



Christmas Card to support our
Mother Church in
Mukachevo. Ukraine



November 22, 2015
26th Sunday after Pentecost
and Postfestive of the Entrance
Epistle: Ephesians 5:9-19
Gospel: Luke 12:16-21



**Holy Protection of Mary Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Byzantine Catholic Church
Bishop: His Grace Gerald N. Dino**

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SCHEDULE:

Sunday:

Rosary 8:30 am
Festal Matins 9:00 am
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Monday, Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

Tuesday, Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

Wednesday

OLPH Devotions, 5:30 pm

Divine Liturgy 6:00 pm

Friday, Divine Liturgy 6:00 pm

Saturday: Great Vespers 4:00 pm
Divine Liturgy 5:00 pm

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Thursday OFF

Confession Schedule (Mystery of Reconciliation):

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

Mysteries of Baptism/Chrismation/Eucharist:

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

Mystery of Crowning:

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

Eastern Christian Formation Program:

All grades meet every Sunday after Liturgy for 45 min

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

Today	8:30 am	Rosary
	9:00 am	Festal Matins
	9:15 am	Confessions
	10:00 am	Divine Liturgy for Parish Family & Friends
	Eternal	Fr. Chris' 61 st Birthday by Parishioners
	Lamp	
Monday	Amphilochius & Gregory Bishops	
November 23	<i>Epistle: 1 Timothy 5:1-10; Gospel: Luke 17:20-25</i>	
	9:00 am	+Keenan Alan Wofford by Jilek Family
Tuesday	Catherine Great Martyr	
November 24	<i>Epistle: 1 Timothy 5:11-21; Gospel: Luke 17:26-37</i>	
Wednesday	Clement & Peter Pope & Bishop	
November 25	<i>Epistle: 1 Timothy 5:22-6:11; Gospel: Luke 18:15-17 & 26-30</i>	
	5:30 pm	OLPH Devotions
	6:00 pm	Divine Liturgy for Thanksgiving
		Blessing on Sven & Barbara Svensson on their 26 th wedding anniversary by Svenssons
Thursday	Alypius the Stylite Venerable	
November 26	<i>Epistle: 1 Timothy 6:17-21; Gospel: Luke 18:31-34</i>	
THANKSGIVING DAY	9:00 am	Divine Liturgy For parish family, benefactors and friends
Friday	James the Persian Martyr	
November 27	<i>Epistle: 2 Timothy 1:1-2 & 8-18; Gospel: Luke 19:12-28</i>	
	8:00 am	Emmanuel Moleben
Saturday	Stephen Venerable Martyr	
November 28	<i>Epistle: Galatians 5:22-6:2; Gospel: Luke 10:19-21</i>	
	4:00 pm	Great Vespers
	5:00 pm	Divine Liturgy +Joanna Conrardy by Mary Alice Cooper
Sunday	27th Sunday after Pentecost	
November 29	<i>Epistle: Ephesians 6:10-17; Gospel: Luke 18:10-17</i>	
	8:30 am	Rosary
	9:00 am	Festal Matins
	9:00 am	Confessions
	10:00 am	Divine Liturgy for Parish Family & Friends
	Eternal	Sven & Barbara Svensson
	Lamp	26 th Wedding Anniversary

***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!***

Fr. Julian Gnall
Fr. Anthony Romero



Roy Smith
Sven & Barbara Svensson
Michele Koetter
Abraham Haddad
Lillian Murphy
Jenny Ford
Marilyn Fore
Robert Hasaka
Frank & Martha Arden
Pricilla Hughes
Sharif Rabadi
Threima Leech
Stephen Horner
Demetrius Yackanich

Paola Terlaza
Henry Zegger
John & Margie Disque
Phillip Fall
Walter Jakymiw
Olga Bodnar
Frances Brannan
John Deflice
Kristoff Rajala
Jordan Smith
Maggie Batsel
Katrina Anderson
Tony Lucero
Chris Overlin

Laura Dominguez
Robert Zadel
William Frank
Joseph Koetter
Mary Nell Preisler
Jackie De Paolis
Donny Terry
Mary Murphy
Jack & Lorraine Hubbell
Quintin Santamaria & Family
Heather Mattax
Larry Bennett
Mary Ellis
Mike Harahuc

*Prayers in honor of and to the Blessed Virgin are a powerful weapon
against sin, and for healing.*

Glorious Mysteries are recited on Sunday, Tuesday & Thursday; Joyful
Mysteries on Monday & Saturday; Sorrowful Mysteries on Wednesday &
Friday.

