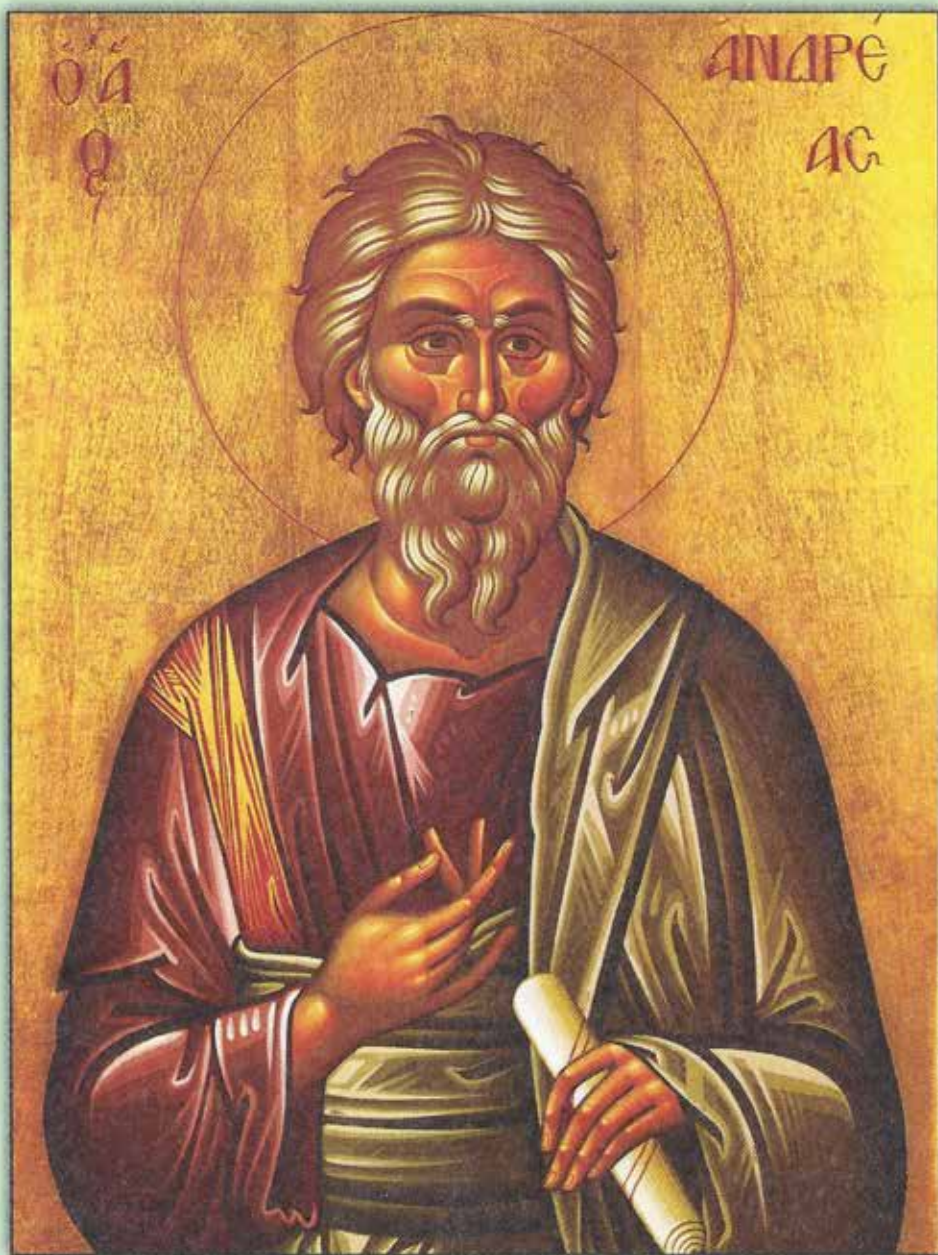


TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



*Icon of Saint Andrew -- November 30th*

<b>November 24, 2019: 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost</b>		
Epistle: Eph. 2: 14-22		Gospel: Lk. 13: 10-17
<b>Mon., Nov. 25</b>	8:00	+ Patrick Marcinko, Jr. (Dolly Daniels)
<b>Tues., Nov. 26</b>	8:00	+ Joseph Chmil (Tomaskevitch & Phillips Family)
<b>Wed., Nov. 27</b>	8:00	+ Andrew & Anna Smagula (Son, Joseph)
<b>Thurs., Nov. 28</b>		<b>Thanksgiving Day</b>
	9:00	Thanksgiving to God for all Our Blessings
<b>Fri., Nov. 29</b>	8:00	+ Evelyn Cheplick (John Cheplick)
<b>Sat., Nov. 30</b>		<b>No Morning Divine Liturgy</b>
	10:30	Confessions
	2:00 pm	Confessions
	4:00 pm	+ John & Olga Yuhnick; Jimmy Maslar (Family)
<b>Sun., Dec. 1</b>	9:00	+ Eugenia Barkofsky (Mary Ann Spryn)
	11:30	For Our Parishioners



## **HOLY FATHER ACCEPTS THE RESIGNATION OF AUXILIARY BISHOP JOHN BURA**

**Philadelphia, Pa.**--The Holy Father Pope Francis on Friday, November 15, 2019 accepted the resignation from the office of auxiliary bishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, presented by Bishop John Bura.

Bishop Bura, who reached the canonical retirement age of seventy-five in June, submitted his resignation

pursuant to the provisions of Canon 210 of the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches.

Archbishop Borys Gudziak, of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia and Metropolitan of Ukrainian Catholics in the United States commented that “Bishop John is a kind and noble man who has served God, the Church and the community-at-large with dedication, both as a priest and as a bishop. Throughout a life that began in great danger and hardship he remained faithful. In my first months of service Bishop John has been for me a most valuable and reliable guide for understanding the pastoral history and current issues of our archeparchy. Our prayers are that the Lord will grant him good health and longevity in retirement as he begins this new chapter in his life.”

Bishop John was nominated on January 3, 2006 auxiliary bishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia by Pope Benedict XVI upon the recommendation of the Ukrainian Catholic Synod of Bishops.

