



December 6, 2015
 Nicholas of Myra Archbishop
 Epistle: Colossians 1:12-18 &
 Hebrews 13:17-21

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

Father Artur Bubnevych, Pastor
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 abbaolph@gmail.com

Father Christopher Zuger (pastor emeritus)
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 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110
 Parish Office: (505) 256-1539 Fax: (505) 256-1278 www.olphnm.org

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

Parish Advisory Board Members:

Dorothy Curl, Dave Dark, Lubomyra Kmetyk,
 Brian Fitzpatrick, Harry DeLap

Parish Finance Council Members:

Matthew Blain & Eva Schuler

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)

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 confined 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 someone is ill!

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
<i>Canned goods collection for Friars</i>	9:15 am	Confessions
	10:00 am	Divine Liturgy for Parish Family & Friends
		Visit from St. Nicholas
		Fr Chris: Health of Henry Zugger
	Eternal Lamp	Open
Monday	Ambrose Archbishop	
December 7	<i>Epistle: Hebrews 3:5-11 & 17-19; Gospel: Luke 20:27-44</i>	
	6:00 pm	Vesper Liturgy; Blessing & recovery of Henry Zugger
	7:30 pm	Knights of Columbus Meeting
Tuesday	Maternity of the Holy Anna/Solemn Holy Day	
December 8	<i>Epistle: Galatians 4:22-31; Gospel: Luke 8:16-21</i>	
	11:00 am	Divine Liturgy; For Parish Family, Benefactors & Friends
		Visit from Zuni Catholic School
Wednesday	Patapius Venerable	
December 9	<i>Epistle: Hebrews 5:11-6:8; Gospel: Luke 21:5-7.10-11.20-24</i>	
	5:30 pm	OLPH Devotions
	6:00 pm	Divine Liturgy
		+Al Adamsko by Agnes Adamsko and the Family
		Fr. Chris: +James Murray by Ann Rajala
Thursday	Mennas & Others Martyrs	
December 10	<i>Epistle: Hebrews 7:1-6; Gospel: Luke 21:28-33</i>	
Friday	Daniel the Stylite - Venerable	
December 11	<i>Epistle: Hebrews 7:18-25; Gospel: Luke 21:37-22:8</i>	
	6:00 pm	Vigil Liturgy for Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
		Blessing & recovery of Henry Zugger
		Fr. Chris: Health of Henry Zugger
Saturday	Our Lady of Guadalupe	
December 12	<i>Epistle: Hebrews 9:1-7; Gospel: Luke 1:39-56</i>	
	4:00 pm	Great Vespers
	5:00 pm	Divine Liturgy
		+Keenan Alan Wofford by Jilek Family
Sunday	Sunday of the Forefathers	
December 13	<i>Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11; Gospel: Luke 14:16-24</i>	
	8:30 am	Rosary
	9:00 am	Festal Matins
	9:00 am	Confessions
	10:00 am	Divine Liturgy for Parish Family & Friends
		Fr. Chris: +Pat Yackanich by husband Demetrius
	Eternal Lamp	Open

***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	Paola Terlaza	Laura Dominguez
Sven & Barbara Svensson	Henry Zuggger	Robert Zadel
Michele Koetter	John & Margie Disque	William Frank
Abraham Haddad	Phillip Fall	Joseph Koetter
Lillian Murphy	Walter Jakymiw	Mary Nell Preisler
Jenny Ford	Olga Bodnar	Jackie De Paolis
Marilyn Fore	Frances Brannan	Donny Terry
Robert Hasaka	John Deflice	Mary Murphy
Frank & Martha Arden	Kristoff Rajala	Jack & Lorraine Hubbell
Pricilla Hughes	Jordan Smith	Quintin Santamaria & Family
Sharif Rabadi	Maggie Batsel	Heather Mattax
Threima Leech	Katrina Anderson	Larry Bennett
Stephen Horner	Tony Lucero	Mary Ellis
Demetrius Yackanich	Chris Overlin	Mike Harahuc

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

Joyful Mysteries are recited from now until January 6.

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 December

Universal: That all may experience the mercy of God, who never tires of forgiving.

Evangelization: That families, especially those who suffer, may find the birth of Jesus a sign of certain hope.

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



Vocation Icon
 Today: Jilek
 Next Sunday: Riley

Retired Religious Collection

Again this year we are asked by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops to take up a special collection for the retired religious Sisters, Brothers and Fathers who have served the Church in the USA so faithfully over the years.

Now in their retirement and need, our generous donations become a sign of our gratitude for their service to the Church. Our Sisters of St. Basil benefit from this collection. Please be generous next Sunday December 13th by using the envelope provided with your tithing envelopes. Thank you and God Bless You!



Please make a donation to our Toys for Tots box in the back of the Church.