*If you recite the Rosary at home, please offer these intentions, and join us
on Sunday at 8:30 am. Those who recite the Akathist to the Mother of God
or the Rosary receive a partial indulgence when they do so in private,
plenary indulgence when they do so as a group*



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

Holy Father's Intentions for November

Universal: That we may be open to personal encounter and dialogue with all, even those whose convictions differ from our own.

Evangelization: That pastors of the Church, with profound love for their flocks, may accompany them and enliven their hope.

Our weekly Gift to the Lord—
 May the Lord Bless your kindness
 and generosity to His House!



Vocation Icon
 Today: Brewer
 Next Sunday: Svensson

Mission Society Christmas Cards

Christmas cards (see front image) to support our mother church in Mukachevo, Ukraine (where Father Artur came to us from) are on sale **now.** Proceeds will help build two parish houses that will serve as permanent homes for the priests, catechetical rooms, a library and a gym for the youth.

A packet of 5 cards sell for \$10 including envelopes. Fill out the slip with the names of the recipients and return by mail or drop them by the parish office.

All names will be sent to Bishop Milan Sasik in the Ukraine. On January 7th (Old Calendar Christmas), the Bishop will place all of these names on the altar and pray for each individual.

The last day to purchase cards will be December 20th. **May the Lord bless your kindness and generosity!**

DATE	READER	TROJCA	GREETER	HOST	COUNTER
Nov. 29	Jose Salazar	Grace Brewer	Open	Jilek	Open

Barbara's Hall Report:

Thanks to Dorothy and Raphael (no last names needed) for making delicious meatball sandwiches for everyone. What a neat idea: meatballs and sauce on a bun sprinkled with parmesan and mozzarella cheeses! Yum!

I do believe people were coming back for seconds, but there was plenty of food on a snowy Sunday afternoon! Thanks ladies!

Philipovka Fast has begun: *The American shopping season is at hand. Some people will spend it jostling for bargains; others will pass lamenting the commercialization of Christmas. The Eastern Churches...encourage their faithful to prepare for this Feast by fasting....St. Simeon of Thessalonika, writing in the 15th century, explains the purpose of this Fast in terms of its length.*

*"The Nativity forty-day Fast represents Moses, who—having fasted for 40 days and nights—received the Ten Commandments of God, written on stone tablets. And we, fasting for 40 days, will reflect upon and receive from the Virgin, the living Word—not written upon a stone, but born, incarnated—and we will commune of His Divine Body."...One thread running through this Fast is the **remembrance of the time before the Incarnation.***

Mankind was in a sense disconnected from God, having lost the intimacy with Him which we were meant to have because we were created in His image and likeness. Fasting is our way of expressing our sorrow at man's loss of fellowship with God....There are no penitential services appointed for this Fast...This practice echoes the idea that the Nativity Fast is a joyous fast, celebrating the immanent coming of Christ... Many see this Fast as essential for us at this time of year, to shift our focus from ourselves, spending less time worrying about our appearance, our cuisine and our home décor in order to use our time in increased prayer and caring for the poor.

Attention Ladies!

"Our Lady of Perpetual Helpers" is having our final organizational meeting. We will be firming up our plans & scheduling events. Thank you so much for your support, please continue to add your beautiful voices & ideas as we build a strong, Christ-centered women's community.

Our meeting will be held in the OLPH Social Hall on Monday, November 30th from 6 - 8pm. There will be a potluck of light supper foods & snacks & lively discussion.

