

Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

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Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor



Prayer to the Theotokos

To me you are my dear love, my beauty, the great hope of salvation. Help your servant, O most glorious Virgin. My voice tells of you tearfully: my heart burns for love. Give heed as well to the prayers of all my sisters and brothers who cry unto you: O Virgin, you are full of grace; through you may the grace of Christ ever preserve us ...

May devotion and honor recall your memory in this place, O Queen of heaven, greatest hope of our life. With your kindness, look upon God's handmaids and servants here who call unto you, O Virgin most mild. In your mercy, give heed in every moment to our prayers, and by your prayers direct our days, always and everywhere ...

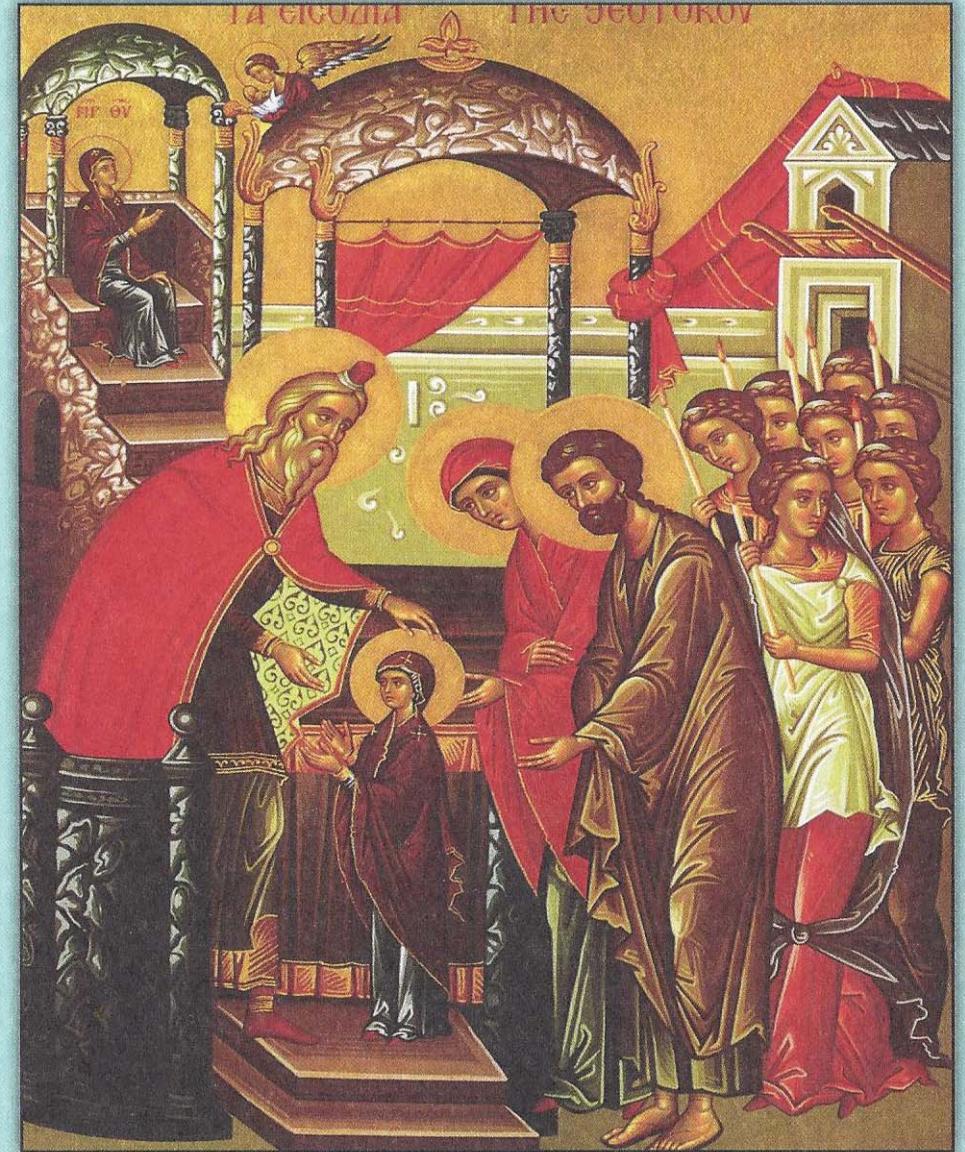
Virgin and Mother whose merit is un-

equaled! Mary, you alone are the one whom the Lord preserved in such a condition of soul and body as to make you worthy of the mystery in which the Son of God assumed a body from you as the price of our redemption. O most merciful, through whom the whole world has been saved, I pray you, intercede for me, the most unclean of all and stained with every kind of wickedness; intercede for me, for because of my sins, I deserve to receive nothing except eternal punishment. O most glorious Virgin, grant that I, saved by your merits, may reach the eternal kingdom.

Alcuin

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TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple-- November 21st

| November 15, 2015: 25th Sunday After Pentecost | |
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| Epistle: Eph. 4: 1-6 | Gospel: Lk. 10: 25-37 |
| Mon., Nov. 16 | 8:00 + Dominic & Gladys Savino (Roger & Beverly Barren) |
| Tues., Nov. 17 | 8:00 + Mary Gallo (Husband Frank) |
| Wed., Nov. 18 | 8:00 + Kimberly Jacobs Mellow (Parents) |
| Thurs., Nov. 19 | 8:00 + William Tinsley (Mother Lubov Tinsley) |
| Fri., Nov. 20 | 8:00 + Mary & Michael Stanko (Daughter Elaine & Robert) |
| Sat., Nov. 21 | Entrance of the Mother of God (Solemn Holy Day) 9:00 + Deceased Stecco Family (Ed & Joan Stecco) 10:30 Confessions. 2:00 Confessions. 4:00 pm + Raymond Dench (Harris Family) |
