ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE AND NEW ROME

A street sign in front of a building

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

1301 Newport Avenue, Northampton, Pennsylvania 18067

Rev. Fr. Oleg Kravchenko, Rector

Protodeacon Mikhail Sawarynski, Attached

Websites: holyassumption.org and ukrainianorthodoxchurchusa.org

Facebook: Assumption of the Virgin Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church

YouTube: AVM UOC Church

Contacts:

Fr. Oleg Kravchenko - (484) 834-7261; olegkravchenko2212@gmail.com

Protodeacon Mikhail – (H) (610) 262-3876); pravoslavni@rcn.com

Office – (610) 262-2882; avmuoc@gmail.com

Webmaster, John Hnatow – john.hnatow@gmail.com

**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)

**A picture containing map

Description automatically generated**

**Sun. 30 Apr. (17 Apr.) 3rd SUNDAY of PASCHA. MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN. Tone 2. Righteous JOSEPH of Arimathea & NICODEMUS. Martyr ADRIAN OF Corinth (251) Hieromartyr SIMEON, Bishop of Persia & Martyrs ABDECHALAS & ANANIAS, presbyters, USTHAZANES, FUSICUS, ASCITREA & AZAT (344) ACACIUS, Bishop of Melitene (435) AGAPITUS, Pope of Rome (536).**

**Reading: Acts of the Apostles 6: 1-7 Gospel: Mark 15: 43-16:8**

***SISTERHOOD MEETING***

**Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen! Christos Anesti! Alethos Anesti!**

**Христос Воскрес! Воістину Воскрес!**

**Liturgical Meneion & Scripture Readings (no kneeling until pentecost sunday)**

**Mon. 01 May** Martyrs Victor, Zoticus, Zeno, Acindynus, and Severian of Nicomedia (303).

**Acts 6:8–7:5; 7:47-60 Jn. 4:46-54**

**Tue. 02 May** St. George the Confessor, bishop of Antioch in Pisidia (813-820).

**Acts 8:5-17 Jn. 6:27-33**

***06:30 PM MOLEBEN FOR UKRAINE (St. John the Baptist, Northampton ).***

**Wed. 03 May** St. Theodore Trichinas (“the Hair-shirt Wearer”), hermit near Constantinople.

**Acts 8:18-25 Jn. 6:35-39**

**Thu. 04 May** Hieromartyr Januarius, and his companions: Festus, Proclus, Sosius (305).

**Acts 8:26-39 Jn. 6:40-44**

**Fri. 05 May** St. Vitalis of the monastery of Abba Serid (Seridos) at Gaza (609-620).

**Acts 8:40–9:19 Jn. 6:48-54**

**Sat. 06 May** Holy Great-martyr, Victory-bearer and Wonderworker George (303).

**Acts 9:19-31 Jn. 15:17 - 16:2**

***05:00 PM GREAT VESPERS. Examination of Conscience. Confessions***

**Sun. 07 May *09:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY.***

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

**Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life. (3X)**

**Tropar of the Resurrection, Tone 2.** When You descended into death, Life Immortal, You slayed Hell with the splendor of Your Divinity. And when from the depths You raised the dead, all the Powers of Heaven cried out: Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory to You.

**Tropar to Righteous Joseph, Tone 2.** The Noble Joseph took Your Most Pure Body down from the Tree, wrapping It in fine linen and anointing It with spices, placing It in a new tomb. Your Third Day Resurrection, Lord, granted the world great mercy.

**Glory… Kondak to Myrrh-bearers, Tone 2.** Christ, You commanded the Myrrh-bearers to rejoice. By Your Resurrection, God, You stopped the lamentation of Eve. You commanded your Apostles to preach: The Savior is risen.

**Now and ever… Kondak of Pascha, Tone 8.** You descended into the tomb, Immortal One and destroyed the power of Death. In victory You rose, Christ God, proclaiming, “Rejoice” to the Myrrh-bearing women. You granted peace to Your Apostles and bestowed resurrection on the fallen.

