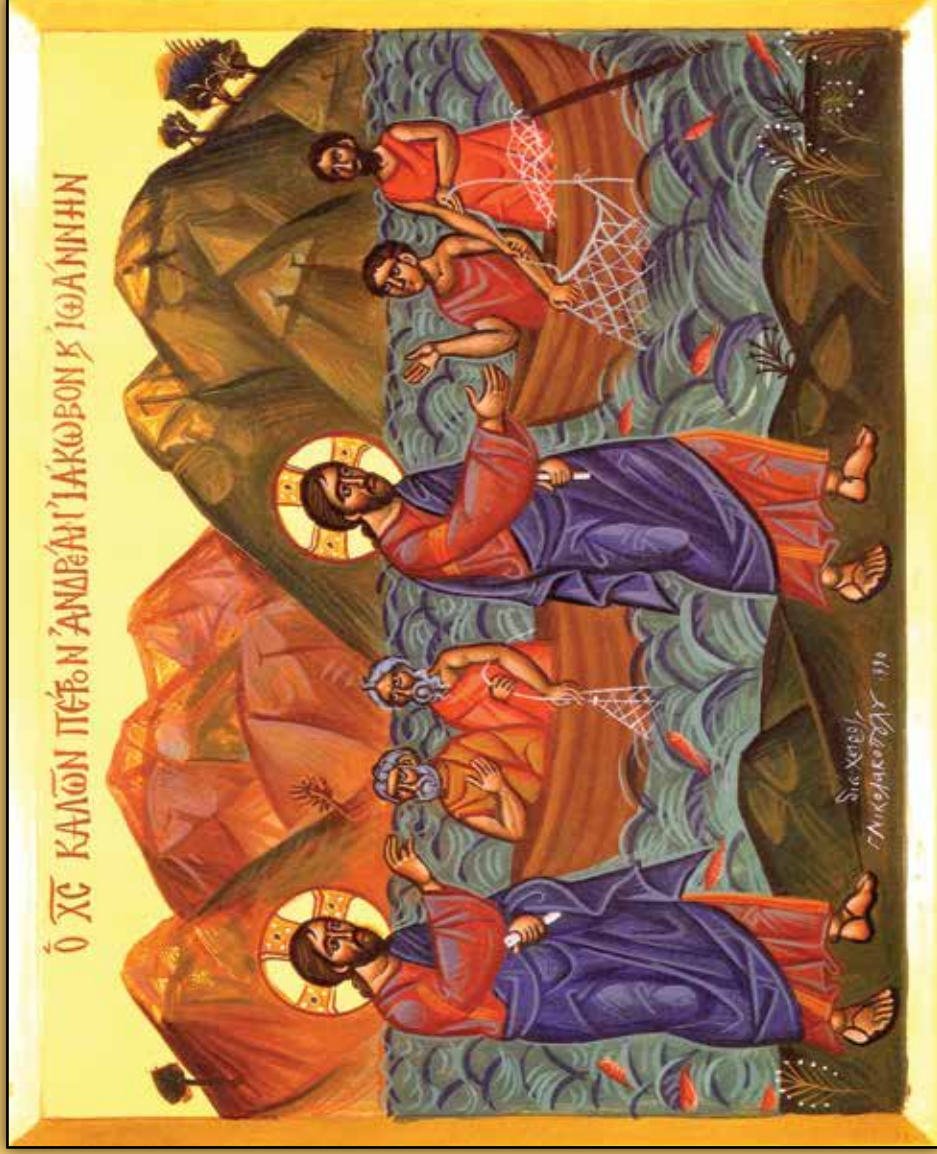


EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Call of the Disciples -- Luke 5:1-11

September 27, 2026: Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Epistle: 2 Cor. 9: 6-11

Gospel: Lk. 5: 1-11

This Weekend

4:00 pm Health & God's Blessings on Andy & Michael
(Mother & Grandmother)

10:30 For Our Parishioners

Mon., Sept. 28

to

No Divine Liturgies This Week.

Fri., Oct. 2

Sat., Oct. 3

No Morning Divine Liturgy

2:00 pm Confessions

4:00 pm + Bob Westington (Wife, Ilona)

Sun., Oct. 4

10:30 For Our Parishioners

6 MOMENTS WHEN YOU SHOULD MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS (NOT ONLY WHEN YOU PRAY)

The Sign of the Cross is not merely a custom. It is a brief yet profound profession of faith in the Holy Trinity, in the redemptive death of Jesus Christ, and in the hope of salvation.

Each time we say, “In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,” we invoke the one Triune God. And as we trace the cross over our bodies, we remember that Christ died and rose again for us.

The Church includes the Sign of the Cross among the signs used in blessings and sacramentals. It is not a lucky charm or a magic formula: it is a prayer made with the body as well, a simple way of

entrusting our minds, hearts, actions, and lives to God—a practice Christians have observed since the earliest centuries.

Here are six moments to make the Sign of the Cross in your daily life:

1. At the Beginning and End of Prayer

The Sign of the Cross helps us enter into God's presence. We make it at the beginning and end of the Rosary, personal prayer, a devotion, the reading of Sacred Scripture, or spontaneous prayer.

2. When Blessing Your Food

Before eating, we can make the Sign of the Cross and thank God for the food we receive. It is an especially beautiful

gesture for families, but it also makes sense when we eat alone, at work, at a restaurant, or while traveling.

