

26th Sunday After Pentecost / Entrance of the Theotokos  
November 21, 2021, Tone 1

Christ is Among Us! He is and Always Shall Be!



Beautiful newly designed **Christmas Cards** to support our mother church in Mukachevo, Ukraine (where Father Artur came to us from). This year Bishop Nil, the apostolic administrator for the Mukachevo eparchy, has asked for **help in building a social center to assist the homeless**. Russia's long war in eastern Ukraine has increased poverty and weakened health care and social services in a country that was already poor. This results in more people losing their homes or what little support they had. The Catholic Church has been working hard at helping all those in need, regardless of religious affiliation. *Every dollar will go so very far over there*. Thank you for your generosity, and please encourage family, friends & other parishioners to purchase our cards!

**Holy Protection of Mary Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix  
Most Reverend Thomas J Olmsted Apostolic Administrator**

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Byzantine Catholic Church  
1837 Alvarado Dr. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110 Parish office: (505) 256-1539  
www.olphnm.org**

**Father Artur Bubnevych, Pastor  
Rectory (505) 268-2877  
abbaolph@gmail.com**

**Father Christopher Zegger  
pastor emeritus  
(505) 256-1787**

**Frchris.zegger@gmail.com  
www.frchriszegger.com**

**Father Tyler Strand  
(516) 661-0883  
tylerastrand@yahoo.co.uk**

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday—Friday 10:00 am—4:00 pm  
Thursday OFF

**THEOSIS:** 2nd & 4th Thursday  
Bible Study 6:45 pm / Zoom

**Advisory Board**

Fr. Chris Zegger, Dan Riley, Rafael Plut,  
Jeff Brewer, Michael Grega, Alicia Wells

**Finance Council**

Matthew Blain, Maria Alden

**Confession (Mystery of  
Reconciliation):**

9:15—10:00 am on Sundays, before or  
after weekday Liturgies, or by appoint-  
ment with Father

**Mysteries of Baptism/Chrismation/  
Eucharist:**

Must be arranged three months in ad-  
vance.  
(Pre-Jordan requirement)

**Mystery of Crowning:**

Must be arranged six months in ad-  
vance  
(Pre-Cana requirement)

**Sick and Shut-Ins:** It is the family's  
responsibility to notify the parish office  
when a parishioner is in the hospital or  
confined to home because of sickness  
or old age. Father will bring the con-  
fined person the Holy Mysteries on a  
regular basis. It is recommended that  
one receive the Anointing of the Sick  
before any major surgery. Please don't  
let the priest be last to know that some-  
one is ill!

May the Lord Bless your kindness and  
generosity to His House!



Welcome to our Church! If you are looking for a spiritual home, contact Father Artur/Fr Chris or the office staff for more information. God bless you!

***Eph 5:9-19 & Heb 9:1-7; Lk 12:16-21 & Lk 10:38-42 & 1:27-28***

- YouTube Live** 8:30 am Rosary; 9:00 am Matins, Confessions  
10:00 am Divine Liturgy for Parish Family, Benefactors and Friends  
Eternal Lamp: +Patricia Rajala by Ann Rajala
- Nov 22 Mon** ***Philemon and Others Apostles/ 1 Tim 5:1-10; Lk 17:20-25***  
 9:00 am Divine Liturgy / +Austin Franklin Hollar by Mary Alice Cooper
- Nov 23 Tue** ***Amphilochius and Gregory Bishops / 1 Tim 5:11-21; Lk 17:26-37***  
9:00 am Divine Liturgy / +Austin Franklin Hollar by Mary Alice Cooper
- Nov 24 Wed** ***Catherine Great Martyr / 1 Tim 5:22-6:11; Lk 18:15-17 & 26-30***  
 4:30-5:34 pm Philokalia Prayer & Discussion Group  
5:30 pm OLPH Devotions  
6:00 pm Divine Liturgy / God's Blessing on 32nd Wedding Anniversary of Barbara and Sven by Svenssons
- Nov 25 Thu** ***Thanksgiving Day / Clement and Peter Pope and Bishop 1 Tim 6:17-21; Lk 18:31-34***  
9:00 am Divine Liturgy / God's Blessing on Jeff Brewer
- Nov 26 Fri** ***Alypius the Stylite Venerable / 2 Tim 1:1-2 & 8-18; Lk 19:12-28***  
 No Divine Liturgy (Dispensation from fasting for OLPHERS)
- Nov 27 Sat** ***James the Persian Martyr / Gal 5:22-6:2; Lk 10:19-21***
- Nov 28 Sun** ***27th Sunday After Pentecost / Eph 6:10-17; Lk 13:10-17***  
4:00 pm Great Vespers (YouTube Live)  
Hebrew Scriptures for Sunday:  
Genesis 3:1-19; Isaiah 7:10-17; Isaiah 8:1-4.9-13
- YouTube LIVE** 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy / +Vladislav Gunner  
by Meilami, Trevor, Natalya and Kristina
- ECF Classes** 8:30 am Rosary; 9:00 am Matins, Confessions  
10:00 am Divine Liturgy for Parish Family, Benefactors and Friends  
Eternal Lamp: Svensson's 32nd Wedding Anniversary