Mission Society Christmas Cards

Christmas cards to support our mother church in Mukachevo, Ukraine (where Father Artur came to us from) are now on sale. 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
Dec. 13	Brook Jilek	Grace Brewer	Samia Rabadi	Open	Open

Barbara's Hall Report:

Thanks to the Jileks for serving trays of yummy lasagna to celebrate Elijah's 8th birthday. Also, salad and a mountainous tray of brownies. Happy Birthday, Elijah, and may God grant you many more!

A delicious carrot cake was brought for Father Chris' 61st birthday. It was actually last week, but he was in Buffalo visiting his family! May you have many more happy and blessed years, Father Chris!

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONGRESS,
ANAHEIM, CA.**

The largest Religious Education Congress will be held at the Anaheim Convention Center from February 26-28, 2016.

Our Eparchy will have an exhibitors booth in the Convention Center during which Bishop Dino will be present, displaying and distributing materials of our Byzantine Catholic Church. Very Rev. David M. Petras will be a co-presenter with Rt. Rev. Alexei Smith on ***"The Importance and beauty of the Eastern Catholic Churches"***.

This workshop will be held on Friday, February 26th. In addition to our presence as Eastern Catholics, on Saturday, February 27th at 5:15pm, Rt. Rev. Aphram Mushe will celebrate the Syriac Divine Liturgy. Let's make a concerted effort to witness our Byzantine Catholic Church and our Eastern Catholic presence by attending this Religious Education Congress.

You can register online: Google:
**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONGRESS,
ANAHEIM, 2016**

From December 8 until November 20, 2016, the Catholic Church will observe a Jubilee "Year of Mercy", whose motto is "Merciful Like the Father." It is meant to live this spiritual year as a time of pilgrimage, in which the traditional observances and seasons - feast days, Christmas Fast, Great Lent - are experienced in a unique way.

We are also called to individual conversion, to imitate the love of God Himself in all our interactions. Cathedrals, most shrines, and designated churches will have Doors of Mercy. When one makes a pilgrimage to Rome or to one of these special churches, one can obtain a plenary indulgence - the remission of temporal punishment due to sin.

The Pope writes to us: I wish that the Jubilee Indulgence may reach each one as a genuine experience of God's mercy, which comes to meet each person in the Face of the Father who welcomes and forgives, forgetting completely the sin committed.

There have been only 29 years of jubilee in the entire history of the Church, so this is a special time for all of us. More will follow next week.

Coming Events—Mark Your Calendars Now!

Monday, December 7	6:00 pm Vigil Divine Liturgy/Maternity of the Holy Anna
Tuesday, December 8	Maternity of the Holy Anna/Solemn Holy Day 11 am Tuesday Divine Liturgy
Thursday, December 17	6:00 pm Pot-luck dinner 7:00 pm THEOSIS Bible Study; Matthew Ch. 10
Thursday, December 24	5:00 pm Holy Supper 7:00 pm Compline; Divine Liturgy
Friday, December 25	Christmas/Birth of Our Lord 10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Saturday, December 26	Synaxis of the Theotokos/Solemn Holy Day 9:00 am Divine Liturgy

Office of Evangelization & Education
December 2015

Are You Seeking the Kingdom of God? -- Part 3.

Lesson in Evangelization – Receive the Holy Eucharist

“But seek first the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” Matthew 6:33

In the previous two lessons of this evangelization series, we discussed the importance of prayer and reading sacred scripture. This lesson focuses on how to live out an authentic Byzantine Catholic faith by becoming united with Christ through...

RECEIVING THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Every time you receive the Divine Eucharist you are making a statement. By receiving the Eucharist you declare not only that you have committed yourself to Christ our King and God, but that you commit yourself to advancing His Kingdom in this world.

By participating in the Eucharistic banquet you publicly affirm that you believe Christ Jesus is your King and Redeemer. You publicly agree to follow Him and to carry your cross as He did. You publicly agree to serve others and to follow His command to proclaim the Gospel to every living creature.

You might think, “Wait a minute! I love receiving Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, but how can this require me to share His message with others? Isn't that the priest's job? Shouldn't Reverend Deacon be doing that?” Absolutely--but so should you. You are publicly agreeing that you will proclaim the Gospel when you come forward to receive Jesus in the Holy Mystery of the Eucharist.

The Eucharistic life is one that is willing to be broken and offered to God the Father. During the Anaphora, the priest repeats the words of Jesus saying, “Take, eat, this is My Body, which is broken for you.” Jesus' Body was broken voluntarily for us in sacrifice and the benefits of that sacrifice are shared with us.

The Eucharistic bread participates in that once and for all sacrifice. In doing so, the bread of the precious Body is also broken into pieces making it possible to be shared with the many. We too must allow our own selfish will to be broken and give ourselves completely to God to be broken and shared with others in His Name.

In the next lesson on evangelization, we will review what it means to be a servant.

