***Jan. 17, 2021***

**ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE AND NEW ROME**

**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** – (732) 507-2274; 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

***NOTE: The Annual Parish Meeting, originally scheduled for Sunday, January 31, will be postponed until further notice due to Covid precautions.***

**Attendance at any Liturgy: If you wish to attend a liturgy, you must sign up by 7:00 PM the evening before the liturgy. Currently, registration is limited to 40 participants. NOTE:  If you have signed up but cannot attend the service, please edit your sign up so the slot will be open for someone else.**

[**Sign up here to be on a list of people who will be allowed in our church to attend a liturgy on the specified date**](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040548ADAC29A1F85-assumption)

**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)

**Great Vespers: If you wish to attend a Vespers service you must sign up by 7:00 PM Friday. Currently, registration is limited to 40 participants.**

[**Sign up here to be on a list of people who will be allowed in our church to attend a Vespers service on the specified date**](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040548adac29a1f85-vespers)

**Holy Confession: Our Heirarchs have indicated that all parishioners must receive the sacrament of Holy Confession prior to receiving Holy Communion. Father Oleg has scheduled general confessions immediately after Vespers on the first Saturday of each month. Father will also hear confession by appointment on Saturdays.**

[**Sign up here for a Saturday appointment for Holy Confession**](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040548ADAC29A1F85-confession1)

**Sun. 17 Jan. (Jan. 4th) 32nd SUNDAY after PENTECOST. Tone 7. FOREFEAST OF THEOPHANY. SYNAXIS of the 70 APOSTLES. Ven. Abbot THEOCTISTUS of Cucomo, Martyrs ZOSIMAS & ATHAN-ASIUS of Cilicia. Ven. Deacon AQUILA of the Kyiv Caves.**

**2 Timothy 4:5-8 Mark 1:1-8**

**Romans 8:8-14 Luke 10:1-15**

**Liturgical Meneion & Scripture Readings For The Next Week**

**Mon. 18 Jan. (Strict Fast Day)** The Eve of the Theophany.

**1 Cor. 9:19-27 Lk. 3:1-18**

***5:00 PM Great Compline with Litiya and the Great Blessing of Water***

**Tue. 19 Jan. THE HOLY THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST. BAPTISM OF THE LORD.**

**Titus 2:11-14–3:4-7 Mt. 3:13-17 1 Cor. 10:1-4 Mk. 1:9-11**

***9:00 AM Divine Liturgy and the Great Blessing of Water***

**Wed. 20 Jan.** Synaxis of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist, John.

**1 Pet. 4:1-11 Mk. 12:28-37**

**Thu. 21 Jan.** Ven. Gregory, wonderworker of the Kyiv Caves (1093).

**1 Pet. 4:12-5:5 Mk. 12:38-44**

**Fri. 22 Jan.** Martyr Polyeuctus (259). Prophet Shemaiah (10th c. B.C.).

**2 Pet. 1:1-10 Mk. 13:1-8**

**Sat. 23 Jan.** St. Gregory of Nyssa (395).

**Ephes. 4:7-13 Mat. 4:12-17**

***5:00 PM Great Vespers***

**Sun. 24 Jan. Afterfest of the Theopohany**

***8:30 AM Third & Sixth Hours***

***9:00 AM Divine Liturgy (restriction of 40 people; Also available Online)***

**Eph. 4:7-13 Mt. 4:12-17 2Cor. 4:6-15 Mt.11:27-30**

**PROPERS FOR LITURGY OF JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**

**Tropar of the Resurrection, Tone 7**

By Your Cross, You destroyed Death. To the Thief, You opened Paradise. For the Myrrh-bearers, You changed weeping into joy. Christ God, You commanded Your disciples to proclaim that You are risen, granting the world great mercy.

**Tropar of the Forefeast of Theophany, Tone 4**

Make ready, Zebulon and prepare Nephthali. You Jordan River, stop your flow and receive with great joy the Master coming to be baptized. You, Adam, rejoice with the First Mother Eve and hid not as you did in Paradise. For at the sight of your nakedness Christ has come to clothe you with the robe of innocence. Christ has appeared to renew all creation.

