

August 4, 2024 / Tone 2 / 11th Sunday After Pentecost

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



### TRANSFIGURATION – SEEING THE LIGHT OF GOD

“I am the Light of the world” (Jn 8:12). These familiar words of the Lord Jesus reflect one of the most popular images in the Scriptures, but what do they mean? How is Jesus the Light of the world?

The rest of this verse sheds light on what is meant here. “*I am the Light of the world. He who follows me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.*” Here and in a number of other places, Jesus is portrayed as a *Beacon*: one who guides along a right path, who illumines the way for us. He is the “Giver of light,” the One bringing light to our hearts. To say that He is light in this way is to talk about what he does.

But there is another way to see Christ as light. He is light, not only because of what He does for us, but because of what He is. “*God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all*” (1 Jn 1:5). God is not described here as light illumining our minds or hearts, but as *He is in Himself*: Light in His innermost being.

Based on the Gospel message, the Church proclaims the Lord Jesus as “Light from Light” (Nicene Creed), the “Joyful Light of the holy glory of the immortal Father, the Heavenly, the Holy, the Blessed: Jesus Christ” (third-century Vespers hymn). As God is Light in Himself, so too the incarnate Christ is the Light of the Father. “*I and the Father are one*” (Jn 10:30).

As far back as the third century, the Fathers used our experience of the sun to illustrate this mystery. Like others before him,

St Cyril, the ninth-century teacher of the Slavs, reflected, “Do you see in the heavens the brilliant sphere of the sun and how light is begotten and warmth proceeds from it? God the Father is like the sphere of the sun, without beginning or end. From Him is eternally begotten God the Son, like light from the sun; and just as there comes warmth together with light, the Holy Spirit proceeds. Each one is distinguished separately: the sphere of the sun, the light and the warmth – these are not three suns, but one sun in the heavens. So also, in the Holy Trinity: there are three Persons, but God is one and indivisible.”

The Light of Mt. Tabor

Christ was concretely manifested as light at His Transfiguration. “*His face shone like the sun and His clothes became as white as light*” (Mt 17:2) – “*white and glistening*” (Lk 9:29), “*such as no launderer on earth can whiten them*” (Mk 9:3). For a moment, His disciples glimpsed what had been hidden since the Incarnation: the Word of God, radiant with divine glory, in the person of Jesus.

In icons of the Transfiguration, this radiance is depicted by a geometric figure behind the representation of the Lord, called a *mandorla*. While depictions of Christ during His earthly ministry show His head surrounded by a cross and a halo, icons representing Him in moments beyond time and space (e.g. the Transfiguration, the Resurrection, the Dormition) envelop His whole body in this light of glory.

This same figure is found in icons of the conversion of St Paul. Christ, the “radiant Light” was manifested to Saul of Tarsus (St Paul) on the road to Damascus as “*a light from the sky brighter than the sun*” (Acts 26:13). While this light briefly blinded Saul by its brilliance, it ultimately enabled him to see even more clearly “*the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed*” (Col 1:26).

In the Church, the light experienced by Saul has been identified with the light that shone on Tabor, the Radiant Light of the Father, Jesus Christ. As we sing on the feast of Saints Peter and Paul, “Christ, who had been radiant in light on the mountain, blinded your bodily eyes; but He allowed your soul to see the Trinity” (from the canon, ode 1).

**Holy Protection of Mary Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix  
Most Reverend Kurt Burnette 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](http://www.olphnm.org)**

**OFFICE HOURS:**

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

**Advisory Board**

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

**Finance Council**

Matthew Blain, Maria Alden

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

**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 at: [ps://  
www.olphnm.org/giving](http://ps://www.olphnm.org/giving).

**Confession (Mystery of Reconciliation):**

9:00—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!

**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!**

***1 Corinthians 9:2-12; Matthew 18:23-35***

**YouTube Live** 8:30 am Rosary; 9:00 am Matins & Confessions  
10:00 am Divine Liturgy / Mystery of Chrismation and First Holy Communion to Elias Vargas / Intention for the Parishioners of OLPH  
Eternal Lamp: Holy Protection of the Mother of God over People of Ukraine

**Aug 5 Mon**

***Eusignius Martyr / 2 Cor 5:10-15; Mk 1:9-15***



6:00 pm Vigil Divine Liturgy / Blessing of Litija / Blessing of Fruit  
+Gertrude Cupryk by Dan Cupryk

