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**

**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)

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**Sun. 19 Mar. (06 Mar.) THIRD SUNDAY of the GREAT FAST. ADORATION of the PRECIOUS CROSS. TONE 7. 42 MARTYRS of Ammoria in Phrygia (845). Monk-Martyrs CONON and his son CONON (275). Uncovering of the HOLY CROSS by ST. HELENA (326). ARCADIUS the Monk of Cyprus (361) and his disciples JULIAN and BULIUS.**

**Epistle: Hebrews 4: 14-5:6**

**Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1**0

**Coffee hour Christian education. Topic: Cross and flowers.**

**04:00 PM Pan-Orthodox Vespers at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox, Bethlehem.**

**The bulletin is sponsored by Martha and Michael Misko in memory of Xenia Sheska**

**Liturgical Meneion & Scripture Readings**

**Great Lent**

**Mon. 20 Mar.** The Holy Hieromartyrs of Cherson: Basil, Ephraim, Capito, Eugene (4th c.).

**Is. 14:24-32 Gen. 8:21–9:7 Prov. 11:19–12:6**

**Tue. 21 Mar.** St. Theophylactus, bishop of Nicomedia (845). Apostle Hermas of the Seventy.

**Is. 25:1-9 Gen. 9:8-17 Prov. 12:8-22**

**06:30 PM Moleben for Ukraine (St. Josaphat UCC, Bethlehem).**

**Wed. 22 Mar.** The Holy Forty Martyrs of Sebaste: Cyrion (or Quirio), Candidus, and others.

**Is. 26:21–27:9 Gen. 9:18–10:1 Prov. 12:23–13:9**

**Thu. 23 Mar.** Martyrs Codratus and with him: Cyprian, Dionysius, Anectus, Paul, and others.

**Is. 28:14-22 Gen. 10:32–11:9 Prov. 13:20–14:6**

**Fri. 24 Mar.** St. Sophronius, patriarch of Jerusalem (638). Hieromartyr Pionius of Smyrna.

**Is. 29:13-23 Gen. 12:1-7 Prov. 14:15-26**

**06:00 PM Liturgy Of The Presanctified Gifts. Common supper.**

**Sat. 25 Mar.** **Memorial Saturday.** Martyrs Conon, Onisius of Isauria (2nd c.).

**Heb. 10:32-38 Mk. 2:14-17**

**05:00 PM Great Vespers. Panahyda for Soul Saturday afterward.**

**Sun. 26 Mar. Venerable John Listvychnyk. 09:00 AM Divine Liturgy. UOL meeting**

**04:00 PM Pan-Orthodox Vespers at Antiochian Church, Souderton.**

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

**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 Holy Cross, Tone 1.** Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance. Grant victory to Orthodox Christians over their adversaries. By Your Cross preserve Your people.

**Glory… now and ever… Kondak of the Triodion, Tone 7.** The flaming sword no longer guards the gates of Paradise. It has been mysteriously extinguished by the Wood of the Cross. The sting of death and the victory of Hell have been vanquished. For You, O my Savior, came and cried to those in Hell: enter again into Paradise.

**Instead of the Thrice Holy Hymn:** Before Your Cross, we bow down, O Master, and Your Holy Resurrection, we glorify. (3X)

**Prokimen of the Holy Cross, Tone 6.** Save Your people, O Lord, and bless Your inheritance.

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

**Epistle: Hebrews 4: 14-5:6**

**Alleluia Verses, Tone 1.** Remember Your congregation which You have acquired from old.

God is our King of old. He has wrought salvation in the midst of the earth.

**Gospel: Mark 8: 34-9:1**

**In Place of “It is right in truth…”** All of creation rejoices in you, Lady, Full of Grace, the assembly of angels and the human race, Sanctified Temple and Spiritual Paradise, the glory of Virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a child; our God before the ages. He made your body into a throne, and your womb more spacious than the heavens. All of creation rejoices in you, Lady Full of Grace. Glory to you!

