ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE AND NEW ROME

A street sign in front of a building

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**Click** [HERE](https://avmocnpa.orthodoxws.com/prayerintimeofcoronavirus)**for Prayer in Time of Corona Virus**

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**Sun. 25 Dec.** **28th SUNDAY after Pentecost. Tone 3. HOLY FOREFATHERS. St. SPYRIDON Wonderworker of Tremithon (348). Hieromartyr ALEXANDER, Bishop of Jerusalem (251). Martyr SYNESIUS of Rome.**

**Colossians 3:4-11 & Hebrews 13:17-21**

**Luke 14:16-24 & Luke 6:17-23**

**- Memorial Litya for the soul of the departed child of God, Amelia, on the first anniversary of her repose, is requested by her grandparents, David and Nadezhda Mack.**

**- Memorial Litya for Anna Meashock and David Kuba.**

**Bulletin is sponsored in loving memory of our 8 year old niece, Amelia, on the 1st anniversary of her falling asleep and is offered**

**by Protodeacon Mikhail and Pani Martha Sawarynski.**

**The Bulletin is sponsored in loving memory of Anna, Helen and David**

**by Reader Maximos (Darryl) Meashock**

**Liturgical Meneion & Scripture Readings**

**(NATIVITY FAST)**

**Mon. 26 Dec.** Martyrs Eustratius, Eugene, and Orestes at Sebaste (284). Virgin-martyr Lucy

**Heb. 3:5-11, 17-19 Mk. 8:11-21**

**Tue. 27 Dec.** Martyrs Thyrsus, Leucius, and Callinicus (250).

**Heb. 4:1-13 Mk. 8:22-26**

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

**Wed. 28 Dec.** St. Stephen the Confessor, archbishop of Surozh in the Crimea (790).

**Heb. 5:11–6:8 Mk. 8:30-34**

05:00 PM Movie evening

**Thu. 29 Dec.** Prophet Haggai (500 B.C.). Blessed Empress Theophania of Byzantium.

**Heb. 7:1-6 Mk. 9:10-16**

**Fri. 30 Dec.** Holy Prophet Daniel (600 B.C.) and the Three Holy Youths.

**Heb. 7:18-25 Mk. 9:33-41**

**Sat. 31 Dec.** Martyr Sebastian at Rome and his companions (287).

**Heb. 2:11-13 Lk. 14:1-11**

**05:00 PM Great Vespers.**

**Sun. 01 Jan. 09:00 AM** Divine Liturgy. Christian Education: Symbols.

* Welcome to the Movie evening: Wednesday, December 28, 05:00 PM. “Man of God”.

- Welcome to Parish Holy Supper: Friday, January 6, 4:30 PM. Sign-up sheet is in the hall.

* The Bookcase in memory of Fr. Bazyl is in the hall. Most of the books are his own. Please take, read, bring back. You can also donate a book of Orthodox Christian topics.

- Pierogi schedule: January 18 - Sold Out. February 9, February 23. (Day 1-peel/Day 2-prep/Day 3 pinch and clean each day). Weather dependent. 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.) every Friday 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 Dec…Mary Ost, Sylvia Petro, Amanda Pypiuk**

**27 Dec…Linda Vitushinsky**

**31 Dec…Vera Alexander**

**МНОГАЯ ЛІТА! MANY YEARS!**

**NECROLOGY:**

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

**25 Dec…Anna Yacu ’85, Mary Stupcryski ’95,**

**Anna Voronkevich ’97, Anna Meashock ’97, Helen Meashock ‘06**

**27 Dec…Tessie Zazworsky ’97**

**28 Dec…Josephine Peters ‘82**

**29 Dec…Eustachij Pshebyla ’22, Martha Zaharuyko ’60, Very Rev. Gregory Pypiuk ‘62**

**30 Dec…Katherine Yeremko ’28, James Osmun ‘91**

**31 Dec…Olha Kutianski (infant) ‘22**

**ORTHODOXY AROUND THE WORLD**

St. Nicholas parish in Kapiri Boshi, Zambia celebrated is patronal feast day in the Bemba language, the tribal language of Zambia.

