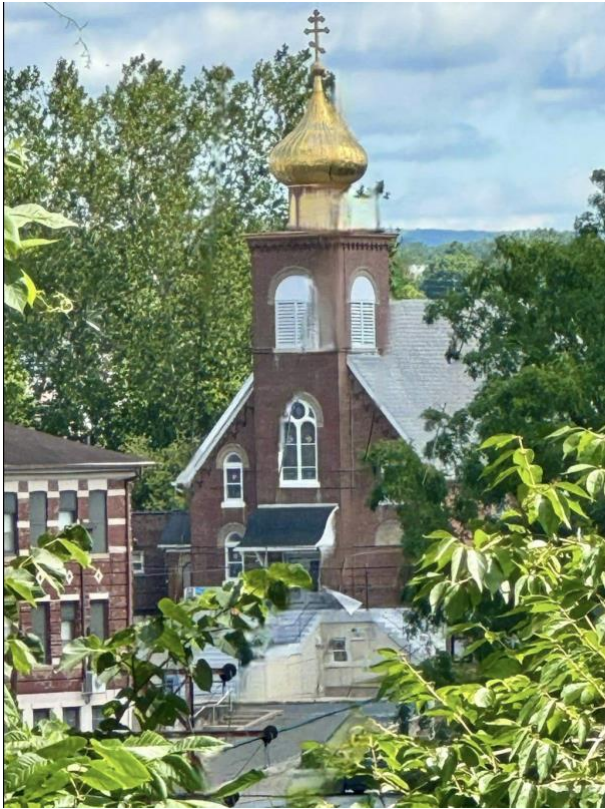


ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE AND NEW ROME



1301 Newport Avenue, Northampton, Pennsylvania 18067

Rev. Fr. Oleg Kravchenko, Rector

Protodeacon Mikhail Sawarynski, Attached

Websites: [holyassumption.org](http://holyassumption.org) and [ukrainianorthodoxchurchusa.org](http://ukrainianorthodoxchurchusa.org)

Facebook: Assumption of the Virgin Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church

YouTube: AVM UOC

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Confessions: Vespers on the first Saturday of the month, Sundays before Liturgies, 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 for those who would like to send cards or good wishes

Please, don't throw away the bulletin. Recycle it or bring it back to the church. Thank you.

You are welcome to contribute articles or pictures to the bulletin. Let's make bulletins together! - Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/avmuocoftheusa>

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**Христос Хрещається! У Річці Йордані!  
Молімося за мир в Україні**

**Christ Is Baptized! In the River of Jordan!  
Let us pray for peace in Ukraine**

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**Sun. 19 Jan. 30th SUNDAY after PENTECOST. Tone 5. MACARIUS the Great of Egypt (390) Virgin-Martyr EUPHRASIA of Nicomedia (303) Ven. MACARIUS of Alexandria (394) ARSENIUS, Archbishop of Kerkyra (953) Ven. MACARIUS of the Kyiv Caves. Deacon MACARIUS of the Kyiv Caves (14th C.)  
Epistle: Colossians 3:12-16 Gospel: Luke 18: 35-43**

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

**During the coffee hour: “Journey to Fullness” – 20-minute episodes about Orthodox Faith.**

**12:00 PM CANCELED due to weather! Dinner at Prime for the Sisterhood and Varenyky maker).**

**03:00 PM Water Blessing ( Jordan Creek 1001 N 6<sup>th</sup> Ext. 1 Whitehall) POSTPONED until next Sunday!**

### **IMPORTANT!**

**Our Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 26, 2025, following Divine Liturgy. In addition to reviewing the state of our Parish during the past year, the agenda will include discussion and possible amendments to our Constitution regarding membership eligibility. Please plan on attending this important meeting.**

**In Christ, Martha Misko Parish Council President**

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**THE BULLETIN IS SPONSORED BY MELANIE UNGER  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF HER GODMOTHER, PAULINE ANTONIUK SEREMULA  
ON THE 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF HER REPOSE IN THE LORD.**

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### **MENEION & SCRIPTURES**

