

SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION
OF THE HOLY CROSS



Icon of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross -- September 14th

September 13, 2026: Sunday Before the Exaltation

Epistle: Gal. 6: 11-18

Gospel: Jn. 3: 13-17

This Weekend	4:00 pm For Our Parishioners 10:30 + Howard & Olga Smith (Son, Howard)
Mon., Sept. 14	Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Solemn Holy Day) 9:00 + John Sawko (Grandmother)
Tues., Sept. 15	10:00 Funeral: + Johanna Sokirka
Wed., Sept. 16	9:00 + Robert Harris (Jule Harris)
Thurs., Sept. 17	9:00 + George & Stacey Chmil (Paul and Rosemary)
Fri., Sept. 18	9:00 Intention Available: See Father Nestor
Sat., Sept. 19	No Morning Divine Liturgy 2:00 pm Confessions 4:00 pm + Deceased Members of the Moskel Family (Marlene Zelno & Family)
Sun., Sept. 20	10:30 For Our Parishioners

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

We celebrate the feast of the Holy Cross -- that Cross which dispelled darkness and restored light. In celebrating this feast we are raised aloft with the Crucified, leaving earth and sin behind and taking possession of heaven. Possess the Cross and you possess treasure, for surely the most precious object on earth is rightly called a treasure. If there had been no Cross, there would have been no crucified Christ, no Life nailed to the wood, no Immortal fountain of blood

and water flowing from a pierced side to purify the world, no declaration of our freedom, no paradise. If there had been no cross, death would not have been slain, hell would not have been robbed of its prey. How immeasurably great and priceless, then, is the cross — great because so much good was wrought through it; priceless because the Cross was the instrument of Christ's sacred trophy of victory. On it the devil was - fatally wounded, and death

thereby was slain. The gates of hell were shattered as the Cross became the means of universal salvation. The Cross has also been called Christ's glory and exaltation. It was the cup he yearned to drink, the crown upon the torments he bore for us. Here is how He Himself spoke of it: "Now is the Son of Man glorified. God is glorified

in him and shall straightway glorify him again." His words were fulfilled on the Cross. Christ likewise viewed the Cross as his exaltation. "And I, when I am lifted up, shall draw everyone to myself." Clearly, then, we must regard the Cross as Christ's glory and exaltation.

OUR CONDOLENCES

We commend to the mercy of God the soul of + **Johanna Sokirka**, who passed away on Tuesday, September 8th. Her funeral Divine Liturgy will be celebrated on Tuesday, September

15th. Please pray for the repose of her soul and for the comfort of her family during this time of loss. May her memory be eternal! Vichnaya Pamyat!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education classes will resume on Saturday, September 19, 2026 at 9:00 am. Grades 3 through 8 will meet in the Church with Mrs. Cathy Marcinko as in previous years.

If there are any children in Grades 1 and 2, please call Mrs. Sandra Berta at 570-301-7421 to make arrangements.

2027 DIVINE LITURGY INTENTION BOOK

The Divine Liturgy Intention Book for 2027 is now available. We understand that many people prefer to schedule a Divine Liturgy on the weekend. In order to be fair to all parishioners, we ask that each family schedule no more than three weekend Divine Liturgies per year. There

are many weekday Divine Liturgies available, and we encourage you to consider those dates as well.

Some may wonder about the weekly Divine Liturgy intention listed as "For Our Parishioners." Under Canon Law, the Pastor is obligated to pray for his parishioners every Sunday and on

Holy Days of Obligation. Thank you for your understanding and coopera-

tion as we strive to accommodate everyone's intentions.

BROCHURE ABOUT THE ARCHEPARCHY

The Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy has prepared a new brochure to help the faithful learn more about the

life and mission of our Archeparchy. Please feel free to pick up a copy in the vestibule after the Divine Liturgy.

ST. MARY'S BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH CHICKEN BBQ

St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church, Scranton, invites everyone to its annual Chicken BBQ on Sunday, September 13, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the St. Mary's Parish Center, Mifflin Ave. and Linden St.,

Scranton. Dinner tickets are \$15. The event will also feature a Bake Sale and Basket Raffles. Come enjoy great food and fellowship while supporting the parish's fundraising efforts.

ST. CYRIL'S 3RD ANNUAL CAR SHOW

Parishioners and friends are invited to participate in St. Cyril's 3rd Annual Car Show on Sunday, September 20, from 12:00–4:00 p.m. at 207 River St., Olyphant, with a memorial salute to + Gibby Carozzi. (Rain date: September 27.)

Cars, trucks, and motorcycles are welcome. Registration is \$10 per vehicle. The event will feature trophy awards, door prizes, basket raffles, a 50/50 raffle, a Gas Card

raffle, food, and music by Stevie Ray Entertainment.

Proceeds benefit SS. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church. For information, contact Ron at (570) 876-3213.

Volunteers & Bakers Needed:

We are looking for volunteers to help on the day of the show, as well as donations of baked goods for our bake sale table. Your help is greatly appreciated!

