

**DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK****Sunday After the Exaltation, September 18, 2016**

9:00 AM Lit. For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners

11:30 AM Lit. + Maryann Smereka

r/by Stanley Stempinski

**Monday to Thursday, September 19 to 22, 2016**

No Liturgy Scheduled

**Friday, September 23, 2016**

8:45 AM Lit. + William Adamshick r/by Joyce, Bill, Mike

**Saturday, September 24, 2016**

8:00 AM Lit. + Mary Perski r/by M/M John Wolff

5:00 PM Lit. + Michael &amp; Catherine Badiak

r/by John M. Patulak

**19<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost, September 25, 2016***Epistle - 2 Cor 11:31-12:9; Gospel - Lk 5:1-11*

9:00 AM Lit. For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners

11:30 AM Lit. + Joseph Fedynyshyn r/by Wife, Alberta

**Religious Education**

First Confession and Solemn Holy Communion Instruction classes will be held starting SUNDAY, October 2, 2016 for our parish children (6-7 years old). Please contact Sister Yosaphata at 732-826-9165 or Fr. Ivan to register your child for the program. Lessons are held Sundays in the school from 10 to 11 AM. The date for First Confession and Solemn Holy Communion will be on Sunday, May 7, 2017.

**Religious education for children ages 8-15**

For children who wish to continue to learn about their faith, classes will be scheduled if enough children are signed up. Please plan to have your children join us! You can register your children any Sunday until October 2nd by signing up on the form at the back of the church.

*We welcome your child to join us and experience the joy of learning more about their faith in a fun and educational environment.*

**CATECHETICAL SUNDAY 2016****Blessing of School Students**

Fr. Ivan will bless the school students after Sunday's Liturgies on September 18, 2016. As the students return to school it is important they do so with the blessing of Almighty God. All students from elementary level through graduate school are invited to come forward to receive this very special blessing upon them.

**Annual Spiritual Clergy Retreat**

This week, Monday, Sept. 19 to Thursday, Sept. 22, Fr. Ivan will be away on Spiritual Retreat, together with the priests and deacons of our Archeparchy. This year, Fr. Ivan was asked to offer the talk to his brother priests on the theme "The Priest Revealing God's Mercy Through Proclaiming Joy."

**ETERNAL MEMORY**

In your charity please remember in your prayers the soul of +ANNA BARALECKI, a member of our parish, who passed away this week. *Vichnaya Pamyat!*

**ACS is collecting Box Tops for Education**

Clipping Box Tops is an easy way for you to help our school buy what it needs. Box Tops are each worth 10 cents and they quickly add up to real cash for our school. This school year, our school's earning goal is \$1,500. To help the school, just look for pink Box Tops on products, clip them and bring box tops to church office or put them in the container/box provided in the back and downstairs of the church.

**Welcome Back To ACS's 54th Year Of Educating Children In The Catholic Faith.**

The vision of the Ukrainian Catholic Bishops over a half century ago led to the establishment of Assumption Catholic School in Perth Amboy NJ that currently is the largest elementary Ukrainian Catholic School in America. Over the years, thousands of students have called the school their second home and with their parents, created many positive memories. Among the many gratifying moments is when alumni return to register their own children to give them the Assumption Catholic experience. On September 6, 2016 for the 54th time the ACS was excited to welcome back returning and many new students. ACS is a small parochial school administered by the Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. AdvancEd accredited, the school provides a Christ-centered, Catholic environment to a diverse population of pre-kindergarten (age 4) through 8th-grade students. Before Care and After Care are available. To receive more information about the school, call 732-826-8721 or visit [www.assumptioncatholicschool.net](http://www.assumptioncatholicschool.net). Please help spread the word about ACS and tell the story of what makes our parish school such a special place to learn.

**Bingo**

Parish Bingo is held in the school auditorium every Wednesday and Friday evening at 6:30 PM. The bingo supports the parish and relies completely on volunteers. Many of our patrons have commented on how clean and well-designed our facilities are, as well as how friendly our workers are. Word of mouth is our best source of advertising, and being our parish fundraiser, bingo is an important element in keeping our Parish and School alive and flourishing.

Since we are starting some new games this October, the bingo is in desperate need of more volunteers. It is a very small commitment and we have a lot of fun working together. It is also a great way to get to know a few more members of our Parish family!

**Give us what help you can:**

6:30 -7:30 to help sell

7:30 - 9:30 to work the floor

6:30 -9:30 to work both.

If you are interested please call Fr. Ivan and your call will make his day.

**Wedding Anniversary Celebration**

Sunday, October 16th at 11:00 AM there will be a special wedding anniversary celebration for all married couples. This event will take place at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Philadelphia with an 11:00 Divine Liturgy followed by a banquet for the couples honoring Married Life. Archbishop Stefan invites all married faithful to this special celebration of the Holy Mystery of Crowning (Matrimony) and its witness in our society today. The cost is \$50.00 per couple and \$30.00 for guests. If you are interested in attending, please see Fr. Ivan for a registration form. Deadline for registration is September 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Calendar Dinner Dance**

St. Ann Society will sponsor its annual Calendar Dinner Dance on Saturday, Oct. 22, 2016, in the school auditorium, Meredith & Jacques Sts. Enjoy a night of dining and dancing: appetizers and a lavish buffet by *Palms Plaza* and DJ music by *Touch of Class*. Doors open at 6:00 PM, appetizers at 6:30 PM followed by the buffet dinner. As always, byob. Tickets are \$40 per person and can be purchased by calling the church office at 732-826-0767, or after liturgies from members. Get your tickets soon!

**Catholic Mythbusters: Could a large ship really be built from all the relics of the True Cross?**

Skeptics over the centuries have doubted the authenticity of the relics, but here's what history tells us.