**Communion Hymns:** Praise the Lord from the heavens. Praise Him in the Highest. The light of Your Countenance, O Lord, has been signed upon us. Alleluia (3X)

**- The Easter flower order forms are available in the vestibule. Due date March 20, 2023.**

**- UOL is sponsoring an Easter nutroll sale. An order sheet is in the hall or call Martha Dowling 610-682-4458 to place your order. Cost is $17 each. Last date to order is March 17th and pickup will be Saturday, April 1st from 10-12AM**

**- Pierogi schedule: March 23; April 6, 20; May 4, 18. 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.) - Fridays from 4 to 5 PM.**

**- Pan-Orthodox Virtual Bible Study via Zoom every Wednesday 12 PM. Meeting ID: 576 301 6482. Passcode: 238492.**

**- Bible Study via Zoom every Wednesday Evening at 7 PM with a professor of Saint Sophia Seminary Fr. Demetrios. Ask Fr. Oleg for the link.**

**- Food Bank**: **baby foods, canned potatoes and meats, tuna, pasta, sauces, mac. & cheese.**

**- Welcome to contribute articles or pictures to the bulletin. Let's make bulletins together!**

**BIRTHDAYS:**

**21 Mar…Brian Ost**

**24 Mar…Barbara Baird**

**МНОГАЯ ЛІТА! MANY YEARS!**

**NECROLOGY:**

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

**Newly Departed: Mary Ann (Vasilawsky) Raynor, Joan Molnar**

**19 Mar…Michael Pontician ’52, Frederick Van Kirk ‘09**

**20 Mar…Dmytro Garnaho ‘19**

**22 Mar…Gregory Yaremko ’23**

**25 Mar…Helen Kokolus ‘96**

**ВІЧНА ПАМ’ЯТЬ! MEMORY ETERNAL!**

**PRAYER FOR THE HEALTH & SALVATION OF THE AFFLICTED:** Ukrainian soldiers and civilians wounded during the Russian aggression, Barbara Grason, Paul Kochenash, Rosemarie Pypiuk, Helen Crayosky, Nadine Savitz, Michael Hnatow, Nicholas Alexander, James Osmun, William Savitz, Vladimir Krasnopera, Tom Petro Jr., William Leszczuk, Jessica Meashock, priest Vasyl Dovgan, priest Yurij Siwko, Raisa Melnychuk, Olha Beizyn, Vasyl Beizyn, Mary Berger, 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.

**ORTHODOXY AROUND THE WORLD**

On an official visit to the Patriarchate of Alexandria, Metropolitan Epiphaniy of Kyiv was awarded the Grand Cross of the Apostle Mark by Patriarch Theodore II of All Africa during the Liturgy at the Church of the Annunciation in Alexandria on the Sunday of Orthodoxy.

Deacon Theodore left his venture capital career in 1992 and has been a monk for 30 years. He set up Holy Archangels Orthodox Family Center in the Ozarks of Missouri with financial help from his god-mother, Liz McNear, an astrophysicist, who died in 2018 and left her estate to a foundation which supports churches in Missouri.

On Feb. 26th twenty-five people were received into Orthodoxy at St. John Chrysostom Church in Rwanda by baptism and chrismation.

Archimandrite Alexander led the Forgiveness Vespers at the Cathedral of All Saints (Gornensky Convent) in Ein Karem, Jerusalem. Mother Catherine is the Abbess of the monastery where 60 nuns reside.

The First Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts was celebrated on March 1st by Metropolitan Epiphaniy, Archbishop Agapit and the Brotherhood of monks at the Cathedral of St. Michael the Golden Domed in Kyiv.

The first rehabilitation home for children with cancer & their families was consecrated in Tbilisi, Georgia. “Happy Home” is a charity in honor of Monk Andria, who died of cancer in 2011.

