

August 27, 2023 / T one 4
13th Sunday After Pentecost
Christ is Among Us! He is and Always Shall Be!



**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**

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 Zuger, Dan Riley, Rafael Plut,
Jeff Brewer, Michael Grega, Alicia Wells

Finance Council

Matthew Blain, Maria Alden

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

**Father Deacon Thomas Donlin
donlin.thomas@gmail.com**

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

**Frchris.zugger@gmail.com
www.frchriszugger.com**

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

**Confession (Mystery of
Reconciliation):**

9:00—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
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 re-
ceive the Anointing of the Sick before any
major surgery. Please don't let the priest
be last to know that someone is ill!

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 per-
son 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 infor-
mation. You can do a one-time donation or set-
up 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 sys-
tem. You can donate using your computer /
smartphone at: [ps://www.olphnm.org/giving](https://www.olphnm.org/giving).

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 16:13-24; Matthew 21:33-42

YouTube Live 8:30 am Rosary 9:00 am Festal Matins & Confessions
10:00 am Divine Liturgy for Parish Family, Benefactors & Friends
Eternal Lamp: Holy Protection of the Mother of God over People of Ukraine

Aug 28 Mon ***Moses the Ethiopian Venerable / 2 Cor 12:10-19; Mk 4:10-23***

6:00 pm Vigil Liturgy / main celebrant Fr Tyler
Blessings on Deacon Moses Blain by Svenssons

Aug 29 Tue ***Beheading of John the Baptist / Simple Holy Day Acts 13:25-33; Mk 6:14-30***



Day of Fasting / No Liturgy

Aug 30 Wed ***Alexander, John & Paul Patriarchs / 2 Cor 13:3-13; Mk 4:35-41***

No OLPH Devotions
No Liturgy

Aug 31 Thu ***Deposition of the Sash of the Theotokos / Heb 9:1-7; Lk 10:38-42 & 11:27-28***

Sept 1 Fri ***Beginning of the Church Year / Simeon Venerable / 1 Tim 2:1-7; Lk 4:16-22***



9:00 am Prayer & Witness in front of abortion clinic on San Mateo/Lomas
No Liturgy

Sept 2 Sat ***Mammas Martyr / 1 Cor 4:1-5; Mt 23:1-12***

Sept 3 Sun ***14th Sunday After Pentecost / 2 Cor 1:21-2:4; Mt 22:1-14***

4:00 pm Great Vespers / YouTube LIVE
5:00 pm Liturgy / main celebrant Fr. Tyler / Prayer Warriors by Svenssons
Hebrew Scriptures for Sunday: Numbers 27:1-11; 1 Samuel 18:1-9; Isaiah 29:13-24

YouTube LIVE 8:30 am Rosary
9:00 am Matins & Confessions
10:00 am Divine Liturgy for Parish Family, Benefactors & Friends / celebrant Fr. Tyler
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

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
Marilyn Fore	Irene Bradley	Linda Granci
Sven & Barbara	Soriah Chavez	Vicki Frank
Svensson	Abraham Haddad	Christopher
Laurie Bienz	Marianne Gerace	Barlow
Brent Dodson-	Lori Medina	Jordan Smith
Sands	Michael Baron	Janet Worthing-
Lara Davis	Gabriel Preisler	ton
Carol Donlin	Jessica Pieniadz	Patti Klinkovsky
Marcie Dark	Rhonda	Matt Williamson
Jesse Hebert	Glasscock	James Epstein
Fr Chris Zuger	Amber Roybal	Katy Ford
Fr Chris Andrews	Philip Leahy	Alton & Barbara
Fr Robert Rankin	Juanita Montoya	Bertschinger
Fr. Steve Washko	Jacob McTernan	Sean Barlow

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 World Youth Day

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

"The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the work of the Lord, and a marvel in our eyes." The unfaithful servants had the kingdom of God taken from them. Today, our Church needs faithful servants who would answer his calling to marriage, holy orders and the monastic life to bring the kingdom of God to all. Are you being called to discern a religious vocation as a faithful servant? If so, contact the Vocations Office at 206-329-9219 or email: vocations@ephx.org



Vocation Icon

Today: Davidson-Talley
Family

Next Sunday: Carol Donlin

September 3, 2023

Cantor: Andrea Riley

Reader: Michael Wells

Altar Server: Michael Grega

Trojca: Ellie Montano

Counters: Rita Montano &
Michael Wells

Propers for 9/3/23

14th Sunday after Pentecost / Tone 5

Troparion- 146

v. Glory...

