# October 22, 2023 / T one 4 Feast of Saint John Paul the Great 21st Sunday A fter Pentecost Christ is Among Us! He is and Always Shall Be!

Where does one begin with this saint? At his death, one million people from around the world packed Rome's streets chanting "santo subito!" or " Sainthood Now". Born Karol Wojtyla, he had Ukrainian relatives who familiarized him with the Byzantine Church and Jewish school friends who made him sympathetic to Judaism. While managing the implementation of Vatican II reforms in Poland, he kept traditional practices that helped keep the Church stable. He was a forced laborer under the Nazis while being engaged in underground theater to



keep Polish culture alive in its own country where Nazi ideology sought to destroy it. A secret seminarian, he was ordained when Poland had become Communist. As archbishop of Krakow he fought the communists for the rights of believers and the Church. When he emerged as Pope in 1978, he encouraged people "Be not afraid" and helped with the overthrow of communism in Poland and eastern Europe by preaching respect for people as being made in the image and likeness of God and being valuable not for their economic output but as children of God. He was a prolific traveler who electrified the crowds who came to see him. He gave witness to the value of Christian dying at the same time that Terri Schiavo was legally murdered in America by being denied nutrition so that her husband could remarry. A son of Poland, his close friend in the Vatican was a German from an anti-Nazi family, Cardinal Josef Ratzinger, who would succeed him. A great theologian and teacher, his Theology of the Body continues to positively affect marriage preparation programs and redeems human sexuality from the corruption of modern sensualism and pornography. He was an amazing pontiff, who wanted above all to pray. John Paul II canonized 111 saints and beatified over 1,000; he himself was beatified in 2011 and canonized in 2014 with John XXIII.

#### 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 Zugger, Dan Riley, Rafael Plut, Jeff Brewer, Michael Grega, Alicia Wells

Finance Council
Matthew Blain, Maria Alden

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.

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

Father Deacon Thomas Donlin donlin.thomas@gmail.com

Father Christopher Zugger 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 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!

Gal 2:16-20; Lk 16:19-31

8:30 am Rosary 9:00 am Festal Matins & Confessions

YouTube Live 10:00 am Divine Liturgy for Parish Family, Benefactors & Friends

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

5:30 pm Ask A Priest

Oct 23 Mon James Apostle Bother of the Lord / Gal 1:11-19; Mt 13:54-58

9:00 am +Sven-Bertil & +Florence Svensson by Svenssons

Oct 24 Tue Arethas and Others Martyrs / Col 2:20-3:3; Lk 11:1-10

9:00 am +William & Rosemary Frank by Svenssons

Oct 25 Wed Marcian and Matyrius Martyrs / Col 3:17-4:1; Lk 11:9-13

6:00 pm God's Blessing on Shana and Mady Davis by Shari

8:30 am Visit from Annunciation Confirmation class

6:45 pm THEOSIS (zoom)

Oct 27 Fri Nestor Martyr / Col 4:10-18; Lk 11:23-26

9:00 am Prayer & Witness in front of abortion clinic on San Mateo/Lomas

No Liturgy

Oct 28 Sat Parakevia Martyr / 2 Cor 5:1-10; Lk 8:16-21

Oct 29 Sun 22nd Sunday After Pentecost / Gal 6:11-18; Lk 8:26-39

4:00 pm Great Vespers / YouTube LIVE

Hebrew Scriptures for Sunday:

Joshua 1:1-8; 1 Kings 4:29-34; Sirach 45:28-46:6

5:00 pm +Mary Rabayda (Main celebrant Bishop John Pazak)

YouTube LIVE 8:30 am Rosary

9:00 am Matins & Confessions

**ECF classes**10:00 am Divine Liturgy for Parish Family, Benefactors & Friends

Main Celebrant Bishop John Pazak

Eternal Lamp: +Ivan Strutynskyi by Strutynskyi Family

YOUTUBE LIVE-STREAMING: OLPH Sunday / Holy Day Liturgies are available on YouTube. The link is <a href="https://youtube.com/c/olphmedia">https://youtube.com/c/olphmedia</a>. 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
Jenny Ford
Marilyn Fore
Sven & Barbara
Svensson
Laurie Bienz
Brent DodsonSands
Lara Davis
Carol Donlin
Marcie Dark
Jesse Hebert
Fr Chris Zugger
Fr Chris Andrews
Fr Robert Rankin