Dec. 11th Hierarchs from Orthodox churches of Jerusalem, Bulgaria and Moldova concelebrated the Divine Liturgy at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, site of the Lord’s tomb in Jerusalem.

Following the Liturgy on Dec. 11th in St. George’s Orthodox Cathedral in Stockholm, Sweden a Christmas concert was presented by musicians of the church. Metropolitan Cleopas of Scandinavia expressed his most sincere thanks to the young performers.

Feast of St. Andrew the First Called was celebrated in the church of his namesake in the Osokorki district of Kyiv by Archbishop Agapit of Vyshorod on Dec. 13th.

Bishop Kirilo of Buenos Aires consecrated the new Church of St. Paraskeva in Rio Negro, Argentina on Dec.13th. It is the second Orthodox church in Patagonia.

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

**Tropar of the Resurrection, Tone 3.** Let the heavens rejoice. Let the earth be glad. For the Lord has shown strength with His Arm. He has trampled down death by death. He has become the First born of the Dead. He has delivered us from the depths of Hell and has granted 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.

**Tropar to the Holy Forefathers, Tone 2.** Through faith You justified the Forefathers, forming through them the Church of all nations. These saints exult in glory, for from their seed, came a Blessed Fruit; she who bore You without seed, Christ our God. By their prayers save our souls.

**Kondak of the Resurrection, Tone 3.** On this day You rose from the tomb, Merciful One, leading us from the gates of death. On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices. With the prophets and patriarchs they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Your Power.

**Tropar to St. Spyridon, Tone 1.** At the First Council you appeared as a champion of Truth and a Wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father Spyridon. For you spoke to one dead in her grave, and transformed a serpent into gold; while chanting your holy prayers, you had Angels serving with you. Glory to Him Who glorified you. Glory to Him Who crowned you. Glory to Him Who, through you, grants healing to all.

**Kondak to the Holy Forefathers, Tone 2.** Thrice Blessed Ones, you did not worship the man made image, but armed with the invisible power of God, You were glorified in a trial by fire. From the midst of unbearable flames you called on God crying: Hasten, Compassionate One. Come quickly to our defense, for You are merciful and able to accomplish all that You will.

**Glory… Kondak to St. Spyridon, Tone 2.** Wounded by the love of Christ, most holy one, your mind was given wings by the by the radiance of the Spirit, O God inspired one. You found your work in active contemplation, O God pleasing Spyridon, becoming a godly sacrifice, and entreating divine illumination for all.

**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 Three Children, Tone 4.** Blessed are You, Lord God of our Fathers, praised and glorified is Your Name to the ages.

**Verse:** For You are righteous in all that You have accomplished for us.

**Prokimen to St. Spyridon.** My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.

**Epistles: Colossians 3:4-11 & Hebrews 13:17-21**

**Alleluia Verses, Tone 4.** Moses and Aaron are among His priests and Samuel among those who call upon His Name.

They called upon the Lord and He answered them.

The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom and his tongue shall speak of judgment.

**Gospels: Luke 14:16-24 & Luke 6:17-23**

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

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

**THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE NEW CALENDAR AND THE OLD.** The most widely used diary today is known as Gregorian or Western or Christian. The diary is named after Pope Gregory XIII, who introduced it in 1582. The Gregorian calendar is part of everyday life and is used by most people without any knowledge of its true history, reasons for its adoption and implications.

Originally, a decent yearbook should be based on the exact time that the earth is complete Sun gear needed. For the first time, the Babylonians took up the slow movement of Sun from west to east because they were watching the horizon in the West's time. Their observations showed that the sun returned to its starting point after about 360 days. So the Babylonians divided the circle in 360 degrees and set up at the same time a mixed lunar and solar calendar of 360 days.

Prior to the Gregorian calendar, the Julian was used in Europe. This calendar was created by Julius Caesar 46 BC. Presented. and became 45 v. Chr. applied. Until that time, the Roman diary was a patchwork quilt, with some extra days coming in February, depending on the mood of the politicians. Caesar had the opposite view.

