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**

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**Sun. 23 July. (10 July) 7th Sunday after PENTECOST. TONE 6. 48 Martyrs OF Nicopolis, Armenia (319) Martyr APOLLONIUS of Sardis (3rd C.) Martyrs BIANOR & SILVANUS of Pisidia (4th C.) Ven. ANTHONY of the Kyiv Caves (1073) Ven. SILOUAN of the Far Caves in Kyiv (14th C.)**

**Epistles: Romans 15:1-7 & Galatians 5: 22-6:2**

**Gospels: Matthew 9:27-35 & Matthew 4: 25-5:12**

**Liturgical Meneion & Scripture Readings**

**Mon. 24 July** Blessed Equal-to-the-Apostles Olha, princess of Kyiv, in baptism Helen(969).

**1 Cor. 9:13-18 Mt. 16:1-6**

**Tue. 25 July** Ven. Michael of Maleinus(962. Martyrs Theodore and son John of Kyiv(983.

**1 Cor. 10:5-12 Mt. 16:6-12**

***06:30 PM MOLEBEN FOR UKRAINE (St. Josaphat, Bethlehem)***

**Wed. 26 July** Synaxis of the Holy Archangel Gabriel. St. Stephen of St. Sabbas’ Monastery

**1 Cor. 10:12-22 Mt. 16:20-24**

**Thu. 27 July** Apostle Aquila of the Seventy, and St. Priscilla (1st c.). Martyr Justus (1st c.).

**1 Cor. 10:28–11:7 Mt. 16:24-28**

**Fri. 28 July** Holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Great Prince Volodymyr, enlightener of the Kyiv Rus (1015).

**Gal. 1:11-19 Jn. 10:1-9**

**Sat. 29 July** Martyrs Paul and two sisters, Chionia and Alevtina, (308).

**Rom. 13:1-10 Mt. 12:37**

***06:00 PM Great Vespers.***

**Sun. 30 July *09:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY.***

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

**Tropar of the Resurrection, Tone 6:** The angelic powers were at Your tomb. The guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Your grave seeking Your Most Pure Body. You captured Hell, not being tempted by it. You came to the Virgin granting Life. Lord, risen from the dead, glory to You.

**Tropar of the Dormition, 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 Ven. Anthony, Tone 4:** In leaving the world you followed Christ according to the Gospel having departed from worldly turmoil. You realized the quiet refuge on the Holy Mountain of Athos living there a life equal to the angels. Therefore, with the blessing of the Fathers, you came to the hills of Kyiv. There, having fulfilled your life in love of ascetic struggles, you illumined your homeland. Having shown a multitude of monastics the pathway leading to the Heavenly Kingdom, you led them to Christ. Venerable Anthony, pray that He will save our souls.

**Kondak of the Resurrection, Tone 6:** When Christ God, the Giver of Life, with His Life-Giving Hand, raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery, He bestowed Resurrection on the human race. He is the Savior, the Resurrection, the Life and the God of all.

**Glory… Kondak to Ven. Anthony, Tone 8:** Venerable One, you gave yourself to God from your youth for you loved Him above all. With devotion you followed Him with your whole soul. Scorning the passing corruption of the world, you made a cave in the earth and in it you struggled nobly against the snares of the invisible enemy, illumining all the earth like a bright, radiant sun. Therefore, rejoicing, you passed over to the heavenly dwelling place. Standing now before the Throne of the Master together with the angels, remember us who are honoring your holy memory that we may cry out to you: Rejoice, Father Anthony.

**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 Resurrection, Tone 6:** Save Your people, O Lord, and bless Your inheritance.

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

**Prokimen Ven. Anthony, T. 7:** Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His Saints.

**Epistles: St. Paul to the Romans 15:1-7 & Galatians 5:22-6:2**

**Alleluia Verses, Tone 6.** He who dwells in the aid of the Most High will abide in the shelter of the God of Heaven.

He will say to Lord: You are my helper and my refuge; He is my God and I will hope in Him.

Blessed is the one who fears the Lord. He will delight greatly in His Commandments.

