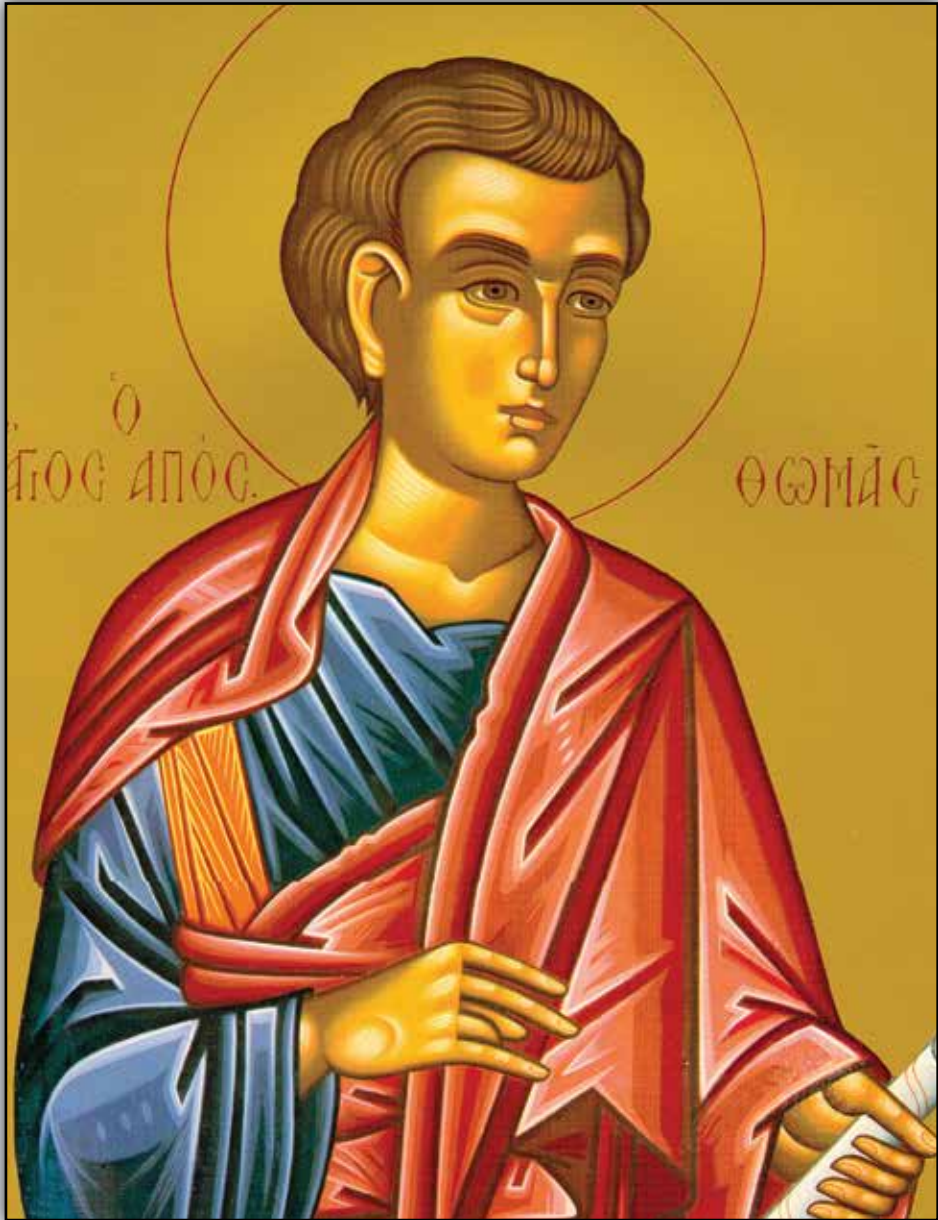


SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Holy Apostle Thomas -- October 6th

October 5, 2025: Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

Epistle: 2 Cor. 6:16 - 7:1

Gospel: Lk. 6: 31-36

This Weekend	4:00 pm + Carol, Joseph & Jeffrey Klikus (Michael Shumek Family) 10:30 For Our Parishioners
Mon., Oct. 6	9:00 +Michael J. Kolsovsky, Sr. (A Friend)
Tues., Oct. 7	9:00 + Mary Patricia Brown (Howard Smith)
Wed., Oct. 8	9:00 + Vincent Narcoonis (Lauren Telep)
Thurs., Oct. 9	9:00 + Alyce Marcinko (Andy & Andrea)
Fri., Oct. 10	9:00 + Robert “Bob” Zelno (John & Mary Ann Turko)
Sat., Oct. 11	No Morning Divine Liturgy 2:00 pm Confessions. 4:00 pm + Robert & Alexandra Westington (Ilona Westington)
Sun., Oct. 12	10:30 For Our Parishioners

5 IMPORTANT LIFE LESSONS FROM POPE

SAINT JOHN PAUL II TO HELP YOU BECOME A SAINT

Pope Saint John Paul II is one of the most influential figures in the history of our faith. His words had a lasting impact on not only the Catholic Church, but the entire world! His wisdom is truly timeless.