He relied on the Greek astronomer Sosigene of Alexandria. On the basis of the calculations of the father of astronomy, Ipparchus (who had established a century earlier that the sun or tropical year had a duration of 365,242 days), Sospienos set a calendar whose years were 365 days, and added every fourth year another one day after the "sixth before the March calendar," called "To Sextus." Therefore, since it was measured twice, that day is still referred to as "six-sixths" and the year in which it contains "jumping." When the Roman Empire was baptized, the Julian calendar was adopted as a Christian diary. This allowed him to expand to areas outside the imperial borders.

One of the problems of the Julian calendar is that the length of the solar year is miscalculated with a deviation of 11 minutes per year. More important, however, for Christians was that the Easter celebration, which traditionally fell on March 21, kept more and more from the vernal equinox year after year. Pope Gregory II decided to correct the problem by changing the wrong calculations in the Julian calendar. He commissioned a committee led by the natural Aloysius Lilius and the astronomer Christopher Clavius ​​to solve the problem. It took them five years, but they found a solution: at first, they disappeared the ten days they left. They then realized that every four years will be a leap a year apart from the hundreds of years not shared by 400. In 2000, it was a leap, but not in 1900, 1800, or 1700.

The Gregorian calendar is 26 seconds per year away from solar energy, despite the intelligence of Lilius, who developed the synchronization method with the seasons. Thus, an inconsistency has occurred since 1582, and in 4909 the Gregorian calendar will be one day ahead of the solar year. Pope Gregory also held New Year's Eve on March 25. First appointed as the first day of the year on January 1.

When the mistakes were corrected, the Gregorian calendar was presented in 1582 with a papal sack called "Inter gravissimas". Until then, the schism between the Roman Catholic Church and Eastern Orthodoxy has been over 500 years old, and Protestant reform in Western Europe began about 50 years ago. As a result, the change from the Julian calendar to Gregorian in 1582 was taken mainly by countries under Roman Catholic "power", including Spain, Portugal (and the overseas states of the two countries) and France.

The Gregorian calendar was relatively late for Russia, beginning to use it in 1918. However, the Russian Orthodox Church still uses the Julian calendar today. For example, Christmas is celebrated on land on January 7, a date that corresponds to Gregorian's December 25th.

However, the countries do not always follow the Gregorian calendar to celebrate New Year's Eve, which is often based on lunar cycles, without necessarily falling on January 1st. The Persian New Year for Iran, for example, is determined by the spring hemisphere of the northern hemisphere. Incidentally, February 29th is not the only problem for those who measure time.

There are also seconds. In fact, the Earth needs more than 24 hours to complete a full turn around its axis: 86,400,002 seconds instead of 86,400 seconds. To keep our clocks tuned to the midday sun, a fraction of a second is added every few years.What makes the calculation difficult is the acceleration or deceleration of Earth's rotation in a way that cannot be predicted. Long-term tidal friction gradually increases spin time. But other factors such as ice melt, wind and storms can affect the length of the day.

In the Orthodox states, the beginning of the reform began in 1895, when ecumenism began Patriarch Anthimos expressed "longings and desires for a single calendar for all Christians". After a question of the Patriarch of Constantinople Ioakeim III. The Holy Synod of the Church of Greece, in collaboration with the theological school of the University of Athens in 1903, decided that "Orthodox churches, in concert with each other and with each state, would reform the calendar currently in use according to the advances and insights of astronomy. "

In 1919, the Greek state reissued the calendar edition, and finally in January 1923 replaced the Julian calendar with the Gregorian calendar and applied for it on February 16, 1923. To make the correction, February 16 was termed March 1, i.e. 13 days from 1923. Ten days between Gregorian and Julian between 325 and 1582 had been delayed for another three days in the 340 years since the first introduction of the Gregorian diary. For this reason, Greece did not have 365 days in 1923, but 352, so no Greek citizen had a birth certificate from February 16 to 28, 1923.The Patriarchate of Jerusalem, Serbia, and churches on the area of Kyiv Rus are the only ones who do not have that Calendar reform so far accepted and follow in contrast to the churches of Constantinople, Greece and Cyprus the Julian calendar. The same calendar follows from the tradition of the monasteries on Mount Athos and the so-called "true Orthodox Christians" known as "old calendarists". (Source: https://newsbeezer.com/greeceeng/)