ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE AND NEW ROME

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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

**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. 25 June. (12 June) 3rd Sunday after PENTECOST. TONE 2. Synaxis of HALYCH & ODESSA Saints. Ven. ONUPHRIY the Great (400) Ven. PETER of Mt. Athos (734) Venn. JOHN, ANDREW, HERACLEMON, THEOPHILUS of Egypt. Epistle: Romans 5:1-10 Gospel: Matthew 6:22-33**

**Liturgical Meneion & Scripture Readings Readings (apostle’s fast)**

**Mon. 26 June** Venn. Anna (826), and her son St. John (9th c.).

**Rom. 9:18-33 Mt. 11:2-15**

**Tue. 27 June** Prophet Elisha (10th c. B.C.).

**Rom. 10:11–11:2 Mt. 11:16-20**

***06:30 PM MOLEBEN FOR UKRAINE (Holy Ghost, Easton)***

**Wed. 28 June** Blessed Augustine, bishop of Hippo (430).

**Rom. 11:2-12 Mt. 11:20-26**

**Thu. 29 June** St. Tychon, bishop of Amathus in Cyprus (425).

**Rom. 11:13-24 Mt. 11:27-30**

**Fri. 30 June** Martyrs Manuel, Sabel, and Ismael of Persia (362).

**Rom. 11:25-36 Mt. 12:1-8**

12:30 PM Sight & Sound Theater trip(gathering on the church parking lot)**.**

**Sat. 01 July** Martyrs Leontius, Hypatius and Theodulus, at Tripoli in Syria (73).

**Rom. 7:11-17 Mt. 8:14-23**

***06:00 PM Great Vespers. Examination of Conscience. Confessions***

**Sun. 02 July *09:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY. Sacrament of the First Confession***

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

**Tropar, Tone 2:** When You descended to death, Life Immortal, You slayed Hell with the splendor of Your Divinity. And when from the depths You raised the dead, all the powers of Heaven cried out: “Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory to You.”

**Tropar of the Dormition of the Mother of God, 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 to the Venerable Saints, Tone 1:** In the flesh you lived the life of angels, you were citizens of the desert and treasuries of grace, O Onuphriy, adornment of Egypt and Peter the light of Athos. Therefore, we honor your struggles as we sing to you: “Glory to Him Who has strengthened you. Glory to Him Who granted you a crown. Glory to Him who through you grants healing to all.”

**Kondak Resurrection, T. 2:** Hell became fearful, Almighty Savior, seeing he miracle of Your Resurrection from the tomb. The dead arose and all creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with You, and the world my Savior, praises You forever.

**Glory... Kondak of the Venerable Saints, Tone 8:** By your achievements in the wilderness you became like Bodiless Powers, godly Onuphriy and righteous Peter, adornment of Athos. The heavenly-minded pair who sing in one voice: “Alleluia.”

**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 of the Resurrection, Tone 2:** The Lord is my strength and my song. He has become my salvation.

**Verse:** The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.

**Prokimen Saints, Tone 7:** Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.

**Epistle: St. Paul to the Romans 5:1-10**

**Alleluia Verses, Tone 2.** May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble. May the Name of the God of Jacob protect you.

Lord, save the king and hear us on the day we call out to You.

Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, in His commandments, he shall greatly delight.

**Gospel: Matthew 6:22-33**

**Communion Hymn:** Praise Lord from the heavens. Praise Him in the highest. Rejoice in the Lord you Righteous. Praise befits the upright. **Alleluia (3X)**

- Sight & Sound Theater trip (Lancaster): Moses Performance is June 30th at 3 pm. 79.80 per adult, kids 12 and under for FREE. Those who ordered please give Mary Ost money for tickets.