**Mon. 20 Jan.** Ven. Euthymius the Great (473). Martyrs Inna, Pinna, and Rimma (1 c.).  
**Eph. 1:22-2:3 Mk. 10:46-52**

**Tue. 21 Jan.** Ven. Maximus the Confessor (662). Virgin-martyr Agnes (304).  
**Eph. 2:19-3:7 Mk. 11:11-23**

**06:30 PM MOLEBEN FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE (HOLY PROTECTION, ALLENTOWN).**

**Wed. 22 Jan.** Apostle Timothy of the Seventy (ca. 96). Monk-martyr Anastasius  
**Eph. 3:8-21 Mk. 11:23-26**

**Thu. 23 Jan.** Hieromartyr Clement (296). Ven. Mausimas the Syrian (4th c.).  
**Eph. 4:14-19 Mk. 11:27-33**

**Fri. 24 Jan.** Ven. Xenia of Rome and her two female slaves (5th c.).



- **Virtual Bible Study Day** - Wednesdays via Zoom: Pan-Orthodox at 12 PM. Meeting ID: 576 301 6482. Passcode: 238492. Tuesdays: with Fr. Demetrios at 7 PM. Ask Fr. Oleg for the link.

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**ANNIVERSARIES:**

**25 Jan... Jerald & Elizabeth Zurat, Dennis & Linda Schmall**

**BIRTHDAYS:**

**20 Jan...Jessica Meashock, Kate Duffy**

**21 Jan...Sandra Miller**

**МНОГАЯ ЛІТА! MANY YEARS!**

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**NECROLOGY:**

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

**19 Jan...Mary Ziatyk '74**

**20 Jan...Paulilne Bollent '15**

**21 Jan...John Bodnyk '80, Anna Plotsko '59, Nagib Azar '15, Leonid Frolov '13, Edgar Miller '81**

**22 Jan...Mary Kudrick (infant) '26, Joseph Hanzarick '83**

**23 Jan...Mary Nazar '76, Mary Bach '83**

**25 Jan...Dmytro Czuba '91, George Kulchycki '89**

**ВІЧНА ПАМ'ЯТЬ! MEMORY ETERNAL!**

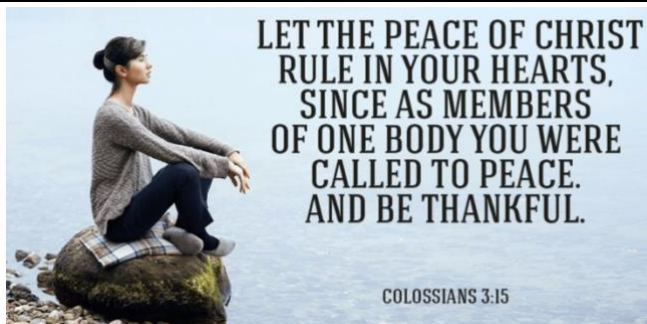
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**PRAYER FOR THE HEALTH & SALVATION OF THE AFFLICTED:** Ukrainian soldiers and civilians, wounded during the Russian aggression, Joseph Killino, Barbara Grason, Helen Crayosky, Rosemarie Pypiuk, Sandra Miller, Tom Petro Jr., priest Demetrius Nicoloudakis, priest Vasyl Dovgan, Martha Dowling, Michael Szymonifka Karen Kankula, Russel Kerick, Christina Truss, Jon Hewko, Matthew Vitushinsky, Nadine Savitz, William Savitz, Nicholas Alexander, William Leszczuk, Mary Berger, Jessica Meashock, Maria Joseph, Zachary Y. Siyufy, Raisa Melnychuk, Vasyl Beizyn, Lubov Shevchuk, Volodymyr Hranat, Ihor Broda, Debi Hutnick, Eric Hewko, Phil O'Brien, child Charlie, Juliana, Shirl Merolli, Kirk Swauger, Stephanie Donnelly, Danny Berro, child Alexandria, Elizabeth Pastushenko, 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, Ron Moser, Benjamin Tomeo, Olena Kalichenko.