2016 Liturgical Calendars are available on the greeting table for \$3

Coming Events—Mark Your Calendars Now!

Wednesday, November 25	Divine Liturgy for Thanksgiving
6:00 pm	
Thursday, November 26	Divine Liturgy for Thanksgiving
9:00 am	
Monday, November 30	OLPH Women's Meeting
6 – 8:00 pm	
Thursday,	THEOSIS Bible Study
December 3 & 17	
6:00 pm	Pot Luck Dinner
7:00 pm	Bible Study
December 6	Saturday, 4 pm Great Vespers Blessing of Litija
Feast of St. Nicholas	Sunday, 9 am Festal Matins; 10 am Divine Liturgy followed by a visit of St. Nicholas

Office of Evangelization & Education November 2015

“But seek first the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”-Matthew 6:33
Last month we discussed the importance of prayer. This second lesson in our 3-part series on seeking the Kingdom of God focuses on how to live out an active Byzantine Catholic faith by

READING SACRED SCRIPTURE

You may say to yourself, “Who, me? I don’t know how to interpret Scripture! Bishops, priests and people who study theology are supposed to do that.” While this is true, each individual Catholic must also know the teachings of Christ as revealed by the Holy Spirit in Sacred Scripture.

St. Jerome in the 4th Century taught that, “Ignorance of Scriptures is ignorance of Christ.” St. John Chrysostom wrote, “...but when you are at home, persevere continually in reading the Divine Scriptures.”

In prayer, you communicate with God. Through Sacred Scripture, God communicates Himself to you. This is why so many great Saints of the Catholic Church stressed its importance.

You do not have to be afraid of being unable to interpret Scripture. The Holy Spirit guides you as you read thoughtfully and prayerfully. Begin with the New Testament. Read a small portion of the Gospels daily. Take a few moments at the beginning to ask the Holy Spirit to prepare your heart to receive God’s Word, to love God’s Word, and to live God’s Word. In addition, there are numerous great resources that can help you understand God’s Word and how to apply it to your daily life.

If you have a Bible, read it. If you do not have a Bible, purchase a good Catholic version, such as The Catholic Study Bible or The Ignatius Study Bible. Both of these have excellent footnotes, maps, charts and useful commentaries to help with your understanding and application.

For further study, The Bible and the Holy Fathers is a patristic commentary that follows our Church’s daily scripture readings. In addition, The Catholic Bible Dictionary by Scott Hahn is a wonderful resource.

You may ask, “What will reading Scripture do for me in the long run?” If you persevere in prayerful meditation on God’s living Word in Sacred Scripture, this will happen:

- During difficult trials, the Holy Spirit will remind you of stories in Sacred Scripture that can help you decide how you are to react and respond.
- Your prayer life will change. The words of Scripture will enrich your daily prayers and you will begin to pray more for others.
- You will grow in holiness and in mercy.

Sacred Scripture reveals the hidden, incredible mystery - that God became man, fully human and fully divine, one person without confusion. It instills the truths of the human condition and how much God loves you in spite of your weaknesses and failures.

- You will be reminded that sin is to be avoided at all cost. It is very easy to lose focus on God in the middle of daily activities, and to fall into sick behaviors. The soul responds to whatever it receives. Just as you need good food and exercise for your body to be healthy, the same goes for your soul. By feeding your soul with Sacred Scripture each day, you open your heart to the stirrings of the Holy Spirit, and gain the strength and wisdom to live a life of love and virtue.
- You will have the desire to share your faith in Jesus with others, so that they too can experience His love and mercy.

Next month we will conclude our lessons on seeking the Kingdom of God by learning “How to live a Holy and Eucharistic Life.”

Everyone capable of thanksgiving is capable of salvation and eternal joy
THANKSGIVING OLD TESTAMENT STYLE: DEUTERONOMY 26, by Father Jack Custer, S.T.D

The Puritan colonists of New England, who rejected all the holy days on the Church's calendar, did keep two special days. Days of Fasting were proclaimed by their leaders in response to calamities, and Days of Thanksgiving were ordered in response to special blessings from God. Both of these observances have their roots in the Old Testament, and our national holiday of Thanksgiving developed directly out of this biblical custom.