He was ordained a bishop by His Beatitude Lubomyr Cardinal Husar on February 21, 2006 in the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia. The

principal co-consecrators were Archbishop Stefan Soroka of Philadelphia and Bishop Michael Kuchmiak, C.Ss.R. of Great Britain.

Bishop John was named the Apostolic Administrator of the Eparchy of Saint Josaphat in Parma on July 29, 2009 and served in that capacity until 2014, when Bishop Bohdan Danylo was named bishop of that eparchy.

Bishop Bura was born to Hryhoriy and Maria Bura on June 12, 1944 in Wegeleben, Germany. His parents were refugees on the move from Ukraine, who like hundreds of thousands of their countrymen were caught between the genocidal policies of the Nazis and Soviets. They were forced from their home in the midst of World War II. Bishop John’s childhood was marked by devastation and displacement. Yet, throughout his life he was a man of serenity. In 1950, his family moved to the United States and settled in Jersey City, NJ.

After completing elementary and middle school, he entered St. Basil Minor Seminary in Stamford, Ct.

From 1965 to 1970 he studied theology at The Catholic University of America and resided at St. Josaphat Seminary in Washington, DC. He was ordained to the priesthood on

February 14, 1971 for the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia by Metropolitan Ambrose Senyshyn, OSBM.

Following ordination he served in various administrative positions including teacher of religion and the Ukrainian language and Vice-Rector of St. Basil Minor Seminary, Stamford, Ct. and rector of St. Josaphat Seminary in Washington, DC.

Some of his pastoral assignments included St. Michael's Church, Shenandoah, Pa., Holy Ghost Church, Chester, Pa. and St. Nicholas Church, Wilmington, De.

While he was serving as pastor in Shenandoah, Pa., home of the first Ukrainian Catholic parish in

the United States, on Easter Monday April 7, 1980 the landmark church and adjacent rectory were completely destroyed by a devastating fire. As a young priest, Bishop John provided the fatherly compassion to guide the parish family through this tragedy and provided the leadership for the rebuilding task. On November 27, 1983, the blessing of the cornerstone and first Divine Liturgy were held in the newly constructed church.

The Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia includes the District of Columbia, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey and eastern Pennsylvania and has a total Catholic population of 13,944.

## THANKSGIVING GREETINGS

This Thursday is Thanksgiving Day. Someone once said that he feels sorry for atheists on Thanksgiving Day because they have no one to thank. The pilgrims who landed at Plymouth Rock in 1620 knew they had SOMEONE to thank, since one of their motives in coming to the new world was their desire for religious freedom. Like the chosen people of the Bible, they came to a land full of promise and they soon recognized their debt to God by

beginning our custom of Thanksgiving Day.

Thanksgiving Day among us is traditionally a family day, a time for homecomings and the sharing of a sumptuous dinner. We will celebrate a Liturgy of Thanksgiving on Thanksgiving Day at 9:00 am this year so that as a Parish Family we can gather together to give thanks and then to return to our homes to enjoy the Thanksgiving meal. This year, let us begin this

Thanksgiving Day properly by coming together as God's children in His Home - our Church. We should gather there to express thanks to God for all His many favors. As Americans, we should express our gratitude for the blessings of living as we do in a free and prosperous land. As Christians we should gather to express our gratitude for our faith, a faith that gives us the joy of knowing that God is our Loving

Father.

This coming Thanksgiving day reminds us that we, both as Catholic Christians and as Americans, have indeed much to be thankful for. Above all, it reminds us that we have SOMEONE to thank. As a "Parish family" let us gather in our "Family House of Worship" at the beginning of this Thanksgiving Day to express our sincere gratitude to God, Our Father!

### **DID YOU KNOW...**

...that the first Thanksgiving took place in 1621, when the Pilgrims held a three day feast at Plymouth, Rock, MA to celebrate the bountiful harvest? During the first year, half of the 110 Pilgrims had left England in 1620 survived the cold winter. During their second year, however, failed Pilgrims flourished with plentiful food sources, thanks in large part to the friendship and guidance of an Abnaki Indian named Squanto. Therefore, by proclamation of the Pilgrim Governor William Bradford, the first Thanksgiving celebration was held in the fall of 1621. He also invited the neighboring Native Americans to join with the colonists in the celebration.

...that Thanksgiving became a national holiday through the procla-

mation of President Abraham Lincoln in October of 1863? Because the nation was struggling in the midst of the Civil War, Lincoln felt that Americans needed to set aside time to call to mind and acknowledge all the many gifts with which our nation was endowed – land, freedom, food – were gifts given to us by God. A day was needed when we could forget our differences and remember our many blessings. In the act of calling to mind our blessings, a sense of gratitude to the Giver of all the good gifts is an obvious consequence.

...that it was common in many ancient civilizations to have celebrations of gratitude for good gifts received? In justice, they believed that they owed Divine Providence their thanks for all the good gifts of creation.



...that our Jewish ancestors likewise celebrated an annual “Thanksgiving?” Actually it was two celebrations: Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. These were observed in the spring when the first crops were harvested and lambs were born. Gratitude extended beyond the gifts of creation to the recognition that God had delivered them from the slavery.

...that it was at the Passover celebration that Jesus “took the cup, and after giving thanks... And when He had taken some Bread and given

thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.”

...that the word “Eucharist” comes from the Greek word meaning “thanksgiving?” In the Eucharist we come together to give thanks and praise to God for all that Jesus did for us, His death and resurrection, and for all that God continues to do every day.

... that the Divine Liturgy is a supreme act of praise and thanksgiving to God?

### **ARCHIEPARCHIAL RAFFLE**

Once again the Archeparchy of Philadelphia is holding a raffle for the benefit of the Ukrainian Catholic School Scholarship Fund. Tickets are \$10.00 each with 3 Cash Prizes awarded: 1<sup>st</sup> Prize **\$5,000.00**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize

**\$3,000.00**, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize **\$2,000.00**. The Raffle will take place on December 20, 2019. Winners of the cash prizes will be notified by the Chancery. These tickets are on sale in the vestibule of the Church.