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**Today's Apostle reading to Colossians 3:12-16 offers us profound practical benefits that guide both personal spiritual growth and harmonious communal living.**

1. Verse 12: "Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put-on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering." This verse encourages cultivating virtues essential for personal and communal relationships. The virtues of mercy, kindness, and humility are viewed as imitations of Christ's own character. Practicing these virtues:



**LET THE PEACE OF CHRIST  
RULE IN YOUR HEARTS,  
SINCE AS MEMBERS  
OF ONE BODY YOU WERE  
CALLED TO PEACE.  
AND BE THANKFUL.**

COLOSSIANS 3:15

Softens interpersonal conflicts; Promotes peace and understanding within families, parishes, and communities; Aligns one's inner life with the holiness expected of God's "elect."

2. Verse 13: "Bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do." This verse emphasizes forgiveness and patience. Healing relationships: Forgiveness fosters reconciliation and prevents bitterness. Spiritual growth: Reflecting Christ's forgiveness deepens one's union with Him. Community building: A forgiving heart reduces divisions within the Church body and strengthens unity.

3. Verse 14: "But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection." Love is considered the highest virtue, as it reflects God's nature. Practically, love: Transforms actions: Genuine love motivates selfless service. Unifies people: It serves as the "bond of perfection," bringing together individuals in harmony. Reflects Christ: By living in love, one bears witness to Christ's presence in the world.

4. Verse 15: "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful." Allowing God's peace to "rule" leads to an inner serenity that influences one's decisions and actions. This peace: Guards against anxiety: Trusting God brings calm even in challenges. Strengthens community: Peaceful hearts contribute to a stable, loving Church body. Encourages gratitude: A thankful spirit enhances one's relationship with God and others.

5. Verse 16: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." This verse highlights the importance of immersing oneself in Scripture, worship, and communal teaching. Practically, it: Fosters wisdom: Regular engagement with Scripture deepens understanding of God's will. Enriches worship: Singing psalms and hymns cultivates a joyful, God-centered life. Strengthens the community: Mutual encouragement in faith builds a supportive, spiritually healthy parish.

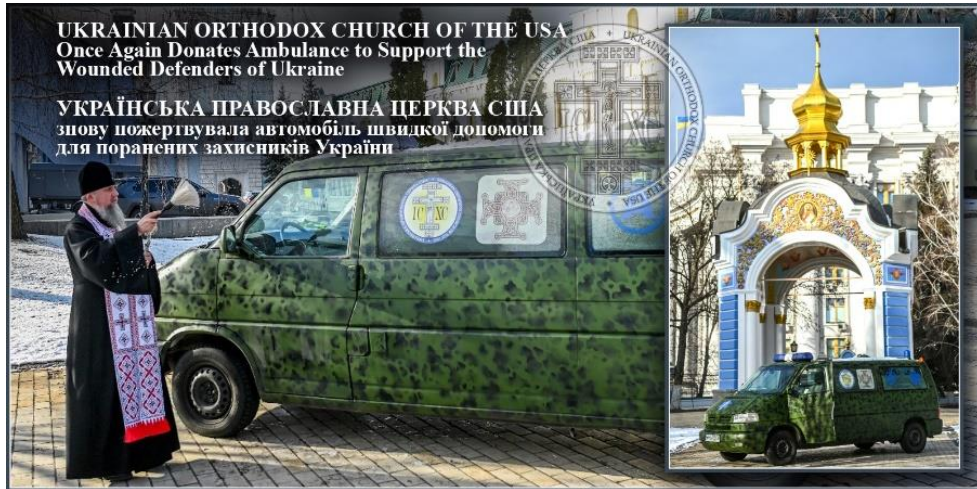
**Meditation:** Have you ever encountered a once in a life-time opportunity you knew you could not pass up? Such a moment came for a blind and destitute man, named Bartimaeus. He was determined to get near the one person who could meet his need. He knew who Jesus was and had heard of his fame for healing, but until now had no means of making contact with the Son of David, a clear reference and title for the Messiah. It took a lot of "guts" and persistence for Bartimaeus to get the attention of Jesus over the din of a noisy throng who crowded around Jesus as he made his way out of town. Why was the crowd annoyed with the blind man's persistent shouts? He was disturbing their peace and interrupting Jesus' discourse. It was common for a rabbi to teach as he walked with others. Jesus was on his way to celebrate the Passover in Jerusalem and a band of pilgrims followed him. When the crowd tried to silence the blind man he overpowered them with his emotional outburst and thus caught the attention of Jesus. This incident reveals something important about how God interacts with us. The blind man was determined to get Jesus' attention and he was persistent in the face of opposition. Jesus could have ignored or rebuffed him because he was disturbing his talk and his audience. Jesus showed that acting was more important than talking. This man was in desperate need and Jesus was ready, not only to empathize with his suffering, but to relieve it as well. A great speaker can command attention and respect, but a man or woman with a helping hand and a big heart is loved more. Jesus commends Bartimaeus for recognizing who he is with the eyes of faith and grants him physical sight as well. Do you recognize your need for God's healing grace and do you seek Jesus out, like Bartimaeus, with persistent faith and trust in his goodness and mercy?



