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**

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**Sun. 13 Aug. (31 July) 10th SUNDAY after PENTECOST. TONE 1. Forefeast of the Procession of the HOLY LIFE GIVING CROSS. Righteous EUDOCIMUS of Cappadocia (9th C. ) Martyr JULITTA at Caesarea/304**

**Reading: 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 Gospel : Matthew 17:14-23**

**The Bulletin is sponsored by Reader Darryl Meashock in memory of his Baba Antoinette Meashock on the anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord.**

**Liturgical Meneion & Scripture Readings (Tomorrow begins the Dormition Fast)**

**Mon. 14 Aug.** Procession of the Life-giving Cross of the Lord. **Baptism of Rus-Ukraine.**

**1 Cor. 1:18-24 Jn. 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35**

**Tue. 15 Aug.** Hieromartyr Stephen, pope of Rome (257).

**2 Cor. 2:14–3:3 Mt. 23:23-28**

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

**Wed. 16 Aug.** Ven. Anthony the Roman (1147). Ven. Cosmas, eunuch and hermit of (6th c).

**2 Cor. 3:4-11 Mt. 23:29-39**

**Thu. 17 Aug.** Holy Seven Youths of Ephesus: John, Antoninus and other (250).

**2 Cor. 4:1-6 Mt. 24:13-28**

**Fri. 18 Aug.** Hieromartyrs Fabian (250) and Antherus (Antheros) (257), popes of Rome.

**2 Cor. 4:13-18 Mt. 24:27-33, 42-51**

**Sat. 19 Aug. THE HOLY TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

**2 Pet. 1:10-19 Mt. 17:1-9**

**09:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY. Blessing of fruits**

**05:00 PM Great Vespers.**

**Sun. 20 Aug. 09:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY. Blessing of fruits**

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

**Tropar Resurrection, Tone 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 Holy Cross, Tone 1:** Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance. Grant victory to Orthodox Christians over their enemies and by Your Cross preserve Your community.

**Tropar of the Dormition, 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.

**Kondak of the Resurrection, Tone 1:** As God, You arose from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Yourself. Human nature praises You as Gpd for death has vanished. Adam exults Master. Eve. freed from bondage rejoices and cries out: “You, Christ, are the Giver of Resurrection to all.”

**Glory… Kondak of the Cross, Tone 4:** Christ God, as You were voluntarily raised on the Cross for our sake, be compassionate to those who are called by Your Name. Make all Your devout faithful glad through Your Power, granting them victories over their enemies by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Your Weapon of Peace.

**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 every virginal womb.

**Prokimen of the Resurrection, Tone 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.

**Reading: St. Paul 1st Corinthians 4:9-16**

**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.

**Gospel: Matthew 17:14-23**

**Communion Hymn: Praise the Lord from the heavens. Praise Him in the Highest. Alleluia/3X**

**- Thanks to our youth for the participation in the Essay Contest. Honorable mentions: Danica and Alexandra Ost, Ella Misko.** **All youth are welcome to participate. That’s on the national level!**

**- UOL meeting – August 20 during the Coffee hour.**

**- Concerts for Ukraine dedicated to Independence Day. Sunday, August 20, 2023, 03:00 PM. Miller Symphony Hall and the Allentown Band. All net proceeds will go to Ukrainian Aid. Look for the tickets online.**

**- Ukraine's Independence Day. Branch 91 of the UNWLA is organizing a flag-raising ceremony and short program in commemoration. The event will be held on Aug. 24th at 10:00 a.m. at Bethlehem City Plaza (Payrow Plaza).**

**- Holy Assumption Parish Feast Day and Baptism. August 28, 09:00 AM Divine Liturgy, 11:00 AM Baptism of David and reception. Let’s greet His Eminence Archbishop Daniel with our Parish family. Please RSVP to Fr. Oleg or Pani Olha.**

**- Parish Board meeting – August 30, 06:30 PM.**

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

**- Save the date – November 4, 2023. We will have 2 Christmas pysanky workshops.** Participants will write 2 Christmas-themed eggs that will have a gloss coating, holder and ribbon. $35 per person. Watch for the official announcement for sign-ups.

**- Pan-Orthodox Virtual Bible Study via Zoom every Wednesday at 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, meats, tuna, pasta, sauces, mac & cheese.**

**BIRTHDAYS: ANNIVERSARIES:**

**15 Aug…Sandra Meashock 13 Aug…Oleksandr & Lesya Semanovych**

**16 Aug…Gregory Misko**

**19 Aug…Jeremy Madea МНОГАЯ ЛІТА! MANY YEARS!**

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

**13 Aug…Antoinette Meashock ’70, Katherine Panchyshyn ’26, Paul Novak ’27,**

**Michael Korutz ’64, Ignatij Phililips ’68,**

**14 Aug…Mary Mazur ’82**

**15 Aug…Wasyl Lubianecki ‘23**

**16 Aug…Audokia Sivenky ’68, Maria Papaylo ’14, Olga Yurechko ’10**

**17 Aug…Havryil Antoniuk ’31**

**19 Aug…Mykyta Zalizko ’36, Parania Bilyk ‘71**

**ВІЧНА ПАМ’ЯТЬ! MEMORY ETERNAL!**

**PRAYER FOR THE HEALTH & SALVATION OF THE AFFLICTED:** Ukrainian soldiers and civilians, wounded during the Russian aggression, Helen Crayosky, Barbara Grason, Paul Kochenash, Rosemarie Pypiuk, priest Gerald Ozlanski, priest Vasyl Dovgan, Matthew Vitushinsky, Nadine Savitz, William Savitz, Nicholas Alexander, Vladimir Krasnopera, Tom Petro Jr., William Leszczuk, Mary Berger, Jessica Meashock, James Osmun, Zachary Y. Siyufy, Ruslana Reznik, Lubov Slonova, Raisa Melnychuk, Vasyl Beizyn, Elena Iaroshenko, Volodymyr Hranat(wounded soldier), Ihor Broda, Matthew Barber, 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.