Kontakion - 147

v. Now & Ever...

Theotokion - 406

Prokeimenon & Alleluia - 148

Our Father - 70

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 pocb@unm.edu

Alicia's Hall Report

Last Sunday we celebrated Lucy's 12th birthday (and unofficially Michael's and my 16th and Alicia's birthday, which is today :) with some Milly's enchiladas- red, green, and cheese and cake. My parents brought beans, Julia brought rice and guacamole, Savanna and her helpers chopped up some yummy cucumbers and carrots, Madeline brought watermelon, and Mary Rose brought chips and salsa. Thanks to everyone who brought food, helped set up, serve, and clean up! We need more metal utensils so we can transition towards a no-waste kitchen. If anyone has utensils that are in decent shape that they would like to donate to our kitchen, please bring them in! Please sign up to host or co-host, set up, serve, or clean up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054AAAAA2AA4F94-olph#/> Thank you!

Coming Events—Mark Your Calendars Now

Fri Sep 8	Birth of the Theotokos/Solemn Holy Day 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy
Thu Sep 14	Exaltation of the Holy Cross/ Solemn Holy Day
Wed Sep 13	6:00 pm Rite of the Exaltation of the Cross Vigil Liturgy
Mon Sep 18	6:00 pm Advisory Board Meeting
Sun Oct 1	Feast of the Holy Protection of the Theotokos
Oct 16-20	Clergy Retreat in Carefree AZ
Nov 2-5	Assembly of the Byzantine Church 2023 in Hillsborough, NJ https://form.jotform.com/230514012134134
Wed Nov 8	Archangel Michael and All Angels Solemn Holy Day 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy
Tue, Nov 14	Beginning of Phillip's Fast
Tue Nov 21	Entrance of the Theotokos Solemn Holy Day
Mon Nov 20	6:00 pm Vigil Liturgy
Wed Dec 6	Nicholas of Myra Archbishop Solemn Holy Day 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy
Fri Dec 8	Maternity of the Holy Anna Solemn Holy Day 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy
Fri & Sat Dec 15 & 16	Women's Day of Reflection
Fri Dec 22 Strict Fast	9:00 am Royal Hours 7:00 pm Great Compline
Mon Dec 25	Christmas-Birth of Our Lord Holy Day of Obligation 9:00 am Matins 10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Tue Dec 26,	Synaxis of the Theotokos Solemn Holy Day 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy
Wed Dec 27	Stephen Protomartyr Simple Holy Day 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy

EPARCHIAL APPEAL 2023

The goal for our parish: \$18,320.60

Rebate 10%

Collected to date: \$20,225.00\$

The campaign ends on August 31. All donations need to be to the Eparchy by that day.
May God bless you for generous and sacrificial response!

MANDATORY SAFE ENVIRONMENT ONLINE TRAINING FOR ALL THE VOLUNTEERS

Reminder: PLEASE, CHECK your Safe Environment Compliance Certificate Expiration date. Please note that Online Virtus training for many will be expiring within Aug-Sept-October. The Eparchy's revised Safe Environment Policy no longer allows for lapses in compliance - either in Virtus training or in background screenings - for ALL OLPH VOLUNTEERS AND EXPLORER YOUTH GROUP LEADERS. Anyone falling out of compliance at any point must immediately cease from their designated area of service at OLPH until such time as they are in compliance once again. No one - not members of the clergy, volunteers, educators, employees etc. - may serve for even one day when out of SEP compliance. Thank you for your vigilance in this matter.