Pope Saint John Paul II served as Pope from 1978 until his death in 2005. Over the course of his papacy, he spoke on many topics.

Below you will find some bits of

wisdom from this powerhouse saint!

You Are Not Alone in Your Struggles.

“There is no evil to be faced that Christ does not face with us. There is no enemy that Christ has not already conquered. There is no cross to bear that Christ has not already borne for us, and does not now bear with us.”

You Were Made for Relationship with Jesus.

“It is Jesus you seek when you dream of happiness; he is waiting for you when nothing else you find satisfies you; he is the beauty to which you are so attracted; it is he who provokes you with that thirst for fullness that will not let you settle for compromise; it is he who urges you to shed the masks of a false life; it is he who reads in your hearts your most genuine choices, the choices that others try to stifle.

“It is Jesus who stirs in you the desire to do something great with your lives, the will to follow an ideal, the refusal to allow yourselves to be grounded down by mediocrity, the courage to commit yourselves humbly and patiently to improving yourselves and society, making the world more human and more fraternal.”

Do Not be Afraid to Share Your Faith.

“This is no time to be ashamed of the Gospel. It is the time to preach it from the rooftops. Do not be afraid to

break out of comfortable and routine modes of living in order to take up the challenge of making Christ known in the modern metropolis.”..

Your Full Potential is Found in Christ.

“When you wonder about the mystery of yourself, look to Christ who gives you the meaning of life. When you wonder what it means to be a mature person, look to Christ who is the fullness of humanity. And when you wonder about your role in the future of the world and of the United States, look to Christ. Only in Christ will you fulfill your potential as an American citizen and as a citizen of the world community.”

Your Life Has Meaning.

“The most beautiful and stirring adventure that can happen to you is the personal meeting with Jesus, who is the only one who gives real meaning to our lives.”

Saint John Paul II, pray for us!

-- by Caroline Perkins, ChurchPOP

HOW A CHRISTIAN IS LIKE A PUMPKIN

A lady recently being baptized was asked by a coworker what it was like to be a Christian. She replied, “It’s like being a pumpkin: God picks

you from the patch, brings you in, and washes all the dirt off you may have gotten from the other pumpkins. Then he cuts the top off and scoops

out all the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc. Then He carves you a new smiling

face and puts His light inside of you to shine for all the world to see.”

STEAMTOWN MARATHON

Just a little reminder: the Steamtown Marathon takes place next Sunday, October 12th. As we know, this Marathon shuts down half the Valley

and makes it difficult or impossible for some people to get to Church. Please plan accordingly so as not to be “trapped” by the Marathon.

PASTA DINNER

The Women’s Society of St. Joseph Melkite Catholic Church on North St. Frances Cabrini Avenue, West Scranton, is sponsoring its annual Takeout Pasta Dinner, Wednesday, October 22, 2025 from 4pm to 6 pm. Penne with

meatballs, salad, bread, dessert will be served. Adult \$12, Children 6-10 \$7. Larger orders call ahead/email 570-343-6092, melkite.scranton@gmail.com. See us on facebook or melkitescranton.org.

UGCC SING CON

UGCC SingCon is an annual gathering of cantors, choristers, choir directors, and anyone interested in the musical tradition of the Ukrainian Greco-Catholic Church. This year it is being hosted by the parish of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Perth Amboy, New Jersey, from October 23-26. The weekend includes workshops on liturgical and musical topics, vocal exercises,

mass choir practices, and liturgical services, including Vespers, Matins, and the Divine Liturgy. For further information, visit the website at <https://ugccmusic.com/>, or the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ugccmusic>. Student rates and scholarships are available. The deadline to apply for the scholarship is September 26th.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE MOTHER OF GOD

The annual Pilgrimage to the Mother of God on the grounds of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great will be held on Sunday, October 5, 2025.

