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. 11 June. (29 May) SUNDAY of ALL SAINTS. 1st Sunday after PENTECOST. TONE 8. Virgin-Martyr THEODOSIA of Tyre (308) Virgin-Martyr THEODOSIA (730),**

**Epistle: Hebrews 11: 33-12:2 Gospel: Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30**

**Parish Festival in Queenship of Mary from 11:30 AM to 08:00 PM. Let’s visit and support.**

**Liturgical Meneion & Scripture Readings Readings (apostle’s fast begins Mon.)**

**Mon. 12 June** Ven. Isaac, founder of the Dalmatian Monastery (383).

**Rom. 2:28–3:18 Mt. 6:31-34–7:9-11**

**Tue. 13 June** Martyr Hermias at Comana (160). Martyr Philosophus at Alexandria (252).

**Rom. 4:4-12 Mt. 7:15-21**

***06:30 PM MOLEBEN FOR UKRAINE (Holly Protection, Allentown).***

**Wed. 14 June** Martyr Victoria (Rome). St. Agapitus, unmercenary physician of Kyiv Caves.

**Rom. 4:13-25 Mt. 7:21-23**

**Thu. 15 June** Great-martyr John the New of Suceava (1332).

**Rom. 5:10-16 Mt. 8:23-27**

**Fri. 16 June** Martyrs Lucillian, Claudius, Hypatius, Paul, and Dionysius; and Virgin Paula

**Rom. 5:17–6:2 Mt. 9:14-17**

**Sat. 17 June** Martyrs Frontasius, Severinus, Severian, and Silanus of Gaul (1st c.).

**Rom. 3:19-26 Mt. 7:1-8;**

***06:00 PM Great Vespers***

**Sun. 18 June All Saints of Ukraine. All Saints of the Holy Mount Athos.**

***09:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY.*** Christian Education: Physical postures as symbols of prayer.

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

**Tropar of the Resurrection, Tone 8.** You descended from on high, Merciful One. You accepted the three day burial to deliver us from our passions. Lord, Our Life and Resurrection: Glory to You.

**Tropar All Saints, Tone 4.** As with fine cloth and royal purple, Your Church has been adorned with the blood of the martyrs, shed throughout the world, Christ God. She cries out to You: Send Your Goodness to Your People; grant peace to Your world and great mercy to our souls.

**Glory… now and ever... Amen. Kondak for All Saints, Tone 8**. Lord and Creator, the universe offers You the God-bearing martyrs as the First Fruits of all Creation. Through the Birth-Giver of God and their prayers establish Your Church in peace.

**Prokimen of the Resurrection, Tone 8.** Pray and make your vows before the Lord, Our God.

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

**Prokimen for All Saints:** God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel.

**Epistle: St. Paul to the Hebrews 11: 32-12:2**

**Alleluia Verses, Tone 4.** The Righteous cried and the Lord heard them and He delivered them out of all their afflictions.

Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but out them all the Lord will deliver them.

**Gospel: Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30**

**Communion Hymn:** Praise Lord from the heavens. Praise Him in the highest. Rejoice in the Lord you Righteous. Praise befits the upright. Alleluia (3X)

**- Today is the last day of Sunday school for the 2022-2023 school year. Thank you very much to our teachers Karen Osmun and Mary Ost for your great job!**

**- Sight & Sound Theater trip (Lancaster): Moses Performance is June 30th at 3 pm. 79.80 per adult, kids 12 and under for FREE. Those who ordered please give Mary Ost money for tickets.**