**A mustard seed is very tiny,** and sometimes the little things we do seem just as insignificant. But no matter how small, they are seeds and they will grow.

Parents plant countless seeds by the good example they set, not only when they do something right, but when they do it wrong and then try to set it right. When they light a candle on the table each evening and begin the family meal with a prayer, or even an attempt at some form of prayer, parents plant the seeds of the kingdom of God in their children.

In the workplace, we plant the seeds of the kingdom of God not by mouthing pious platitudes or getting pushy for Jesus, but by living the Gospel principles of justice, peace and respect for others. Then, if someone should question us about our faith, we should be prepared to respond with humility and some knowledge. Lord Jesus, help me to plant the seeds of the Kingdom of God in my daily life, even in the most casual encounters with other people. (Mitch Finley)

A monastic leader by the name of Evagrius Ponticus repeated the ancient teaching found in Scripture that man was made in the image and likeness of God, and that man’s mind was made for God, too. Anything which takes man’s mind off God, he said, is evil. Now he did not mean that we couldn’t carry out our earthly responsibilities, but rather that in doing our chores, we could still have God constantly in the background of our minds. We could work for Him through the task at hand, and so think of God along with the job. However, the love of self (in a wrong sense) which so often captivates us, often leads us along roads of fantasy which distract us from God. Acting on man’s psychological nature, these fantasies can produce what the Fathers called passions. These passions, or psychological involvements, form a very definite hierarchy, beginning with a casual attachment to the most inevitable of all human sensible needs, food; and ending with demonic possession, with love directed exclusively toward one’s self. This teaching was repeated in substance by St. John Cassian, St. John Climacus, St. Maximus the Confessor and others.

In Byzantine spirituality we look for “passionlessness,” that is, a frame of mind when we are not involved with illusions and fantasies, but with truth and reality; a state of mind in which we do not kid ourselves. We can readily see that the kind of greed, anger, depression and laziness make it dwell in fantasies and illusions, and thus cause us to act in ways that re not based on truth and reality, but on false and twisted ideas. If we cannot think straight, can we act straight? This emphasis on right thinking was made by Jesus directly. How often he ended his stories and parables with the cry “if you have ears to hear, listen!”

It is important to point out that passion, as we understand it here, must not be confused with zeal. The Fathers were not looking for apathy as we know it, but for tranquility. When we are on top of our feelings and moods, we can judge more accurately, and thus direct ourselves more truly. When we confuse our moods and feelings with the value of our disciplines and tasks, then – like children – we find ourselves wanting what is not good for us.

One good proof of the power of illusion is the Sunday gathering of the faithful. In how many churches will some of the participants miss the lovely presence of the Lord and the mystical pleasure of His visit because they will be busy grumbling about this one or that one, that the building is too hot or too cold, too noisy or too staid. How many will miss seeing the Lord in the assembly because they see only one or two people they don’t like, and this gives them food for complaint all during the service. In how many churches members wouldn’t lower themselves enough to be friendly? It is possible. It happens. Even in the early Church, as recorded in the Book of Revelations, church members got carried away by such passion. May God deliver us from it.

**One priest’s story.** One afternoon I found an elderly member of my congregation in a state of utter misery. When I asked her how she was, she could do nothing but complain. She did not like the particular hospital she was in – the bed was too hard, the sheets too scratchy, and the staff not considerate enough. When I noticed she was having a soft diet, she began to lament that she had lost most of her teeth and could not chew well. On and on she went, cataloguing her complaints, and every time I tried to speak some positive word, she shot it down with her negativism. I left that room thoroughly depressed, for I had never seen a human being more miserable. A few minutes later, I entered the room of another woman who was also up in years and facing a painful situation.

Because the other visit was fresh in my mind, I immediately began to commiserate with this woman about her lot. And yet, from the first, her attitude was noticeably different. When I suggested that having to be in the hospital was an unpleasant experience, she countered by saying she was very grateful that there were such places when one was as sick as she was. I surmised that the noise of the hospital and the hardness of the bed made hospital life inferior to life at home, but she said, “No, this bed suits me just fine, and I actually enjoy the company of the nurses coming in and out.” I saw that she too was on a soft diet, and I remarked that she must find this difficult, but a smile came to her face as she said, “Well, I just have two teeth left, but, thank the Lord, they hit!”

**ORTHODOXY AROUND THE WORLD**

The historic Transfiguration Cathedral in Odesa was severely damaged by a Russian missile attack. Built in 1806 it was destroyed by the communists in 1936 and rebuilt beginning in 1999.

On July 23rd Bishop Benjamin of Boyarsk celebrated the Divine Liturgy for Ukrainian refugees at St. Anne’s chapel in Navan, Ireland.

The Monastery of Panagia Ypseni on the Greek Island of Rhodes suffered severe damage from wildfires. Abbess Mariam and the nuns were saved by firefighters.

Patriarch John X of Antioch and the East, on an official visit to the U.S. toured the Monastery of St. Anthony of the Desert in Florence, AZ.

On the Day of the Baptism of Kyivan-Rus, Archbishop Yuri of Novogrudok celebrated the Liturgy on the Banks of the Neman River in Belarus, afterwards 9 people were baptized in the river.

A new Orthodox Church of St. Vladimir was consecrated on July 28th in Bekasi, Indonesia. Orthodoxy appeared in the country in 1925 and has grown to more than 40 parishes with numerous indigenous clergy.