"Lord, may I never fail to recognize my need for your grace. Help me to take advantage of the opportunities you give me to seek your presence daily and to listen attentively to your word."

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## ORTHODOX WORLD NEWS



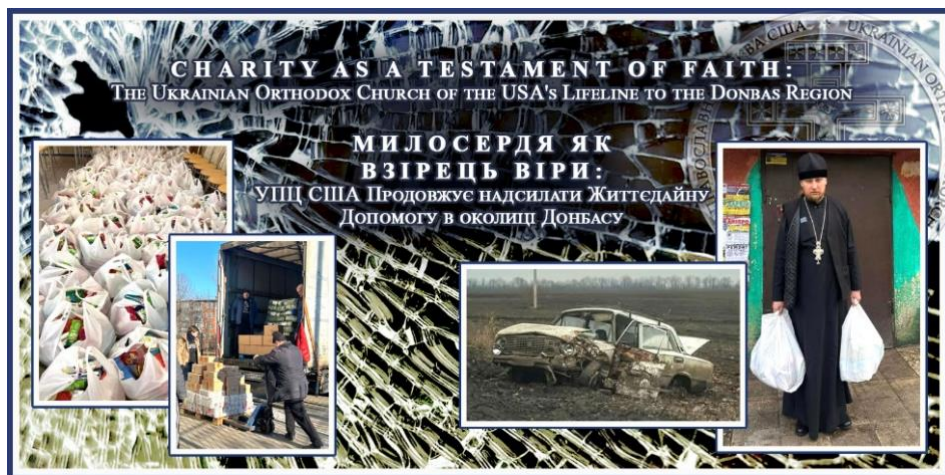
Nativity of Christ services were led by Patriarch Theophilos III of Jerusalem in Bethlehem of Palestine.

President Alexander Vucic of Serbia spent Christmas at the Hilandar Monastery on Mount Athos.

Archbishop Elpidophoros led Theophany services at the Cathedral in Tarpon Springs, Florida where thousands gathered at Spring Bayou for the 119th annual Blessing of the Waters and retrieval of the Holy Cross.

Metropolitan Epiphany consecrated the Dnipro River with the Great Blessing of Waters at Kyiv's Hydropark.

The Sunday after Nativity, Archbishop Daniel visited St. Anthony of the Desert parish in New Mexico, where Fr. Gabriel Rochelle, former deacon of our parish, is the rector.



**Євангеліє дня:** 35 Коли ж наближався Він до Єрихона, один сліпий сидів край дороги і просив милостині. 36 Почувши, що повз нього проходить народ, запитав: що це таке? 37 Йому сказали, що Ісус Назарянин проходить. 38 Тоді він закричав: Ісусе, Сину Давидів, помилуй мене! 39 І ті, що йшли попереду, примушували його замовкнути; а він ще голосніше кричав: Сину Давидів, помилуй мене! 40 Зупинившись, Ісус звелів привести його до Себе. Коли той наблизився до Нього, спитав його: 41 чого ти хочеш від Мене? Він сказав: Господи, щоб мені прозріти! 42 Ісус сказав йому: прозри! Віра твоя спасла тебе. 43 І він умить прозрів і пішов за Ним, славлячи Бога; і всі люди, побачивши це, віддали хвалу Богові.