Buster Miscusi
Barbara De Lap
Irene Bradley
Soriah Chavez
Abraham Haddad
Marianne Gerace
Michael Baron
Gabriel Preisler
Jessica Pieniadz
Rhonda
Glasscock
Amber Roybal
Philip Leahy
Juanita Montoya
Jacob McTernan

Paola Terlaza
Ruth Sousa
Linda Granci
Vicki Frank
Christopher Barlow
Jordan Smith
Janet Worthington
Patti Klinkovsky
Matt Williamson
James Epstein
Katy Ford
Alton & Barbara
Bertschinger



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 October / For the Synod We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

"Let anyone with ears to hear listen!" Our Lord teaches us the truth of our hearts and his word in today's parable. Are we ready to have ears to hear his word with an honest and good heart, to retain it and bring forth fruit with endurance? This is the calling for all of us, and for some of us that includes a special dedication through the ordained, religious or monastic life. If this may be for you to discern, contact the Vocations Office at 206-329-9219 or email: <a href="mailto:vocations@ephx.org">vocations@ephx.org</a>





Vocation Icon
Today: Talamante Family
Pam Pettit
Next Sunday:
Talamante Family
Pam Pettit

#### October 29, 2023

Cantor: Andrea Riley Reader: Michael Wells Altar Server: Michael Grega Troijca: Emilia Wells

Counters: Maria Alden & Ann Rajala

#### **Propers for 10/29/23** 22nd 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

Thanks to Julia for coordinating the social and bringing pulled pork last week! Sounds like it was delicious! Thanks to all who brought beans, rice, leftover sausage from Brook's birthday the week before and to Cathy Sullivan for the delicious cupcakes. A huge thanks to Laura and Mario for cleaning up! Next will will have an Asian foods potluck. Please sign up here to bring food & help clean:

https://www.signupgenius.com/ go/10C054AAAAAA2AA4F94-olph, Have a blessed week!

## Coming Events—Mark Your Calendars Now

coming Events Mark 70di Calendars 140W	
Nov 2-5	Assembly of the Byzantine Church 2023 in Hillsborough, NJ https://form.jotform.com/230514012134134
	Archangel Michael and All Angels
Wed Nov 8	Solemn Holy Day 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy
Mon Nov 13	6:00 pm Advisory Board Meeting
Tue, Nov 14	Beginning of Phillip's Fast
Tue Nov 21	Entrance of the Theotokos
Mon Nov 20	Solemn Holy Day 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
Mon Jan 1 2024	Circumcision / Solemn Holy Day 10:00 am Divine Liturgy of St Basil / Blessing of Litija / Myrovanije
Fri Jan 5	Vigil of Theophany
Day of Strict Fast	Noon— carpool to Rio Grande (parking lot of the National Hispanic Cultural Center on Avenida Chavez) Procession to the River 1:00pm Great Vespers with the Great Blessing of the Rio Grande
Sat Jan 6	Theophany of Our Lord / Holy Day of Obligation 9:00 am Divine Liturgy of St. Basil Great Blessing of Water / Myrovanije

#### Safe Environment:

The Eparchy, within all its parishes, institutions, and programs, is committed to assuring a Safe Environment in ministry for its children and vulnerable adults that conforms to the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. For additional information regarding the eparchial Safe Environment Program or to report any concerns, please contact:

Subdeacon Paul Kilroy, Safe Environment Program Coordinator

Cell: (480) 745-0316 -- Office: (602) 861-9778 ext. 204 -- Email: sbdcnkilroy@ephx.org

or -

Victim Assistance Coordinator, Michael Hanafin Cell: (480) 307-5182 -- Email: vac@ephx.org

**Dear ladies of OLPH**, you are cordially invited to join us at the Norbertine Abbey on December 15-16, 2023 for our annual day of reflection. This year our reflection will be led by Susanna Van Vickle, mother of five, a Catholic school teacher, and former lay missionary of Family Missions company from Dallas, Texas. You may opt for an overnight (in a single or double room) or just join us for the day program on Saturday, December 16. Come reflect on the JOY of Jesus as we prepare to celebrate His birth! Registration/Information brochures are available online or in the back of the church. Please see Evie Jilek or Cathy Sullivan for more information. Please tell your friends!