**YOUTUBE LIVE-STREAMING:** OLPH Sunday / Holy Day Liturgies are available on YouTube. The link is <https://youtube.com/c/olphmedia>. Please click the "Subscribe" button to make it easier for you to find the channel in the future. Please, send your feedback about the quality of the live stream / comments / suggestions to Dan Riley: [riley.dan@gmail.com](mailto:riley.dan@gmail.com)

### Remember Those Who Request Our Prayers:

Physician and Help of Those in sickness, Redeemer and Savior of the infirm; O Master and Lord of all, grant healing to your servants.

Be clement, show mercy to those who have sinned much, and deliver them, O Christ, from their Iniquities, that they may glorify your might divine

Sharif Rabadi	Buster Miscusi	Paola Terlaza
Jenny Ford	Barbara De Lap	Ruth Sousa
Priscilla Hughes	Irene Bradley	Linda Granci
Marilyn Fore	Sorlah Chavez	Vicki Frank
Sven & Barbara Svensson	Abraham Haddad	Christopher Barlow
Laurie Bienz	Marianne Gerace	Tracy McTernan
Brent Dodson-Sands	Lori Medina	Scott Fafrak
John & Maria Alden	Michael Baron	Jordan Smith
Lara Davis	Gabriel Preisler	Rebecca Baia
Jessica Pieniadz	Todd Bailey	Janet Worthington
Rhonda Glasscock	Fr Chris Zuggger	Patti Klinkovsky
	Marcie Dark	Matt Williamson
	Michael Grega	



### Vocation Icon

Today: Fedorowich Family  
Next Sunday: Carol Donlin

### Intentions of the Rosary:

- 1st Decade: Help for persecuted Catholics, especially in communist and Islamic states
  - 2nd Decade: Spiritual and physical growth of our parish and the Byzantine Catholic Church
  - 3rd Decade: Increase in vocations to priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life to serve the Byzantine Catholic Church
  - 4th Decade: Repose of the souls who have no one praying for them
  - 5th Decade: Healing of the sick in body, mind and soul
- The joyful mysteries are recited from now until January 4.***

### Holy Father's Intentions for November People Who Suffer from Depression

We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.

"...Tonight your soul is demanded of you." We are not our own, and this is equally true of the blessings in our lives. Jesus speaks sternly of the need to understand this so that we can be "rich toward God". If you are blessed with the richness of a calling from God to be a priest, deacon monk or nun, will you answer it with the same yes that we see in the Theotokos and the saints? To learn more, contact the Vocations Office at 206-329-9219 or email: [vocations@ephx.org](mailto:vocations@ephx.org)

**November 28, 2021**

Cantor: Evie Jilek

Reader: Brook Jilek

Altar Server: Michael Grega

Trojca: Alaina & Nicky Riley

Counters: Rafael Plut, Ann Rajala

**Propers for 11/28/2021**

**27th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Tone 2**

**Troparion - 130**

*v. Glory...*

**Kontakion - 131**

*v. Now & Ever...*

**Theotokion - 406**

**Prokeimenon & Alleluia - 132**

**Our Father - 67**

**OLPH Prayer Warriors**

Sunday (Zoom). Send your prayer requests to Patricia at pocb@unm.edu THE PRAYER WARRIORS IS OPEN TO EVERYONE--WOMEN, MEN, & CHILDREN (children who have their parents' permission)! Please join us!!

11/28, God as Shepherd

**Barbara's Hall Report**

.Thanks to the Jileks who made yummy tacos for all! Now we will have Taco Sundays as well as Taco Tuesdays!

**THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF PHOENIX**

subscribes to the

*Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*

adopted by the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops. The Eparchy, within all its parishes, institutions and programs, is committed to assuring a safe environment in ministry for its children and young people that conforms to the Charter requirements. For information regarding the Eparchial Safe Environment Program, please contact:

**Dcn. Michael Hanafin**

Safe Environment Program Coordinator

Cell: (480) 387-5182

Email: dcnhanafin@ephx.org

**Sbdcn. Paul F. Kilroy**

Asst. Safe Environment Program Coordinator

Office: (602) 861-9778 / Cell: (702) 498-5972

Email: sbdcnkilroy@ephx.org

**Dr. Caroline Bonham**

Victim Assist Coordinator - Cell: (505) 314-3943

Email: victimassistanceofphoenix@gmail.com

**ONLINE GIVING / ONLINE TITHING**

is available on our website:

For those parishioners who can't attend in person or traveling or anyone who find this more convenient, we just set up a new way to tithe online using your credit card or debit card information. You can do a one-time donation or setup weekly donations!! You will receive a receipt and statement immediately after donating. The software takes a very small percentage of the donation, but its worth it for the ease of the system. You can donate using your computer / smartphone  
<https://www.olphnm.org/giving>.

**Byzantine Wall Calendars for 2022** are now available !!!!!

**ATTENTION!** We are updating Parish Directory for 2021. If there have been any changes to your address, phone or email please, report to the Parish office: 505-256-1539 or talk to Ann.

**Please, sign up TODAY for the Traveling Pilgrim Vocation Icon in 2022** Dear Parish Family, the Love of Christ presses us to respond generously to God's call in our lives. We are all called to pray for vocations to Sainly Christian Marriage, to the Priesthood, the Diaconate and the Religious Life. Prayer is an invisible but essential ministry in the Church. This is an important way to be involved in vocation ministry. Sign up to have the Pilgrim Vocation Icon in your home. You will be greatly blessed.

**Annual OLPH Angel Tree:** The parishioners of OLPH are being asked by St. Nicholas to open up their hearts again this Christmas season and participate in our annual Angel Tree. We have through St. Nicholas' Day—Sunday, December 5th—to bring our checks and cards.

The Angel Tree display has two boxes—  
one for the orphanage and one for the seminarians.

This year we are excited to collect monetary donations for the Korolevo orphanage in Ukraine. If you wish to donate to the orphanage, please make checks payable to the Mission Society with a note at the bottom.

We are collecting Amazon gift cards for the 9 seminarians at the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS Cyril and Methodius, where our beloved Thomas is studying. We would like these Amazon gift cards to be in denominations of \$10 and \$25 (\$25 is about what it costs for our seminarians to buy a book). These gift cards can be found at Smith's grocery stores (either in store or on-line), Wal-Mart, Albertsons and anywhere other gift cards are sold. We are also collecting Christmas cards and notes of encouragement for the seminarians. If you want to specifically address a card to Thomas, simply put his name on the front of the envelope and it will be given to him. Please prayerfully consider helping St. Nicholas spread joy this Christmas season.

**The Presentation of the Theotokos** into the Temple, also called **The Entrance of Our Lady into the Temple**, is one of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Byzantine Rite, celebrated on November 21.

The earliest source of this feast is the non-canonical\* *Protoevangelium of James*, also called the *Infancy Gospel of James*, composed in Syria around 150 AD. This "gospel" is a mix of some facts from Matthew and Luke, but includes fanciful stories, in which the author basically writes what he thought should have happened. The point of the stories is to emphasize Jesus' divinity, the celibacy of Joseph and Mary, and Mary's perpetual virginity against various heretical movements that denied all of these.

In this legendary story, Mary was solemnly received in the Temple by the priest Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist. She was supposedly led inside, accompanied by virgins, to live inside the Holy of Holies, to prepare her to become the living sanctuary of God when she would conceive the Divine Child. She was fed only with bread by the angels, until the age of twelve when she was betrothed to Joseph, who was an old man.

In this legendary story, Mary was solemnly received in the Temple by the priest Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist. She was supposedly led inside, accompanied by virgins, to live inside the Holy of Holies, to prepare her to become the living sanctuary of God when she would conceive the Divine Child. She was fed only with bread by the angels, until the age of twelve when she was betrothed to Joseph, who was an old man.

This so-called gospel was written with scant knowledge of Judaism and its practices, as a little girl would never have been admitted into the Holy of Holies. **So why commemorate liturgically something which we know, through biblical archaeology and Jewish studies, to have never taken place? Here is the primary meaning:**

the symbolism of *today links the Holy-of-Holies in the Temple with the womb of Mary which will become the living chamber of the Most High God*. Also, it emphasizes the *specialness of Mary as a person*: she is indeed an all-pure and all-holy virgin. Finally, living on bread brought by angels obviously prefigures the Holy Eucharist, the Angelic Bread, the *Panis Angelicus*.

