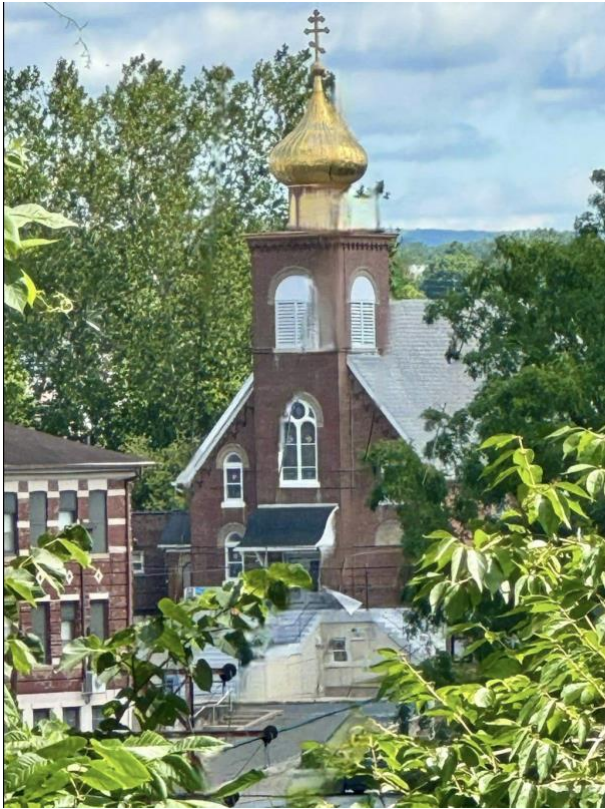


ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE AND NEW ROME



1301 Newport Avenue, Northampton, Pennsylvania 18067

Rev. Fr. Oleg Kravchenko, Rector

Protodeacon Mikhail Sawarynski, Attached

Websites: holypassumption.org and ukrainianorthodoxchurchusa.org Facebook: Assumption of the Virgin Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church YouTube: AVM UOC

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Confessions: Vespers on the first Saturday of the month, Sundays before Liturgies, or by appointment.

Make a list of living and deceased and bring it to the Altar. We'll pray for them during a Liturgy.

For pastoral visits at home or hospital or special prayer requests ask Fr. Oleg.

Please, don't throw away the bulletin. Bring it back to the church. Thank you.

You are welcome to contribute articles or pictures to the bulletin. Let's make bulletins together! - Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/avmuocoftheusa>

**Христос Посеред Нас! Є і Буде!
Let's pray for peace in Ukraine**

**Christ Is Among Us! Is and Shall Be!
Молімося за мир в Україні**

**Sun. 29 Dec. 27th SUNDAY after PENTECOST. Tone 2. SUNDAY after the NATIVITY of CHRIST. Holy Righteous JOSEPH the Betrothed, DAVID the KING, JAMES, the brother of the Lord. 14,000 HOLY INNOCENTS (1st C). Ven. MARCELLUS, Abbot of the Monastery of the Unsleeping Ones (485). Ven. THADDEUS, Confessor of the Studion Monastery. (818). Ven. MARK the Grave-digger, THEOPHIL and JOHN of the Kyiv Caves (11thc) Venerable LAURENCE of Chernihiv (1950).
Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19 Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23**

Welcome all for the Coffee Hour – Запрошуємо на каву.

During the coffee hour: “Journey to Fullness” – 20-minute series about Orthodox Faith.

MENEION & SCRIPTURES

Mon. 30 Dec. Virgin-martyr Anysia at Thessalonica (298).
Ven. Theodora (940).

2 Tim. 2:20-26 Lk. 19:37-44

Tue. 31 Dec. Ven. Melania the Younger, nun, of Rome (439). St. Peter Mohyla of Kyiv.

1 Tim. 6:11-16 Mt. 12:15-21

Wed. 01 Jan. Circumcision of Christ. St. Basil the Great.

Col. 2:8-12 Luke 2:40-52

09:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY of Saint Basil the Great.