#### **OLPH Prayer Warriors** 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The OLPH Prayer Warriors celebrate a 6th Anniversary on November 5, 2023! Glory to the Holy Trinity and our Beloved Mother!

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 from within and beyond our parish. We started out with a small handful of soldiers and have grown to pack of 18 in our "prayer war room." Before the pandemic, our team of adults and children prayed Holy Scriptures together at church on Sundays before Divine Liturgy; however, in recent years we have been meeting via Zoom. The Zoom format has enabled church members living outside of Albuquerque or who are health-compromised to join in. Besides our weekly themed virtual gatherings and monthly rosaries, we pray on our own throughout the week for myriad intentions. We have stormed heaven for conversions, healings and healthcare providers, law enforcement workers and all first responders, prodigals, victims of elder abuse, reconciliations among family members, our church leadership, immigration matters, world events, natural disasters, marriages, births, the repose of souls, financial and professional breakthroughs, working conditions, the recovery of cars, traveling mercies, jobs, houses and personal property, pets, and the general wellbeing of all our OLPH family. We have come to Him in raw need and sincerity, and we have witnessed Him answer our prayers, thereby fortifying our Faith and faith. It has been exciting and edifying to experience the love of our Lord and of our Blessed Mother through His Presence, His Word, and His answers to our fervent prayers. The Prayer Warriors is open to women, men, and children, and we welcome your service! Praise God for raising up a group of mighty warriors committed to the belief that through Him, in Him, with Him, and toward Him, prayer moves worlds. We count it a privilege to pray for your intentions; please send them to Patricia at pocb@unm.edu. If you would like to join the Prayer Warriors, we welcome you with open arms. Thank you,

On Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, Fr. Artur will offer masked Divine Liturgy for the OLPH Prayer Warriors at 9:00 a.m. On Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, everyone is invited to join the OLPH Prayer Warriors for masked Divine Liturgy at 9:00 am. Liturgy will be followed by a Social, including food and birthday cake, in the social hall where Fr. Artur will deliver a reflection on this occasion. ¡Cristo está entre nosotros!

Fr. Artur, for permitting the creation of the Prayer Warriors!

October 26 — Holy Great Martyr Demetrius is one of the most popular soldier-saints of the Eastern Churches, being honored from Egypt to Lebanon to Russia and all points in between. Demetrius was an officer in the Roman army, and belonged to one of Rome's ancient patrician families with the right to speak in the Senate. He was killed in the last big persecution of Christians, being pierced with spears, around 306, at the famous town of Sirmium, a major Roman city in modern Serbia which had imperial residences, villas of the Roman nobility, and a massive military base. His relics were moved south into modern Greece, to the city of Thessaloniki, before Sirmium's destruction at the hands of the Avars (582). It is from these bones attributed to St Demetrius that liquid myrrh has been pouring out for over 1,200 years. The liquid has to be collected regularly or else the trough at the base of the shrine would overflow. It is used for anointing the sick, and there have been thousands of miraculous cures. In 1987, the tomb poured forth oil for hours, with thousands coming to soak it up into cotton and containers.

In our Byzantine-Ruthenian Catholic Church, his feast day on October 26 marks the movement of the cattle and sheep herds out of the Carpathian Mountains back down to low-land villages for the winter. If you recall, the herds went up on the feast of the other soldier-saint, George the Great Martyr, on April 23. His protection is invoked against evil spirits, and he is the patron saint of Thessaloniki, and of course he is a co-patron of soldiers (along with SS. George and Sebastian).

#### October 27 - Saint Nestor the Martyr of Thessaloniki

In the time of the suffering of St. Demetrios the Myrrhgusher, there was a young man of Thessalonica, Nestor, who learned the Christian Faith from St. Demetrios himself.