PASTIE SALE

Saints Peter & Paul, Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, North Wilkes-Barre is taking orders for Pasties for pick-up on Saturday, September 26th, 2026. Our Pasties are made with seasoned ground beef and potatoes wrapped in a pie crust pastry and are available with or without onions. Pasties are \$9.00 each and Gravy is

available for \$1.00 for an 8 oz. cup. Call (570) 829-3051 to place your order. (Please specify with or without onions.) Pick-up from 2:00 to 4:00 pm in our School Hall, corner of North River and West Chestnut Streets, Wilkes-Barre. Remember, when Baba cooks... everybody's happy!"

VALLEY COMMUNITY LIBRARY'S FALL FAIR

The Valley Community Library is excited to welcome you back for our 2nd Annual Fall Fair on October 3, 2026 from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.! Browse unique goods from local vendors, meet talented local authors, and enjoy an afternoon celebrating creativity and community. Families can also enjoy fun activities for kids, making it the perfect event for all ages.

Looking for ways to help? The library is looking for raffle baskets, volunteers for the event, and baked

goods donations that can be dropped off Saturday, October 3rd from 10 A.M. to 12 P.M. Any questions can be emailed to Kwallo@albright.org

The Valley Community Library, which is a member of the Lackawanna County Library System, is located at 739 River St., Peckville, and serves residents in Archbald, Blakely, Dickson City, Jessup, Throop, and Olyphant. The library is open Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

The Annual Harvest Festival of St. John Vianney Parish will be held at Corpus Christi Church, 704 Montdale Road, Scott Township, PA 18447 (Montdale), Sunday, October 4,

from 11:30 am to 4:00 pm. The Turkey Dinner will be a drive-thru take out that includes all of the "fixins". Dinners are still \$15. Outdoor booths under a tent (12 pm - 3 pm) will

include a huge Bountiful Baskets Stand, dining out stand, baked goods, raffles including a \$5,000 raffle and more. Directions: I-81 to Exit 201,

turn east, 3-4 miles on right. COME ENJOY THE FALL FOLIAGE AND THE WONDERFUL FESTIVAL!

SIMPSON FUNDRAISER CASH PRIZE BINGO

A fundraiser Cash Prize Bingo is planned for October 11, 2026 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.

ANNUAL PRAYER BREAKFAST

Please mark your calendar for and defending every innocent human Pennsylvanians for Human Life – life from conception to natural death. Scranton Chapter's 52nd Annual Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, October 17, 2026, at Fiorelli's, 1501 Main Street, Peckville.

Doors open at 8:00 AM. Breakfast begins at 9:00 AM.

This beloved annual gathering brings our community together for prayer, fellowship, encouragement, and support for the mission of protecting

This year, we are especially focused on our Mother and Baby core community — coming alongside mothers, babies, and the organizations that serve them with compassion, practical support, and hope.

The morning will include: Breakfast, Raffle Baskets, Silent Auction, An inspiring keynote message, Opportunities to support the mission of PHL

COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM

The Collection Processing Team for the month of August 2026 is Team #1: Jerry Sereditch, Michaelene Davis, and Gloria Jablonski.

Sunday Collection for Sept. 5 & 6, 2026: \$

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

Growing the Good News

WHIPPANY

October 3rd
5:30pm

PHILADELPHIA

October 17th
5:30pm

TICKETS:

Early Bird Pricing (through September 1st): \$175 per person

Regular Pricing (after September 1st): \$200 per person

Enjoy an elegant evening featuring a cocktail hour, silent auction, and live musical accompaniment.

Find more information here:



or contact us at

development@ukrcatholic.org or 215.627.0143



UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC ARCHEPARCHY OF PHILADELPHIA
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Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

Drawing All to Himself

O the marvelous power of the cross, the glory of the passion! No tongue can fully describe it. Here we see the judgment seat of the Lord, here sentence is passed upon the world, and here the sovereignty of the Crucified is revealed.

You drew all things to Yourself, Lord, when You stretched out Your hands all the day long to a people that denied and opposed You, until at last the whole world was brought to proclaim Your majesty. You drew all things to Yourself, Lord, when all the elements combined to pronounce judgment in denouncement of that crime; when the lights of heaven were darkened and the day was turned into night; when the land was shaken by unwonted earthquakes, and all creation refused to serve those wicked people. Yes, Lord, you drew all things to Yourself. The veil of the temple was torn in two and the Holy of Holies taken away from those unworthy high

priests. Figures gave way to reality, prophecy to manifestation, law to gospel. You drew all things to Yourself in order that the worship of the whole human race could be celebrated everywhere in a sacramental form which would openly fulfill what had been enacted by means of veiled symbols in that single Jewish temple.

Now that the multiplicity of animal sacrifices has ceased, the single offering of your body and blood takes the place of that diversity of victims, since you are the true Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, and in Yourself you fulfill all the rites of the old law, so that as there is now a single sacrifice in place of all those victims, so there is a single kingdom formed of all the peoples of the earth.

St. Leo the Great