**Aug 6 Tue**

***Transfiguration of Our Lord / Solemn Holy Day / 2 Pet 1:10-19; Mt 17:1-9***

9:00 am Divine Liturgy / Blessing of Fruit / God's Blessing on Mady Davis by Shari  
6:00 pm Advisory Board Meeting

**Aug 7 Wed**

***Dometius Venerable Martyr / 2 Cor 6:11-16; Mk 1:23-28***



5:30 pm OLPH Devotions  
6:00 pm Divine Liturgy / Pro-life Liturgy by Svenssons

**Aug 8 Thu**

***Emilian Bishop Confessor / 2 Cor 7:1-10; Mk 1:29-35***

**Aug 9 Fri**

***Matthias Apostle / Acts 1:12-17.21-26; Lk 9:1-6***



9:00 am Prayer & Witness in front of abortion clinic on Lomas  
6:00 pm Divine Liturgy / God's Blessing on Shana David by Shari

**Aug 10 Sat**

***Lawrence Archdeacon Martyr / 1 Cor 1:26-29; Mt 20:29-34***

9:00 am Divine Liturgy (masks required) / God's Blessing on OLPH Prayer Warriors

**Aug 11 Sun**

***12th Sunday After Pentecost / 1 Cor 15:1-11; Mt 19:16-26***

4:00 pm Great Vespers (YouTube Live)  
Hebrew Scriptures for Sunday:  
Numbers 24:1-9; Samuel 12:1-8; Sirach 26:13-19a; 27:14-22

5:00 pm Divine Liturgy / Holy Souls by Svenssons

**YouTube LIVE**

8:30 am Rosary; 9:00 am Matins & Confessions  
10:00 am Divine Liturgy / Mysteries of Christian Initiation for Abigail Katerina Beaudet / Intention for the Parishioners of OLPH

Eternal Lamp : Holy Protection of the Mother of God over People of Ukraine

**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	Harry & Barbara	Janet Worthington
Jenny Ford	De Lap	Patti Klinkovsky
Marilyn Fore	Irene Bradley	Matt Williamson
Sven & Barbara	Soriah Chavez	James Epstein
Svensson	Abraham Haddad	Katy Ford
Laurie Bienz	Marianne Gerace	Alton Bertschinger
Brent Dodson-	Michael Baron	Madalyn Davis
Sands	Gabriel Preisler	Rebecca Russo
Lara Davis	Jessica Pieniadz	Jacob McTernan
Carol Donlin	Rhonda	Paola Terlaza
Marcie Dark	Glasscock	Vicki Frank
Jesse Hebert	Amber Roybal	Jennifer Herring
Fr Chris Zuggger	Philip Leahy	Emily
Fr Chris Andrews	Juanita Montoya	Wojciechowski
Fr Robert Rankin	Linda Granci	Fr Joel Barstad
Fr. Steve Washko	Christopher	Fr. Joseph
Buster Miscusi	Barlow	Wargaki
Richard Jacobs	Joel Ford	Fr James
	Jordan Smith	Bankston

### 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 / August

For the pastoral care of the sick

We pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.

### Prayer for Vocations

"The lord of that slave, moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt." In today's parable, we see our Lord acting out of a compassion that transcends what we deserve and brings forgiveness in the midst of debt. Is a life of prayer and compassion through the religious or ordained life something that God is calling you to consider? To learn more, contact the Vocations Office at 206-329-9219 or email: [vocations@ephx.org](mailto:vocations@ephx.org)



Vocation Icon

Today:  
Goetzner Family  
Next Sunday:  
Fedorowich Family

**August 11, 2024**

Cantor: Evie Jilek

Reader: Brook Jilek

Altar Server: Michael Grega

Trojica: Eva Riley

Counters: Mary Blain

**Propers for August 11, 2024**

**12th Sunday after Pentecost.**

**Post-festive day of Transfiguration.**

**Tone 3**

Antiphons & Entrance Hymn - 350-1

Troparion (Tone 3) - 135

Troparion (Feast) - 347

*v. Glory...*

Kontakion (Feast) - 348

*v. Now & Ever...*

Theotokion - 406

Prokeimenon & Alleluia - 137 & 348

Magnification & Irmos - 349

Our Father - 68

Communion - 78 & 350 [A]

**The OLPH Prayer Warriors**

make intercessory prayer a daily commitment. We pray voluntarily and without bias; that is, we take to the Blessed Trinity the requests that come our way.

