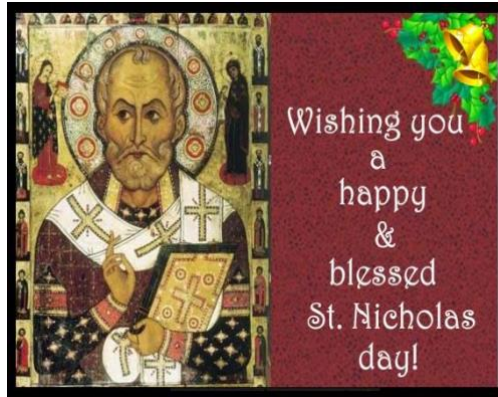


## Assumption of the Virgin Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church

Weekly Bulletin Dec. 7, 2025



### ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE AND NEW ROME

We are on the New Calendar

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](mailto:john.hnatow@gmail.com)

---

**- Communion is only for Orthodox Christians.**

**- Preparation for Communion: going for Confession, praying, and fasting.**

**- Confessions:** Vespers-first Saturday of the month, Sun. before Liturgy, or by appointment.

**- Make a list of living and deceased and bring it to the Altar.** We'll pray for them during a Liturgy.

**- For pastoral visits** at home or hospital or special prayer requests ask Fr. Oleg.

**- A directory of parishioners' names and addresses** is available (vestibule) for those who would like to send cards or good wishes.

**- Follow us on Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/avmuocoftheus>

---

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!  
Молімось за мир в Україні!

Слава Ісусу Христу! Навіки Слава!  
Let us pray for peace in Ukraine!

---

Sun. 07 Dec. 26th Sunday after Pentecost. Tone 1. **AMBROSE, Bishop of Milan (397)**  
**Martyr ATHENODORUS of Mesopotamia (304) Ven. PAUL the Obedient and JOHN the Faster**  
**of the Kyiv Caves (12th C.)**

**Epistle: Ephesians 5:8-19**

**Gospel: Luke 12:16-21**

**St. Nicholas is coming!**

**Welcome all for the Coffee Hour after the Liturgy – Запрошуємо на каву.**

---

---

The Bulletin is sponsored by Melanie Unger in loving memory of her mother, Anna Smallen.  
May God grant her rest and eternal memory.

---

---

**LITURGICAL MENEION & SCRIPTURE READINGS (NATIVITY FAST)**

**Mon. 08 Dec.** Ven. Patapius of Thebes (7th c.). Martyr Anthusa at Rome (5th C).  
**1 Tim. 5:1-10** **Lk. 17:20-25**

**Tue. 09 Dec.** The Conception by St. Anna of the Most Holy Theotokos. Prophetess Anna.  
**1 Tim. 5:11-21** **Lk. 17:26-37;**

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

**Wed. 10 Dec.** Martyr Gemellus of Paphlagonia (361). Ven. Thomas of Bithynia (10th c.).  
**1 Tim. 5:22-6:11** **Lk. 18:15-17, 26-30**

**Thu. 11 Dec.** Martyr Mirax of Egypt (640). Ven. Luke the New Stylite of Chalcedon.  
**1 Tim. 6:17-21** **Lk. 18:31-34**

**Fri. 12 Dec.** St. Spyridon the Wonderworker of Tremithon (348).  
**2 Tim. 1:1-2, 8-18** **Lk. 19:12-28**

**Sat. 13 Dec.** Virgin-martyr Lucy (304). Ven. Arsenius (8-10th c.).  
**Gal. 5:22-6:2** **Lk. 10:19-21;**

**12:30 PM** **Christmas at the Seminary Trip.** Join for a performance by the St. Sophia Seminary Choir and refreshments. Transportation provided. Sign up downstairs.

**GREAT VESPERS IS CANCELLED**

**Sun. 14 Dec.** **09:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY.**

---

---

**- Nut Roll Sale pickup - Dec. 13.**

**- Snow Tubing: UOL Fellowship Saturday, January 3, 2026. Youth are free. All are welcome!**  
**Sign up list and flyer downstairs.**

**- Collecting can goods for Food Bank in memory of victims of artificial famine in Ukraine 1932-33. Box downstairs** (canned potatoes, and meats, tuna, pasta, sauces, mac. & cheese).

**- Pyrohy schedule: Dec. 18, Jan. 8, 22.** First come, first served (until we reach 250 doz.). Please volunteer for peeling, running, cooking/mashing, pinching and clean-up.

- **Loving Waters Campaign** for the **All-Saints Camp Water System Repair** (Emlenton, PA). The camp is facing a **large bill** for its water system. Let's help! Envelopes are near entrance.