Thu. 02 Jan. St. Sylvester pope of Rome

Titus 1:5-2:1 Mk. 12:38-44

04:00 PM AKATHIST TO THE MOTHER OF GOD FOR HEALTH OF THE AFFLICTED

Fri. 03 Jan. Prophet Malachi

Titus 1:15-2:10 Mk. 13:1-8

Sat. 04 Jan. Synaxis of 70 Apostles

1 Tim. 3:14-4:5 Mt. 3:1-11

04:00 PM GREAT VESPERS. EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE AND CONFESSIONS.

Sun. 05 Jan. 09:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY AND BLESSING OF WATER (short form). “Journey to Fullness” series.

04:00 PM GREAT COMPLINE AND HOLY SUPPER.



PROPERS FOR THE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Tropar Tone 2: When You descended to death, O Immortal/ You slayed Hell with the splendor of Your Godhead/ and when from the depths You raised the dead/ all the powers of heaven cried out: "O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory to You."

Tropar to the Righteous Ones, Tone 2: Joseph, proclaim the great miracles you have witnessed to David the Ancestor of God/ You have seen the Virgin with Child/ given glory with the shepherds/ worshipped with the Magi/ and an angel of the Lord has appeared to you/ Pray to Christ our God to save our souls.

Tropar of the Nativity, Tone 4: Your Nativity, Christ our God/ has shone to the world the Light of Wisdom/ For by it those who worship-ped the stars/ were taught by a star/ to adore You, the Sun of Righteousness/ and to know You the Orient from on High/ Lord, glory to You.

Tropar to the Holy Innocents, Tone 1: As acceptable victims and freshly plucked flowers/ as divine first fruits and newborn lambs/ you were offered to Christ Who was born as a child, holy innocents/ You mocked Herod's wickedness/ and we ask you: "Unceasingly pray for our souls."

Gloria... Kondak to Righteous Ones, Tone 6: Today, David the Holy One is filled with joy/ Joseph and James offer their hymns of praise/ to the One born on earth in a manner beyond description/ and cry out: Merciful One,/ save those who honor You.

Now and ever... Kondak of the Nativity, Tone 3: Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One/ and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One/ Angels, with shepherds glorify Him/ the Magi journey with the star/ Since for our sake the Eternal God was born as a little Child.

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 to the Righteous, Tone 4: God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel.

Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19

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

Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call.

Remember, O Lord, David and all his meekness.

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

Instead of "It is right in truth": Magnify, my soul, the Most Pure Virgin, Birth-Giver of God, who is greater in honor and more glorious than the hosts on high.

Irmos, Tone 1: It is a strange and most wonderful mystery, that I see: the cave in heaven, the Virgin and the throne of the Cherubim; the manger a room, in which Christ, the Uncontainable God, is laid. Him do we praise and magnify.

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)**

- **Welcome to the Parish Holy Supper before the Feast of Christ's Baptism. Sun., Jan. 5. Begins with Great Compline Service at 4 PM. Sign up downstairs.**

- **Thanks to all who did coffee hours** in October, November, and December: the Misko, Woyewoda,

Vitushinski, Zurat, Ost, and Unger families, Margaret Leindecker, Semenovych Lesya, Pani Olha, Steven Amey, and Kathy Kuchinos. **Please volunteer.**

- **Thank you**, Russel, for making wooden Christmas decorations for the Church.
 - **We donated** altogether \$750 from our Parish, Sisterhood and UOL to the Seminary. Thank you!
 - **Pyrohy schedule:** Jan. 9, 23. Feb. 6, 20. Mar. 6, 20. First come, first served (until we reach 250 doz.). Please volunteer for peeling, running, cooking/mashing, pinching and clean-up.
 - **Church School.** Mrs. Mary Ost (Preschool/ Elementary) 8:55-9:20 AM. Ms. Karen Kankula (Secondary) at 8:45-9:15 AM. Fr. Oleg occasionally. **Welcome all children and youth.**
 - **For Food Bank:** baby foods, canned potatoes, and meats, tuna, pasta, sauces, mac. & cheese.
 - **Virtual Bible Study Day** - Wednesdays via Zoom: Pan-Orthodox at 12 PM. Meeting ID: 576 301 6482. Passcode: 238492. Tuesdays: with Fr. Demetrios at 7 PM. Ask Fr. Oleg for the link.
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BIRTHDAYS:

31 Dec...Vera Alexander

04 Jan...John Peter Grason

МНОГАЯ ЛІТА! MANY YEARS!