Historic Gathering of the Byzantine Catholic Church in America

You are invited to Participate! Metropolitan Archbishop William, Bishop Kurt, and the Council of Hierarchs of the Byzantine Catholic Church invite YOU to attend the "Metropolitan Assembly" at St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church in Hillsborough, New Jersey, on Friday, November 3 through Sunday, November 5, 2023! The theme of the Assembly is to "learn about our past and to prepare for our future!" Guest speakers include Dr. Paul Magosci, noted Author and Historian; Bishop Nil Lushchak of the Eparchy of Mukachevo; Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of New York; as well as other clergy and lay leaders. The Assembly includes lectures, discussions, fellowship, and a gala dinner with folk music and dancing. The fee includes meals, breaks, presentations, materials, and the gala on Saturday evening. The Assembly cost is \$250 for individuals and \$400 for couples. The Maria Theresa Foundation will underwrite the registration fees of individuals and couples between 18 and 35. For more information, contact the Assembly coordinators, Fr. Ed Cimbala, at 212-677-0516 or Fr. Yuriy Oros at 609-394-5004. The assembly website is <https://www.byzantineassembly2023.org/> and the email is byzantineassembly2023@gmail.com. Hope to see YOU there!

Ask A Priest Questions by Fr. Chris Zuger

Can you lust after your spouse? The answer, unfortunately, is yes, if you are treating your husband or wife as a sexual object. Lust by definition is involved with fulfilling one's own sexual desires. Spouses have to always, always treat one another with respect, with true love.

Are Harry Potter books/ movies Satanic? First off, J. K. Rowling set about to write a series of good versus evil, not the devil. And in the end, good always triumphs in her books. That is a basic Christian message. She herself is a Christian, and has said that the fact that she is a believer seems to aggravate her critics more than if she was an atheist! Nor does she believe in the magic ceremonies she describes – rather, she wanted to emphasize that Harry and his friends are courageous and do the right thing so as to defeat wicked forces.

Secondly, Msgr. Peter Fleetwood of the Pontifical Council for Culture made a point of exempting the Harry Potter series when issuing a document that warned about the dangers of New Age ideology and writings back in February, 2003. New Age stuff claims Jesus is a manifestation of a so-called cosmic Christ in the universe and invokes such things as "healing crystals" and "channeling" spirits. Fleetwood emphasized that the Potter series were about the triumph of good and the defeat of evil. "They help children to see the difference between good and evil. And she is very clear on this."

August 29th - The Beheading of St John the Baptist

The Gospels depict St John the Baptist as the “forerunner” or herald announcing the immanent coming of God’s saving work in Jesus Christ. In the Gospel of Mark, for example, we read, “*There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit*” (Mk 1:7, 8).

The coming of the Messiah was the focus of John’s message about the kingdom of God. “*In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand’*” (Mt 3:1). This “kingdom” is none other than Jesus in whom the will of His Father governed His every action. Thus He is the kingdom personified.

The Story of John’s Struggle

We read the story of John’s final fight “for the sake of truth” in Mark’s Gospel. “*For Herod himself had sent and laid hold of John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife; for he had married her. Because John had said to Herod, ‘It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife’*” (Mk 6:17, 18).

John languished in prison because Herod had a superstitious fear of the prophet. He revered John as a holy man but could not bring himself to follow the Baptist’s teachings.

“*Then an opportune day came when Herod on his birthday gave a feast for his nobles, the high officers, and the chief men of Galilee. And when Herodias’ daughter herself came in and danced, and pleased Herod and those who sat with him, the king said to the girl, ‘Ask me whatever you want, and I will give it to you.’ He also swore to her, ‘Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half my kingdom’*” (Mk 6:21-23).

What followed has been frequently retold in literature, music, painting and sculpture. Prompted by her mother, Salome asks for the head of John: “*I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter*” (v. 25). Because of the oath he had sworn in the presence of his guests, Herod agreed and had John beheaded, making possible the prophet’s ministry in Hades.

John’s work as herald of our salvation was not limited to announcing the beginning of Christ’s ministry in Galilee. Our troparion for today’s commemoration mentions that John baptized the Lord Jesus. Then, it continues, “You have fought for the sake of truth and proclaimed to those in Hades that God who appeared in the flesh has taken away the sins of the world and bestowed His great mercy upon us.” John’s ministry continued after death as he announced to the dead in Hades that Christ’s coming was close at hand.