**Prokimen in Tone 6.** Lord save Your people and bless Your inheritance.

**Verse:** To You Lord will I call. My God be not silent to me.

**Reading of the Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7**

**Alleluia Verses, Tone 8.** Lord, You have favored Your Land; You have restored the well-being of Jacob.

Kindness and Truth shall meet; Justice and Peace shall kiss.

**Gospel: Mark 15:43-16:8**

**In Place of “It is right in truth…”** The angel cried to the Lady Full of Grace: “Rejoice, Pure Virgin. Again I say Rejoice. Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb. With Himself He has raised up all the dead. Rejoice, all peoples.” **Irmos:** Shine, Shine, O New Jerusalem, for the Glory of the Lord has shone on you. Exult now and be glad, O Zion and rejoice, Pure Birth-Giver of God, in the Resurrection of Your Son.

**Communion Hymn:** Receive the Body of Christ; taste the Fountain of Immortality. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. Alleluia (3X).

**In Place of “We have seen the true light…”**Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by Death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing Life. (slowly)

- Music benefit for Ukraine: Beethoven. Eagle Scout project of Matthew Kopetskie.

May 7, 3 PM at Wesley United Methodist Church, Bethlehem.

- Chrysostom Academy representative Elenie Hahalis will visit our church May 7. Welcome all who would like to know more about the school.- Prayer Service of healing of veterans. May 9, 7:00 PM in Queenship of Mary church(across the street). Organized by Catholic Veterans, Post 454.- Sight & Sound Theater trip (Lancaster): Moses Performance. June 30th at 3 pm. 79.80 per adult, kids 12 and under for FREE. Ask Mary Ost.

**- Summer Church camp for youth in Emlenton, PA. The expenses are covered by our parish. Transportation will be provided. Paying positions for volunteers. UOC of USA web**

- Pierogi schedule: May 4, 18. Please volunteer when you can.

**- Ukrainian classes for adults,** upper intermediate level, Tuesdays at 10 AM. Ask Pani Olha.

**- 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.

**- Pan-Orthodox Virtual Bible Study via Zoom every Wednesday 12 PM.**

**Meeting ID: 576 301 6482. Passcode: 238492.**

**- Bible Study via Zoom every Wednesday 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!

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

**02 May….John & Linda Vitushinsky**

**BIRTHDAYS:**

**06 May…Stephen Unger**

**МНОГАЯ ЛІТА! MANY YEARS!**

**NECROLOGY:**

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

**Newly departed Kathleen M. McKeown**

**30 Apr…Julian Didenko ’39, Mary Kulp ’91, Natalia Lutyi ‘18**

**02 May…Metropolitan Ioan (Teodorovich) ’71, Nicholas Kymniankevych ’29, Caroline Kuliansky ’72**

**03 May…Agnes Chuyko ’64**

**04 May…Semen Chychota ’30, Russell Gontar ’85, Helen MacKenzie ’99**

**05 May…Theodore Micio ’57, Xenia Klodnycky ’83, Leroy Drobick ’84, Stella Antolick’15**

**06 May…Taras Yaremchuk (infant) ‘43**

**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., Volodymyr Hranat(wounded soldier), William Leszczuk, Jessica Meashock, priest Vasyl Dovgan, priest Yurij Siwko, Raisa Melnychuk, Olha Beizyn, Vasyl Beizyn, Eric Hewko, Mary Berger, Pamela Williams, 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.

**Myrrh-Bearing Women Sunday**

“Women, hear the voice of gladness: ‘Trampling on the tyrant Hell, I have raised the world from corruption. Run, tell my friends the good tidings, for I wish joy to shine on what I fashioned from the source from which came grief’.” (Exapostilarion of Myrrh-Bearers’ Sunday)

In this hymn, Christ is addressing the Myrrh-Bearing women, and through them all women. He tells us not to walk, but to “run,” and tell His “friends” the good news of the resurrection. Thus He grants women a voice we did not properly have, ever since Adam was banished from paradise, – as God says to Adam, “Because you listened to the voice of your wife.” (Gen 3: 17) Now, right after His resurrection, Christ chooses to spread joy “from the source from which came grief,” the female voice, employing women as His witnesses and as the first messengers of the resurrection, – not only or primarily to other women, but to His male disciples.