**Tropar of the Dormition of the Virgin Mary, 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 of the 70 Apostles, Tone 3**

Holy Apostles of the Seventy, entreat the merciful God, to grant our souls forgiveness of transgressions.

**Kondak of the Resurrection, Tone 7**

The dominion of death can no longer hold humanity captive, for Christ, descended shattering and destroying its power. Hell is bound while the prophets rejoice with one voice. The Savior has come to those in faith, saying: “Enter, you faithful into the Resurrection.”

**Kondak of the Forefeast, Tone 4**

Today, the Lord has appeared at the waters of the Jordan River. He cries out to John saying: “Be not afraid at having to baptize Me, for I have come to save Adam, the First Created One.”

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirt.**

**Kondak of the 70 Apostles, Tone 2**

O faithful, let us praise with hymns the choir of the seventy disciples of Christ. They have taught us all to worship the undivided Trinity, for they are divine lamps of the Faith.

**Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.**

**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, Tone 6**

Save Your people, O Lord, and bless Your inheritance.

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

**Prokimen, Tone 8**

Their sound has gone forth into all the earth and their words to the ends of the universe.

**Readings: 2 Timothy 4:5-8 & Romans 8:8-14**

**Alleluia Verse:** Come let us rejoice in the Lord. Let us shout with jubilation to God our Savior.

**Verse:** May God be gracious to us and bless us. May God’s Face shine upon us.

**Gospel: Mark 1:1-8 & Luke 10:1-15**

**Communion Hymn:** Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest.Their voice has gone out into all the earth and their words to the very ends of the universe. Alleluia (3X)

**In Ancient Israel, six cities were founded as "cities of refuge."** The law of Moses declared that if a man killed another man -- without malice or premeditation -- he could flee to one of those cities and live there free without any harm coming to him until the death of the high priest. Then he was free to go to his home without fear.

The rabbis have an interesting tradition about those cities of refuge. They say that, once each year, the roads leading to those cities were repaired and cleaned of any obstacles and stones so that the man fleeing for his life would have nothing that would hinder him on his way to the refuge.

And the same is true with God's "Spiritual Israel," the church today. God still has it in his plan that there be a place of refuge for our mistakes, a place of hiding for our sins. Our "city of refuge", is Christ Himself. If we dwell in Him, we are protected from the enemy who would destroy us.

**With Baptism the Old Covenant ends and the New begins.** This is seen in the fact that the inaugurator of the New Testament is John the Baptist. "Among those born of women there is none greater than John," He is the crown of all the prophetic tradition; "For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John." Of the gospel dispensation he was the first fruits, for we read "the beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ" and after some words "John did baptize in the wilderness." (Cyril Of Jerusalem)

**Repentance**

True repentance is to cease from sin (Ambrose of Milan)

When a man undertakes to repent toward his fellowmen, it is repenting

straight up a precipice, when he repents toward law, it is repenting into

the crocodile's jaws: when he repents toward public sentiment, it is

throwing himself into a thicket of brambles and thorns; but when he repents

toward God, he repents toward all love and delicacy. God receives the soul

as the sea the bather, to return it again, purer and whiter than he took it.

(Henry Ward Beecher)

True repentance hates the sin, and not merely the penalty; and it hates the

sin most of all because it has discovered and felt God's love.

(W.M. Taylor)

Billy Graham said the following about the central issue facing humanity:

"We're suffering from only one disease in the world. Our basic problem is

not a race problem. Our basic problem is not a poverty problem. Our basic

problem is not a war problem. Our basic problem is a heart problem. We need

to get the heart changed, the heart transformed."