**- Parish picnic Wayne Grube Park for Saturday Sept. 30, 2023.**

**- Summer Church camp for youth in Emlenton, PA. The expenses are covered by our parish. Transportation will be provided. Paying positions for volunteers.**

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

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

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

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

**25 June…Stephen & Melanie Unger**

**BIRTHDAYS:**

**26 June…Subdeacon Matthew Winters**

**29 June…Matthew Grason**

**01 July…Joel Hnatow**

**МНОГАЯ ЛІТА! MANY YEARS!**

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

**25 June…Katherine Kotoris ’70, Joseph Antolick ‘02**

**29 June…Peter Plaska ’57**

**30 June…John Stupcryski ’81**

**ВІЧНА ПАМ’ЯТЬ! MEMORY ETERNAL!**

**PRAYER FOR THE HEALTH & SALVATION OF THE** Ukrainian soldiers and civilians wounded during the Russian aggression, Barbara Grason, Paul Kochenash, Rosemarie Pypiuk, Helen Crayosky, Matthew Vitushinsky, Nadine Savitz, Nicholas Alexander, James Osmun, William Savitz, Vladimir Krasnopera, Tom Petro Jr., Elena Iaroshenko, Volodymyr Hranat(wounded soldier), Ihor Broda, William Leszczuk, Jessica Meashock, Ruslana Reznik, Kateryna Seremula, Lubov Slonova, priest Vasyl Dovgan, priest Gerald Ozlanski, Raisa Melnychuk, Olha Beizyn, Vasyl Beizyn, Mary Berger, Debi Hutnick, Eric Hewko, Pamela Williams, 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.

**Today's Gospel illustrates** the loving concern God has for His creation. As you listen to it, you can close your eyes and almost feel Christ take your hand and tell you there is nothing to worry about. Nothing happens without His knowledge. Jesus was probably sitting in a field with His apostles, trying to get them to understand that if

God is first in your life, there is nothing else to worry about. He looked around, pointed out the tall grass, the wild flowers, the birds in the air, and asked: "Are not you of much more value than they?" Jesus tells us that there is much more to life than food, clothing, and material things. Of course, be concerned with life! But don't worry yourself sick about how you are going to pay the bills this week and still have enough money left for grocery shopping. Don't worry about where the money is going to come for school clothes in September. "Your Heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the Kingdom of God and His justice.” He explained: "....and all these things will be given you besides."

This calls for confidence and trust in God. This does not mean that we can be idle, and do nothing, and expect God to provide us with everything we need and want. God doesn't directly feed birds nor nurture wild flowers. He does provide for them indirectly. He does not give it to them directly and immediately.

We are by nature different from the birds and flowers. We have talents, energies, and capabilities which they lack. It is natural for us to work and live by our work. But we must remember God's ways are not our ways. He brings good out of everything for our sake. The mistake we make is to think that what we need, when we need it and what is best for us. God also uses people as His instruments to help one another. We are His hands, His feet, His mouth, and His presence of love among people. We should strive to be good helpers.

Have faith, confidence, and trust in God. "Seek first the Kingdom of God....and all these other things shall be given you besides.”

**“It’s a Wonderful Life” movie (1946)** has a deep meaning of Divine Providence.Now, the word “Providence” actually is never spoken in the movie. Maybe even George Bailey never thought of his “making a sacrifice” for others. Perhaps he never even thought he was doing something “good.” Sure, one of the people praying for him at the beginning of the film asks God to “give him a break” because “George is a good guy.” And even though another asks God for help because “he never thinks about himself,” George probably never did … or if he did, he pushed the thought aside as not what you’re “supposed to do.” Perhaps George simply thought his choices were “the way you should do things” or “how you ought to live”. Maybe he never even consciously articulated them as acts of love. But they were.

St. Paul assures us, in Romans 8:28 that “for those who love God … everything works out for the good.” God’s Providence always tends to our good, whether we admit it or not, whether we see it or not. But one thing is certain: God is just. God wants our good. God is not a spiteful deity who wants to wreak revenge. God is not blind karma. If he chastises, it’s to bring us back to him. But even he cannot override our freedom.

We often don’t see God’s Providence. We often accuse God of “abandoning us” or “not being there when we needed him.”

But God is hesed (Hebrew word - *Hesed* describes a sense of love and loyalty that inspires merciful and compassionate behavior toward another person), faithfulness. God never backtracks on his word, even if we do on ours (2 Timothy 2:13). God did not abandon George Bailey, even if George never even really thought about that until that fateful Christmas Eve as he contemplates killing himself. The appearance of Clarence, his guardian angel, is an obvious and explicit sign of God’s Providence, even if the appearance of Providence doesn’t quite measure up to our expectations (“Well, you look kind of like an angel I’d get. Sort of a fallen angel …”).

But the real expression of Divine Providence comes from George’s opportunity to see what his so-called meaningless life did. Yes, he sacrificed. Yes, he denied himself. Yes, by human standards, even by the standards of Bedford Falls, George might have materially done better.

