

## ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



*Icon of the Unforgiving Servant (Matthew 18:23-35)*

<b>August 21, 2022: Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost</b>		
Epistle: 1 Cor. 9: 2-12		Gospel: Mt. 18: 23-35
<b>Mon., August 22</b>	9:00	+ Joe Berta (Leo Danylak)
<b>Tues., August 23</b>	9:00	+ Janet E. Yankow Simon (Marlene Zelno)
<b>Wed., August 24</b>	9:00	+ John Sedlak, Jr. (Mary Ann Spryn)
<b>Thurs., August 25</b>	9:00	+ Margaret & Robert Arscott (Frank & Susan Lesnefsky)
<b>Fri., August 26</b>	10:00	Funeral : + Paul Homick
<b>Sat., August 27</b>	<b>No Morning Divine Liturgy</b> 2:00 pm Confessions 4:00 pm For Our Parishioners	
<b>Sun., August 28</b>	10:30	+ Patrick Marcinko, Jr. (Family)

## CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

### Baptism and Membership in the Church

When Jesus had accomplished everything he set out to do, and was about to return to the Father, he commissioned the Disciples, saying:

*“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matthew 28: 18-20).*

Through baptism, we become members of the body of Christ, that is, the Church.

Through baptism, we are constituted as the people of God.

Through baptism, we participate in the priestly, prophetic, and royal function of Christ.

Through baptism, we are called to exercise the mission which God has entrusted to the Church to fulfill in the world: to tell others the Good News of the Father’s love and mercy.

How seriously do we take our baptismal call?

## **From Baptism to Christian Discipleship**

All too often today, we go through the motions of being followers of Christ. We attend Divine Liturgy on occasion. We call upon the pastor for First Holy Communion, a wedding or a funeral. We bless pussy willows, our Easter baskets, and undertake similar activities.

Perhaps influenced by the secular world around us, we have become consumers of the services provided by the parish, adopting an attitude of “What’s in it for me?” or “Go ahead, entertain me.”

Rather, through baptism, our membership in Christ’s Church calls for a commitment on the part of each of us to develop a personal relationship with Jesus, to foster our prayer life, and to use our God-given gifts of time, talent and treasure in the building up of the Christian community.

In other words, the rights we inherit as members of the Church are balanced by an equal obligation in continuing the mission of Christ entrusted to our care.

Baptism means being a disciple of Christ.

And being a disciple of Christ comes with certain expectations related to my membership in a given parish.

## **Parish Membership and Expectations**

What then does it mean to be a

parishioner? What are the expectations?

As a result of my baptism, in practicing my Christian discipleship, I am expected as a registered member of my parish to:

- regularly attend and participate in the Sunday Divine Liturgy, together with my family;
- regularly participate in the liturgical and sacramental life of the Church;
- develop and practice an ongoing personal/family prayer life;
- witness to the teachings of the Church by the manner of my living life;
- practice stewardship of my time, talent and treasure in service to the mission of the Church;
- acknowledge, as a registered member, that I am to be a participant in serving the mission of the parish rather than being only a spectator; and
- realize the necessary and ongoing importance of love, generosity, faith and family.

Christ comes into the world to tell us of the mercy and love of the Father. Through baptism, we say: “yes, Lord, I choose to follow you by becoming an active disciple and parishioner. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and my neighbor. Bless me!”

## TRISAGION HYMN

Trisagion Hymn means Thrice Holy. This is the angelic song in which we glorify the Holy Trinity, the cornerstone of the Christian Church: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit -- Three Persons, consubstantial and undivided.

On some holy days (Christmas, Easter, Theophany, etc.) the Trisagion Hymn is replaced with the singing of "*All who were baptized in Christ have put on*

*Christ. Alleluia.*" In early Christian times, on the eve of Church holy days, baptism of catechumens (those being instructed in the teachings of the Christian Faith and preparing for baptism) was performed. Those who were to be baptized stood in the Church dressed in white garments to receive a welcome into the Church with this hymn. We remember those early days with this beloved, short hymn.

## CHURCH ETIQUETTE

Please be on time for services; those arriving late should not approach the Chalice for Communion.

