

DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK

13th Sunday After Pentecost, August 14, 2016
9:00 AM Lit. + Eudokia Zenchuk r/by Daughter, Helen
11:00 AM Lit. For God’s Blessings on Our Parishioners
Monday, August 15, 2016
Dormition of the Theotokos
9:00 AM Lit. For God’s Blessings on Our Parishioners
7:00 PM Lit. + Frances Stek r/by Eleanor Kataryniak
Tuesday, August 16, 2016
8:00 AM Lit. + Arthur Kara - Legate
Wednesday, August 17, 2016
8:00 AM Lit. Health of Iryna r/by Rev. Dubitsky
Thursday, August 18, 2016
8:00 AM Lit. Health of Family Members
r/by Olga Galagoza
Friday, August 19, 2016
8:00 AM Lit. + Rev. Joseph Szupa (40th Day)
Saturday, August 20, 2016
8:00 AM Lit. + Michailo Oliynyk r/by Deneka Family
5:00 PM Lit. + Charles A. Stek r/by Ann Marie Stek
14th Sunday After Pentecost, August 21, 2016
Epistle - 2 Cor 1:21-2:4; Gospel - Mt 22:1-14
9:00 AM Lit. + Barbara Grausam r/by Family
11:00 AM Lit. For God’s Blessings on Our Parishioners

The Feast of the Dormition

The day of the death of the Most Holy Mother of God is called the Dormition (or falling asleep) in our Church, for her body did not know corruption after death, but together with her soul was taken up into heaven, hence, another name for the feast is “the Assumption.” We will celebrate the Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God on Monday, August 15, with Divine Liturgy at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Remembering that this is still a Holy Day of Obligation for all of our churches, and as a member of the church you do need to attend Liturgy on this solemn day. We have the custom of blessing flowers on the feast of the Dormition, so don’t forget to bring a vase or bouquet of flowers for blessing.

2017 Donation Envelopes

We are now in the process of ordering envelopes for 2017. If there are any changes to name or address, please contact the church secretary. If you will be moving from the parish and do not need 2017 envelopes please call the church secretary. *If you did not receive envelopes and wish to be a **registered parishioner**, please contact the secretary at the rectory; call 732-826-0767.* Anyone wishing to act as a sponsor for a baptism, confirmation, etc., must be a registered parishioner.

QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR FAITH

Why are so many candles lit or burning in your church. Candles are used in all church services. They symbolize Christ as “the Light of the World” (John 8:12), the two natures of Christ, divine (burning wick) and human (wax pillar), and our prayers.

Why do the clergy and altar servers wear such unusual clothing?

These distinctive garments are called vestments. Rooted in Old Testament worship (see Exodus 28-29), each item manifests God’s grace given to those who hold priestly office or serve at the altar to perform their duties.

Why do we mostly stand throughout the Liturgy? To stand was the pattern of prayer for the Old Testament Church just as it is the pattern of prayer for the Heavenly Church (see Isaiah 6:2, 1 Kings 22:19, Daniel 7:10, Matthew 5:6, Revelations 7:11). As with kissing icons or making the Sign of the Cross, standing in prayer demonstrates our faith. In this case, we also demonstrate our dignity as Children of God in Christ as well as our common effort.

Children’s Bible Summer Camp

Our First Bible Summer Camp for the youth of our parish children Grades 1 to 5 has been scheduled for August 29-30, 2016, 9:00 a.m-3:00 p.m. If you want your child/children to learn about God’s love for them and meet other youngsters from our parish, please register your child for this FREE camp. We have a sign-up sheet and a registration form in the vestibule. If your child is planning to go, put your name on that sheet and also take home the yellow registration form, fill it out and then return it to the rectory office or give it to Fr. Ivan no later than Sunday, August 21st. The chairperson for this year’s camp is Mrs. Melanie Fedynyshyn and helpers.