Did John Witness in Hades?

As the Gospels affirm, Jesus was still alive when John was executed. But the New Testament does not teach that John witnessed to Christ in Hades. How and when did this concept enter our tradition?

Origen of Alexandria, foremost commentator on the Scriptures in the third century, explained that John the Baptist had died before Christ, “so that he might descend to the lower regions and announce His coming. For everywhere the witness and forerunner of Jesus is John, being born before and dying shortly before the Son of God, so that not only to those of his generation but likewise to those who lived before Christ should liberation from the death be preached, and that he might everywhere prepare a people trained to receive the Lord” (Origen, *Homily on Luke 4*).

Those in Hades would “receive the Lord” upon His death as we read in the New Testament: “*Christ also died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit; in which he went and preached to the spirits in prison, who formerly did not obey...*” (1 Pt 3:18, 19). A number of the apostolic Fathers such as Saints Polycarp of Smyrna, Ignatius of Antioch, Irenaeus of Lyons, and Clement of Alexandria all taught that Christ had descended into Hades. We find the same teaching in the Syriac Fathers Jacob of Sarouj, Aphrahat the Persian and Ephrem the Syrian as well as the Greek Fathers Athanasius the Great, Basil the Great, Gregory Nazianzen, John Chrysostom, Cyril of Alexandria, Maximus the Confessor and John of Damascus.

Our most common icon of the resurrection depicts Christ emerging from Hades leading out by the hand Adam and Eve (and, by implication, the human race). In many icons John the Forerunner is beside Him, at the head of those who had died before Christ and were now brought to eternal life by Him.

Our Observance of John's Death

Because John, whom the Lord Himself had called the greatest man born of woman, was killed as a result of Herod's birthday revels, the Byzantine Churches observe today as a strict fast: no parties, no luxury foods, no drink. We see where these things can lead.

A number of popular local customs have arisen to mark this day among various Eastern Christians. In various places people may:

Avoid eating anything on round plates, since Salome asked for John's head "on a platter" (Mk 6:25). Use bowls instead.

Avoid eating any round fruits or vegetables (they resemble a head).

Avoid eating anything that requires use of knives or anything that cuts.

Avoid eating or drinking anything red (they remind us of blood).

A contemporary way to observe this commemoration might be to fast and pray for those who have died senselessly at the hands of others through terrorism, armed conflicts or senseless violence. Think of them as John's "companions in suffering."

New Church Year by Fr. Chris Zugger

Happy New Year! We begin the liturgical year, on September 1st. This goes back to the fifth century, when liturgical life needed a fixed date (the Latin Church begins on the Sunday closest to Saint Andrew's Day, Nov. 30). The Mediterranean cultures generally started their year after the harvest was in, before planting winter crops, so in the East September 1 became the start of the fiscal year. It was also the only way to have a fixed date close to the Jewish New Year of Rosh Hashanah as observed by Jesus in His lifetime. It also became the start of the fiscal year for the Eastern Roman Empire.

This tradition remains, and the Scriptures of the day proclaim a new beginning for all in Christ our Lord, as Jesus quotes Isaiah 61 and applies the reading to Himself: *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; because the Lord has anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek, He has sent me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the openings of the prison to them at are bound. To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all that mourn."* (cf. Luke 4:16-22).

Note that in the Eastern Christian world that the New Year *"does not call for wine and song but for contemplation and reflection, if not for meditation and prayer, if for only a brief period. It is a time to pause, refresh the spirit and congratulate ourselves for another year as a member of a time-honored faith."* – V.S. Bulgakov.

The year is always THE YEAR OF THE LORD - He is the supreme Ruler. The prayers make that very clear: *"O Lord, Creator of all things, who by Your authority have established times and seasons, bless the beginning of our Church year with Your goodness; preserve Your people in peace, and through the intercessions of the Theotokos, save us."*

Let us make the coming months truly the Year of the Lord in our hearts, families, and communities.