St. Gregory Palamas preached:

***God is born of the spotless and Holy Virgin, or better to say, of the Most Pure and All-Holy Virgin. She is above every fleshly defilement, and even above every impure thought. Her conceiving resulted not from fleshly lust, but by the overshadowing of the Most Holy Spirit. Such desire being utterly alien to her, it is through prayer and spiritual readiness that She declared to the angel: "Behold the handmaiden of the Lord; be it done unto Me according to thy word" (Luke 1:38), and that She conceived and gave birth. So, in order to render the Virgin worthy of this sublime purpose, God marked this ever-virgin Daughter now praised by us, from before the ages, and from eternity, choosing Her from out of His elect.***

So, we solemnly commemorate the **fact** that Mary was a pure and sinless person all her life; was a virgin at the time of the Annunciation to her; and that she remains a virgin today.

**Greek Catholic priests in Slovakia give children a special blessing at the church on this feast day.** The prayer used is from the Book of Numbers, chapter 6, vv 24-26, the blessing which God tells Aaron and his successor priests to use on children. Thus, this is one of the most ancient rituals done from the Bible, and it finds a comfortable home in our Byzantine Catholic Church which is filled with Scripture and rites which are often rooted in Judaism. The fact that the giving of this blessing is restricted to only priests – and not parents - continues the Jewish tradition of it being a part of the Temple ritual celebrated by the priests.

At the Ambon Prayer of the Liturgy, the priest reads this biblical blessing from the Book of Numbers, chapter 6, vv. 24-26, and blesses the children with holy water:

*"May the Lord bless you and keep you.*

*May the Lord let His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.*

*May the Lord look kindly upon you and give you peace."*

Then the Dismissal of the feast is sung as usual, including the verse "presented today in the holy temple" after the commemoration of Our Lady.

## Second Week of the Philip's Fast

### Platytera Icon/ Znamenie Icon - Our Lady of the Sign, feast-day on Nov. 27.

**The Sign Icon has two different connotations.** One is from the old Roman imperial court. It was the custom that those who served in the palace in the imperial household wore an **emblem of the emperor** on their outermost robe. Thus, Our Lady serves God the Word in a unique way as the God-Bearer (Theotokos) and she therefore has the emblem of the Christ Child, our true King, on her robe.

However, the more obvious way is in **her role as the Mother** - Jesus is shown inside her virginal womb, as a small Man (to show His Divine Nature is present from conception) and holding a rolled-up scroll in His left hand, to show that He is the Word **"through Whom all things were made."** He blesses with His right hand. The sacred letters of His Name, IC XC, Jesus Christ, tell us Who He is and His role as the Messiah (Christos). In His halo is the abbreviation for "He Is Who Is" , or "I AM WHO AM", the Name which God gives to Himself at the Bush that would not burn on Mt. Sinai, in answer to Moses' question.

Our Lady is standing, with her hands raised up, in the **orans position**. **This is how the early Christians prayed, especially when facing East**, to show their readiness to accept the Second Coming of the Lord. She is usually found in this style on the apse wall, immediately behind the holy altar. Thus, above the tabernacle in which Our Lord is present in the Most Holy Eucharist, Mary rises above it as the original tabernacle of God.

Mary is the only human person who can be show in the colors of blue (humanity) and red (divinity) because of her unique status as Theotokos. Her robes are usually marked by three stars: on her right and left shoulders, and above her face. These proclaim that **she is ever-virgin: before, during and after the Incarnation of Christ**. Thus, no human being was involved in conceiving Jesus on March 25, and no other children were ever carried in her womb, which had contained the Most High God. As the living Ark of the Covenant, Saint Joseph would never have considered having intimate relations with her, and like her, he remains virginal and celibate.

In the **Kursk version** of the icon, Our Lady and Jesus are surrounded by Old Testament prophets who foretold the virginal conception or the coming of the Messiah. Going clockwise from the top right, they are: King Solomon, King David, and the following Prophets: Daniel, Jeremiah, Elijah, Habakkuk, Judge Gideon, Prophets Isaiah, and Moses

**As we enter the second week of St. Philip's Fast, and everyone is thinking about gift-buying, baking, traveling, and parties, it is a good idea for us to slow down and think about *what can we give to Jesus?*** Is there a behavior or attitude that needs changing, so as to bring God joy instead of sadness? Is there something we already do that is good but can be better, for example, increasing the time spent in daily prayer or meditation, adding Scripture readings. The prophets warned the People of Israel of their need for reform and change - the same holds true for the People of God today.