The Prayer Warriors meet on Zoom every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. for themed meetings. **If you would like to join the Prayer Warriors**, would like additional information, and/or would like for us to pray for your intentions, please contact Patricia at [pcb@unm.edu](mailto:pcb@unm.edu)

**Inhora: a home for every person at the hour of death**

NM laws are anti-life from conception (abortion) to the last breath (euthanasia). Inhora will serve those at the end of life, giving those in need a home with compassionate pro-life care. Help Inhora by: Praying / Donating / Volunteering  
Contact Miles for more information.

## Coming Events—Mark Your Calendars Now

Wed Aug 14 Thu Aug 15	<b>Dormition of the Theotokos Holy Day of Obligation</b> 6:00 pm Deposition of the Shroud / Liturgy / Blessing of Flowers 9:00 am Divine Liturgy / Myrovanije
Aug 23 & 24	<b>Women's Day of Spiritual Reflection</b>
Thu Aug 29 Wed Aug 28	<b>Beheading of John the Baptist</b> Simple Holy Day 6:00 pm Vigil Divine Liturgy
Sun Sep 1	<b>Beginning of the New Church Year</b>
Fri Sep 13 Sat Sep 14	<b>Exaltation of the Holy Cross Solemn Holy Day</b> 6:00 pm Vigil Divine Liturgy / Blessing of Litija 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
Mon Sep 30	<b>Protection of the Theotokos Solemn Holy Day</b> 6:00 pm Vigil Divine Liturgy
Sep 30— Oct 4	<b>Annual Clergy Retreat in Tucson AZ</b>
Tue Oct 15	<b>Celebration of the OLPH 50th Jubilee</b> 3:30 pm Hierarchical Divine Liturgy 6:00 pm Dinner at Sheraton 7:30 pm Dancing with a live band (Die Polka Schlingels)
Fri Nov 8	<b>Archangel Michael and All Angels</b> Solemn Holy Day 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy
Fri Nov 15	<b>Beginning of Phillip's Fast</b>
Thu Nov 21 Wed Nov 20	<b>Entrance of the Theotokos Solemn Holy Day</b> 6:00 pm Vigil Divine Liturgy
Fri Dec 6	<b>Nicholas of Myra Archbishop Solemn Holy Day</b> 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy
Tue Dec 24	<b>Vigil of Christmas / Strict Fast</b> 10:00 am Royal Hours 4:30 pm Holy Supper 7:00 pm Vigil Liturgy of St. Basil
Wed Dec 25	<b>Christmas Birth of Our Lord Holy Day of Obligation</b> 9:00 am Matins 10:00 am Festive Liturgy

**The OLPH Theosis study group** would like to invite our Church members to join our group. We meet on Zoom twice a month. (Usually the 2nd & 4th Thursday). Soon we will start reading a new book, "Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture: Acts of the Apostles". Please send an email to Lara (crowhopdavis@yahoo.com) or Eva (eva@gravitypad.com) for more information if you would like to join the study of Holy Scriptures.

**We rejoice with Christopher and Samantha Beudet on birth of their fourth child, baby girl Abigail Katerina on Saturday July 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:24 am.** She weighed 6 lbs 4 oz and is 19.5 inches long. Grant O Lord to the new born Abigail Katerina and to the God-loving Beudet Family peace, health and happiness for many and blessed years!!!!

This year's Women's Day of Spiritual Reflection will be **August 23 and 24 at the Norbertine Abbey:** Our teaching will be an introduction to Lord Teach Me to Pray. LTMTTP is a prayer method based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. This series has been approved by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Fr. Artur has approved of LTMTTP for our Day of Reflection. **Please see the pamphlet on the Cabinet in the back for information and registration.**

### **EPARCHIAL APPEAL 2024**

The Annual Eparchial Appeal this year runs from **February 1st to August 31st.** The pledge form and information for the appeal was mailed directly from the Bishop's office to your home. **Collected to date: \$9,162.00. Thank you to the Serna Family.** Did you remember to send in your pledge? Our average giving has been about \$300.00 per household. Please, send your pledge directly to the Bishop's office in Phoenix, AZ, and our checks made to the Eparchy of Phoenix. Thank you for your support!