The “voice” of women was not well-received by the Apostles, who thought their words to be “nonsense, and they did not believe them” (Lk 24: 11). And throughout Church History even up to our time, the voice of women, on the rare occasion that it is heard at all, is received not un-problematically. Hence from apostolic times, when women first reacted to their new vocation by being afraid “and did not say a word to anyone” (Mk 16:8), it continues to be difficult, both for women to speak in the Church, and for men to hear them. Nonetheless, it happens, by the grace of the risen Lord, Who continues to call us to the perilous business of being His “witnesses,” that we may overcome the brokenness of our communion with Him and one another. So let’s spread His joy today, as He calls us to do, saying: “Women, hear the voice of gladness!” (By Sr. Vassa)

The women were first to honor the risen Christ, the apostles first to suffer for Him. The women were ready with spices; the apostles prepared for scourges. The women entered the tomb; the apostles would soon enter the dungeon. The women hastened to express their eulogy; the apostles embraced chains for His sake. The women poured oils; and the apostles poured out their blood. **(Peter Chrysologus)**

## Miracle one hour away from Northampton!

## The Miracles and Wonders of God - The Crying Icon of Taylor, PA. The icon is said to have healed hundreds of people from cancer, sickness, depression, anxiety, and other diseases. “We believe this icon to be a miracle and a manifestation of God’s Holy Presence. It has been streaming a blessed myrrh for over eight years, since October 2011. Hundreds and hundreds of faithful have venerated this holy icon of Our Holy Mother and have been anointed with the myrrh flowing from it, which has an aroma that is not of this world,”

## Here described are some Miracles:

A man had a massive heart attack while in the church. Two nurses who were present rushed over to him and began to do CPR, while others called 911. As the nurses tried to revive him, he showed no pulse, stopped breathing and actually died. While waiting the few minutes for the ambulance to arrive, Fr. Mark Leisure, the priest of St. George Orthodox Church in Taylor, PA took the *Kardiotisa*, “The Tender Heart” myrrh-flowing, miraculous icon of the Virgin Mary and held it over the man so that the fragrant myrrh would drip from the icon onto the chest of the man. Immediately, the dead man took a deep breath, opened his eyes, and began singing “Mary, Mother of God Save Me.”

By the time the paramedics arrived, he was sitting up and didn’t think he needed to go to the hospital, even though they insisted that he get checked.

The doctor at the Sloan Kettering Cancer Center tells the woman she has Stage 4 cancer, and there is no treatment that will help her condition. They tell her that they can control her pain, but she has little time to live. With little hope, she leaves the hospital. Yet a friend anoints her with the fragrant myrrh flowing from the *Kardiotisa*icon. She is miraculously healed. The next time she goes to the doctors and gets checked, they are puzzled and amazed that there is no trace of her cancer.

Over the past three years, these miracles have happened again and again – with people finding healing from prostate cancer, liver cancer, throat cancer, lung cancer, brain lymphoma, and almost every other form of cancer. There is even one oncologist who now, along with his medical treatment, directs his patients to visit the St. George Orthodox Church in Taylor, PA and be anointed by this miraculous myrrh.

One man had a ruptured brain aneurism. While in the hospital’s ICU, he was in a coma with no hope for recovery. The doctors told the wife and family to say their goodbyes. A friend of the family knew a priest who had seen the *Kardiotisa*icon and had a cotton swab with the myrrh. He came and anointed the man, and the man awoke from the coma, healed. The doctors couldn’t explain what happened, and said it was truly a miracle.

A woman couldn’t see through her pregnancies. Four times she became pregnant, only to have her baby miscarried at a particular point in the pregnancy. There was a problem where the stem that connected the spinal cord and the brain, and this caused the miscarriage. During her fifth pregnancy, before she went to the doctor for an ultrasound, she was anointed with holy myrrh from the icon. In the ultrasound picture, which we all saw, there was an obvious light that had connected the brain with the spinal cord. The doctor and nurses said they had never seen anything like this before. The woman gave birth to a healthy child.