### **VALLEY COMMUNITY LIBRARY'S VETS' GROUP**

Join us for our monthly Vets' Group held on every second Tuesday of the month at 5:00 pm at the Valley Community Library. Active Duty, Reserves, Retired—or just served one enlistment period or more... No matter whether you served during war

time or peace time. Please join us as we thank you for your service to our country with a free meal and to meet new people! New members, please call (570)489-1765 if you are interested in joining, so we can have enough supplies for each month.

### **AMERICAN UKRAINIAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION**

The American Ukrainian Veterans Association of Lackawanna County,

237 Railroad Ave., Scranton, warmly welcomes new regular members.

Individuals must be at least 21 years of age and whose parent or grandparent is/was of Ukrainian descent. Must have proof of either military or maritime service. Come

join your fellow veterans in camaraderie and promote your Ukrainian heritage. For further information contact Mr. Ed Chomko, Sr. at 570-342-5834.

### **'TIS THE SEASON**

We will begin to decorate our Church for the Christmas season on Sunday, December 8, 2019 beginning and 1 pm. Volunteers of all ages are

welcome to come and lend a helping hand. We especially need the men of the Parish to handle the ladders and the Manger.

### **CHRISTMAS CAROL SING ALONG**

You are invited to join Ss. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Parish for their 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Carol Sing Along in the church on North River St. in Wilkes-Barre, on Sunday, December 15, 2019 starting at 2 pm. Join in the singing of some very sacred, joyful and inspiring

Christmas Carols. Afterwards, please join us in the lower church hall for a Christmas Fellowship Social. Please bring a friend or family member, and share the joy of Christmas with them, as we all prepare to welcome the Newborn Son of God into our hearts and homes.

### **COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM**

The Collection Processing Team for the month of November 2019 is Team #3: Helen Pagnotti, Marlene Zelno,

Dorothy Zinsky, and Cheryl Matuszewski.

### **Altar Boy and Lector Schedule for Nov. 30 & Dec. 1, 2019**

	<b>Altar Boys</b>	<b>Lectors</b>
4:00 pm	Nathan Dennis -- Samuel Sczesniak	John Sakson
9:00 am	Brennin Marcinko -- Cole Marcinko	Pat Marcinko
11:30 am	Nicholas Muchisky -- Tyler Muchisky	Frank Lesnefsky

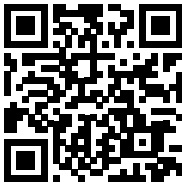
## Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

135 River St., Olyphant, PA 18447-1435

Telephone: 570-291-4451 Fax: 570-489-6918

Web Site: [stcyrils.weconnect.com](http://stcyrils.weconnect.com)

E-Mail: [sscyrilandmethodius@comcast.net](mailto:sscyrilandmethodius@comcast.net)



Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

### *Many Calls for the Chosen*

The first call that shaped St. Andrew's life was the very timing and place of his birth. The second call that shaped Andrew's life came through John the Baptist. Andrew must have been an alert young man longing for the coming of the Messiah when he first heard the preaching of John. Andrew's third call came from Jesus himself. The fourth call that shaped Andrew's life was to follow Jesus, to be his disciple, a student in daily contact with Jesus, walking and talking with him, listening and learning from the Master, as from a Rabbi. The fifth call that changed Andrew's life was his selection by Jesus as one of the twelve apostles, to give witness, to preach, to bring others to Christ. Andrew, the student, was chosen to become a teacher sent by Christ. His sixth call came through pious Greeks at the Passover in Jerusalem. They wanted to see Jesus, to be introduced to him. The boy from Bethsaida began using his language skills, his un-

derstanding of Greek and Roman culture, to bring Gentiles to Jesus. St. Gregory Nazianzen, St. Jerome, and St. Paulinus tell us that after Pentecost Andrew became an apostle to people in the land of Greece, the bordering lands, and as tradition tells us, ultimately to Byzantium. The final call in Andrew's life was to martyrdom by crucifixion on an X shaped cross at Patras in Achaia.

Saint Andrew's vocation, and ours as well, wasn't given all at once, but gradually. Seven calls from the Lord built one upon the other throughout the course of his life. Andrew's response to each call gave new shape to his life and prepared him for the next gift of God. This courageous young man, by purity of heart and docile obedience to God's will became in St. Bede's words, "The Introducer to Christ." He introduced his brother to Jesus, and the Greeks and Scythians.