A traditional prayer says:

“Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty, through Christ our Lord. Amen.”

3. At the Beginning and End of the Day

The Sign of the Cross can help us place the entire day in God’s hands. When we wake up, it reminds us that life is a gift and that everything we do can be offered to the Lord. Before going to sleep, it invites us to give thanks, ask forgiveness, surrender our worries, and rest confidently in His love.

In the morning, you can make the Sign of the Cross and say: “Lord, I offer You this day. Guide my thoughts, my words, and my actions. May everything be for Your glory. Amen.”

At night, you can pray before resting: “Into Your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit. Thank You for this day; forgive my sins and grant me rest in Your peace. Amen.”

This practice can also become a beautiful family tradition. Before turning off the lights, parents and children can give thanks together, pray for their loved ones, and make the Sign

of the Cross.

4. When Passing by a Church

When passing by a Catholic church, we can make the Sign of the Cross as a gesture of love and adoration for Jesus present in the Blessed Sacrament.

It is not always possible to go inside and make a visit to the Lord. But we can pause inwardly for a few seconds, make the Sign of the Cross, and offer a short prayer: “Jesus, I believe in You. I love You. Remain with me.”

5. When You Hear a Siren or See an Accident

Hearing an ambulance, fire truck, or police siren can be an invitation to pray for someone going through a difficult situation. Making the Sign of the Cross at that moment helps us respond with compassion rather than indifference.

In addition to making the Sign of the Cross, pray a Hail Mary for the person who may be in danger.

6. When Passing a Cemetery or Remembering the Dead

Christians pray for their loved ones and for all the faithful departed. When passing near a cemetery, seeing a funeral procession, or remembering someone who has died, we can make the Sign of the Cross and entrust them to God’s mercy.

-- *churchpop.com*

ANNUAL CLERGY RETREAT

The Clergy of our Archeparchy will be away this week for the Annual Clergy Retreat in Long Branch, NJ. Father Nestor will be attending and asks for your prayers as we take time

to renew our “spiritual batteries” and deepen our ministry. Should an emergency arise, please contact any Catholic priest.

WHY DOES THE WEST USE UNLEAVENED BREAD, WHEREAS THE EAST USE LEAVENED? WHAT CAME FIRST

It should be emphasized that both methods are correct. Unleavened bread was used in the Old Testament during the Passover meal. The tradition of using leavened bread, risen bread, symbolizes the resurrection of Jesus.

In 1439, at the Council of Florence, the church father confirmed that both traditions were correct and the churches adhered to their traditions.

Church historians say that

churches in the East and West both used leavened bread until the seventh century. In 1054, when a great schism arose, the Western Church accepted only unleavened bread.

After the Second Vatican Council in some European countries in Roman Catholic Churches, some priests served Mass for youth and used leavened bread.

-- Fr. Mihajlo Planchak

CONGRATULATIONS

Our Congratulations and Best wishes to **Liam James Wilkes**, along with his parents Ryan and Jessica, on the occasion of his initiation into the flock of Jesus Christ last week. Liam,

we welcome you into our Parish Family and pray that God grant you many happy and blessed years. Mnohaya Leeta!

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.

RUMMAGE SALE

SS. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, 20 Nottingham St., Plymouth, invite you to their Rummage Sale on Friday, Oct. 2nd from 9 am - 4 pm and Saturday, October 3rd from 9 am to 2 pm.

In addition, there will be soup, haluski, and baked goods for sale. A basket raffle to support the Ukrainian Relief Fund is also being held.

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 Pennsylvanians for Human Life – 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 and defending every innocent

human life from conception to natural death.

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 September 2026 is

Team #1: Jerry Sereditch, Michaelene Davis, and Gloria Jablonski.

Sunday Collection for Sept. 19 & 20, 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
810 NORTH FRANKLIN STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19123

SS. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

135 River St., Olyphant, PA 18447-1435

Telephone: 570-291-4451

Web Site: stcyrils.weconnect.com

E-Mail: olyphant@ukrcatholic.org

Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

To Be a Disciple

But you, dearly beloved, who are involved in secular matters, since you are familiar with our affairs, call before your mind's eye your own. Do everything for each other freely. Do not seek recompense for your work in this world, which you now see to have declined with such great rapidity, lest you do evil in any way, and do good for the sake of temporal recompense. Seek as witness of your work Him whom you await as judge. Let Him now see your good deeds in secret, that He may show them to all on the day when He grants you your reward. As you daily provide food for your bodies to keep them from failing, so let your good works be the daily nourishment of your hearts. The body is fed with food, the spirit sustained by good works. You should not deny to your soul, which will live forever, what you grant to your body which is going to die. If ever a sudden fire destroys a dwelling,

and its owner seizes what he values and flees, he counts as gain whatever he takes with him out of the flames. You can see that a fire of calamities is burning up the world, and the end, which is now near, is like a fire, laying waste everything in it that appeared delightful. Therefore, my friend, believe it the greatest gain if you carry off anything from it, if you take anything with you as you flee, if, by bestowing it as an everlasting recompense on yourselves, you save what could have perished had it remained. In truth we lose all our earthly possessions if we save them, but we save them by yielding them well. Time is quickly running out. Let us prepare with haste for seeing our Judge soon. Our good deeds are impelling us towards Him with great urgency.

St. Gregory the Great