| Sun., Nov. 22 | 9:00 For Our Parishioners 11:30 + John W., Tillie, & GeneTurko Jr. (Son Gene & Family); Baptism: Brandin Gnall |

Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos

Commemorated November 21st

When Mary was three years of age, Joachim and Anne took their daughter, Mary, to the Temple so that she might be consecrated to the service of the Lord. According to legend, they invited the young girls of the town to walk before her with lighted torches. As soon as they had reached the temple, Mary, alone and unhesitatingly, went up the steps of the sanctuary where she was to remain, living in the contemplation of God and miraculously fed by the Archangel Ga-

briel, until the day she was espoused to Joseph, shortly before the Annunciation. The theme of this feast is that Mary the Immaculate One, the Temple of the living God, is offered to the Almighty in his holy house in Jerusalem. This day witnesses the bond between the Word and the Virgin predestined in eternity; this day is the fountainhead of all her privileges. This event is not recorded in the Bible but Tradition remembers the event because of its theological importance.

16, 2016 at St. Vladimir Parish Center. For additional information: 570 563-2275.

Bake Sale

We are having our Fourth Annual "Home Made" Bake Sale on Saturday, November 21, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, November 22, 2015 in the "New Hall", from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. We need your help in baking your favorite dessert. Bake goods can be delivered on Saturday, November 21st to the "New Hall," between noon and 2:00 p.m., volunteers are needed to help cut the bake goods during this time on Saturday.

Volunteers are needed to help during the sale on both days. Call Marlene at 570-876-1008, Dorothy at 570-489-2476, or Cheryl 570-489-4348 for more information. This bake sale is just in

time for Thanksgiving on November 26, 2015.

We look forward to your delicious bake goods for this event. **Please be sure to LABEL your dessert** (example: Marble cake, apple-spice cake, chocolate-chip cookies with nuts, pumpkin pie, nut roll, poppy seed roll, etc...) **Mention if the ingredients include nuts, peanut butter, etc... for known allergies.** Don't forget to put your name on the container, and it will be returned to you.

