

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



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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.**

**Welcome to contribute articles or pictures to the bulletin. Let's make bulletins together!** :-

**Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/avmuocoftheusa>**

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Let's pray for peace in Ukraine



Молімось за мир в Україні

**Christ is Among us! He is and always will be!**

**Христос Посеред Нас! Є і Буде!**

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**Sun. 31 Dec. FAST** (18 Dec.) 30th Sunday after PENTECOST. TONE 5. SUNDAY before the NATIVITY of CHRIST. HOLY FATHERS. Martyr SEBASTIAN of Rome and his companions (287) MODESTUS, Archbishop of Jerusalem. Ven. FLORUS, Bishop of Amisus. Ven. MICHAEL the Confessor of Constantinople.

Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40

Matthew 1:1-25

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**LITURGICAL MENEION & SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**(LAST WEEK OF THE NATIVITY ADVENT)**

**Mon. 01 Jan. (Fast)** Ven. Amfilohije of Pochaiv (1971).

Heb. 11:17-23, 27-31

Mk. 9:42-10:1

**Tue. 02 Jan. (Fast)** Hieromartyr Ignatius the God-bearer, bishop of Antioch (107).

Heb. 12:25-26; 13:22-25

Mk. 10:2-12

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

**Wed. 03 Jan. (Fast)** Virgin-martyr Juliana of Nicomedia

Jas. 1:1-18

Mk. 10:11-16

**Thu. 04 Jan. (Fast)** Great-martyr Anastasia of Rome (304).

Jas. 1: 19-27

Mk. 10:17-27

**Fri. 05 Jan. (Fast)** Holy Ten Martyrs of Crete (250).

**Sat. 06 Jan. (Fast) THE EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST.**

**4:30 PM HOLY SUPPER**

**6:00 PM GREAT COMPLINE**

**Sun. 07 Jan. THE NATIVITY ACCORDING TO THE FLESH OF OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST.**

**9:00 AM FESTAL DIVINE LITURGY AND CAROLING**



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

**Tropar of the Resurrection, Tone 5:** Let us the faithful, praise and worship the Word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation of the Virgin. In His Good Will He was lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to suffer death, and to raise the dead, by His glorious Resurrection.

**Tropar of the Holy Fathers, Tone 2:** The great pillars of faith, the Three Holy Children, rejoice in the flames as if they had been in refreshing water and Daniel in the midst of lions is like a shepherd among his sheep. Through their prayers, Christ God, save our souls.

**Glory...now and ever... Kondak of the Holy Fathers, Tone 6:** Thrice Blessed Ones, you did not worship the man made idol, but armed with the invisible power of God, You were glorified in a trial by fire. From the midst of the unbearable flames. You called on God crying: “Hasten, Compassionate One. Come quickly to our defense, for You are merciful and able to accomplish all that You will.”

**Prokimen of the Three Children, Tone 4:** Blessed are You, Lord, God of our Fathers, praised and glorified is Your Name to the ages.

**Verse:** For You are Righteous in all that You have accomplished for us.

**Epistle: St. Paul to the Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40**

**Alleluia Verses, Tone 4:** We have heard with our ears, God; our Fathers have told us what deeds You performed in their days, in the days of old.

You have saved us from our foes and have put those who hate us to confusion.

**Gospel: Matthew 1:1-25**

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

**Please consider donating to Project Isaiah 44 – Wells in Africa, which our Dean Father Robert presented to us last week. Details are in a flier. The box is on a table near main entrance.**

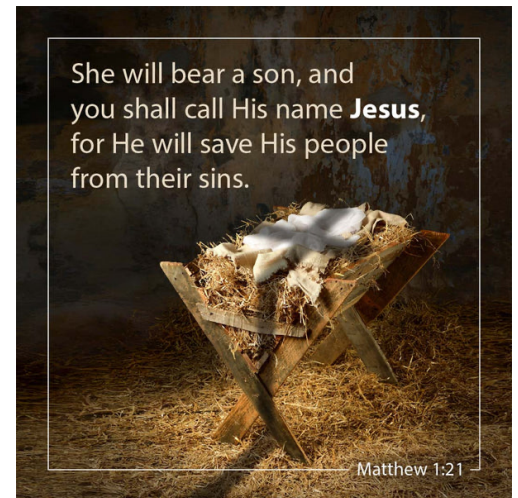
**Please pick up the envelopes and calendars on the hockey table downstairs.**