- **Sunday School Schedule: Every Sunday right after the Communion. Welcome.**

- **Please turn in Redner's save a tape.** The receipt must show the Save-A-Tape amount. Thanks!

- **Virtual Bible Study Day.** Check the information on the board downstairs.

---

#### **BIRTHDAYS:**

**07 Dec...Oleksandra Harnaho**

**09 Dec...Isabelle Sawarynski**

**12 Dec...Samuel Scioscia, Maria Sawarynski, Jennifer Grason**

**MNOHAYA LITA! MANY YEARS!**

---

#### **NECROLOGY:**

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

**07 Dec...Anna Smallen**

**10 Dec...Charles Schmall '62, Anna Kochenash '08**

**11 Dec...Anna Lukar '21, Pauline Dumiak (infant) '26**

**12 Dec...Marta Stadnyk '98, Anastassiya Paraskiva '96**

**VICHNAYA PAMYAT! MEMORY ETERNAL!**

---

**Prayer for the health & salvation of the afflicted:** Ukrainian soldiers and civilians, wounded during the Russian aggression, Helen Crayosky, Rosemarie Pypiuk, Caroline Hallman, Joseph Killino, Reader Maximos(Meashock), Barbara Grason, Sandra Miller, John Vitushinski, Raisa Bakalets, Karen Yurconic, Tom, Sylvia Petro, priest Demetrius Nicoloudakis, Martha Dowling, Michael Szymonifka, Karen Kankula, Evelyn Kankula, Russel Kerick, Christina Truss, Matthew Vitushinsky, Nadine Savitz, William Savitz, Walter & Mary Ann Dworakivsky, William Leszczuk, Mary Berger, Jessica Meashock, Ray Stoner, Zachary Y. Siyufy, soldier Oleh, Raisa Melnychuk, Vasyl Beizyn, Lubov Shevchuk, Volodymyr Hranat, Ihor Broda, Gary Lelo, Debi Hutnick, Eric Hewko, Phil O'Brien, child Charlie, Juliana, Shirl Merolli, Stephanie Donnelly, child Alexandria, Elizabeth Pastushenko, MaryAnn Ramaley, Aaliyah Osmun, Brendan Phillips, Adam Hewko, Andrew Thaxton, Susan Ferretti, Judy Albright, Daniel Kochenash, Christopher Mack, Joann Hoodmaker, Norman Betrous, Robert Zarayko, Lisa Kulhanek, Esther Wilt, Benjamin Tomeo, Olena Kalichenko.

---

#### **PROPERS for the DIVINE LITURGY**

**Tropar 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 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.

**Tropar Tone 1:** Let us all honor the glorious Hierarch Ambrose/ the namesake of ambrosia, the instructor of Italy/ the protector of Christ's Church, the leader of Milan/ a son of his diocese, and the greatest supporter of the poor/ for he intercedes with the Lord to have mercy on our souls.

**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 God/ 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 to St. Ambrose, Tone 3:** Shining forth with godly doctrines/ you drove off the darkness of the deception of Arius, O shepherd and initiate of the sacred mysteries/ You worked miracles by the power of the Spirit/ wisely healing various passions/ O Righteous Father Ambrose/ entreat Christ God to grant us great mercy.

**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 in 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.

**Epistle: Ephesians 5:9-18**

**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: Luke 12:16-21**

**Communion Hymn:** Praise the Lord from the heavens. Praise Him in the highest.

**Alleluia (3X)**

---

**O Who Loves Nicholas the Saintly**

O who loves Nicholas the saintly,  
O who serves Nicholas the saintly,

Him will Nicholas receive,  
And give help in time of need:  
Holy Father Nicholas!\*

He who dwells in God's holy mansions,  
Is our help on the land and oceans,

He will guard us from all ills,  
Keep us pure and free from sins  
Holy Father Nicholas!\*

Holy Saint, hearken to our prayer,  
Let not life drive us to despair,

All our efforts shall not wane,  
Singing praises to your name:  
Holy Father Nicholas!\*

Ой, хто, хто Миколая любить,  
Ой, хто, хто Миколаю служити,  
Тому святий Миколай,  
На всякий час помагай,  
Миколай!

*\*Repeat the three lines of the refrain.*

---

### **How to explain to a child who Saint Nicholas is and how he brings gifts?**

First of all, it is important to tell children the truth, but in a form that will preserve their faith in goodness, mystery and miracles. After all, Saint Nicholas is not a fiction. He was a real person, a bishop who lived almost 1700 years ago. People remember him to this day because he knew how to see the misfortune of others and helped quietly, imperceptibly, so that no one knew from whom the good came. That is why he is called the patron saint of children and mercy.