To receive Communion, one must be a baptized/chrismated Catholic Christian who has prepared by prayer, fasting, alms giving, and regular confession.

Men, women, and children: please dress modestly for services. The general rule for men and women is to dress appropriately, modestly and respectfully,

because we stand before the living God. The people of our church wear everything from casual pants to suits, long dresses to skirts, and shirts with or without ties. Men are asked not to wear head coverings (baseball caps, etc.) in the nave, the main part of the church.

**Please wait for the completion of the service before leaving the Church.** Spend some time in thanksgiving with God.

## 10 THINGS ABOUT GUARDIAN ANGELS

1. *Guardian angels exist.* The Gospel affirms this, the Scriptures support it by countless examples and episodes. The Catechism teaches us from an early age to feel this presence on our side and to trust in it.
2. *Angels have always existed.* Our

Guardian Angel is not created with us at the time of our birth. They have always existed, from the instant at which God created all of the angels. It was a single event, a single moment in which Divine Will generated all the angels, by the thousands. After

this, God no longer created any other angels.

3. *There is an angelic hierarchy and not all angels are destined to become Guardian Angels.* Even the angels differ from each other in their tasks, and above all in their positions in heaven compared to God. Some angels in particular are selected to take a test and, if they pass it, they are qualified for the role of Guardian Angels. When a child is born, one of these angels is chosen to stand by his side until death and beyond.
4. *We all have at least one.* We cannot sell it, we can not share it with anyone. In this regard also, the Scriptures are full of references and quotations.
5. *Our Angel guides us on the pathway to Heaven.* Our Angel cannot oblige us to follow the path of goodness. He cannot decide for us, impose choices on us. We are and remain free. But his role is precious, important. As a silent and trustworthy advisor, our angel stays by our side, trying to advise us for the best, to suggest the right path to follow, to obtain salvation, to deserve Paradise, and above all to be good people and good Christians.
6. *Our Angel never abandons us.* In this life and in the next, we will know that we can count on them, on these invisible and special friends, who

never leave us alone.

7. *Our Angel is not the spirit of a dead person.* Although it might be nice to think that when someone we love died, they became an Angel, and as such returned to be by our side, unfortunately, this isn't so. Our guardian angel cannot be anyone we have known in life, nor a member of our family who has died prematurely. It has always existed, it is a spiritual presence generated directly by God. This does not mean that it loves us less! **We should remember that God is Love first and foremost.**
8. *Our guardian angel has no name ...* or, if he has, it is not our job to establish it. In the Scriptures, the names of some angels are mentioned, such as Michael, Raphael and Gabriel. Any other name attributed to these celestial creatures is neither documented nor confirmed by the Church, and as such it is inappropriate to claim it to use for our Angels, especially by pretending we've determined it using a fanciful method like the month of our birth, etc.
9. *Our Angel fights on our side with all his strength.* We must not think of having a tender plump cherub at our side playing the harp. Our Angel is a warrior, a strong and courageous fighter, who ranks at our side in every

battle of life and protects us when we are too fragile to do it alone.

10. *Our guardian angel is also our personal messenger, charged with bringing our messages to God, and vice versa.* It is to the angels that God addresses himself in communicating

with us. Their job is to make us understand his Word, and move us in the right direction.

<https://www.holyart.com/blog/religious-items/who-your-guardian-angel-is-and-what-they-do-10-things-you-should-know/>

## SIX TIMES TO MAKE

### THE SIGN OF THE CROSS IN THE CAR

1. When you get in the car... *For safe travels.*
2. When you pass a Catholic Church... *To honor your God and Savior.*
3. When you pass a Cemetery or Funeral... *To remember the departed.*
4. When you see or hear an ambulance... *To strengthen the sick or dying.*
5. When you pass an accident... *To comfort those in peril.*
6. When you pass a police car... *To protect them.*

## MARY HAD A LITTLE LAMB

Mary had a little lamb, His fleece was white as snow. And everywhere that Mary went, The Lamb was sure to go.

He made the children laugh and play. To have a Lamb at school.