Be sure to stop by the Bake Sale and purchase some "Home Made" goods to support this event for the Church.

Collection Processing Team...

The Collection Processing Team for the month of November is Team #3: Helen Pagnotti, Marlene Zelno, Dorothy Zin-sky, and Cheryl Matuszewski.

Sunday Collection for November 7 & 8, 2015:

Altar Boy and Lector Schedule for November 21 & 22, 2015

| | Altar Boys | Lectors |
|----------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 4:00 pm | Nicholas Muchisky -- Samuel Sczesniak | John Sakson |
| 9:00 am | Daniel Chylak -- Joseph Chylak | Pat Marcinko |
| 11:30 am | Thomas Radle -- David Slachtish | Frank Lesnefsky |

St. Cyril's Holy Name Society

We sincerely thank St. Cyril's Holy Name Society for sponsoring the new Papal Flag for our Church. This new flag will be blessed during the 4:00 Divine

Liturgy this week. Once again we thank the Holy Name Society for their generosity.

Ekumen Chorale

Today (August 15) the Ekumen Choral will present a Concert in honor of Msgr. Stephen Hrynuck at 3:00 pm right here in our Church. This concert will feature

Liturgical Music of Fr. Michael Verbytsky. The Concert is free and all are invited to attend this MAGNIFICENT Concert.

Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with Our Patriarch

All parishioners are invited to join with His Beatitude Sviatoslav, Spiritual Father of our Ukrainian Catholic Church, Metropolitan Stefan and the clergy of our Archeparchy as we honor consecrated life during a hierarchical Divine Liturgy, Sunday, November 15, 2015 beginning at 2:30 p.m. in our Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Philadelphia. During the Divine Liturgy, men and women religious will re-

new their vows, the mosaics of Blessed Josaphata, SSMI and Venerable Andrew Sheptytsky, OSBM will be blessed. After the Divine Liturgy, the bell tower with the bell from the original cathedral will also be blessed in an outdoor ceremony that will also include a prayer vigil for Ukraine. Following the services, everyone is welcome to enjoy a reception in the Cathedral Social Hall.

Halupki Dinner

ST. MICHAEL'S BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH, 205 North Main St., Pittston, Pa. is having a Halupki (Piggie)

Dinner on November 15, 2015. Eat in or take out. from 1pm to 3pm at the Church Hall. Everyone is welcome!

Malanka Meeting

Meeting to plan the traditional Ukrainian New Year Dinner Dance - Malanka - will be held at 7:00pm, Tuesday evening, November 17, 2015 at St. Vladimir Ukrai-

nian Greek Catholic Church, 430 North Seventh Avenue, Scranton. Northeastern Pennsylvania's 12th annual Malanka will take place on Saturday evening, January

Pylypivka (Advent) Pastoral of the Ukrainian Catholic Hierarchy of the U.S.A.

Praise be Jesus Christ!

29th / July 12th) and the Dormition of the Mother of God (August 15th / 28th). The idea behind all these fasts is simple: they are times of spiritual preparation for the feasts which they precede. In a sense, it is the spiritual equivalent of what wise people likely do before Thanksgiving Dinner: they limit their food intake in the hours and days beforehand so as to take full advantage of the rich abundance of the feast itself; our four fasts are similar.

Depending on which calendar is designated for your parish, you need to circle one of two dates: Gregorian calendar folks need to circle November 14th, while the Julian calendar folks get to wait thirteen days, focusing rather on the 27th. In either case, the red-letter day marks a double commemoration: on the one hand, it is the feast of the Apostle Philip; on the other hand, that date marks the beginning of the pre-Christmas fast, thus appropriately referred to as the Philip's Fast. Some of you, especially those born before the Second Vatican Council, may not have grown up with this tradition; nevertheless, faithful to Vatican II which called us to return to our genuine tradition, we bishops seek to recover this richness, and we urge all our people to embrace it.