Daily Schedule of Activities at the Bible Camp

Leader’s Objectives:

- to present activities to children that will create enthusiasm about our rich Catholic faith
- to stimulate love of learning about the heroes of the Old Testament and how they remained faithful to God
- to present these Bible heroes as the men and women who lived interesting and adventurous lives as they waited for their Savior to come.
- to provide a simple introduction to salvation history from Adam to Jesus
- to inform our children about the Holy Land and the culture in which Jesus lived
- to show how the Old Testament is fulfilled in the New Testament through the coming of Jesus
- to present all of the above in a fun, relaxed environment
- to use age and developmentally appropriate materials geared to each child’s ability

Children’s Objectives:

- to learn, pray, create and play - all in the context of Holy Scripture
- to build friendships while having fun

Themes:

- Because God loves us, He created heaven and earth
- He loves us so much that even after Adam and Eve sinned, He promised to send a Messiah who would come to redeem us.
- There are many Bible heroes whose lives teach us to love God and to trust in Him.
- God keeps His promises.

General Daily Components:

(ALL of which keep with the day’s theme)
Group Prayer, Drama activities, Painting, Crafts, Games, Church Visit, Lunch/Snacks in Fr. Ivan’s residence and church hall, Bouncer Outside Kids Play.

Activities:

- God Created Heaven and Earth (rock painting)
- Bible Timeline Wall Mural (painting)
- Baby Moses in a Basket (craft)
- Flutter Butterfly (craft)
- Joseph’s Coat of Many Colors (craft)
- Nature Bookmark: “God Made All Things” (craft)
- St. Michael the Archangel Prayer Card (coloring)
- “Abraham Trusted God” (Choral Reading)
- God’s Promise to Noah (Rainbow mobile craft)
- Bible Heroes / Family of Jesus Iconography (Church Visit)
- “Guess My Face” (Game)
- “Leap for the Lord” (Potato Sack Race)

All Are Called to Prayer during a Holy Pilgrimage on Sunday, August 28, Metropolitan Soroka to Lead Pilgrims at Assumption Church, Centralia, Pa.



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All are invited to join Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka and clergy on a Pilgrimage at the Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Centralia, Pa. on Sunday, August 28th. The pilgrimage begins at 12:00 noon with the celebration of the Divine Liturgy with Archbishop Stefan as the main celebrant. Homilist at the liturgy will be Father Vasyi Kharuk, Spiritual Director at St. Josaphat Seminary and an Extraordinary Minister of Mercy during this Jubilee Year of Mercy. There will be a Living Rosary prayed at 2:30 PM before the historic and jeweled 18th century copy of the Icon of Our Lady of Pochaiv. Father John Szada will provide a reflection at the conclusion of the rosary. At 4:00 PM all will gather at the outdoor chapel for a candlelight procession to the church for the celebration of a Moleben to the Mother of God. Archbishop Stefan will again be the main celebrant as well as homilist during the Moleben. Prior to entering the church, the Blessing of Water for the Jubilee Year will take place at the Grotto of the Holy Cross. The newly blessed Jubilee Water will then be distributed to all pilgrims. At the conclusion of the Moleben, prayers for healing and the anointing for the healing of soul and body will take place, as well as the opportunity to venerate the Icon of Our Lady of Pochaiv. Confessions will be available throughout the day at various locations on the church grounds. There will be religious goods for sale, which will be blessed at the conclusion of the Living Rosary in the outdoor chapel. Food service will be provided from 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM. This is a Rain or Shine event. Handicap parking will be provided on the church grounds. Off-site parking and shuttle van service will be provided from specially designated areas near the church. For more information please feel free to contact the church rectory at 570-339-0650.

During his historic visit in November 2015, His Beatitude Major-Archbishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk, Primate of the world-wide Ukrainian Catholic Church, marveled at the continuing presence of the church in Centralia, where an underground mine-fire resulted in the abandonment of the town, the demolition of almost all buildings and the relocation of all but less than ten residents. Patriarch Sviatoslav felt a sense of true holiness which pervades the entire church property. His desire is for all people of faith to come and experience this holiness, sanctity and serenity as pilgrims to this holy place on the mountain.

During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, the church has also been designated a Holy Door of Mercy and all pilgrims are invited to walk through the Holy Door for special blessings.



PLEASE TAKE NOTE

All Invited to Attend Philadelphia City Hall Ceremonies to Celebrate Ukrainian Independence Day, Wednesday, August 24 at 12:45 p.m.

Philadelphia, Pa.—The Ukrainian-American community of the Greater Philadelphia area will celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Ukraine's independence on Wednesday, August 24, beginning at 12:45 PM, in an outdoor ceremony on the North Broad Street area of Philadelphia City Hall.

