**JUNE 3, 2018**

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 **ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY**

 **UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

 **ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE AND NEW ROME**

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 **3rd June (21St May), 2018**

**1st Sunday after Pentecost.   Tone 8  ALL SAINTS.  Holy Equals-to-the-Apostles Emperor Constantine (337) and Helen, his mother (327). St. Cassian the Greek, monk (1504).**

**DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**

*Heb. 11:33–12:2**Mattt. 10:32-33, 37-38–19:27-30*

**PROPERS OF THE DIVINE LITURGY**

*Tropar to the Resurrection Tone 8*

**You descended from on high, O Merciful One! You accepted the three day burial to free us from our sufferings! O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!**

*Tropar from the Pentecostarion, Tone 4*

**As with fine porphyry and royal purple, Your Church has been adorned with Your martyr’s blood shed throughout all the world. She cries to You, O Christ God: Send down Your bounties on Your people, grant peace to Your habitation and great mercy to our souls!**

**Glory; Now and ever …**

*Kondak from the Pentecostarion, Tone 8*

**The universe offers You the God-bearing Martyrs as the first fruits of creation, O Lord and Creator. By their prayers keep Your Church, Your habitation, in abiding peace through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One!**

*Prokeimenon, Tone 8*

**Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!**

*Versie:* **In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel!**

*Prokeimenon To the saints, Tone 4*

**God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel.**

*Alleluia Verses, Tone 4*

**The righteous called, and the Lord heard them.**

**Many are the afflictions of the righteous; but the Lord delivers them out of them all.**

*Communion Hymn:*

**Praise the Lord from the heavens praise him in the highest.**

**Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright! Alleluia (3X).**

**LITURGICAL SCHEDULE, SCRIPTURE READINGS, MENEION**

**2nd week after Pentecost**

**The beginning of the Apostolic Fast of Saint. Peter and Paul**

**Mon. 4 June… The beginning of the Apostolic Fast of Sts. Peter and Paul.**

*Fast Day* **Hieromartyr Basiliscus, bishop of Comana (308). Commemoration of**

*Fish* **the Second Ecumenical Council (381).**

 ***Rom. 2:28–3:18 Matthew 6:31-34–7:9-11***

**Tues. 5 June… Ven. Michael the Confessor, bishop of Synnada (821). Martyr Michael**

*Fast Day* **“the black-robed” of St. Sabbas’ Monastery (9th c.).**

*Wine & Oil* ***Romans 4:4-12 Matthew 7:15-21***

**Wed. 6 June… Ven. Symeon Stylites (the Younger) of the Wonderful Mountain (596).**

*Fast Day* **Martyrs Meletius Stratelates, Stephen, John, and 1,218 soldiers with**

**women and children suffered in Galatia (218).**

***Romans 4:13-25 Matthew 7:21-23***

**Thurs. 7 June… Third Finding of the Precious Head of St. John the Baptist**

*Fast Day* **(850). Hieromartyr Therapon, bishop of Cyprus (4th c.).**

*Wine & Oil* ***Rom 5.10-16 Мatthew 8.23-27***

**Fri. 8 June… Apostles Carpus of the Seventy and Alphaeus (1st c.). Martyrs**

*Fast Day* **Abercius and Helen (1st c.). Ven. John of Psichaita the Confessor (9th c.).  Martyr George (1515).**

***Romans 5:17-6:2 Matthew 9:14-17***

**Sat. 9 June… Hieromartyr Therapon, bishop of Sardis (259). Virgin-martyr**

*Fast Day* **Theodora and Martyr Didymus the Soldier of Alexandria (304).**

*Wine & Oil* ***Romans 3:19-26 Matthew 7:1-8***

 **10:00 AM Sacraments of Holy Baptism & Chrismation**

**Forrest Jack parents John & Michelle Pozzetta**

**Nicholas Joseph parents Nicholas & Keli Parchomenko**

 **5:00 PM VESPERS at our CHURCH**

**Sun. 10 June… 2nd Sunday after Pentecost.   Tone 1 All Saints of Ukraine,**

*Fast Day* **All Saints of the Holy Mount**

Fish **8:30 AM THIRD & SIXTH HOURS**

 **9:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**

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**NECROLOGY:**

 **4 June… Peter Kochenash ’90, V. Rev. John Kulchycky ‘96**

 **5 June… Stephen Kudrick ’30**

**6 June… Julia Oleksa ’37, Pauline Bluder ’81, Protopresbyter Stephen Kalutiak ’00, Protopresbyter Frank Estocin ‘10**

**7 June… Michael Yurechko ’97, Bishop Wolodymyr Haj ’77**

**8 June… Anna Bodnyk ’70, Russell Krasnopera ‘83**

**9 June… Prokip Sandowy ’30, Havryil Antoniuk ’67, Andrew Chepelak ’68,**

 **V. Rev. Ihor Miroshchenko ‘01**

 **10 June… Alexander Malanitch ‘90**

 **VICHNAYA PAMJAT! MEMORY ETERNAL!**

**BIRTHDAYS:**

 **4 June… Anthony Mauser**

 **5 June… Linda Tilson**

 **6 June… Anne Carlantone**

 **8 June… Nicholas Vitushinsky**

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

 **4 June… John & Michelle Pozzetta**

 **6 June… Nicholas & Danielle Vitushinsky**

 **MNOHAYA LITA! MANY YEARS!**

**WE PRAY FOR THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF:** Deacon Michael, Catherine Kochenash, Fr. Vasyl Dovgan, Michael Smallen, Vladimir & Emma Krasnopera, Tessie Kuchinos, Brendan Phillips, Jessie Hnatow, Jessica Meashock, Wasyl Hewko, Adam Hewko, Betty Hendrickson, Andrew Thaxton, Helen Sodl, Michelle Pierzga, Susan Ferretti, Matthew Vitushinsky, Micah Brickler, Lubov Slonova, Carole Zarayko, William Fischer, John Vitushinsky, Ekaterina Seremula, Vera Muzychka, Father Nicholas Dilendorf, Father John Harvey, Deacon Nicholas Zachary.