Obviously, this fast has a dietary component which is not an end in itself, but rather could serve as a meditation for everyone, especially for Ukrainians. After all, is it not during the month of November that we generally commemorate the Holodomor when millions of our brothers and sisters in Ukraine starved to death? An experience of hunger might make us more appreciative of the overabundance which is available to us in the United States, a wealth which both the fast and Thanksgiving Day seek to prevent us from taking for granted; they might even inspire us to take positive steps to alleviate the hunger which is visible all around us.

If all are to do this, we need first to understand what the Philip's Fast is. In fact, it is one of four periods of fast which precede four great feasts of our liturgical calendar. Like the Great Fast which precedes the Great Paschal Feast of Easter, the Philip's Fast lasts forty days; other, shorter fasts precede the feasts of SS. Peter and Paul (June

As we move toward Christmas,

we think of the Holy Family and their own preparations. They were homeless, wandering through Bethlehem seeking a place for the birth of the One Who would later remark that “Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.” (Matthew 8:20, Luke 9:58). Their age-old story is reflected in tragedies which sometimes make the headlines but which, alas, often do not: refugees from war-torn Ukraine have been joined by others from Syria, from the Fertile Crescent, and from Africa; their numbers are swelled by many in our own hemisphere fleeing grinding poverty and hopelessness. It is due to the welcome once offered to such as these that the words of Emma Lazarus now grace the Statue of Liberty “Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shores”. In our own day, urban professionals step over the homeless whose makeshift beds block their way, while shelters and food banks struggle to care for misfits in a relentlessly consumer-driven society. As Christmas parties all around us merrily entice us to forget our problems and theirs, the Philip’s Fast urges us rather to follow the example of Pope Francis, paying attention and tending to those seeds which

God has planted in our consciences, urging us to follow the example of the Samaritan who, unlike the ostensibly righteous, proved himself truly to be the neighbor of the wounded man lying by the side of the road.

Obviously, the dietary considerations are not the only ones which the Philip’s Fast places before us. In making our daily food and drink more sparing, we might also consider what other daily habits we would do well to discontinue. Indifference should certainly be high on the list. We each have our own list; may the Philip’s Fast encourage us to take our own spiritual inventory!

As we prepare to celebrate the first coming of Christ at His birth in Bethlehem, we would do well likewise to prepare for His Second Coming at the end of the world. In this regard, St. Luke poses an unsettling question: “When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?” (18: 8). Before giving too hasty an affirmative answer, we would do well to reflect on the words of the Apostle St. James: “What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace, be warmed

and filled,’ without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.” (2:14).

“But someone will say, ‘You have faith and I have works.’ Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless?” (James 2: 14-20). Jesus Himself answers those who need

to be shown: “Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.” (Matthew 25:45). May these words serve as an examination of conscience for all of us!

We prepare for the Christ who comes as light for our darkness, as warmth for our winter. During this season of hopeful preparation, may we learn how better to become the instruments of the Divine Love which our world so desperately needs.

+Stefan Soroka, Archbishop of Philadelphia for Ukrainians
Metropolitan of Ukrainian Catholics in the United States

+Richard Seminack (author), Eparch of St. Nicholas in Chicago

+Paul Chomnycky, OSBM, Eparch of Stamford

+ Bohdan Danylo, Eparch of St. Josaphat in Parma

+John Bura, Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia

From the Archbishop’s Chancery...

We ask for your continued prayers for the successful and speedy recovery of **Bishop Richard Seminack** of St. Nicholas Eparchy of Chicago. Bishop Richard underwent surgery on November 11 for the removal of a malig-

nant portion of one of his lungs. Your prayers to Our Lord, Jesus Christ, the Supreme Physician of our souls and bodies, for the restoration of the health of Bishop Richard, are requested and will be gratefully appreciated.