**- Parish picnic Wayne Grube Park for Saturday Sept. 30, 2023.**

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

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

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

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

**- Bible Study via Zoom Wednesday at 7 PM 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.

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

**17 June…Nicholas & Irene Alexander**

**BIRTHDAYS:**

**13 June…Natalia Seremula**

**14 June…Luke Vitushinsky**

**15 June…Patricia Mauser**

**МНОГАЯ ЛІТА! MANY YEARS!**

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

**13 June…Karol Matko ’22, Gregory Zaharuyko ’66, Mary Huzela ’75, Metro Lelo ’96,**

**William Nieves ’99**

**14 June…Paul Kochenash ’27, Mary Nazar ’88**

**15 June…Juliana Kudrick (infant) ’26**

**16 June…Priest Athanasy Voronkeich ’72, Olga Parchomenko ’06, Varvara Pyskun ‘96**

**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, Matthew Vitushinsky, Nadine Savitz, Nicholas Alexander, James Osmun, William Savitz, Vladimir Krasnopera, Tom Petro Jr., Volodymyr Hranat(wounded soldier), Ihor Broda, William Leszczuk, Jessica Meashock, Ruslana Reznik, Kateryna Seremula, Lubov Slonova, priest Vasyl Dovgan, priest Gerald Ozlanski, Raisa Melnychuk, Olha Beizyn, Vasyl Beizyn, Mary Berger, Debi Hutnick, Eric Hewko, 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.

**About Saints.** The belief in the intercessory power of the Saints is as old as the Church. It is alluded to in authentic writings, such as the "Acts of the Martyrs," from the second and third centuries. They are represented as interceding after death for the faithful upon earth. "In heaven," said the martyr Theodotus before his torments began, "I will pray for you to God."

Inscriptions from the Catacombs:"O Atticus, sleep in peace and in the security of thy salvation and pray earnestly for our sins" (Capitol Museum);

"Gentianus, faithful, in peace who lived twelve years, eight months and sixteen days. You will intercede for us in your prayers because we know that you are in Christ" (Lateran Museum).

**St. Epiphanius,** Against All Heresies (377 A.D.): "Furthermore, as to mentioning the names of the dead, how is there anything very useful in that? What is more timely or more excellent than that those who are still here should believe that the departed do live, and that they have not retreated into nothingness, but that they exist and are alive with the Master? And so that this most august proclamation might be told in full, how do they have hope, who are praying for the brethren as if they were but sojourning in a foreign land? Useful too is the prayer fashioned on their behalf, even if it does not force back the whole of guilty charges laid to them."

**Synaxis of All Saints.** The Sunday following Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints, both those who are known to us, and those who are known only to God. There have been saints at all times, and they have come from every corner of the earth. They were Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and Righteous, yet all were perfected by the same Holy Spirit.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to rise above our fallen state and to attain sainthood, thereby fulfilling God’s directive to “be holy, for I am holy” (Lev. 11:44, 1 Peter 1:16, etc.). Therefore, it is fitting to commemorate All Saints on the first Sunday after Pentecost. This feast may have originated at an early date, perhaps as a celebration of all martyrs, then it was broadened to include all men and women who had borne witness to Christ by their virtuous lives, even if they did not shed their blood for Him.

Saint Peter of Damascus, in his “Fourth Stage of Contemplation,” mentions five categories of saints: Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, and Monastic Saints (Philokalia). He is actually quoting from the Octoechos, Tone 2 for Saturday Matins, kathisma after the first stichology.

Saint Νikόdēmos of the Holy Mountain adds the Righteous to Saint Peter’s five categories. The list of Saint Νikόdēmos is found in his book The Fourteen Epistles of Saint Paul in his discussion of I Corinthians 12:28.

The hymnology for the feast of All Saints also lists six categories: “Rejoice, assembly of the Apostles, Prophets of the Lord, loyal choirs of the Martyrs, divine Hierarchs, Monastic Fathers, and the Righteous....” Some of the saints are described as Confessors, a category which does not appear in the above lists. Since they are similar in spirit to the martyrs, they are regarded as belonging to the category of Martyrs. They were not put to death as the Martyrs were, but they boldly confessed Christ and came close to being executed for their faith. Saint Maximus the Confessor is such a saint.

The order of these six types of saints seems to be based on their importance to the Church. The Apostles are listed first, because they were the first to spread the Gospel throughout the world.