At that time Christ's enemy, Emperor Maximian, organized various games and amusements for the people. The emperor's favorite in these games was a Vandal by the name of Lyaeus, a man of Goliath-like size and strength. As the emperor's gladiator, Lyaeus challenged men every day to single combat and slew them. Thus, the bloodthirsty Lyaeus amused the bloodthirsty, idolatrous Maximian. The emperor built a special stage for Lyaeus's battles, similar to a threshing floor on pillars. Spears, points upward, were planted beneath this platform. When Lyaeus defeated someone in wrestling, he would throw him from the platform onto the forest of spears. The emperor and his pagan subjects cheered as some poor wretch writhed in torment on the spears until he died.

Among Lyaeus's innocent victims were many Christians: when no one volunteered to duel with Lyaeus, by the emperor's orders Christians were arrested and forced to duel with him. Seeing this horrifying amusement of the pagan world, Nestor's heart was torn with pain, and he decided to come forward for a duel with the gigantic Lyaeus. But first, he went to prison to see St. Demetrios and sought a blessing from him to do this. St. Demetrios blessed him, signed him with the sign of the Cross on the forehead and on the chest and prophesied to him: "You will defeat Lyaeus, but you will suffer for Christ." Thus, young Nestor went to duel with Lyaeus.

Maximian was present with a multitude of people; everyone felt pity for the young Nestor, who would surely die, and tried to dissuade him from dueling with Lyaeus. Nestor crossed himself and said: "O God of Demetrios, help me!" and with God's help, he overcame Lyaeus, knocked him down, and threw him onto the sharp spears, where the heavy giant soon found death. Then all the people cried out: "Great is the God of Demetrios!" But the emperor, shamed before the people and sorrowing for his favorite Lyaeus, was greatly angered at Nestor and Demetrios, and commanded that Nestor be beheaded and Demetrios run through with lances. Thus, the Christian hero Nestor ended his earthly life and took up his habitation in the Kingdom of his Lord in the year 306.

# "Ask a Priest" questions by Fr Chris Is Halloween Satanic?

Bear with me on this one as it's more complicated than one would think.

The origin of Halloween comes from the Old English phrase "Evening of All Hallows" or the Vigil of All Saints, the holy day which is kept by the Latin Church on November 1. This feast day in the diocese of Rome arose after 313 AD, as a way of commemorating all of the martyrs of the previous 300 years, and was originally kept on May 13 until it was moved by Pope Gregory III to November 1, to celebrate the dedication of the chapel of All Saints in the basilica of Saint Peter's. All Souls day follows, the commemoration of all those who have died, offering prayers for their repose in the Lord. Halloween was the first day of the triduum of the Days of the Dead. November became the month in which to pray for the Holy Souls in purgatory, and this devotion really accelerated after the horrors of the First World War, in which hundreds of thousands of Catholics died. Pope Benedict XV gave priests the privilege to offer three Masses of the Dead on November 2 as a result of the war.

There is no connection whatsoever with the Celtic festival of *Samhain*. That harvest-season festival died out after the Irish, Scots, and Welsh converted, and since they didn't use the Roman calendar, they certainly did not have an observance of October 31. Little is known of that holiday and somebody came up with the *alleged* connection during the Reformation as a good way to stop the Catholic practices of praying for the dead and honoring the saints. Nothing in Celtic stories from the pagan times speaks of witches or devils or anything like that during Samhain.

People in the British Isles used to go from door to door before the Days of the Dead begging for soul cakes. In exchange for the cake, the beggar promised to pray for the repose of the souls of the family's deceased; that is the origin of trick-or-treat, except there was no tricking. Also, medieval people thoroughly enjoyed dressing up for the great holy days, which is the origin of the costumes.

Puritan-influenced America denounced these Catholic practices of early Irish Catholic immigrants as pagan. Secular influences brought in bloody gore in the costumes; as Christian influences disappeared from society, in came the ugly things in the late 1960s. Commercial interests pounced on Halloween, making it competitive with Christmas in terms of money spent.

So, what should one do? Have fun on Halloween, but do it in a Christian spirit: think about dressing as a favorite saint; host fun events for children at your home or parish that reflect Christian truths and give kids a chance to just be kids; pray for the souls of the departed. Answering a person's query of "so who are you tonight" and giving a little explanation of the saint you're dressed up as can actually be a powerful moment of evangelization, especially coming from a child!

Know your Christian history! Don't accept something because someone says so – research it in books and on Catholic websites, just like I did for this annual question.