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

29 Dec...Eustahij Pshebyla '22, Marta Zaharuyko '60, Rev. Gregory Pypiuk '62

30 Dec...Katherine Yeremko '28, James Osmun '91

31 Dec...Olha Kutianski (infant) '22

02 Jan...Paul Lukacz '46, Alleck Schur '74, Mary van Kirk '08

04 Jan...Theodora Sheska '76, John Lelo '74

ВІЧНА ПАМ'ЯТЬ! MEMORY ETERNAL!

PRAYER FOR THE HEALTH & SALVATION OF THE AFFLICTED: Ukrainian soldiers and civilians, wounded during the Russian aggression, Joseph Killino, Barbara Grason, Helen Crayosky, Rosemarie Pypiuk, Sandra Miller, Tom Petro Jr., priest Demetrius Nicoloudakis, priest Vasyl Dovgan, Martha Dowling, Michael Szymonifka Karen Kankula, Russel Kerick, Christina Truss, Jon Hewko, Matthew Vitushinsky, Nadine Savitz, William Savitz, Nicholas Alexander, William Leszczuk, Mary Berger, , Jessica Meashock, Maria Joseph, Zachary Y. Siyufy, Raisa Melnychuk, Vasyl Beizyn, Lubov Shevchuk, Volodymyr Hranat, Ihor Broda, Debi Hutnick, Eric Hewko, Phil O'Brien, child Charlie, Juliana, Shirl Merolli, Kirk Swauger, Stephanie Donnelly, Danny Berro, child Alexandria, Elizabeth Pastushenko, Aaliyah Osmun, Brendan Phillips, Adam Hewko, Andrew Thaxton, Susan Ferretti, Judy Albright, Daniel Kochenash, Christopher Mack, Joann Hoodmaker, Norman Betrous, Robert Zarayko, Lisa Kulhanek, Esther Wilt, Michele and Ron Moser, Benjamin Tomeo, Olena Kalichenko.

Entering the house the Magi saw the Child and Mary His mother. And prostrating, they adored Him. Then opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh." What, one wonders, moved them to adore the Child? Outwardly, there was nothing unusual about the Virgin; and the house, too, was far from impressive. In other respects, also, there was nothing to fill them with wonder or impel them to adoration. Nevertheless, they not only adored, but brought out treasures and offered gifts, such

gifts as one proffers not to a man but only to God. For frankincense and myrrh are pre-eminently associated with divinity.

What then, inspired their behavior? The same reason that caused them to leave their homes and undertake their hazardous journey, namely, the star and the enlightenment imparted to their hearts by God Himself. And this it was that little by little led them to perfect understanding.

Had it not been so, they would never have paid such high honors, because all that could be seen there appeared very commonplace. What appeared to their senses was of no importance outwardly, the crib, the hut, a poor mother. Now the reason why all this happened as it did, was that you might be struck by the Magi's eminent wisdom and learn that they came not merely to a man but to God, and what is more, to God as man's Benefactor.