**- Many Blessed years to Michael Baird who is joining the Orthodoxy today!**

**- Welcome to the Parish Holy Supper. Saturday, January 6, 2024, 4:30 PM. Everyone is welcome. The sign-up list is downstairs.**

**- Thanks to all who organized coffee hours in October, November and December: Unger family, K. Kuchinos, Ost family, Karen Kankula, Hnatow family, Zurat family, Vitushinsky family, Olexksandra Garnago, Pani Olha, Barbara Baird.**

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- Thank you to our Parish for covering the youth expenses for our outing to Sight and Sound Theater and thank you Mary Ost for organizing the trip.
- Welcome to the Parish Holy Supper. Saturday, January 6, 2024, 4:30 PM. Everyone is welcome. The sign-up list is downstairs.
- Please bring some dishes for the next Sunday so we can make a Festal Nativity brunch.
- Thank you Karen and Jim Osmun for the donation of electrical supplies to the hall at \$350.
- Many thanks to Vladimir Krasnopera for sponsoring coffee hour on November 19 to celebrate his 98th birthday.
- Wine tasting. January 13, 6:00 – 9:00 PM in the church hall. Donation \$40. Welcome.
- Baseball Raffle: Prize: \$1000 cash. \$20/ticket. Drawing: February 3. Sign-up downstairs.
- Please pick up the envelopes and calendars on the hockey table downstairs.
- UOL essay contest: topics are on the board at hall. Let's participate.
- Please consider donating to Project Isaiah 44 – Wells in Africa, which our Dean Father Robert presented to us last week. Details are in a flyer. The box is on a table near main entrance.
- Please bring new warm clothing. It will be donated to the needy people in Ukraine.
- Pyrohy schedule: January 25. First come, first served (until we reach 300 doz.). Please volunteer for peeling, running, cooking/mashing, pinching and clean-up.
- Church School is 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.**
- For Food Bank: baby foods, canned potatoes, and meats, tuna, pasta, sauces, mac. & cheese.
- Virtual Bible Study Day - every Wednesday via Zoom: No1 Pan-Orthodox at 12 PM. Meeting ID: 576 301 6482. Passcode: 238492. No2 with a professor of Saint Sophia Seminary, Fr. Demetrios at 7 PM. Ask Fr. Oleg for the link.

#### **BIRTHDAYS:**

**31 Dec...Vera Alexander**

**04 Jan...John Peter Grason Jr.**

**06 Jan...Justin Ost**

#### **MHOГAЯ ЛИТА! MANY YEARS!**

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

**31 Dec...Ol'ha Kutianski (infant) '22**

**02 Jan...Paul Lukacz '46, Alleck Schur '74, Mary van Kirk '08 04 Jan...Theodora Sheska '76, John Lelo, Sr. '74**

**05 Jan...Anna Fanok '77, Mary Lubenesky '57**

**06 Jan...Robert Ziatyk (infant) '38, Anna Boyko '61, John Sobchak '57, Andriy Broda '18**

**07 Jan...John Bluder '82**

#### **ВІЧНА ПАМ'ЯТЬ! MEMORY ETERNAL!**



**PRAYER FOR THE HEALTH & SALVATION OF THE AFFLICTED:** Ukrainian soldiers and civilians, wounded during the Russian aggression, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, Father James Norton, Paul Kochenash, Helen Crayosky, Barbara Grason, Rosemarie Pypiuk, priest Demetrius Nicoloudakis, priest Vasyl Dovgan, Karen Kankula, Jon Hewko, Matthew Vitushinsky, Nadine Savitz, William Savitz, Nicholas Alexander, Vladimir Krasnopera, Tom Petro Jr., William Leszczuk, Mary Berger, Jessica Meashock, James Osmun, Fred Stubits, Zachary Y. Siyufy, Ruslana Reznik, Lubov Slonova, Raisa Melnychuk, Vasyl Beizyn, 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, 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.

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## ORTHODOXY AROUND THE WORLD

Metropolitan Epiphaniy, on an official visit to Finland, prayed with Metropolitan Leo of Helsinki at the Dormition Cathedral in Finnish and Ukrainian, and then met with Ukrainian refugees living in Finland.

