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. 17 Sep. (04 Sep.) 15th Sunday after PENTECOST. TONE 6. Hieromartyr BABYLAS, Bishop of Antioch. Martyrs URBAN, PRILIDIAN, EPOLONIUS & their mother CHRISTODULA (251). Holy Prophet MOSES (1531 B.C.) Martyr HERMIONE, daughter of Apostle Philip (117). Martyr BABYLAS of Nicomedia & 84 children. Martyrs THEODORE, MIANUS, JULIAN, KION, & CENTURIONUS of Nicomedia (311).**

**Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4: 6-15 Gospel: Matthew 22: 35-46**

**The Bulletin is sponsored by Stephen and Melanie Unger**

**in memory of Melanie’s cousin, AND the Reader Evhen Seremula**

**on the fourth anniversary of his falling asleep in the Lord.**

**Liturgical Meneion & Scripture Readings**

**Mon. 18 Sep.** Prophet Zacharias and Righteous Elizabeth, parents of St. John Forerunner.

**Gal. 4:28–5:10 Mk. 6:54–7:8**

**Tue. 19 Sep.** Commemoration of the Miracle of the Archangel Michael at Colossae (4 c.). **Gal. 5:11-21 Mk. 7:5-16**

**06:30 PM MOLEBEN FOR UKRAINE (Holy Protection, Allentown)**

**Wed. 20 Sep.** Martyrdom of St. Macarius, archimandrite of Ovruch, Pereiaslav (1678).

**Gal. 6:2-10 Mk. 7:14-24**

**Thu. 21 Sep. THE NATIVITY OF OUR MOST HOLY LADY THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY.**

**Phil. 2:5-11 Lk. 10:38-42; 11:27-28**

**09:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY.**

**Fri. 22 Sep.** Holy and Righteous Ancestors of God Joachim and Anna.

**Eph. 1:7-17 Mk. 8:1-10**

**Sat. 23 Sep.** Sts. Peter (826) and Paul (9th c.), bishops of Nicaea.

**1 Cor. 10:23-28 Mt. 24:34-44**

**05:00 PM GREAT VESPERS.**

**Sun. 24 Sep. 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 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 Hieromartyr Babylas, Tone 4:** Your holy martyrs O Lord, through their sufferings have received incorruptible crowns from You, our God. For having Your strength, they laid low their adversaries, and shattered the powerless boldness of demons. Through their intercessions, save our souls.

**Tropar to Prophet Moses, Tone 2:** You ascended to the heights of the virtues, Prophet Moses; therefore, you were deemed worthy to see the glory of God. Having received the grace-filled tablets of the Law, and bearing the grace of the writing within yourself, you were the honorable praise of prophets, and a great mystery of piety.

**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 Prophet Moses, Tone 2:** The choir of prophets rejoices with Moses and Aaron today, for the fulfilment of their prophecy is in our midst. The Cross, by which You have us, shines forth today. By their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us.

**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 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.

**Epistle: St. Paul 2nd Corinthians 4:6-15**

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

**Gospel: Matthew 22:34-46**

**Communion Hymn:** Praise Lord from the heavens. Praise Him in the Highest. **Alleluia (3X)**

**- View** the Joy of the Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God**, AND the baptism of David Kravchenko at** [**https://www.uocofusa.org/news\_230831\_1**](https://www.uocofusa.org/news_230831_1)

**- Church School starts TODAY. Every Sunday:** Mrs. Mary Ost (Preschool/ Elementary) 8:55-9:20 AM. Mrs. Karen Osmun (Secondary) at 8:45-9:15 AM. **Welcome all children and youth.**

**- $10,000 gift to the Parish from the Sisterhood in occasion of the parish Anniversary. Thank you very much!**

**- Parish picnic at Wayne Grube Park on September 30, beginning at 12:00-4:00PM** followed by Vesper Service at the park**.** Everyone is invited to attend the picnic for fun and fellowship.

**- Parish outing to the Sight and Sound Theater, Lancaster** – Mary Ost booked tickets for the **Miracle of Christmas Show** at 3 pm on December 28. Please let Mary know by November 1 if you go or sign up downstairs. Youth are free.

- We are back! Pierogi schedule: October 12, 26. First come, first served (until we reach 300 dozen). Please volunteer for peeling, running, cooking/mashing, pinching and clean-up.

**- Register** – We will have **2 Christmas** pysanky workshopson November 4, 2023 **(There are 6 remaining spots for the workshops!)**. Participants will write 2 Christmas-themed eggs that will have a gloss coating, holder and ribbon. $35 per person. The workshops are more than half filled already! If you want to attend this unique hands-on workshop, contact Jessie Hnatow at jessie.hnatow@gmail.com or text her at 610-428-8389.

**- Virtual Bible Study Day** - every Wednesday via Zoom: №1 Pan-Orthodox at 12 PM. Meeting ID: 576 301 6482. Passcode: 238492. №2 with a professor of Saint Sophia Seminary Fr. Demetrios 7 PM. Ask Fr. Oleg for the link.