The Martyrs come next because of their example of courage in professing their faith before the enemies and persecutors of the Church, which encouraged other Christians to remain faithful to Christ even unto death.

Although they come first chronologically, the Prophets are listed after the Apostles and Martyrs. This is because the Old Testament Prophets saw only the shadows of things to come, whereas the Apostles and Martyrs experienced them firsthand. The New Testament also takes precedence over the Old Testament.

The holy Hierarchs comprise the fourth category. They are the leaders of their flocks, teaching them by their word and their example.

The Monastic Saints are those who withdrew from this world to live in monasteries, or in seclusion. They did not do this out of hatred for the world, but in order to devote themselves to unceasing prayer, and to do battle against the power of the demons. Although some people erroneously believe that monks and nuns are useless and unproductive, Saint John Climacus had a high regard for them: “Angels are a light for monks, and the monastic life is a light for all men” (Ladder).

The last category, the Righteous, are those who attained holiness of life while living “in the world.” Examples include Abraham and his wife Sarah, Job, Saints Joachim and Anna, Saint Joseph the Betrothed, and others.

The feast of All Saints achieved great prominence in the ninth century, in the reign of the Byzantine Emperor Leo VI the Wise (886-911). His wife, the Holy Empress Theophano lived in the world, but was not attached to worldly things. She was a great benefactor to the poor, and was generous to the monasteries. She was a true mother to her subjects, caring for widows and orphans, and consoling the sorrowful. Even before the death of Saint Theophano in 893 or 894, her husband started to build a church, intending to dedicate it to Theophano, but she forbade him to do so. It was this emperor who decreed that the Sunday after Pentecost be dedicated to All Saints. Believing that his wife was one of the righteous, he knew that she would also be honored whenever the Feast of All Saints was celebrated. (OCA)

**The Apostles’ Fast.** The Orthodox year has a rhythm, much like the tide coming in and going out – only this rhythm is an undulation between seasons of fasting and seasons (or a few days) of feasting. Every week, with few exceptions, is marked by the Wednesday and Friday fast, and every celebration of the Divine Liturgy is prepared for by eating nothing after midnight until we have received the Holy Sacrament.

It is a rhythm. Our modern world has lost most of its natural rhythm. The sun rises and sets but causes little fanfare in a world powered and lit by other sources. In America, virtually everything is always in season, even though the chemicals used to preserve this wonderful cornucopia are probably slowly poisoning our bodies. The Scriptures speaks of the rhythms of the world – “the sun to rule by day… the moon and stars to rule by night…”

The rhythm of the Church does not seek to make us slaves of the calendar nor does it treat certain foods as sinful. It simply calls us to a more human way of living. It’s not properly human to eat anything you want, anytime you want. Even Adam and Eve in the Garden initially knew what it was to abstain from the fruit of a certain tree.

Orthodox do not starve when they fast – we simply abstain from certain foods and generally eat less. At the same time we are taught to pray more, attend services more frequently, and to increase our generosity to others (alms). But it is a rhythm – fasts are followed by feasts. The fast of the Apostles begins on the second Monday after Pentecost and concludes on the Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul on June 29. Most of Christendom will know nothing of any of this – that Eastern Christians will have begun a Lenten period while the world begins to think of vacations.

The contemporary God is much the same as the contemporary diet – we want as much of Him as we want – anytime, anywhere. There is no rhythm to our desire, only the rise and fall of passions. There is no legalism in the Orthodox fast. I do not think God punishes those who fail to fast. I believe that they simply continue to become less and less human. We will not accept the limits and boundaries of our existence and thus find desires to be incessant and unruly. It makes us bestial. For those who have begun the fast – may God give you grace! For those who know nothing of the fast – may God give you grace and preserve from a world that would devour you. May God give us all the mercies of His kindness and help us remember the work of His blessed apostles! (by Fr. Stephen Freeman)

**ORTHODOXY AROUND THE WORLD**

Patriarch Theophilos III of Jerusalem celebrated the Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Blind Man in the Arab-speaking parish of St. George in Reine, near Nazareth, Palestine.