The theme of this year's Pilgrimage is "**Mary, Mother of Hope**." The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by His Grace Most Reverend Metropolitan Archbishop Borys Gudziak, and the homily will be delivered by Mitred Archpriest

Peter Waslo.

Moleben will be celebrated by His Grace Most Rev. Metropolitan Archbishop Borys Gudziak, and Rev. Ruslan Borovyi, Pastor of St. Nicholas Church will deliver the homily. Liturgical and Moleben responses will be sung by St. Nicholas Choir of Philadelphia.

For further information call Maria Panczak at 215-379-3998 ext. 17.

SIMPSON FUNDRAISER CASH PRIZE BINGO

A fundraiser Cash Prize Bingo is planned for October 12, 2025 at Trinity Hall, Prospect St., Simpson. The Bingo will include 14 games, 3 Specials, and a Jackpot prize. Snacks

and refreshments will be available for purchase. Tickets will be \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

For tickets or more information, call 570-282-5680 or 570-282-0796.

WHITE CANE DAYS

The Lions Club and the Mid-Valley Leo Club will conduct their annual "White Cane Days" on Saturday, October 25th and Sunday, October 26th before the Divine Liturgy. All funds received from

this solicitation are used for ongoing sight conservation and eye research projects, hearing programs and other community betterment projects. Please support this worthy cause and thank you!

ANNUAL PENNSYLVANIANS FOR HUMAN LIFE

PRAYER BREAKFAST

Autumn's arrival brings with it one of our most cherished traditions:

the annual PHL Prayer Breakfast. We invite you to join us for a morning of fellowship, reflection, and renewed commitment to our shared mission.

Event Details

- Date: October 25th
- Time: 9:00 – 11:00 AM
- Location: Fiorelli's, Peckville

We are honored to welcome
Bobbie Schindler, President of

the Terri Schiavo Life and Hope Network, as this year's speaker. Bobbie will share insights and inspiration rooted in the mission to protect human life—from conception to natural death.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at pahumanlife@yahoo.com.

FALL BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Valley Community Library's Fall Book Sale will take place on Friday, November 14 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday, November 15 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Patrons may fill a provided bag on Saturday for \$5 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

There will be a special presale for Friends of the Library members only on Thursday, November 13, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Purchase

a membership at the door for \$10 individual/\$15 families. The book sale will be held inside the library.

Items for sale include fiction and non-fiction books, young adult and children's books, puzzles, and more! Prices vary from \$0.25 to \$2.00.

The Valley Community Library, a member of the Lackawanna County Library System, is located at 739 River St., Peckville, and serves residents in the valley area.

COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM

The Collection Processing Team for the month of October 2025 is

Team #2: Eugene Zinsky, John Turko, Jr., and Michael Shumek.

Sunday Collection for Sept. 20 & 21, 2025: \$

Sincere thanks to all of you for your kindness and generosity.



Ukrainian Catholic
Archeparchy of Philadelphia

Reporting & Giving Soirees

Anchored in Hope

OCTOBER 4, 2025

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

OCTOBER 11, 2025

Whippany, New Jersey

To learn more &
to purchase your tickets



Contact us at fundraisers2025@ukrcatholic.org

To make a donation



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: olyphant@ukrcatholic.org

Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

St. Thomas the Apostle

Poor Thomas! He made one remark and has been branded as “Doubting Thomas” ever since. But if he doubted, he also believed. He made what is certainly the most explicit statement of faith in the New Testament: “My Lord and My God!” (see John 20:24-28) and, in so expressing his faith, gave Christians a prayer that will be said till the end of time. He also occasioned a compliment from Jesus to all later Christians: “Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed” (John 20:29).

Thomas should be equally well known for his courage. Perhaps what he said was impetuous – since he ran, like the rest, at the showdown – but he can scarcely have been insincere when he expressed his willingness to die with Jesus. The occasion was when Jesus proposed to go to

Bethany after Lazarus had died. Since Bethany was near Jerusalem, this meant walking into the very midst of His enemies and to almost certain death. Realizing this, Thomas said to the other apostles, “Let us also go to die with him” (John 11:16b).

Thomas shares the lot of Peter the impetuous, James and John, the “sons of thunder,” Philip and his foolish request to see the Father – indeed all the apostles in their weakness and lack of understanding. We must not exaggerate these facts, however, for Christ did not pick worthless men. But their human weakness again points up the fact that holiness is a gift of God, not a human creation; it is given to ordinary men and women with weaknesses; it is God who gradually transforms the weaknesses into the image of Christ, the courageous, trusting and loving one.