Holy Maternity of St. Anna
Conception of St. Anne
Immaculate Conception
December 8

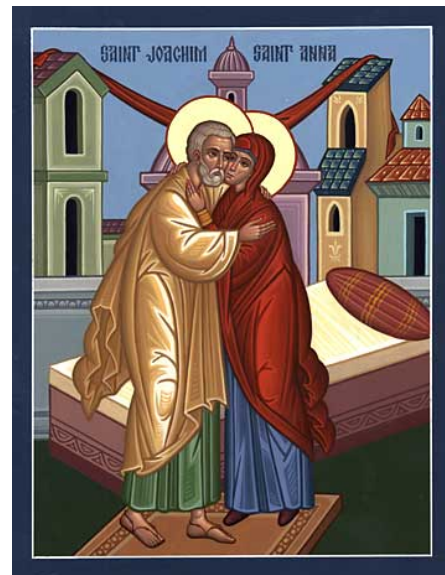
We keep **the feast of the Conception of Saint Anne/** Conception of the Theotokos, known in the West as **the Immaculate Conception**. Declared a dogma in 1854, the Immaculate Conception was taught by many Church Fathers and spiritual writers for centuries.

In the Eastern Churches, this is kept on December 9, in order to emphasize that though sinless, Our Lady is still inferior to Christ, Who alone has a perfect pregnancy (March 25-December 25). However, the Latin Church preferred the date of December 8, giving Our Lady a perfect pregnancy (December 8 – September 8). In the United States, which is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception, our Byzantine Catholic Church has accepted the December 8th date.

The dogma teaches this: the Blessed Virgin Mary "in the first instance of her conception, by a singular privilege and grace granted by God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, was preserved exempt from all stain of original sin. (Pope Pius IX)."

The feast of the Conception of Saint Anne originates in the monasteries of Palestine in the late 600s; it spread through the Syriac and Byzantine Churches so that by 1166 it was a holy day of obligation in the Byzantine Empire with no work allowed. **In the texts of this feast, Mary is acclaimed as all-holy, immaculate, sinless, and most pure.**

Icons of "The Conception of St. Anne" shows SS. Joachim and Anne embracing at the Golden Gate after being told by angels that they would conceive a daughter who would become the mother of the Messiah.



Saint Nicholas

Saint Nicholas is one of the most popular of all Saints in the East, and there are countless stories that tell of his generosity and intercession for children, the poor, sailors, those who have been falsely accused, . His relics repose in the Italian port city of Bari, at the opposite end of the Mediterranean Sea from his old eparchy, Myra, in Turkey.

Such is his fame and importance that every iconostasis in every church that uses the Byzantine rite, Catholic or Orthodox, must have his icon at the north end of the screen. Of course, we know that the ubiquitous symbol of American Christmas celebration, Santa Claus, is a corruption of the original devotion of the Dutch founders of New York City (as New Amsterdam) to their dear *Sankt Niklaus* who came bearing gifts for children in the Name of the Christ Child on December 6, which is the anniversary of his death and entry into eternal life. Likewise, *Kris Kringle* is the English rulers' version of the German *Kristkindl*, or Christ Child, Who comes to bring gifts.

We know that Nicholas was born in a Christian family around the year 280 in the province of Lycia in what is now southwestern Turkey.

He became the bishop of Myra, now called Demre, a flourishing port on the coast of Asia Minor. He lived through the last persecution of Christians in the Roman Empire, that of Diocletian, one which was especially violent and bloody.

We know that Lycia was one of those territories where all bishops and priests were imprisoned, and many atrocities were carried out from 303-311. This was so bad that, when the first ecumenical council was convened in 325, witnesses described the assembled bishops as men who all showed signs of brutal torture:

amputated legs or arms or hands, eyes gouged out, terrible scars from whips. We do not know what injuries Nicholas might have borne, but we do know from the volume of testimony about him that he deeply loved our Lord Jesus Christ.

In the end, we do not have much actual history of Nicholas. What we do have, though, in the hundreds of stories that had accumulated by the year 500, is an engaging portrait of a bishop who was devoted to teaching the true faith; who gave of his own personal fortune to help anyone who was in need; who blessed sailors of the busy port of Myra, and to whom, after his death, those same sailors prayed for help when they were in danger; who defended the innocent even when they faced the imperial death penalty; and who was revered as a wonder-working saint within a century after his death.

At some point, his tomb was reopened, and his reputation was immediately enhanced when it was discovered that his bones were giving off a sticky clear substance called "Nicholas' Manna" or Myrrh. This myrrh continues to come off of his bones today in Italy, and many icons of St Nicholas have given off a similar substance, instead of the usual oil or tears that we find in Marian icons

Nicholas is the patron of Russia, Greece, sailors, children, the poor, travelers, falsely accused prisoners, pawnbrokers, and many other needs. He is also the special patron of our own Byzantine-Ruthenian Catholic Church. The center of monastic life and the residence of the bishops of our Church was the monastery of Saint Nicholas in the town of Mukachevo, for at least 700 years. Because of that history going back to medieval times, our holy Father Nicholas' feast is celebrated with joy and solemnity