The Most Reverend Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan Soroka, of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia will present the closing address, praying for Ukraine and all who lost their lives defending Ukrainian independence and sovereignty.

All are welcome and invited to attend the outdoor program. Wear your best *vyshyvanka* or your national dress, bring your children with you, and celebrate Ukrainian Independence at City Hall in Philadelphia.

**Year of Mercy columns for August
Earth On Fire**

Many people blame religion for bringing strife into the world. They point to the Crusades, the Inquisition, the enslavement of Africans. But what's closer to the truth is that religion is not to blame. The blame falls on those who call themselves Christians but fail to live according to Christ's commandments of love and mercy. This is what G. K. Chesterton meant when he said, "Christianity has not failed; it has not even been tried." Christianity should be thought of as not so much a religion as a spiritual pathway towards union with God. In fact, "The Way" was a name adopted by the earliest Christians. Paul, before his conversion on the road to Damascus, was obsessed with finding "any men or women who belonged to the Way," so he could haul them away in chains [Acts 9:2].



Hear what Catherine of Siena urges us: "Be who God meant you to be, and you will set the world on fire." Her words echo Christ's, as recorded in Luke 12:49: "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!" Want to help Jesus set the earth ablaze? Simply be who God meant you to be. Our prayer today: Jesus, Lord of love and mercy, strengthen us as we follow the path you have set for us.

Pastor's Corner

- I was given an icon print of Saint Peter and his wife. Is she in the canon of Saints? Under what name? Is there any thing in Holy Tradition about her? I have the following references: Matthew 8:14. "When Jesus entered Peter's house, he saw his mother-in-law lying sick with a fever;" and I Corinthians 9:5: "Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas?"***

There is no traditional iconographic rule concerning Saint Peter's wife. We don't know anything about her except for the two scriptural quotations you gave. She is not listed in the calendar of icons of Saints. We don't even know her name.

- Can an adult baptism be done in the ocean, i.e., in salt water?***

All baptisms are done in running water, that is fresh water. Running water is also called living water, so you can see why it shouldn't be standing water or salt water which is used for baptisms.

- Can I change godparents?***

No. You can no more change godparents than you can change blood relatives. If you think about it, you'll see that there's no way to do it – you were baptized, you entered the Church, and godparents were witnesses to that act, they sponsored you for membership in the Church. The baptism is unalterable – so are the witnesses. In fact, the Greek word for godparent is 'witness.' If your godparents have fallen away from the Church, they must answer for their behavior at the Judgment Day, just like everyone else. But it becomes your duty to pray for them, to try to encourage them to return to Church by the example of your good behavior, and to continue to love them and to be a good god-child, to the best of your ability.

- What is Bojhe Veliki song and why do we sing it so often after the Liturgy?***

Bojhe Veliki is a traditional prayer for our homeland (Vkraina / Krai) and for us as her sons and daughters. No doubt, many of us remember singing it (in part) to beseech God to relieve the yoke of foreign communist rule over Ukraine. However, its stirring melody and poetic language call us to remember more than our physical, ancestral, and spiritual homelands here on earth: they evoke within our hearts the deeper nostalgia and yearning for our True Home, the place that our Lord Himself has prepared for us in glory. For instance, when it asks our Lord to "enlighten us through knowledge and learning" so that the "pure love for our homeland might flourish within and among us", it is asking our Lord to grow us into proper children of His inheritance. Please stand attentively and join the choir as we sing this beautiful prayer at the end of Divine Liturgy

METROPOLITAN STEFAN'S REFLECTION ON THE OCCASION OF THE 25th ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINE'S INDEPENDENCE

On August 24th, 2016, Ukrainians worldwide celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the declaration of independence of Ukraine. Our celebrations ought to be joyful and filled with hope. Our celebrations ought to recall the vision of those who contributed to the declaration of freedoms and nationhood twenty-five years ago. Our celebrations ought to rekindle the prosperous nation envisioned by Ukrainians and the free world on our realizing our nationhood. Our celebrations ought to remind us of the heroic sacrifices of those who stood bravely on the Maidan to ensure the recognition of our freedoms against those endeavoring to reverse our nationhood. Our celebrations ought to celebrate gratitude to the many who today make great sacrifices for the defense of Ukraine against its invading oppressors. It is very important and significant that all Ukrainians boldly celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Independence of Ukraine.