A young boy is rushed to the hospital with a 105 temperature. There is swelling of the brain and nothing seemed to be working to lower his temperature. His grandmother remembered that she had an old cotton swab from the miraculous icon in her purse. When she pulled it out, it was dry. And yet, she took it and tried to anoint her grandson, asking for the Virgin Mary’s intercession. Shortly thereafter, the boy’s temperature broke and he sat up. The next day, she took out the cotton swab again, and discovered that it was now soaked with myrrh and had even formed itself into a heart.

A young 14 year old girl had tried to commit suicide several times, and fallen into utter despair because of the bullying, ridicule and pain she experienced at school. While at Camp Nazareth, a Church Camp outside of Pittsburgh, she encountered the grace of God through this miraculous icon, and found inner healing and hope. Months later she wrote the most beautiful four page letter to Fr. Mark, which he read to us, describing how her life has turned around by her experience with the *Kardiotisa*icon*.*

Every Wednesday night for the past three years, Fr. Mark and his community have a special prayer service to the Virgin Mary in front of this icon. Every Monday night, Fr. Mark has a Questions and Answer session in his church. Hundreds and hundreds come every Wednesday. Several dozen come on Mondays, asking questions. One stranger began to attend on Mondays, and at one point stood up and said, “These icons in the Church are against Allah. They are idolatry.” He argued that Allah was not pleased with these icons. After attending for a few weeks, this man from Iran finally approached the icon. Fr. Mark admitted that everyone was tense because he wasn’t sure what the man was going to do. Over the past three years, Fr. Mark has seen someone pull out a knife and try to stab the icon; others have tried to smash it; some have spit on it; and one person even vomited over the protective case. The man from Iran approached and stood motionless in front of the icon covered with fragrant myrrh. Fr. Mark said the man was like in a trance, and it seemed like a battle was going on in his mind. Slowly a tear formed in his eyes, and he began to cry. He kissed the icon. As he walked out of the church, he stopped by the candle stand and wrote something in the sand in Arabic. Since no one could read Arabic, the priest took a picture of what he wrote and got someone to translate it. The man wrote, “Jesus Christ is Lord.” Several months later this man was baptized and is now a pious Orthodox Christian.

These are only a few of the wonders and miracles which 45 of our parishioners and I heard yesterday when we visited this Tender Heart Icon of the Virgin Mary. Fr. Mark told us that October 13th will mark three years since the icon has been exuding this holy, fragrant myrrh. And not just a drop or two. Fr. Mark began his talk by holding up the icon and walking around the church, allowing the myrrh to drip from the icon into the hands of each of us. Imagine, this icon of wood has been continuously overflowing with myrrh for three years!

Bishop Gregory of Nyssa, the head of the Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Archdiocese under whom St. George Church lies, worked for more than 20 years in the field of Cardiovascular Research at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte, NC. He has authored or co-authored more than 100 articles, abstracts and book chapters.  When he first saw the icon, Fr. Mark shared how the bishop sat in front of the icon for an hour just looking at it. After an hour, he began crying and reflected, “My scientific mind cannot grasp how this is happening. How an icon painted on wood can exude myrrh. Yet my mind of faith gives glory to God for this miracle.”

Our God is a God of wonders and miracles. He is not bound by the very laws of nature which He Himself has established. Sometimes in our contemporary, secular and materialistic world we try to insist that science and reason are the only source of truth. The Church honors and appreciates science and reason, yet we know that the Creator of all stands above all. We can never try to limit or keep God confined within our own boundaries. The miracle of the *Kardiotisa*icon is just one small example of the unfathomable mysteries of life and of the Creator of Life, God Himself! Sometimes we can only observe in awe and wonder, and give glory to God for the way He reveals His majesty! Glory to God for all things!

**(Saints Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church, 2017)**

Let us go and pray near the Miraculous Myrrh-Streaming Icon of the Mother of God, which is so close to our parish. Moleben Service is every Wednesday at 06:00 PM and Anointing with the miraculous and healing Myrrh right after.

