical superiority of the enemy was so overwhelming that the fall of the Imperial City seemed imminent. But then the Mother of God, together with a multitude of the angelic hosts, appeared suddenly over the city walls. The enemy forces, struck with terror and thrown into a panic at this apparition, fled in disarray. Soon after this, the Arab fleet was utterly destroyed by a terrible storm in the Aegean Sea on the eve of the Annunciation, March 24, 718. Thenceforth, a special "feast of victory and of thanksgiving" was dedicated to celebrate and commemorate these benefactions. In this magnificent service, the Akathist Hymn is prominent and holds the place of honor. Akathist Saturday does not have the extended celebration – sometimes a week or more – which marks the other Great Feasts during the year. The Church “makes up” for this by celebrating the Annunciation in advance on these weekends. The final kontakion of the Akathist service clearly points us to the celebration of the Annunciation. (Greek Orthodox Archdiocese)

**Akathistos** – a long hymn of 24 stanzas, similar to the ancient Kontakion. Greek word itself means that the hymn is to be sung while everyone stands. Many Akathistos hymns have been composed for saints and even particular icons. They are generally used for devotional purposes and may be inserted after the ode 6 of the Matins Canon during the celebration of a feast (for which an Akathistos has been composed). The Akathistos to the Theotokos is in regular liturgical use and is prescribed in the Triodion for the 5th Saturday of Great Lent. In Greek and Antiochian use this Akathistos is divided into sections and spread throughout the Friday evenings of Great Lent. (By Fr. Paul Lazor)

**Holy Fathers about Annunciation.** Eve, by her disobedience, brought death upon herself and on all the human race. Mary, by her obedience, brought salvation. Eve had to be recapitulated in Mary so that a virgin might be the intercessor for a virgin, and by the obedience of a virgin, undo and overcome the disobedience of a virgin. (By St. Ireneus of Lyons)

To the virgin Mary was sent, not any one of the angels, but the archangel Gabriel; for upon this service it was meet that the highest angel should come, as being the bearer of the highest of all tidings. He is therefore marked by a particular name, to signify what was his effectual part in the work. For Gabriel is interpreted, "the strength of God." By the strength of God then was He to be announced Who was coming as the God of strength, and mighty in battle, to put down the powers of the air. (Gregory the Theologian)

By the term overshadowing, both natures of the Incarnate God are signified. For shadow is formed by light and matter. But the Lord by His Divine nature is light. Because then immaterial light was to be embodied in the Virgin's womb, it is well said to her, The power of the Highest shall overshadow you, that is, the human body in you shall receive an immaterial light of divinity. For this is said to Mary for the heavenly refreshing of her soul.

Additions in Ukrainian

**Недільний Апостол і Євангеліє**

**Євреїв 9:11-14.** 11 Але Христос, Первосвященик майбутнiх благ, прийшовши з бiльшою та досконалiшою скинiєю, нерукотворною, тобто не такого спорудження, 12 i не з кров’ю козлiв i телят, але зi Своєю Кров’ю, один раз увiйшов у святилище i здобув вiчне вiдкуплення. 13 Бо якщо кров телят i козлiв та попiл телицi через окроплення освячує осквернених, щоб чисте було тiло, 14 то тим бiльше Кров Христа, Який Духом Святим принiс Себе непорочного Боговi, очистить совiсть нашу вiд мертвих дiл для служiння Богу Живому i істинному!

**Марка 10:32-45.** 32 Коли вони були в дорозі, йдучи до Єрусалима, Ісус ішов попереду них, а вони жахалися і, йдучи за Ним слідом, боялися. 33 Покликавши знову дванадцятьох, Він почав їм говорити про те, що буде з Ним: ось ми йдемо до Єрусалима, і Син Людський виданий буде первосвященикам і книжникам, і осудять Його на смерть, і видадуть Його язичникам; 34 і знущатимуться з Нього, і битимуть Його, і обплюють Його, і уб’ють Його; і на третій день воскресне. 35 Тоді підійшли до Нього Яків та Іоан, сини Зеведеєві, і сказали: Учителю, ми хочемо, щоб Ти зробив нам, про що попросимо. 36 Він сказав їм: що хочете, щоб Я зробив вам? 37 Вони сказали Йому: дай нам одному праворуч від Тебе, а другому ліворуч від Тебе сісти у славі Твоїй. 38 Ісус же сказав їм: не знаєте, чого просите. Чи можете пити чашу, яку Я п’ю, і хрещенням, яким Я хрещусь, хреститися? 39 Вони відповіли Йому: можемо. Ісус же сказав їм: чашу, яку Я п’ю, вип’єте, і хрещенням, яким Я хрещусь, охреститеся; 40 але щоб сісти праворуч і ліворуч від Мене — не від Мене залежить, а кому уготовано. 41 І, почувши, десять почали гніватись на Якова та Іоана. 42 Ісус же, покликавши їх, сказав їм: ви знаєте, що ті, яких називають князями народів, панують над ними, і вельможі їхні володіють ними. 43 Але між вами нехай не буде так: хто хоче бути більшим між вами, нехай буде вам слугою. 44 І хто хоче бути першим між вами, нехай буде всім рабом. 45 Бо і Син Людський не для того прийшов, щоб Йому служили, але щоб послужити і віддати душу Свою за визволення багатьох.