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

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

**22 Sept…Frederic & Stephanie Burk**

**BIRTHDAYS: 19 Sept…Alexa Carlantone**

**21 Sept…Paul Sawarynski**

**23 Sept…Allison Pypiuk, Martha Dowling**

**МНОГАЯ ЛІТА! MANY YEARS!**

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

**17 Sept…Mykola Oleksa ’44, Frances Warner ’75, Joseph Nazar ’79, Pavlo Papaylo ’52, Roger (Evhen) Seremula ‘19 18 Sept…Mary Malanitch ‘34 20 Sept…Daniel Kurey ’27, Joseph Gulka ’93, Kathryn Pontician ‘07**

**21 Sept…Paul Kyzyk ’44, Anna Bochnock ’79, Yulia Rud ‘11**

**22 Sept…Metro Bach ’75**

**23 Sept…Stephen Micio (infant) ‘27**

**ВІЧНА ПАМ’ЯТЬ! MEMORY ETERNAL!**

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

**The parable of the wedding garment opens before us a lesson of the highest consequence. By the marriage is represented the union of humanity with divinity; the wedding garment represents the character which all must possess who shall be accounted fit guests for the wedding.**

**"The day of the Nativity of the Mother of God is a day of universal joy, because through the Mother of God, the entire human race was renewed, and the sorrow of the first mother, Eve, was transformed into joy." (St. John Damascene)**

“By Your Nativity, O Most Pure Virgin, / Joachim and Anna are freed from the reproach/disgrace of barrenness / Adam and Eve, from the corruption of death. / And we, your people, freed from subjection to sin celebrate and sing to you: / The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our life!” (Kontakion of the Nativity of the Theotokos)

The services of the great feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos are full of difficult theological concepts, like “corruption of death” and “subjection to (liability for) sin,” referring to our human state before Christ. Even more perplexing, perhaps, is the mention of Christ annulling our “curse” in another well-known hymn of the feast: “By annulling the curse He bestowed a blessing, by destroying death, He gave us eternal life,” it says in the Troparion-hymn.

What does it all mean? I am given to understand the meaning of these terms first and foremost through a story. It is the personal story of Saints Joachim and Anna, and their “disgrace of barrenness” or “chidlessness.” Before God intervened and stepped into our picture, they, like me, were unable to “live” to their full potential. Without the Source of Life stepping into our nature, separated from Him through “sin” (a loss of focus), we are cut off from His creative energies, which allow us to become truly productive and truly human. He becomes human, through His Most-Pure Mother, so that I can become my true self, freed from paralyzing “barrenness” and capable of giving birth to His word in my world.

So today “the barren woman gives birth,” as He bestows His same blessing on an ever God-Bearing Church. Let me embrace this blessing, by the intercessions of the Blessed Among Women, amen! (By Sr. Vassa)

**ORTHODOXY AROUND THE WORLD**

The World Orthodox Youth conference at the Monastery of the Annunciation, Suprasl, Poland drew young people from more than 15 countries August 10-18.

Bishop Benjamin led the Divine Liturgy for Ukrainian Orthodox faithful at the Dormition of the Virgin Mary Church in Marbella, Spain.

The burial rite for the Mother of God was celebrated at the Cathedral of All Saints at the Gorny Convent in Ein Karem, Jerusalem.

St. Luke of Simferopol, one of the most beloved saints of the 20th century, was a surgeon and hierarch, is known for many miracles which he continues to perform to this day. Greek Metropolitan Panteleimon related two recent healings in his diocese.

The Orthodox Cathedral of the Nativity of the Mother of God has been providing more than 1,200 packages of food to Ukrainian refugees and the needy in London, England since last year.

**Additions in Ukrainian**

**Євангеліє від Матфея 22:34-46.** 34 А фарисеї, почувши, що Він посоромив саддукеїв, зібралися разом. 35 І один з них, законник, спокушаючи Його, запитав, кажучи: 36 Учителю, яка заповідь найбільша в законі? 37 Ісус сказав йому: полюби Господа Бога твого всім серцем твоїм, і всією душею твоєю, і всією думкою твоєю. 38 Це є перша і найбільша заповідь. 39 Друга ж подібна до неї: люби ближнього твого, як самого себе. 40 На цих двох заповідях утверджується весь Закон і Пророки. 41 Коли зібралися фарисеї, Ісус спитав їх: 42 що ви думаєте про Христа, чий Він Син? Кажуть Йому: Давидів. 43 Говорить їм: то як же Давид, у Дусі Божому, зве Його Господом, кажучи: 44 сказав Господь Господеві моєму: сиди праворуч Мене, доки покладу ворогів Твоїх підніжжям ніг Твоїх. 45 Отже, якщо Давид зве Його Господом, то як же Він син йому? 46 І ніхто не зміг відповісти Йому ні слова; і з того дня ніхто вже не смів запитувати