**ORTHODOXY AROUND THE WORLD**

Metropolitan Job of Pisidia celebrated Paschal services in the Church of St. Alypios in Antalya, Turkey for faithful from various Orthodox countries. Afterwards His Eminence blessed a Pascha meal for 700 Ukrainian housed by the Ruslan Shostak Foundation.

His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I celebrated the Paschal Vespers at the Church of the Dormition in his native birth-place on the Island of Imbros in the Aegean Sea.

Patriarch Theophilos III officiated at the Sacrament of Holy Unction in SS. Constantine & Helen Church in Jerusalem on Holy Wednesday.

An Orthodox publishing house, KATECHON, has opened in Brazil to print Orthodox materials for Portuguese speaking people.

Metropolitan Epiphaniy of Kyiv blessed Paschal bread for Ukrainian troops on the front line.

A 7 acre plot, for a new Orthodox monastery in Brazil, donated by an Orthodoxy family were blessed by Bishop Theodore of Apamea.

Archbishop Makarios of Qatar led Paschal services at the Orthodox cathedral in Doha in 6 languages for the multi-national parish.

Paschal services were held for the first time in 40 new Ukrainian Orthodox parishes in Western Europe including Britain, Denmark, France, Hungary, Ireland, Norway, Spain and Switzerland.

Additions in Ukrainian

**Недільний Апостол і Євангеліє**

**Діяння 6:1-7.** У цi днi, коли збiльшилася кiлькiсть учнiв, виникло нарi­кання еллiнiстiв на євреїв за те, що вони не дбають про їхнiх удовиць у повсякденному служінні їм. 2 Тодi дванадцять апостолiв, скликавши багато учнiв, сказали: «Hе личить нам, залишивши слово Боже, пiклуватися про столи. 3 Отже, браття, оберiть з-помiж себе сiм мужiв доброї слави, сповне­них Святого Духа i мудрости; їх поставимо на цю службу, 4 а ми постiйно перебуватимемо в молитвi та служiннi слову». 5 I угодна була ця пропозицiя всьому зiбранню; i обрали Стефана, мужа, сповненого вiри i Духа Святого, i Филипа, i Прохора, i Hиканора, i Тимона, i Пармена, i Миколая антиохiйця, наверненого з язичникiв; 6 їх поставили перед апостолами, а цi, помолившись, поклали на них руки. 7 I ширилося слово Боже, i вельми збiльшувалося число ученикiв у Єрусалимi; i дуже багато священикiв скорилося вiрi.

**Марка 15:43-16:8.** 43 Прийшов Йосиф із Аримафеї, поважний радник, який і сам чекав Царства Божого, і насмілився прийти до Пилата просити тіло Ісусове. 44 Пилат здивувався, що Він уже помер, і, покликавши сотника, спитав його, чи давно помер. 45 І, довідавшись від сотника, віддав тіло Йосифові. 46 Він, купивши плащаницю і знявши Його, оповив плащаницею і поклав Його у гробі, витесаному в скелі, і привалив камінь до дверей гробу. 47 Марія ж Магдалина і Марія Іосієва дивились, де Його поклали. 16 ↑

Як минула субота, Марія Магдалина, Марія Яковова і Саломія купили пахощі, щоб піти помазати Ісуса. 2 І дуже рано, в перший день після суботи, прийшли до гробу, як сходило сонце. 3 І говорять між собою: хто відвалить нам камінь від дверей гробу? 4 І, глянувши, побачили, що камінь відвалений; а він був дуже великий. 5 І, увійшовши у гріб, побачили юнака, який сидів праворуч і був одягнений у білу одежу; і вжахнулися. 6 А він каже їм: не жахайтеся. Ісуса шукаєте Назарянина, розп’ятого. Він воскрес — Його нема тут. Ось місце, де поклали Його. 7 Але йдіть, скажіть ученикам Його і Петрові, що Він буде раніше за вас у Галилеї; там Його побачите, як Він сказав вам. 8 І, вийшовши, вони побігли від гробу. Охопив їх трепет і жах. І нікому нічого не сказали, бо боялися.