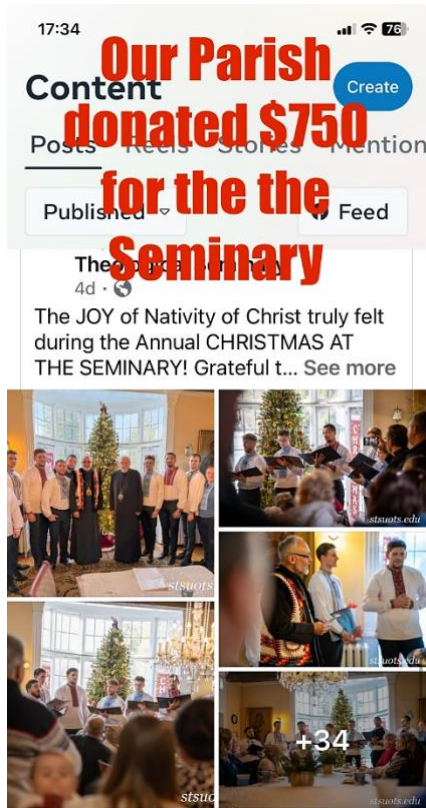
Therefore the Wise Men were not offended by outward appearances but worshipped and presented gifts — gifts, I say, that differed greatly from those that others in their grossness were using. They did not immolate a sheep or goat but made a spiritual oblation in harmony with highest ideals. For they offered the Infant their wisdom, their obedience, and their love.

"In a dream they were warned not to return to Herod. Accordingly they went back home by another way." Here observe their great faith. Not only did they take no offense, but they were perfectly calm and obedient, yielding to no confusion of mind or manner. Nor did they complain to one another, saying, for example: "Tell me, is this Child really somebody, and does he have any sort of true power? If so, why this flight, this secret departure? We came openly and trustingly to this great people, and stood before the raging king. Why does the angel send us away now like fugitives?" But they did not think or talk in such a way. And thereby their faith proved itself genuine, since they did not ask a reason for the command but simply obeyed. (St. John Chrysostom)

When the song of the angels is silent
When the star in the sky is gone
When the kings and princes are home
When the shepherds are again tending their sheep
When the manger is darkened and still
The work of Christmas begins...
To find the lost To heal the broken To feed the hungry
To rebuild the nations To bring peace among people
To befriend the lonely To release the prisoner
To make music in the heart. (By Howard Thurman)



ORTHODOX WORLD NEWS



Well done 👍 so much fun, a lot of yummy cookies! Thanks everyone, especially Lesya Semenovych for wonderful workshop ❄️💙🍪



Youth of our Parish made Christmas tree decorations for the Consistory:



Archbishop Anastasios, Primate of Albania, officiated at the consecration of Archimandrite Anastasios (Mamaj) the new Bishop of Kruja, in Holy Resurrection Cathedral in Tirana.

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew consecrated the former Roman Catholic Church of Santa Maria (17th C.) given to the Orthodox community of Smyrna, Turkey, renamed the Orthodox Cathedral of the Dormition of the Virgin Mary.

Metropolitan Epiphaniy officiated at Divine Liturgy in the Basilica of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker in Bari, Italy where his relics are located.

Led by Patriarch Theophilos III of the Jerusalem Patriarchate, the Feast of St. Nicholas was celebrated in Beit Jala, Palestine.

Additions in Ukrainian

Євангеліє дня: 13 Коли ж вони відійшли, то ангел Господній уві сні з'явився Йосифові, говорячи: устань, візьми Немовля і Матір Його та біжи в Єгипет і будь там, доки не скажу тобі, бо хоче Ірод шукати Немовля, щоб погубити Його. 14 Він же, вставши, узяв Немовля і Матір Його вночі та й пішов у Єгипет 15 і був там до смерти Іродової, щоб збулося сказане Господом через пророка, який говорить: з Єгипту покликав Я Сина Мого.

16 Тоді Ірод, побачивши себе осміяним волхвами, дуже розгнівався і послав повбивати усіх немовлят у Вифлеємі і в усіх околицях його, — від двох років і менше — за часом, про який вивідав у волхвів. 17 Тоді збулося сказане через пророка Єремію, який говорить: 18 голос в Рамі чути, плач і ридання та голосіння велике; Рахиль плаче за дітьми своїми і не хоче втішитися, бо нема їх.