You can simply tell children: Saint Nicholas is a saint of God who continues to do good through people. He does not walk on roofs and does not climb through chimneys, but he touches the hearts of adults - parents, godparents, friends - and they become His hands. He inspires to give joy, support, hope and love. So, when a child finds a gift, it is not a magical story about “something made up”, but a real testimony that God works through people.

You can explain it like this: “Saint Nicholas sees your goodness, your efforts, your prayer. And he brings gifts through those who love you. He knocks on their hearts, and they happily help Him make surprises for children.” This way the child understands that a miracle exists, and it is coming from God and that good always comes through people who respond to God’s call. And most importantly – tell the children that Nicholas always comes to those who do not forget to do good deeds themselves. Because holiness is not magic, it is the path of love.

**LET US BECOME THE HELPERS OF SAINT NICHOLAS!** As we approach the feast of Saint Nicholas the Wonderworker, I invite you to join me in continuing his holy legacy of selfless love and compassion.

Saint Nicholas is known throughout the ages as the protector of the poor, the comforter of widows and orphans, the defender of the innocent, and the helper of those in need. In his spirit, let us open our hearts and become his hands in our own generation. Today, the families of displaced persons, widows, orphans, children, our wounded soldiers, courageous chaplains, and the brave men and women serving on the front lines in Ukraine cry out for comfort, support, and hope. They will surely feel the warmth of Christ's love through our kindness. Most of us are blessed with material and physical comforts. A charitable offering — whether \$100, \$50, or any heartfelt gift — can transform into: Winter essentials for displaced families; Food and medicine for widows and orphans; Small gifts for children missing the warmth of home; Aid for wounded soldiers and those defending their homeland; Support for chaplains who bring the light of Christ to the darkest of places. Every offering — great or small — becomes a blessing in the hands of God.

Please make your financial donation by scanning the QR code so that we may offer our assistance in a timely and effective manner.

You may also mail your donation to: UOC of USA, P.O. Box 495, South Bound Brook, NJ 08873 (Memo: Helpers of Saint Nicholas).

Let us become the Helpers of Saint Nicholas, so that together we may place comfort, hope, and love into the hands of those who need it most this Nativity season.

With prayerful love in Christ, Archbishop Daniel.



## **ORTHODOX NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE**



Pope Leo XIV of Rome and Patriarch Bartholomew joined 3 other patriarchs from the ancient sees marking the 1,700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicea where the Nicene Creed, revered by both Eastern and Western churches was written, establishing the fundamental truths of Christianity.

The new Orthodox Theological School of St. Cyril Lucaris has opened in Accra, Ghana - 30 students in its first class.



More than 1,000 gathered in the Church of St. Demetrios, Cologne, Germany to venerate the relics of St. Mary Magdalene brought from Mt. Athos.



America's "best kept secret - the Orthodox Church," is no longer the case. In a recent "New York Times" article the Faith is attracting energetic new adherents especially among young men.



St. Nikitas Orthodox Village in Tanzania for single mothers and the elderly was dedicated by Metropolitan Dimitrios.

The Orthodox Church of Czechia and Slovakia celebrated the 90th anniversary of Ss. Cyril and Methodius Cathedral in Prague.

The 375th anniversary of Holy Cross women's monastery in Poltava, Ukraine was observed. Founded in 1650 in honor of the Cossack victory over the Polish-Lithuanian State.

Pan-Orthodox Crowdfunding Platform, Commonwealth, established by Joseph Gleason of McKinney, Texas to help suffering Americans with medical and financial burdens has been launched.

See [orthodoxcrowdfunding.com](http://orthodoxcrowdfunding.com)

---

**Євангеліє.** 16 І сказав їм притчу: в одного багатого чоловіка добре вродила нива. 17 І міркував він сам собі: що мені робити? Немає куди мені зібрати плодів моїх. 18 І сказав: ось що зроблю — зруйную житниці мої та збудую більші, і зберу туди весь хліб мій і все добро моє. 19 І скажу душі моїй: душе, багато маєш добра, що лежить у тебе на багато років: спочивай, їж, пий, веселись. 20 Але Бог сказав йому: нерозумний! Цієї ночі душу твою візьмуть у тебе; кому ж дістанеться те, що ти наготував? 21 Так буває з тим, хто збирає скарби для себе, а не в Бога багатіє.