**The Sisters of St. Basil the Great Warmly invite you to the 90th Annual Pilgrimage In honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help**

Theotokos: Our Rock, Our Refuge, and Our Strength Celebrating 90 Years of Grace  
Mount Saint Macrina Uniontown, Pennsylvania  
(724) 438-8644 [www.sistersofstbasil.org](http://www.sistersofstbasil.org)  
(more information and schedule available on the greeting table)

### **Ask a Priest Anything Questions:**

#### **How do I pray for those who have committed suicide?**

Those who commit suicide are souls who were suffering and saw no way out other than such a drastic act. It is sad when this happens, and we need to pray not only for them, but for those left behind who are usually bewildered and left feeling "I should have known" or "I should have done something." So, while it is the same as praying for anyone else who has died – making a point of having Masses/ Divine Liturgies offered for their soul; if you are attending our parish, put their name on your All Souls list – I would also encourage you to reach out to the survivors and help them. There are so many unanswered questions and so much pain. In your daily prayers, pray for the repose of the souls of those who died in despair and pain. If you or someone you know is in crisis, you can call or text 988 at any time of day or night. You can also go to <https://afsp.org/find-a-support-group/> to find a local support group for friends and relatives of those who committed suicide, <https://www.cdc.gov/suicide/resources/index.html> for more information about preventing suicide and helping people in need. Despite what you see on TV shows, the Church does NOT condemn people who committed suicide, or refuse them burial in consecrated ground. We recognize that there is despair and mental illness involved, and the Church wants to reach out to the families and loved ones at such a critical time.

## The Paraclesis to the Theotokos (Supplicatory Canon)

In the Byzantine Churches of the Mediterranean world, the most prominent feature of the Dormition Fast is the celebration of the Paraclesis to the Theotokos, a service invoking the Virgin's intercession for those we commemorate during the service. It is said that, as the Virgin sensed her approaching death, she prayed continually for her Son's disciples and for those who would believe their message. And so, as the feast of the Domition draws near, we ask her prayers for our Church and our loved ones with a similar intensity.

The Paraclesis to the Theotokos is patterned in part on Orthros (Matins). There is an opening psalm, troparia, a Gospel reading, and a canon, concluding with an incensing of the whole church and a solemn veneration of the Virgin's icon. Intercessory litanies for those whom we are commemorating are interspersed throughout the service.

### For What Do We Pray?

Our liturgical books indicate that this service is prayed "in times of distress and sorrow of soul." The opening troparion expresses these emotions: "We will never cease, O Mother of God, although unworthy, to proclaim your power. If you no longer intercede for us, who will deliver us from so many misfortunes? Who would ever have preserved us free until now? We shall never leave you, O Lady, for you always save you servants from all tribulations."

The canon of the Small Paraclesis is sung to a lively melody and expresses confidence in the Theotokos' care for us, in troparia such as these:

"You who carried within you the Benefactor of all and the Cause of every good favor, let His abundant grace spring forth to all of us. You have the fullness of power, since you've given birth to the Lord, the Almighty One."

"Give me your pure joy, Virgin pure and immaculate, you who gave birth to the cause of happiness, and fill my heart with the gladness of your Son, our God.

The Great Paraclesis adds other notes to our picture of the Virgin as our intercessor:

"I profess you, O Lady, to be truly Theotokos: you who have both banished and triumphed over the might of Death, for as the source of Life, you freed me from Hades' bonds, raising me to life, though I was fallen down to earth."

"The turmoils of this life encircle me like bees around a honeycomb, O Virgin. They have seized my heart and now hold it captive, and I am pierced with the stings of afflictions, O Maiden. Yet, O all-holy one, be my defender, my helper and my rescuer."

One unusual feature of these canons is the following pair of hymns sung after each one, with a metany after each verse:

"Deliver your servants from all dangers, O Mother of God, for to you, after God, we flee for refuge. You are our impregnable fortress, Our intercessor."

"O Mother of God, worthy of all praise, look down with compassion upon the ills of my afflicted body and heal the infirmities of my soul."

Finally the celebrant solemnly venerates the icon of the Theotokos as the following glorification (or megalynarion) is sung: "May the lips of all heretics be sealed because they refuse to bow before your all-holy icon, which is fashioned after the blessed *Hodigitria*, depicted by the holy Luke the Apostle."

This hymn reflects the iconoclastic controversy during which this service was composed. The iconoclasts refused to venerate icons of Christ, His Mother or the saints and for over a century persecuted those who did venerate them.

The *Hodigitria* mentioned here is the image of Christ enthroned on the arm of His Mother who points to Him, showing us the way to the One who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. The original of this icon was reputedly painted by St. Luke. The most famous icon in Constantinople, it was lost during the fall of the city to the Turks in 1453.



**Golden  
Jubilee  
OLPH  
Patronal  
Feast**