And yes, because of his sacrifice, a better world was born. Yes, Bedford Falls was a human community. Yes, other people got a foot up on the social ladder because George wasn’t into “kiss up and kick down.” One of the most meaningful expression of Providence was when George faces his brother’s tombstone. George still resists Providence by citing his brother’s good deed. “He saved the lives of every man on that transport.” Clarence, in reply, makes Providence explicit: “Every man on that transport died. Harry wasn’t there to save them because you weren’t there to save Harry. You see, George, you really had a wonderful life.”

Of course, Providence is not a matter of logic but of love, and it is not until the final scene with spinster Mary — perhaps a Hollywood happy ending but not without theological significance — that the redemptive power of love is fully manifest for George.

God’s Providence does not always look so crisp and clean because we insist on giving him crooked lines to write with. God’s Providence does not cancel human freedom, and the good that God works out happens in spite of our freedom. But then the real question becomes not how do we blame God for his alleged “failings,” but how do we plead for mercy for our real ones?

If only we let go of what keeps us from him, rely on his Mercy, and say with the confidence of Providence: “Jesus, I trust in You.” (by ncregister.com)

**ORTHODOXY AROUND THE WORLD**

On an official visit to Ternopil, Metropolitan Epiphaniy consecrated the new Church of the Ascension, visited children at the Rehabilitation Center for Cerebral Palsy and celebrated Divine Liturgy in the Cathedral of Ss. Constantine and Helena now under construction.

The Macedonian & Serbian Dioceses formally united as part of the autocephaly agreement with 4 hierarchs joining the Macedonian Orthodox Church at a service in St. Sophia’s Church in Ohrid.

Metropolitan Epiphaniy visited the Cherkasy Diocese to observe the 100th anniversary of the consecration of the 20th century saint and surgeon, Bishop Luke (Voyno-Yasenetsky). The Primate presented awards to military doctors and chaplains.

The new church was consecrated in Odessa region of the Icon of the Enlightener of Minds for a parish that cares for deaf & hearing impaired. The Priest Sviatoslav serves using sign language.

The Polotsk Women’s Monastery celebrated the 850th anniversary of the respose of St. Euphrosyne, Abbess & Princess of Polotsk, Belarus.

The Romanian Orthodox Church has 4 archdioceses & 9 dioceses out-side Romania consisting of 1,483 parishes, 71 monasteries and served by 1,379 clergy.

Additions in Ukrainian

**Недільне Євангеліє.** Матфея 6:22-33 . 22 Світильником тіла є око. Отже, якщо око твоє буде чистим, то і все тіло твоє буде світлим; 23 коли ж око твоє буде нечистим, то і все тіло твоє темним буде. Отже, якщо світло, що в тобі, є темрявою, то яка ж тоді темрява? 24 Ніхто не може двом господарям служити: бо або одного полюбить, а другого буде ненавидіти; або одного триматиметься, а другим знехтує. Не можете служити Богові й мамоні\*. 25 Задля цього кажу вам: не піклуйтеся для душі вашої, що вам їсти чи пити, ні для тіла вашого, у що вдягнутися. Чи душа не більша за їжу, а тіло — за одяг? 26 Погляньте на птахів небесних: вони не сіють, не жнуть, не збирають у житниці; і Отець ваш Небесний годує їх. Хіба ж ви не набагато кращі за них? 27 Та й хто з вас, турбуючись, може додати собі зросту хоч на один лікоть? 28 І про одяг чого піклуєтесь? Подивіться на лілеї польові, як вони ростуть: не трудяться і не прядуть; 29 кажу ж вам: що й Соломон у всій славі своїй не одягався так, як кожна з них; 30 якщо ж траву польову, що сьогодні є, а завтра буде вкинута в піч, Бог так зодягає, то хіба не набагато краще зодягне вас, маловіри! 31 Тож не турбуйтеся і не кажіть: що нам їсти? чи що пити? або: у що одягтися? 32 Бо всього цього язичники шукають; знає бо Отець ваш Небесний, що ви маєте потребу в усьому цьому. 33 Шукайте ж спершу Царства Божого і правди Його, і все це додасться вам. 34 Отже, не піклуйтеся про завтрашній день, бо завтра саме за себе піклуватиметься. Досить кожному дневі своїх турбот.