**Gospels: Matthew 9:27-35 & Matthew 4:25-5:12**

**Communion Hymn:** Praise Lord from the heavens. Praise Him in the Highest. The Righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. They shall not be afraid of any evil report. Alleluia (3X)

**- Travel season: ask priest Oleg for a prayer before traveling.**

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

**- 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:**

**30 July…Michael & Martha Misko**

**BIRTHDAYS:**

**24 July…Anne Dworakivsky**

**26 July…Caroline Hallman, Sean Nemeh**

**30 July…Rosemarie Pypiuk**

**МНОГАЯ ЛІТА! MANY YEARS!**

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

**23 July…Stephen Hewko ’84, Katherine Bodnyk ’95**

**24 July…Paul Nazar ‘88**

**25 July…John Arndt ‘88 27 July…Andrew Krayowsky ’64, Vasyl Hewko ‘19**

**28 July…Volodymyr Zherebecky ’27, Stephen Yaremchuk ’96**

**29 July…John Zadubera ’48, Voldymyr Karpenko ’01**

**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, Matthew Vitushinsky, Nadine Savitz, William Savitz, Nicholas Alexander, James Osmun, 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.

**Next week we commemorate:**

**On Friday – Saint Volodymyr the Great.** The liturgical texts refer to him as “Equal to the Apostles”. At his baptism he received the name Wasyl, taken from the Greek “Basileos” meaning king. Volodymyr was born into a Christian world but for many years, he still lived as a pagan. Although his grandmother, the Blessed Saint Princess Olha influenced his life, it was many years before he found the faith that would unite his country. After sending his emissaries to many countries and inquiring of many faiths, it was the emissaries from Constantinople who impressed the king. Returning from Hagia Sophia Cathedral, and as Saint Nestor the Chronicler tells us, they were the ones who felt that they were in heaven. It was this expression of the Christian faith that Volodymyr chose for his people.

At Great Vespers we pray: By your words and deeds you became like Constantine the Great O glorious Volodymyr You wanted a Christian age to be born from those prolonged years led in paganism You came from paganism and at once you knew and loved Christ as He loved and chose you. You come before the Lord, Do not stop interceding for us, so that we might know and love Christ and save our souls.

Like an eternal joy the light of the Lord shown on Moses with the Law and sanctified Mount Sinai like the joy and gladness on the great city of Kyiv that through you, glorious Volodymyr your nation knew the Father with the Son and the Holy Spirit Pray to Him that He may enlighten and save our souls.

**On Monday – Olha of Kyiv: One saint you do not want to mess with.** Born sometime around 903 CE in Pskov, history gives Olha scarcely a glance for much of her life – including her marriage to Igor, Prince of Kyiv and the birth of her son.

**With her husband’s death though, Olha becomes more than a wife and mother, and without sacrificing either of those duties, takes center stage.**

Like all rising empires, Kyivan Rus’ had grown at the expense of its neighbors and one tribe had grown wary of their smothering embrace.

The relationship between the Drevlians and Kyivan Rus’ was complex – they had joined the Rus’ in military campaigns against the Byzantine Empire and paid tribute to Igor’s predecessors, but stopped in 912 when the previous prince died and instead paid this glorified protection money to a local warlord.

Igor’s attempted to restore his privileges in 945 with a trip to their capital of Iskorosten (now Korosten in Northern Ukraine). This visit – as if the previous 33 years simply hadn’t happened! – was a slap in the face and the Drevlians fought back, seizing the prince and murdering him in a gristly display. “They had bent down two birch trees to the prince’s feet and tied them to his legs,” wrote Byzantine chronicler Leo the Deacon, “then they let the trees straighten again, thus tearing the prince’s body apart.”

With their son, the three-year-old Svyatoslav, too young to take the throne of Kyiv, Olha stepped up to rule as regent in his stead. The Drevlians would soon know her well, but for now they thought they were dealing with just another demure noblewoman who could be easily cowed and arranged to marry her to their own Prince Mal. Not only would they be free from paying tribute to the Kyivan Rus’ – they would rule the Kyivan Rus’. The Drevlians sent 20 of their best men to try and persuade Olha to marry the living symbol of her husband’s murder. Telling them to wait in their boat, she had a ditch dug and the next morning had had the emissaries buried alive.

Rather than just leave it at this, a pretty definitive refusal if ever there was one, she sent word back to Prince Mal that should accept his proposal, but only if the Drevlians sent a part of their great and good to accompany her back to their territory after all it was important that the proud Kyivan Rus’ see just how important this matchmaking was.

Her would-be suitor obliged, sending a party of their chieftains to collect her. Extending a suitably grand welcome, she invited the visitors to wash up in her bathhouse and then locking the doors, burned the entire company alive.

Amazingly this wasn’t the end of the matter. With the whole of the Drevian ruling class cruelly exterminated, Olha hatched a plan to do away with the rest of them together and announced that she would be soon arriving at the Drevian capital of Iskorosten and asked for them to arrange a funeral feast where they could mourn over her husband’s death in that the very city.

