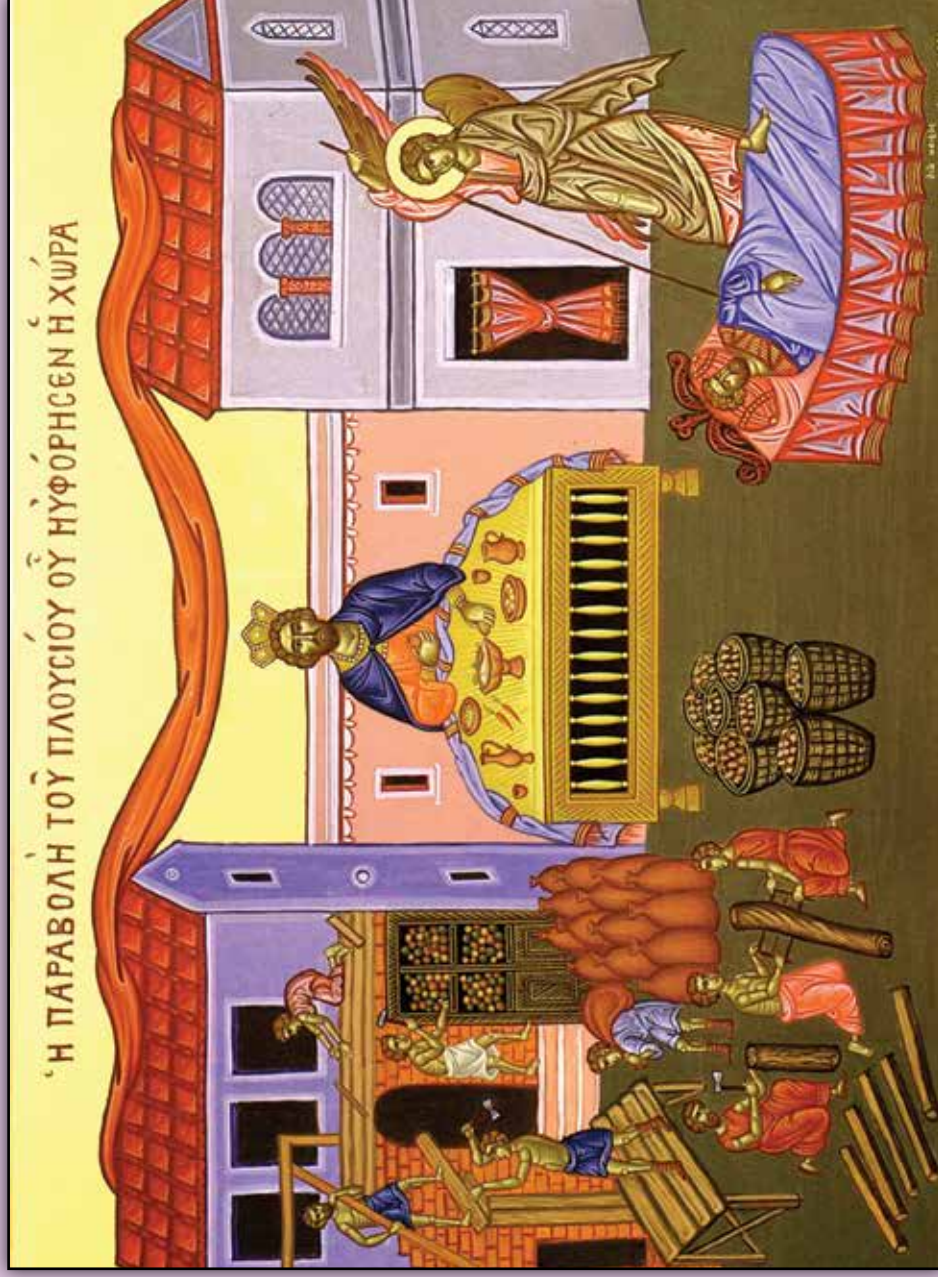


TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Parable of the Rich Fool

Nov. 19, 2023: Twenty Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Epistle: Eph. 4: 1-6

Gospel: Lk. 12: 16-21

This Weekend

4:00 For Our Parishioners

10:30 + Barbara & George Ferencik (Michael & Theresa Vacendak)

Mon., Nov. 20

No Divine Liturgy

Tues., Nov. 21

Entrance of the Mother of God (Solemn Holy Day)

9:00 + Lucille Marushock (Helen Siconolsi)

Wed., Nov. 22

10:00 Funeral: + Gene Maslar

Thurs., Nov. 23

Thanksgiving Day

9:00 Thanksgiving to God for All Our Blessings

Fri., Nov. 24

No Divine Liturgy

Sat., Nov. 25

No Morning Divine Liturgy

2:00 pm Confessions

4:00 pm For Our Parishioners

Sun., Nov. 26

10:30 + John & Olga Yuhnick (Family)

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 Gabriel, 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 wit-

nesses 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.