Our celebrations ought to be primarily characterized by prayers to almighty God in gratitude for His graces poured upon all who foster and defend the independence of Ukraine. Our Churches and holy temples of all faiths ought to be filled with Ukrainians gathered in the strength of united prayer. Our shared faith and prayer is what sustains and fosters our identity as Ukrainians. Our trust in almighty God enables our offering encouragement and hope to our brothers and sisters in Ukraine and elsewhere who particularly suffer because of the current invasion of Ukraine. We surrender ourselves to the Mother of God as we beseech her loving and maternal presence and intercession for Ukraine and its people. We also pray and beseech peace for the world and for the people of nations also presently experiencing the devastating effects of war.

Our celebrations ought to also boldly present the rich cultural traditions of Ukraine and Ukrainians throughout the world. The preparation of concerts and various festivities ensure that our rich traditions and culture continues to evolve and embrace the hearts of Ukrainians of all ages. We ought to particularly encourage the involvement of the young in all such celebrations so as to plant the seed of appreciation and pride in their identity as Ukrainians. Sharing our rich cultural traditions in song and dance is life-giving to our friends and neighbors in our nation where we live.

The 25th anniversary of Ukraine's Independence ought to be CELEBRATED with gratitude and hope, characterized by sincere and active prayer and sharing our rich cultural traditions in song and dance. May each of us worthily and boldly live our Ukrainian identity on the occasion of this special anniversary and every day of our life. ***Слава Україні!***

РОЗДУМИ МИТРОПОЛИТА СТЕФАНА СОРОКИ З НАГОДИ 25-ОЇ РІЧНИЦІ НЕЗАЛЕЖНОСТІ УКРАЇНИ

24-го серпня 2016 р. українці в світі святкують двадцять п'яту річницю проголошення Незалежності України. Наше святкування повинно бути радісним і сповненим надії. Наше святкування повинно відображати бачення тих, хто доклався до цього проголошення свободи та самостійності двадцять п'ять років тому. Наше святкування повинно розпалити нові надії на процвітання народу, які мали українці та вільний світ при реалізації нашої самостійності. Наше святкування повинно нагадати нам про героїчну жертву тих, які сміливо стали на Майдані, щоб захистити свободу перед тими, хто прагнув знищити нашу самостійність. Наше святкування повинно бути висловом вдячності тим, хто сьогодні ціною великих жертв захищає Україну від агресора. Дуже важливо і значуще, щоб всі українці широко відзначили двадцять п'яту річницю Незалежності України.

Наше святкування має найперше зосереджуватися на молитві до Всевишнього з подякою за Його благословення зіслані на всіх, хто плекає і захищає Незалежність України. Наші церкви та святі храми всіх віросповідань повинні бути наповнені українцями, які єднаються в спільній молитві. Наша спільна віра та молитва – це те, що живить і плекає нашу ідентичність як українців. Наша довіра до Всевишнього надає підтримки й вселяє надію в наших братів і сестер в Україні, які особливо страждають через війну в Україні. Ми віддаємо себе в руки Матері Божої благаючи в неї любові, материнської присутності та заступництва за Україну та її народ. Ми також молимося і просимо про мир для світу й народів, які також страждають від руїнних воєн.

Наше святкування повинно стати яскравою демонстрацією наших багатих українських національних традицій, розвинутих в Україні і в світі. Підготовка концертів та різноманітних фестивалів є запорукою того, що наші багаті традиції та культура продовжать розвиватися й підкорювати серця українців різного віку. Ми маємо особливо заохочувати участь у всіх таких святкуваннях молоді, бо це засіває зерна вдячності та гордості за їхнє українське коріння. Ділення нашою багатою культурною спадщиною в піснях і танцях є життєдайним для наших друзів та сусідів, які живуть поряд з нами в різних країнах.

25-та річниця Незалежності України повинна святкуватися з вдячністю і надією, які відзначаються широко і дієвою молитвою та уділенням нашого культурного надбання через пісню та танець. Нехай кожен з нас гідно і щиро плекає свою українську ідентичність з нагоди цього особливого ювілею, а також кожен день свого життя. ***Слава Україні!***