***ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH***

***ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE AND NEW ROME***

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**Sun. 24 Oct. 18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 1. Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council (787) Holy Apostle & Deacon PHILIP of the 70 (1st C) Ven. THEOPHANES the Confessor & Hymnographer, Bishop of Nicea (850) Martyrs ZENAIDA & PHILONILLA of Tarsus in Cilicia (1st C.) Ven. THEOPHANES, Faster of the Kyiv Caves Monastery (12 C.)**

**2 Corinthians 9:6-11 Luke 7:11-16**

**Hebrews 13:7-16 John 17:1-13**

**Common picture in the church by a professional photographer Kate Duffy.**

**Special coffee hour to bid farewell to Linda, Howard, and Matthew Winters.**

**Mon. 25 Oct.** Martyrs Probus, Tarachus, and Andronicus at Tarsus in Cilicia (304).

**Phil. 1:1-7 Lk. 7:36-50**

**Tue. 26 Oct** St. Benjamin of the Kyiv Caves (14th c.).

**Phil. 1:8-14 Lk. 8:1-3**

**Wed. 27 Oct.** St. Mykola Sviatosha, prince of Chernihiv and wonderworker of the Kyiv.

**Phil. 1:12-20 Lk. 8:22-25**

**Thu. 28 Oct.** Hieromartyr Lucian, presbyter of the Kyiv Caves (1243).

**Phil. 1:20-27 Lk. 9:7-11**

**Fri. 29 Oct.** St. Longinus the Gate-keeper of the Kyiv Caves (13th c.).

**Phil. 1:27–2:4 Lk. 9:12-18**

**Sat. 30 Oct.** Prophet Hosea (Osee) (820 B.C.). Monk-martyr Andrew of Crete (767).

**1 Cor. 15:58–16:3 Lk. 6:1-10**

***5:00 PM Great Vespers.***

**Sun. 31 Oct. *9:00 AM Divine Liturgy.***

One of Brazil’s largest cities, Porto Alegre, turned out its lights for more than an hour one night to rescue a 12-year-old girl stranded on an electricity pylon. About two million people went without electricity for an hour and 20 minutes so that firemen could rescue the girl who was stuck 80 feet up on a high tension pylon. The girl said she climbed up the pylon to escape some youths who were molesting her.

An entire city of two million people went without power and lights, with many people stuck in elevators and massive traffic congestion throughout the city when all the traffic lights went out – all for one poor, scared girl.

The evangelist Luke would love this story. One of the major themes in his Gospel is Jesus’ compassion and love for the powerless and vulnerable. Luke includes several stories in his Gospel (which are not found in the other three Gospels) like Jesus’ raising to life the widow’s son in the village of Naim. May we recognize and reach out to the powerless and vulnerable among us with same vision of compassion as the Jesus of Luke’s Gospel.

Why does the Bible say many times that we must care for widows and orphans? James 1:27 says, "Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world."

At that time, the only social security program was the family. The family had the responsibility to care for children and the elderly. But what happened to those who had no children or parents, or husband? At that time, as nowadays, women frequently lived for years longer than their husbands. God commanded His church to take care of widows and orphans. In the book of Acts, chapter 6, the apostles instituted the diaconate ministry for mercy work. They presented their proposal to the body of believers to choose seven deacons to distribute the food to the widows.

The context for our gospel, also in the reading of the Old Testament (1 Kings 17: 17-24) is the custom to entrust the care of his mother to the firstborn son. That is why, when Jesus saw His mother and the Apostle John before the foot of the cross, He said to his mother, "Woman, there is your son" and to John, "Behold your mother". And from that hour the disciple received her in his house (John 19: 26-27).

Perhaps you’ve heard the story about the debate between an atheist and a Christian. The atheist begins, “I can sum up the truth with one simple statement” He walks to a board and writes this “GOD IS NOWWHERE.” As he sat down the Christian stares at the board and replied, to the audience’s shock, “I think I can agree with my friend here, at least on this statement.” He walked up to the blackboard and added one small change and now the sentence read "GOD IS NOW HERE."

One of the great doctrines of Christianity is the idea that wherever we are, God is now here. Theologians call this doctrine the omnipresence of God, and it is found over and over in the words of Scripture.

Every funeral we attend should make us hate sin.

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

**Tropar of the Resurrection, Tone 1**

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Your Most Pure Body, You arose n the third day, Savior, granting life to the world. Therefore, the Powers of Heaven cried to You Giver of Life: Glory to Your Resurrection, Christ. Glory to Your Kingdom. Glory to your Divine Plan, only Lover of Mankind.

**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 Holy Fathers, Tone 8**

You are most glorious, Christ our God. You have established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth. Through them You have guided us to the True Faith. Greatly Compassionate One, Glory to You.

**Tropar to Apostle Philip, Tone 3**

Filled with divine grace, you served God the Word as a deacon of the Church, O Apostle Philip. By the working of miracles and by signs from God you enlightened the multitudes of Samaria. O blessed one, entreat Christ our God to grant us His great mercy.

**Kondak of the Resurrection, Tone 1**

As God, You arose from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Yourself. Human nature praises You as God, for death has vanished. Adam exults, Master. Eve, freed from bondage, rejoices and cries out: “You, Christ, are the Giver of Resurrection to all.”

**Kondak to the Holy Fathers, Tone 8**

The preaching of the Apostles and the doctrine of the Fathers confirmed the One Faith in the Church. In the garment of truth woven from theology on high, She rightly defines and glorifies true piety.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.**

**Kondak to Apostle Philip, Tone 4**

Inspired by the All Holy Spirit, you enlightened the entire world by your teachings and resplendent miracles, Apostle Philip, sacred initiate.

**Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.**

**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 1**

Let Your mercy, Lord, be upon us as we have put our hope in You.

**Verse:** Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous. Praise befits the upright.

**Prokimen for the Holy Fathers, Tone 4**

Blessed are You, Lord God of our Fathers, praised and glorified is Your Name to the ages.

**Epistles: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11 & Hebrews 13:7-16**

Alleluia Verses, Tone 1. God gives me retribution and has subdued peoples under me.

**Verse:** He magnifies the salvation of the king and deals mercifully for His anointed, for David and his seed forever.

**Verse:** The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken and summoned the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

**Gospels: Luke 7:11-16 & John 17:1-13**

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

**WE ARE REALLY THANKFUL TO LINDA, HOWARD, AND MATTHEW WINTERS FOR EVERYTHING THEY DID FOR OUR CHURCH. MAY GOD GRANT THEM MANY BLESSED YEARS IN THE NEW HOUSE IN FLORIDA!**

**The new date of Pilgrimage to the Miraculous Myrrh Streaming icon Kardiotissa** (743 S. Keyser Ave., Taylor, PA) and Holy Protection Greek Monastery (1 Saint Josephs Way, White Haven, PA) is **November 10 (2 PM).** Moleben Service and anointing at 6 PM. Fr. Richard and parishioner from Allentown will participate. Please let Fr. Oleg know.

**Concert of the worldwide popular a cappella group** **Pentatonix** – 09 December, Giant Center, Hershey PA. Free for youth, $60 per ticket for adults. Ask Fr. Oleg for additional info. Please make decision by November 7 so we can buy proper number of tickets. Let’s have fun!

**Second collection is for our Metropolia Center in South Bound Brook, NJ to help to restore the property after the flood. The renovation of all buildings was estimated at over $640 000. Let’s help our spiritual center.**

**We’re back! Pierogi schedule:**  November 4, November 18, December 2, December 16. 300 dozen limit. We strongly need your help as a volunteer. For orders or volunteers please call Helen: 610-261-4575.

**For the food banks**: We were assigned baby foods, but they also need cans of potatoes, tuna fish, canned meats, pasta, spaghetti sauce, mac & cheese.

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

**28 Oct…Howard & Linda Winters / John & Jennifer Grason**

**BIRTHDAYS:**

**26 Oct…Howard Winters**

**MNOHAYA LITA! MANY YEARS!**

**NECROLOGY:**

**25 Oct…Vladimir Zarayko ‘16**

**26 Oct…Mary Krill ‘97**

**27 Oct…Wasyl Kochenash ’37, Janice Svauger ‘13**

**30 Oct…John Vitushinsky ‘96**

**31 Oct…Panteleimon Pokotello ‘59**

**VICHNAYA PAMYAT! MEMORY ETERNAL!**

**PRAYER FOR THE HEALTH & SALVATION OF THE AFFLICTED:** priest Vasyl Dovgan, Stephanie Donnelly, Nicholas Alexander, Paulette Mecherly, Steve Sivulich, child Alexandria, Elizabeth Pastushenko, Halyna Kucharchuk, Joan Molnar, Bill Ketterer, Brandon and Stacy Snyder, Aaliyah Osmun, Ihor Broda, James Osmun, William Savitz, Vladimir & Emma Krasnopera, Brendan Phillips, Jessie Hnatow, Jessica Meashock, Adam Hewko, Andrew Thaxton, Susan Ferretti, Judy Albright, Rob Hewko, Daniel Kochenash, Christopher Mack, Norman Betrous, Justine Schubert.

**The Seventh Ecumenical Council.** Held in Nicea, Asia Minor in 787. Under Empress Irene. 367 Bishops were present.

**The Iconoclast Controversy.** It centered around the use of icons in the Church and the controversy between the iconoclasts and iconophiles. The Iconoclasts were suspicious of religious art; they demanded that the Church rid itself of such art and that it be destroyed or broken (as the term "iconoclast" implies).

The iconophilles believed that icons served to preserve the doctrinal teachings of the Church; they considered icons to be man's dynamic way of expressing the divine through art and beauty. The Iconoclast controversy was a form of Monophysitism: distrust and downgrading of the human side.

The Council's Proclamation. "We define that the holy icons, whether in color, mosaic, or some other material, should be exhibited in the holy churches of God, on the sacred vessels and liturgical vestments, on the walls, furnishings, and in houses and along the roads, namely the icons of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ, that of our Lady the Theotokos, those of the venerable angels and those of all saintly people. Whenever these representations are contemplated, they will cause those who look at them to commemorate and love their prototype. We define also that they should be kissed and that they are an object of veneration and honor (timitiki proskynisis), but not of real worship (latreia), which is reserved for Him Who is the subject of our faith and is proper for the divine nature, ... which is in effect transmitted to the prototype; he who venerates the icon, venerated in it the reality for which it stands."

Defenders of Orthodoxy. St. John of Damascus (675-745). John Mansur was educated at the Caliphate Court in Damascus. He held a position comparable to that of a Prime Minister. He was a devout Orthodox Christian. He entered the Monastery of St. Sabbas in Palestine, where he wrote many poems, hymns and treaties, one of which is called "An Exact Exposition of the Orthodox Faith." This work is a systematic theological summary of all the basic doctrines of the first seven centuries, a monumental work which became a classic in Orthodox Theology.

**The Triumph of Orthodoxy**

An Endemousa (Regional) Synod was called in Constantinople in 843. Under Empress Theodora. The veneration of icons was solemnly proclaimed at the St. Sophia's Cathedral. Monks and clergy came in procession and restored the icons in their rightful place. The day was called "Triumph of Orthodoxy." Since that time, this event is commemorated yearly with a special service on the first Sunday of Lent, the "Sunday of Orthodoxy."