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 for 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 proclamation 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?

OUR CONDOLENCES

In your Christian Charity, please remember the soul of + **Ann Marie Borowski** who fell asleep in fell asleep in the the Lord on Friday,

November 10th. + Ann Marie was buried from St. Cyril’s on Friday, November 17th. May her memory be eternal! Vichnaya Pamyat!

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.

COME BACK TO CHURCH!

The Eucharist is our life-line, without it we cannot live. The Sunday Divine Liturgy is the community celebration of Christ in our midst, the event that unites us all together as the Body of Christ. Celebrating the Eucharist is not just a commandment of the Church, but an inner necessity. Christ sustains us, and, without Him, our lives are empty. It is time to return to full parish life, with precautions, and to come back to church weekly to participate in

the Lord's banquet and receive Him in Holy Communion, by which we become the Body of Christ. Now, as we trust in the Lord, and with great confidence in the vaccines, our lives are opening up to more activity. It is time to return to the obligation of Sunday Divine Liturgy. Our obligation to participate in worship at the Divine Liturgy is an obligation of love as well as a command of the Lord.

THE CHERUBIMIC HYMN

The Cherubimic Hymn derives its name from the time when St. John the Evangelist heard the cherubim singing in his revelation. The hymn

reminds us to forget all worldly cares and turn our thoughts to God -- that we may pay attention to the Great Mysteries fulfilled in our presence.

'TIS THE SEASON! DECORATING

ST. CYRILS CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS 2023

SAVE THE DATE: Sunday DECEMBER 3, 2023.

Christmas will be here before we know it! The decorating of St. Cyril's Church will be on Sunday, December 3, 2023. after the Divine Liturgy at approximately 12:00 noon. All Parishioners are invited to volunteer, as

windows, iconostas, vestibule, the Royal Doors, the Main Altar, manger, choir loft, outdoors, etc... are decorated for the Christmas season. Duane and Dino will have the table and manger in place to help out in early preparation for Sunday.

Everything is labeled and easy

to put in its proper place. We need your help, as we prepare for the Holy Season of Christmas in our church.

STS. PETER AND PAUL UGCC 2024-6 MONTH LOTTERY CALENDAR

**Each \$20 Calendar includes two numbers for the Pick 3 Evening
Drawing of the Pennsylvania Lottery**

Prizes include \$25 on weekdays, \$40 on Sundays, and Five \$100 prizes

Calendars purchased by check will be mailed to return address. Make checks payable to SS. Peter and Paul UGCC, and mail to:
P.O. Box 124, Carbondale, PA 18407

For more information contact Marge 570-282-5680
or Dorothy at 570-282-2084

FALL FUNDRAISER

Our Parish will be hosting a Thanksgiving Bake Sale this weekend. In addition to the baked goodies, there will be two food vendors: Chili/Cornbread Lady and Street Food Cart, and a basket raffle.

During the **Thanksgiving Bake**

Sale we will be hosting a **Winter Coat and Food Drive**. We will be collecting new or gently worn winter coats and non-perishable foods to be given to local charities. Please help our neighbors in need by donating to this worthy cause.

COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM...

The Collection Processing Team for the month of November 2023 is Team #3: Marlene Zelno, Dorothy Zinsky, and Cheryl Matuszewski.

Sunday Collection for November 11 & 12, 2023: \$

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

E-Mail: sscyrilandmethodius@comcast.net

Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

Commentary on Riches

The land of a rich man produced abundant harvests, and he thought to himself, "What am I to do? I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones." Now why did that land bear so well, when it belonged to a man who would make no good use of its fertility? It was to show more clearly the forbearance of God, whose kindness extends even to such people as this. He sends rain on both the just and the unjust, and makes the sun rise on the wicked and good alike. But what do we find in this man? A bitter disposition, hatred of other people, unwillingness to give. This is the return he made to his Benefactor. He forgot that we all share the same nature; he felt no obligation to distribute his surplus to the needy. His barns were full to bursting point, but still his miserly heart was not satisfied. Year by year he increased his wealth, always adding new crops to the old. The result was a hopeless impasse: greed would not permit him to

part with anything he possessed, and yet because he had so much there was no place to store his latest harvest. And so he was incapable of making a decision and could find no escape from his anxiety. What am I to do?

You who have wealth, recognize who has given you the gifts you have received. Consider yourself, who you are, what has been committed to your charge, from whom you have received it, why you have been preferred to most other people. You are the servant of the good God, a steward on behalf of your fellow servants. Do not imagine that everything has been provided for your own stomach. Make decisions regarding your property as though it belonged to another. Possessions give you pleasure for a short time, but then they will slip through your fingers and be gone, and you will be required to give an exact account of them.

St. Basil the Great