Beyond the turkey, the football games and the shopping frenzy that have become the hallmark of this day, the original meaning and purpose of Thanksgiving can be found in the fifth book of the Old Testament, in the 26th chapter of Deuteronomy. Speaking through Moses to the Israelites on the brink of entering the Promised Land, the Lord God reviews the whole experience of the Exodus and exhorts His people, after forty years of rebellion and hardheartedness in the wilderness, to accept His covenant to be His people, living holy lives on the land He would give them.

Entrance of the Promised Land
In chapter 26, Moses looks forward to the day when the Israelites will possess the land, cultivate it, and bring forth abundant produce. Some of this produce is commanded to be set aside in sacrifices of two distinct kinds. The first fruits of the various crops are offered directly to God. This is an act of thanksgiving but also an act of faith: by giving away the first of my produce (rather than eating it myself), I express my trust in God to provide more for me and for my family.

Secondly, God commands a tithe—ten percent-of the entire crop to be shared with the priests (who depended on offerings to eat), the stranger, the orphan and the widow (Deuteronomy 26:13) The head of the house, while making this offering, is instructed to recite a prayer that looks back to the times when Abraham, Isaac and Jacob were strangers wandering in the land of Israel and when the Israelites were slaves in Egypt.

The prayer acknowledges how God made Abraham's descendants prosper, and how God led His people out of Egypt to "this land, a land flowing with milk and honey:" The prayer begins: "My father was a wandering Aramean" and concludes "and now, behold, I have brought the first fruits of the land, which you, O Lord, have given me" (Deuteronomy 26: 5-10).

Our Church continues the custom of offering baskets of first fruits in the Temple (Deuteronomy 26:1-4) on the feast of the Transfiguration (August 6) which coincides with the beginning of the summer fruit harvest. This custom, symbolic in other ways, does not really impact our faith or our finances the way the biblical thanksgiving sacrifice envisioned.

The biblical Thanksgiving sacrifice includes three important features that we would do well to rediscover. The first is the custom of reserving the first and the best for God. We need only look back two generations in our own families to see how people set aside the first day of the week-Sunday for God, and celebrated it with their best clothes and the best meal their wages allowed. In the cluttered and fast-paced lives we have created or permitted, how often does God get the leftovers and an excuse rather than the first, the best and a prayer of thanksgiving?

The second is tithing. Our magnificent old church buildings are the result of our ancestors' determination to show gratitude to God for the blessings America offered them. The wages of laborers with large families built the Byzantine Catholic Church in the United States. Prosperity seems to be shrinking it. Tithing—giving back to God a designated portion of the resources He has given us—allows us to express our faith in real terms and leave God room to work wonders in our lives.

The last lesson to be learned from the Biblical Thanksgiving sacrifice is in the prayer of offering. As our families gather on Thanksgiving, how wonderful it would be to hear our elders, who may have survived immigration, the Depression and several wars along with more personal challenges, to say out loud how God was with them through it all. How wonderful it would be to hear people in the prime of their lives give witness to how God has helped them in their marriages and their careers. People who pray about their lives will have those stories to tell. People who take the risk of letting the Lord be Lord of their time and their resources will have wonders to recount.

All of us should have something to return to the Lord for all He has given us. That's what the Bible teaches about Thanksgiving. *(taken from Eastern Catholic Life November 2015)*



BLESSING OF CHILDREN 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 the 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, the priest reads this blessing, and blesses the children with holy water.

ATTENTION THEOSIS BIBLE STUDY CLASS!!!!

There is a change in our normal 2nd & 4th schedule for December in order to meet around the holidays.

We will meet twice in December, on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays (only for December), which will be December 3 and 17.

In January, we will resume our 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month schedule.

God Bless you!