“To make a physical cross, you need two connected crossbars. To make a spiritual cross, you also need two spiritual crossbars. The first is sorrows undertaken willingly, that is, ascetic labors that crucify the flesh and keep it in such a state of crucifixion. The second is external sorrows that rein in and humble the spirit of man, which is constantly inclined towards pride because of its damage by the Fall. The connection of these sorrows creates that cross, which we are commanded to take up; and with which we are to follow Christ. Without this cross, emulation of Christ is impossible.” (by St. Ignatius Brianchaninov)

**Adam and Christ, Eve and Mary.** Have you seen the wonderful victory? Have you seen the splendid deeds of the Cross? Shall I tell you something still more marvellous? Learn in what way the victory was gained, and you will be even more astonished. For by the very means by which the devil had conquered, by these Christ conquered him; and taking up the weapons with which he had fought, he defeated him. Listen to how it was done. A virgin, a tree and a death were the symbols of our defeat. The virgin was Eve: she had not yet known man; the tree was the tree of the knowledge of good and evil; the death was Adam's penalty. But behold again a Virgin and a tree and a death, those symbols of defeat, become the symbols of his victory. For in place of Eve there is Mary; in place of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, the tree of the Cross; in place of the death of Adam, the death of Christ. Do you see him defeated by the very things through which he had conquered? At the foot of the tree the devil overcame Adam; at the foot of the tree Christ vanquished the devil. And that first tree sent men to Hades; this second one calls back even those who had already gone down there. Again, the former tree concealed man already despoiled and stripped; the second tree shows a naked victor on high for all to see. And that earlier death condemned those who were born after it; this second death gives life again to those who were born before it. Who can tell the Lord's mighty deeds? By death we were made immortal: these are the glorious deeds of the Cross. Have you understood the victory? Have you grasped how it was wrought? Learn now, how this victory was gained without any sweat or toil of ours. No weapons of ours were stained with blood; our feet did not stand in the front line of battle; we suffered no wounds; witnessed no tumults; and yet we obtained the victory. The battle was the Lord's, the crown is ours. Since then victory is ours, let us imitate the soldiers, and with joyful voices sing the songs of victory. Let us praise the Lord and say, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy victory? O death, where is thy sting? The Cross did all these wonderful things for us: the Cross is a war memorial erected against the demons, a sword against sin, the sword with which Christ slew the serpent. The Cross is the Father's will, the glory of the Only-begotten, the Spirit's exultation, the beauty of the angels, the guardian of the Church. Paul glories in the Cross; it is the rampart of the saints, it is the light of the whole world. (By St. John Chrysostom)

There is probably no monument in the United States which evokes stronger feelings of the meaning of freedom than the Statue of Liberty. Just last year "Miss Liberty" was celebrated in a gigantic centennial celebration attended by millions and viewed by millions more through television. "Miss Liberty" is a national symbol of the embodiment of a beckoning land - free from oppression. For the Christian, there is another symbol which stands as a visual reminder of the central truth of our faith in Jesus Christ. It is His cross! In every believer's heart, there is the tenderest response to the sight or mention of the cross. Its paradox can only be comprehended in light of the work accomplished upon that rugged frame. Christ was holy, undefiled, separate from sinners, and knew no sin; yet He was "made sin" for us. He humbled Himself and became obedient - even unto death on a cross. Today the cross stands as a symbol of eternal freedom and life available to every person who believes that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God Who died there for them.

**Take up the Cross.** If men wish to be disciples of Christ, they must "take up their cross and follow him." This means first of all that they must suffer with Him in truth and in love. This means that they must experience the rejection of this world for the sake of the righteousness of God. This means that they must put into practice the very life that Christ Himself lived, the Life that Christ Himself is, the life which is given to men in Christ's Spirit in the Church.

It is for this reason that the Cross of Christ is placed in the center of the church building in the middle of Great Lent. It tells us of God's coming to us and of our return to Him, both accomplished by the Way of the Cross which is foolishness to the wise of this earth and very scandalous to the powerful. Yet, for those who believe, it is the Wisdom and Power of God Himself.