**ALL MEMORIAL DONATIONS for Father Bazyl are requested in support of the Orphanages in Ukraine. Donations will be collected by the parish and mailed to the consistory. Pani Anna will receive a list of all donors.**

**TODAY!!!! SUPER COFFEE HOUR at 10:30 in our Church Hall, hosted by ST. MARY’S SOCIETY of Bethlehem, will benefit the Northampton Food Bank. Funds collected will be matched by the national organization. Foods will include barbecue, macaroni salad, & desserts. Please bring a donation of a non-perishable food product. Invite your friends.**

**SR UOL MEETING TODAY after coffee hour. ELECTION OF OFFICERS and discussion of the upcoming UOL convention. New members are welcome.**

**NORTHAMPTON FOODBANK DONATIONS: there continues to be a need for food to assist our neighbors. Special request for our parish is baby foods.**

**SCHEDULE FOR RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION with Linda Winters: June 10th no class.**

**SUMMER COFFEE HOURS – signup sheet is in the church hall. Coffee will be prepared and set up. All you have to do is bake your specialties or buy some bake goods for refreshments. Please consider hosting a Sunday this summer. See Linda Winters if you have any questions.**

**REDNER’S SAVE A TAPE PROGRAM continues. Deposit receipts in church vestibule. Please use Redner’s** *Pump Rewards/Save a Tape Card.*

**All Saints Day:**

**”Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.”( Matthew 10:32)**

**Today we gather on this 1st Sunday after Pentecost to honor all of those who have lived righteous lives in following the teachings and commandments of our Lord. On this Sunday of All Saints we commemorate those who having received the grace of the Holy Spirit lived their lives in complete obedience to the command of our Lord to “confess Me before men.”**

**We have just come through the celebration of the Descent of the Holy Spirit at Holy Pentecost and now we now see the practical result of the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of those who have been called to faithfulness: namely the saints of our Holy Orthodox Church. These two commemorations follow logically from each other: in the one we saw the power come which makes possible the lives that we now commemorate in the second. And in noticing the close connection we are able to understand the meaning of both celebrations and gain a very important insight into what these two festal celebrations mean for our own lives.**

**Today we have before us the examples of all the holy men and women who having received the Holy Spirit , proceeded to live their lives in light of having the Spirit working actively in their lives. For the saints that we honor today were not born as saints but rather were made saints through allowing the grace and power of the Holy Spirit to guide and transform their lives so that their lives became models of piety and holiness. And this is a very important point for us to understand, for the saints were not super human beings- like some mythical super heroes- but rather they were and are like you and I in that they share in our human nature with all of its struggles, temptations and failings. But they understood that receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit called them to live a life of holiness and faithfulness in which the quality of their live gave clear testimony that the Holy Spirit was at work in their lives.**

**In the early centuries of our Orthodox Church this day was given over first as a commemoration of all the Holy Martyrs and then by the end of the First Millennium, this day has become what it is today that is a commemoration of all the righteous ones who have lived out in their lives the meaning of having received the Holy Spirit through Holy Baptism and Chrismation.**

**So what does all this mean for us today as we hear the same call of the Gospel as those whom we commemorate as the Righteous and Holy Saints of our Orthodox Church? In answering that question , we are called to ask ourselves another question: do we also fit the description which our Lord gives in the Gospel of those who “confess Me before men”, which after all is the first character trait of a saint? In answering those question we are led to understand that by confessing Christ before men is meant not just in giving verbal assent to Christ but in giving witness to our confession through our manner of life. For how can we say we confess Christ if our way of living is at odds with that very confession of believing in Christ as our Lord and Master. For the first hallmark of one who truly confesses Christ before all men- and a key characteristic of a saint- is the testimony given by one’s life. And this manner of life- what we might call holiness- is made possible because we also have received the gift of the Holy Spirit and allowed this grace to work actively in our lives so that we are lives are transformed as we live faithfully each day. Now granted this pathway of holiness, this way of living our lives and allowing the Grace of the Holy Spirit to work freely and fully in our lives is not easy. It means being willing to take up our cross and follow our Lord wherever He may call us to go; but we do so gladly if we truly are willing to confess our Lord because we understand that we have the power of the Spirit to give us the strength to give testimony to our Lord before all men even when the giving of that testimony leads us through difficult times and struggles in this earthly life. The Holy Saints we commemorate today followed the call of Lord to confess His Holy Name through a life of holiness even though they knew that this would lead them through sufferings and struggles: they understood that the end result of living out the commands of our Lord was a far greater blessing than the temporary pain, sufferings and struggle that might need to be endured in this life.**

**So the question for us this morning is this: are we willing to confess our Lord before our society and live a life of holiness that gives testimony to that confess? Or do we see to hide our confession of Christ in order that we may “fit in” and be seen as “normal” by our society? For we also have heard the same call to live lives of holy faithfulness as our holy and righteous fathers and mothers in the faith did: they responded positively to this call and lived lives of holiness because they understood that this is what it meant to confess Christ. Will we follow them in this dedication to confessing our Lord before all men despite the cost? If indeed we do then we also will receive- as the Holy Saints did- the promise of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ: “… him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.” Amen.**

***Father Paisius McGrath***