Despite not having heard from either of the missions they’d dispatched to Olha’s court, the Drevlians set about preparing the feast and after drinking themselves insensible on mead, Olha’s soldiers put 5,000 of them to the sword. The surviving Drevlians begged for mercy and offered to pay in honey and furs to escape her anger.

She seemed to soften, although at this point you’d think they’d know better…

“Give me three pigeons,” she said, according to the Primary Chronicle, “and three sparrows from each house. I do not desire to impose a heavy tribute, like my husband, but I require only this small gift from you, for you are impoverished by the siege.”

The Chronicle records in great detail the feat of precision-guided pyromania that followed:

“Now Olha gave to each soldier in her army a pigeon or a sparrow, and ordered them to attach by thread to each pigeon and sparrow a piece of sulfur bound with small pieces of cloth. When night fell, Olha bade her soldiers release the pigeons and the sparrows. So the birds flew to their nests, the pigeons to the cotes, and the sparrows under the eaves. The dove cotes, the coops, the porches, and the haymows were set on fire.

“There was not a house that was not consumed, and it was impossible to extinguish the flames, because all the houses caught on fire at once. The people fled from the city, and Olha ordered her soldiers to catch them. Thus she took the city and burned it, and captured the elders of the city. Some of the other captives she killed, while some she gave to others as slaves to her followers. The remnant she left to pay tribute.” The Drevlians paid after all, in lives and homes, as well as in tribute to Kyivan Rus’.

Why, despite this horrific carnage, is Olha of Kyiv still venerated as a saint over a thousand years after her death? She was the first ruler of the Kyivan Rus’ to adopt Christianity and Olha’s efforts to covert the rest of her people (although not her son, who remained a pagan) earned her the title Isapóstolos: “Equal to the Apostles.” “She shone like the moon by night,” frothed the Primary Chronicle, “and she was radiant among the infidels like a pearl in the mire, since the people were soiled, and not yet purified of their sin by holy baptism.” (historyanswers.co.uk)

**ORTHODOXY AROUND THE WORLD**

On the Feast of Nativity of John the Baptist the Icon of the Annunciation was transferred from the Gorensky Convent to Holy Trinity Cathedral in Jerusalem commemorating the Meeting of Righteous Elizabeth with the Virgin Mary.

Archbishop Anastasios of Albania consecrated the new Convent Skete of the Holy Myrrh Bearers near the Monastery of St. Blaise in Durres.

Archbishop Viktor of Khmelnytsky tonsured two nuns and one novice at the Convent of the Mother of God in Zavaliyka.

Metropolitan Ephiphaniy commemorated the Maniava Icon of the Mother of God at the Monastery of the Cross in Transcarpathia.

The new parish of St. John (Maximovich) of Shanghai held the consecration of its church, the former Franciscan monastery in Logrono, Spain on July 2nd by Bishop Peter of Kaffa.

The Feast of Ss. Peter & Paul was celebrated by Metropolitan Job of Pisidia with the Vigil & Liturgy for Ukrainian immigrants in the newly built Church of Apostle Paul in Manavgat, Turkey.

The Feast of All Saints of the Belarus Lands was celebrated by Metropolitan Benjamin at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit in Minsk.

Additions in Ukrainian

**Недільне Євангеліє. Матфея 9:27-35.** 27 Коли йшов Ісус звідтіля, за Ним слідом ішли двоє сліпих і кричали: помилуй нас, Ісусе, Сину Давидів! 28 Коли ж Він увійшов у дім, сліпі приступили до Нього. І говорить їм Ісус: чи віруєте, що Я можу це зробити? Вони говорять Йому: так, Господи! 29 Тоді він доторкнувся до очей їхніх і сказав: за вірою вашою нехай буде вам. 30 І відкрилися очі їхні; і сказав їм Ісус суворо: пильнуйте ж, щоб ніхто не довідався. 31 Вони ж, вийшовши, прославляли Його по всій землі тій. 32 Коли ж ті виходили, то привели до Нього чоловіка німого, біснуватого. 33 І коли біса було вигнано, німий почав говорити. І народ, дивуючись, казав: ніколи не було такого в Ізраїлі. 34 Фарисеї ж говорили: силою князя бісівського виганяє Він бісів. 35 І ходив Ісус по всіх містах і селах, навчаючи в їхніх синагогах, проповідуючи Євангеліє Царства і зціляючи всякі недуги і всяку неміч у людях.