**BLESSING OF HOMES will begin after Liturgy on Tuesday, January 19th. If you do not wish your home blessed or if your name was missed on the list, please text or call Father Oleg. If you would like him to come at a specific time, also text or call. Please have a bowl, candle & icon on the table and a list of names you wish to be commemorated (living & deceased).**

**OUTDOOR BLESSING OF WATER by the Clergy Brotherhood which be held 3pm Jan. 24 at Jordan Park in Allentown/Whitehall (1169 N 6th Street Ext, Whitehall).**

**Jan. 19th & 20th (Northampton)**

Anicola Dworakivsky Crayosky, Helen

Crayosky, Kathy Kerick Kroboth

Leindecker Misko, Michael Sawarynski, Matthew

Seremula, Walter Sawarynski, Deacon Semenovych Family

Schubert Savitz

Truss Unger

 **Jan. 21st (Bethlehem Area)**

Alexander Pypiuk, Gregory Baird

Pavlinsky Khromenko Reichl

Mauser Seremula, John Meashock

Winters Family Misko, David

 **Jan. 22nd (Danielsville, & Lehigh Township)**

Hallman Hnatow, John Hnatow, Michael

Krasnopera Kochenash, Paul Vitushinsky, Nicholas

Sawarynski, Paul Seremula, Joe Vitushinsky, John

 **Jan. 23rd (Allentown & areas West)**

Busch Rippey Parchomenko

Dowling Schmall Ost

Ketterer Vitushinsky, Juanita Pypiuk, Taras

Osmun Yarchak

 **Jan. 24th (Hellertown & Easton)**

Pozzetta Kuchinos, Kathy Woyewoda

Lelo Gorsky

**Jan. 25th & 26th (missed homes & rescheduled ones)**

**The Annual Parish Meeting, originally scheduled for Sunday, January 31, will be postponed until further notice due to Covid precautions.**

**BIRTHDAYS:**

**17 Jan…Anastasia Seremula**

**20 Jan…Jessica Meashock**

**MNOHAYA LITA! MANY YEARS!**

**NECROLOGY:**

**17 Jan…William Molnar ’76, Mikhail Radchuk ’57, Jennie Kowalchuk ‘01**

**18 Jan…Pauline Seremula ‘50**

**19 Jan…Mary Ziatyk ’74, Viktor Poshtar ‘73**

**20 Jan…Pauline Bollent ‘15**

**21 Jan…John Bodnyk ’80, Anna Plotsko ’59, Nagib Azar ’15, Leonid Frolov ‘13**

**22 Jan…Mary Kudrick (infant) ’23, Joseph Hanzarick ‘83**

**23 Jan…Mary Nazar ’76, Mary Bach ‘83**

**VICHNAYA PAMYAT! MEMORY ETERNAL!**

**WE PRAY FOR THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING** of the ill-afflicted: Catherine Kochenash, Joan Molnar, Richard Stetch, Fr. Stephen Hutnick, Fr. John & Panimatka Anne Haluszczak, Fr. Victor and Panimatka Ivanka Wronskyj, Evan, Brandon and Stacy Snyder, Aaliyah Osmun, Olga Dorosh, Michael Mack, Allan Bach, Ihor Broda, James Osmun, Matthew, Tom, William Savitz, Vladimir & Emma Krasnopera, Brendan Phillips, Jessie Hnatow, Jessica Meashock, Adam Hewko, Betty Hendrickson, Andrew Thaxton, Susan Ferretti, Judy Albright, Rob Hewko, Daniel Kochenash, Christopher Mack, Norman Betrous, Luba Walker.

**The Lion King.** Baptism tells us who we are. Nowhere do we see this truth better illustrated than in Disney's The Lion King. For those of you who may have seen the movie, you may remember that Simba the lion cub is separated from all that reminds him of his identity. He is away from home, away from his family, and away from his responsibilities in the world. In fact, he forsakes his true identity as a lion, much less the king of the lions. In his absence, the kingdom is over run by forces of evil, and it becomes a very dark and wounded place.

The baboon "priest" Rafiki finds Simba in the jungle and calls him back to his identity. In John the Baptist fashion Rafiki leads Simba to a great lake. As Simba stares into the pool of water, it is not only his face that is reflected. It is also the face of his father. The father and son are inextricably linked. As he recognizes his father within himself, the heavens open and the father speaks to him from heaven. In that moment, Simba is transformed. He understands his true identity as the Lion King and sees the responsibility his identity carries. He is empowered for the mission that lies before him and is able to combat the evil forces of the world that have taken over. In the end, Simba is victorious and brings light and healing back to his kingdom.

**CHRIST IS BAPTIZED!**

**IN THE RIVER OF JORDAN!**