**No escaping Cross.** At some time in our life we are going to experience adversity. I mean trouble, affliction, opposition, pressure, anguish, chastening, testing or tribulation. That adversity will come is a given fact. How we react will determine whether we will be motivated to spiritual growth or swallowed by discouragement.

Our first response to adversity is usually: Get me out of here! By removing either the circumstances or ourselves we might be tempted to believe that the situation has been resolved. God, however, may have other plans for our lives to be worked out through adversity. St. James exhorts us to “count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations.”

The situation may be the opportunity that God has to get our attention. When things are going well we often do not feel the need to turn to Him. When the going gets rough, there is no one else to whom to turn. God may be calling us to examine our lives — the things that we are doing and the motivations that we have for doing them. If there is sin in our lives, God requires that we root it out, confess it and forsake it. Our second response to adversity may be: I’m right, they’re wrong, let’s fight! To take this attitude is to fail to recognize that we should not be dealing with outward circumstances but in reality are dealing with unseen spiritual powers.

The third response to adversity is, and should be: Lord, consecrate me to your service. May You be glorified in my life!

**Short Quotes on the Cross.** The Wood of the Cross, God was made manifest to all; His hands are stretched out to gather all men together. (Irenaeus (about the year 175).

- By The Wood of the Cross, the bitterness of the Law is changed into the sweetness of Spiritual understanding, and the People of God can quench its thirst. (Origin (about the year 225).

- Who would have imagined that two pieces of wood placed one upon the other, could assume as many shapes as there are individual destinies! And yet such is the case. Your cross is made to your measure, and you must stretch yourself upon it whether you want to or not, whether with hatred and revolt or with submission and love. (Francois Mauriac (about the year 1946).

- Seal the cross openly on your forehead and on your children's, so that the demons, seeing the royal sign, will tremble and flee. (St. Cyril of Jerusalem)

Additions in Ukrainian

**Недільний Апостол і Євангеліє**

**Євреїв 4:14-5:6.** 14 Отже, маючи Первосвященика Великого, Який перейшов небеса, Iсуса Сина Божого, будемо твердо триматися сповiдання нашого. 15 Бо ми маємо не такого первосвященика, який не може страждати з нами в немочах наших, але Такого, Який, подiбно до нас, зазнав спокуси в усьому, крiм грiха. 16 Тому з дерзновенням приступаймо до престолу благодатi, щоб одержати милiсть i знайти благодать для своєчасної допомоги. Бо кожний первосвященик, який з людей обирається, для людей настановляється на служiння Боговi, щоб приносити дари й жертви за грiхи, 2 який може бути поблажливий до неукiв та заблудливих, тому що й сам обкладений немiччю, 3 i тому вiн повинен як за народ, так i за себе приносити жертви за грiхи. 4 I нiхто сам собою не приймає цiєї чести, але покликаний Богом, як i Аарон. 5 Так i Христос не Сам Собi присвоїв славу бути Первосвящеником, але Той, Хто сказав Йому: «Ти — Син Мiй, Я нинi породив Тебе»; 6 як i в iншому мiсцi говорить: «Ти — Священик повiк за чином Мелхиседековим».

**Марка 8:34—9:1.** 34 І, покликавши народ з учениками Своїми, сказав їм: хто хоче йти за Мною, нехай зречеться себе, і візьме хрест свій, і за Мною йде. 35 Бо хто хоче душу свою спасти, той погубить її; а хто погубить душу свою заради Мене і Євангелія, той спасе її. 36 Бо яка користь людині, коли вона придбає ввесь світ, а душу свою занапастить? 37 Або що дасть людина взамін за душу свою? 38 Бо якщо хтось посоромиться Мене і Моїх слів у роді цьому перелюбному і грішному, того посоромиться і Син Людський, коли прийде у славі Отця Свого з ангелами святими.

І сказав їм: істинно говорю вам, що деякі з тих, які стоять тут, не зазнають смерти, доки не побачать Царство Боже, що прийшло в силі.