An Orthodox prayer book has been published in the Malagasy language of Madagascar, spoken by about 25 million people.

Metropolitan Benjamin of Minsk & Zaslavl led Divine services for the 840th anniversary of the repose of St. Cyril of Turov in Belarus.

Hagia Sophia Cathedral in Warsaw, modeled after the image of Hagia Sophia of Constantinople, captured by the Turks in 1453, was dedicated to the victims of Nazi concentration camps, the Warsaw Uprising and the orphans murdered by the Nazis in 1944.

The new Orthodox Church of St. John of Rila was consecrated by Metropolitan Cyprian of Stara Zagora in Johannesburg, South Africa for the thousands of Bulgarians now living in that country.

Metropolitan Epiphaniy of Kyiv took part in the opening of the square in Budyatichi in memory of the 33 graduates of the Vocational School & served a Litya for these fallen soldiers of the war.

The Church of Crete observed the anniversary of the return of the Skull of Holy Apostle Titus of the 70, from Venice to Heraklion. St. Titus was baptized by St. Paul & appointed the first Bishop of Crete. The Patron Saint f the island, his relic lies in the Cathedral of St. Titus.

Metropolitan Epiphaniy of Kyiv visited St. Nicholas Monastery in Bohuslav on May 22nd for its patronal feast day, the translation of the relics of St. Nicholas from Myra in Lycia to Bar, Italy in 1087.

The new Church of St. George the Victorious in Phnom Penh, Cambodia was consecrated on Apr. 30 by Metropolitan Sergius of Singapore.

The new parish of St. Sophrony of Essex, an all English-speaking community with many converts, led by Fr. Daniel, held its first Holy Week & Paschal services in an historic stone church in Adelaide, Australia.

65 parishes joined the Orthodox Christians for Life, “National Orthodox Baby Shower” to support women facing crisis pregnancies. Baby supplies & donations went to local pregnancy centers.

Bishop Neofitos of Nyeria & Mt. Kenya visited Archangel Michael Church in Broadview, Ohio which has a long relationship with the hierarch and after Liturgy the children of the parish presented the bishop with $10,000 for a new diocesan center in Kenya.

Metropolitan Rastislav, Primate of the Orthodox Church of the Czech Lands and Slovakia was honored by the University of Presov for his work as a member of the Orthodox theological faculty.

The Feast of St. George the Victorious was celebrated at the church bearing his name in the mountains of Alanya, Southern Turkey by Bishop Job of Pisidia.

During his visit to Italy Patriarch Bartholomew was presented with a holy relic of St. Matthew kept in the Catholic Cathedral of Salerno.

Additions in Ukrainian

**Недільне Євангеліє. Матфея 10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30.** 32 Отже, кожного, хто визнає Мене перед людьми, того визнаю і Я перед Отцем Моїм Небесним. 33 А хто зречеться Мене перед людьми, зречуся того і Я перед Отцем Моїм Небесним.  37 Хто любить батька чи матір більше, ніж Мене, недостойний Мене; і хто любить сина чи дочку більше, ніж Мене, недостойний Мене; 38 і хто не бере хрест свій і не йде слідом за Мною, той недостойний Мене. 27 Тоді Петро, відповідаючи, сказав Йому: ось ми залишили все і пішли слідом за Тобою, що ж нам буде? 28 Ісус же сказав їм: істинно говорю вам, що ви, які пішли за Мною, при відновленні світу, коли Син Людський сяде на престолі слави Своєї, сядете і ви на дванадцяти престолах судити дванадцять колін Ізраїлевих. 29 І всякий, хто залишить дім, або братів, або сестер, або батька, або матір, або жінку, або дітей, або землі заради імені Мого, одержить у стократ і успадкує життя вічне. 30 І багато хто з перших будуть останніми, а останні — першими.