He followed her to school each day, Twasn't even in the rule. And then the rules all changed one day, Illegal it became; To bring the Lamb of God to school,

Or even speak his Name.

Everyday got worse and worse, And days turned into years. Instead of hearing children laugh, We heard gun shots and tears.

What must we do to stop the crime, That's in our schools today? Let the Lamb come back to school, and teach our kids to pray!

## OUR CONDOLENCES

In your Christian charity, please remember in your prayers the soul of + **Paul Homick** who fell asleep in the Lord on Sunday, Au-

gust 7<sup>th</sup>. + Paul will be buried from St. Cyril's on Friday, August 26<sup>th</sup>. May his memory be eternal! Vichnaya Pamyat!



## **IT'S VACATION TIME... (BUT NOT FOR CHURCH BILLS)**

It's that time of year again...Vacation Time. We take time out of our normal routine for rest and relaxation. Sometimes we stay at home; sometimes we take trips to visit friends, explore new places or go on adventures. We may even forget about our normal routines for a little while.

Unfortunately, our bills and financial

obligations never take a vacation. This includes our Church's bills, which always seem to INCREASE during summer time. Please, when you prepare to go on vacation, don't forget about YOUR CHURCH! You can always mail in your Sunday Collection envelopes and then can enjoy your vacations.

## **FIFTH ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO CENTRALIA**

All are invited to the Fifth Annual Pilgrimage at the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, Centralia, PA., on Sunday, August 21, 2022. The theme of this Pilgrimage is: "Mary, Protectress and Refuge of All: A Call to Prayer." The schedule is as follows:

11:00 am: Confessions  
12:00 pm: Hierarchical Divine Liturgy  
2:30 pm: Living Rosary  
3:30 pm: Akafist to the Dormition  
5:00 pm: Candlelight Procession and Moleben to the Mother of God

## **NORTH ANTHRACITE L.U.C. MEETING**

\*Reminder, Convention 2022 is happening, if you plan on going, reserve your room, etc. We are looking forward to see everyone:

members, and guests.

Any questions contact our council president: Dorothy Jamula 570-822-5354.

## **Ukrainian Food Festival**

Transfiguration of Our Lord Church, Bliss & Center Street, Nanticoke, Pa will hold it's annual Ukrainian food Festival on Saturday, September 3 from 11AM to 4PM. Featured

food items will be Holubsti, Pyrohy, Potato Pancakes, Borsch, Clam Chowder, Baked Goods, Sausage & Peppers, and more.

## **COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM...**

The Collection Processing Team for the month of August 2022 is Team #4: Ron

Barkofsky and Joe Smagula.

**Sunday Collection for August 13 & 14, 2022: \$**

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Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

### *I Will Pay You*

And so our sins become greater, and not only from this but also from the benefits and honor which we enjoy from them. If you want to learn how our sins against God are like ten thousand talents, or more in fact, and even much more, I will try to show you briefly. But I fear, lest to those who are inclined to wickedness and love continually to sin, I should appear to provide them with still greater security; or that I might drive the meeker sort to despair, and that they should repeat the despairing question of the disciples: "Who then can be saved?"

... But nevertheless I will continue on in the hope that I may make those who pay attention more secure and more amenable. For those who suffer an incurable disease and feel no pain are untouched by these words and do not change from their natural wickedness and inertia. And even if in the future they derive from my words greater occasion for contempt, that should be attributed not to this kind of argument but to

their own insensibility. What I will say ought to be able to arouse them if only they attend to it and let it prick their hearts.

And so it is necessary that I speak. In speaking of our sins, I will distinguish between those we commit against God and against other persons. I will set forth not each person's own but what are common. But then I will ask individuals to add their own sins according to an examination of their conscience. I will do this, having first set forth the good deeds of God to us. What then are God's good deeds? He created us from nothing; he made the whole visible world for us, the heaven, the sea, the earth, animals, plants and seeds.... He gave us a helpmate and set us over all the brute species, and He crowned us with glory and honor.

And yet after all this, when humanity turned out ungrateful toward its benefactor, He thought us worthy of an even greater gift – forgiveness.

*St. John Chrysostom*