Metropolitan Vladimir of Chisinau, Moldova

appealed to his faithful to preserve the tradition of

Christmas caroling.



Metropolitan Seraphim of Piraeus, Greece

celebrated the Western Liturgy of St. Ambrose of Milan, 4th C. Father of the Orthodox world.



Archbishop

Veniamin of Khotyn celebrated Divine Liturgy on the Feast of St. Nicholas at his

Basilica in Bari, Italy where his relics repose.



Baptisms of 60 natives by Metropolitan Theodosius of Kinshasa took place in 3 parishes last week in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Baptisms of 60 natives by



Patriarch John X of Antioch led enthronement services for the new Metropolitan Gregory at the Cathedral of the 40 Martyrs in Homs, Syria.



“The beginning of the year is a time for spiritual accounting, for self-examination, for repentance and for a renewal of our life in Christ.” — St. John Chrysostom

“The new year is not a new period of time, but a new state of mind, a new vision of life, a new way of living in the world.” — St. Paisios of Mount Athos

“The new year is a gift from God, a chance to start anew, to correct our mistakes, to grow in virtue, to draw closer to Him and to one another.” — St. Tikhon of Zadonsk



**Welcome for the Parish Holy Supper.** It is a traditional lenten meal on the Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas Eve). Since Christmas is preceded by forty days of fasting, the Holy Supper is the last meal of the fast. The twelve fasting foods usually served are: barley, honey, stewed prunes, pierogi, sauerkraut, potatoes, lima beans, garlic, Lenten bread, mushroom soup and salt. The meal begins with the singing of the Christmas troparion (a hymn) and the lighting of a candle placed in the center of the table. The candle symbolizes the star of Bethlehem. The bread is then broken by the father of the house and given to everyone present. This symbolizes Christ at the Last Supper. The foods range from bitter to sweet to remind us of the bitterness of life before Christ was born and the sweetness of life which comes after His birth. The number 12 symbolizes the twelve apostles. When the meal is finished all attend the Christmas Eve vigil.

The Holy Supper usually takes place in the home with the father leading the family in the prayer ritual. It begins with the youngest child reading the Nativity account from the gospel of St. Matthew 2:1-12. The father then starts with an opening prayer asking God to bless the bread, wine, and food. He then breaks the bread and passes it out to all present.

Some Orthodox believers preserve the family tradition where parishioners bring their favorite Nativity Lenten food and share it with all present. This family tradition began because it is in danger of being lost since families no longer live close together and few have the time to cook the necessary dishes. The priest who is the father of the church family says the prayer. The supper



begins with a spoonful of the traditional Kutya, a cooked wheat or barley kasha, sweetened with honey, poppy seeds and chopped nuts - for good fortune! (orthodoxwiki.org)

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## PARISH LIFE



Thank you Lesya Semenovych for a wonderful ginger honey cookies workshop for our kids 🍪🌲 Merry Christmas 🎄



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**Матвія 1:1-25.** Книга родоводу Ісуса Христа, Сина Давидового, Сина Авраамового.

18 Різдво Ісуса Христа було так: по зарученні Матері Його Марії з Йосифом, перш ніж зійтися їм, виявилось, що Вона має в утробі від Духа Святого. 19 Йосиф же, чоловік її, будучи праведним і не бажаючи ославити її, хотів потай відпустити її. 20 Та щойно він помислив це, як ось ангел Господній з'явився йому уві сні, промовляючи: Йосифе, сину Давидів! Не бійся прийняти Марію, жону твою, бо зачате в Ній є від Духа Святого. 21 Народить же Вона Сина, і наречеш Йому ім'я Ісус, бо Він спасе людей Своїх від гріхів їхніх. 22 Це ж усе сталося, щоб збулося сказане Господом через пророка, який говорить: 23 ось Діва в утробі прийме й народить Сина, і наречуть ім'я Йому Еммануїл, що означає: з

нами Бог. 24 Прокинувшись, Йосиф зробив, як звелів йому ангел Господній, і прийняв жону свою. 25 І не знав її, поки й породила Сина Свого первістка, і він нарік ім'я Йому: Ісус.