September 14 is known as the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross and celebrates the glory of the cross of Christ by which we have been saved. It is also a day that commemorates the "Finding of the True Cross" by Saint Helena (Constantine's mother) in the year 326, and ever since that day relics of the true cross have been distributed around the world. Small relics of the cross can now be found in great cathedrals as well as the humblest of country churches, and at one time individuals also claimed to possess relics. The prevalence of these relics prompted John Calvin to quip, "if all the pieces that could be found were collected together, they would make a big ship-load." Modern-day skeptics hold fast to Calvin's assessment and claim that since there are so many "relics" of the true cross, Saint Helena never did find the cross and all of these relics are simple forgeries; pieces of ordinary wood encased in a gold container. Well, is it true? If we gathered all the relics of the true cross and put them together, would it build a wooden ship that rivals Noah's ark? Myth or fact? First of all, we need to dig into what history tells us about the finding of the true cross.

Tradition relates (confirmed by the contemporary sources of St. John Chrysostom, St. Ambrose, Rufinus, and Gelasius to name a few) that Saint Helena was inspired by God to travel to the Holy Land in search of the true cross of Jesus Christ. After Jesus' death, the Jews hid the cross in a ditch, covering it with stones so that the early Christians would not be able to venerate it. In the years that followed, a pagan shrine was also built upon the same site in honor of the goddess Venus, most likely constructed during the reign of the Emperor Hadrian.

There were a handful of Jews who knew where the true cross was hidden and had passed down that information amongst themselves over the centuries. One such Jew, named Judas, felt compelled to tell Saint Helena where the relics of the true cross were buried.

They excavated the site and found three crosses; one was believed to be the true cross and the other two were from the thieves crucified on either side of Jesus. However, they didn't know which cross Jesus was crucified on and decided to test them by bringing a terminally ill woman to the location and touching each cross to her. One of the crosses miraculously healed the woman, so that particular cross was enshrined in a church built in Jerusalem over the Holy Sepulchre and was believed to be the true cross on account of its supernatural properties.

Shortly after this event the true cross was broken into two primary pieces; one remained in Jerusalem and one was sent to Constantinople. Saint Helena also took a large portion back to Rome, which is now located in the Basilica Santa Croce in Gerusalemme. Additionally, the splintering of the true cross began and various churches and individuals requested relics, displayed in churches and cathedrals so that pilgrims did not have to travel to Jerusalem to venerate the relic.

Wanting to test the claim and see if it was true that all the relics of the true cross would build a massive ship, a French independent scholar named Charles Rohault de Fleury tracked down every surviving relic and published a scientific study in 1870 entitled *Mémoire sur les instruments de la Passion*.

After calculating the weight of the cross that Jesus would have carried, he estimated that the volume of the cross would have been 10,900 cubic inches. De Fleury then compared that number with the total volume of all the true relics of the cross. He discovered that all the relics in the world amounted only to 240 cubic inches. Surprised by the number, de Fleury multiplied the number by 10 to cover any relics that were destroyed or in private hands.

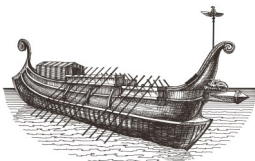
Even after that, 2,400 cubic inches was not even close to the original volume of the cross.

Myth, busted!

Now over time there have been false relics of the cross that have been passed down, and that is why the history of a particular relic is important to know and to have proper documentation verifying its authenticity.

Many miracles and healings have been attributed to relics of the true cross over the centuries and attests to the enduring power of Christ's cross.

As we pray during the Stations of the Cross, "We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You. because by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world."



From [www.aleteia.org](http://www.aleteia.org)

*Pastor's Corner*

• **What is meant by the song "Mnohaya Lita?"**

We sing "Mnohaya Lita, which means Many Years" to those who celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, and name days (commemorating the saints for whom *they were named*) during the coming week.

• **Why does the Bishop have more authority than other priests?**

This is part of the normal 'chain of command' of the Church. Jesus placed certain apostles at the head of the band, and appointed them to be leaders of His flock. Not all the apostles were bishops, or 'overseers' of cities and parishes. Deans guide the clergy, and assist the bishop in ruling the parish priests and deacons. The priests carry out the Bishop's rules for his Diocese. Deacons traditionally taught catechumens in the parishes. This is the structure of the Church. This order parallels the military ranks. There's nothing unusual in that each clergyman – bishop, priest and deacon – has his own responsibilities and duties. Each of these ranks has its own perception of the Church, one broader and deeper than the next, and the bishop is the top authority.

• **Why does some Crucifix have three bars?**

The distinctive three-barred cross is part of the Russian heritage of the Orthodox Church in America. It is not Russian in origin, though; it comes from the early Church. The short top cross represents the sign nailed to the Cross of Christ proclaiming in Latin, Greek, and Hebrew: "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." The longer middle cross represents the familiar crossbeam to which Jesus' hands were nailed. The short slanted cross at the bottom represents the footrest to which Jesus' feet were nailed.

Fr. John Matusiak, Director of Communications in the OCA, writes: "Various reasons have been given for slanting the bottom bar. There is one tradition which states that, at the moment of His death, Our Lord's foot slipped and the footrest tilted. A highly symbolic interpretation states that the slanted bar refers to the thief crucified on Our Lord's right side -- the "Wise Thief" who repented -- who went to heaven and to the unrepentant thief crucified on Christ's left side who did not. Another explanation is that the slant is an attempt to depict that the footrest slanted downward, toward the viewer, albeit in a two, rather than three, dimensional form."

• **As I was recently watching a movie based on the Passion of Christ, I came to wonder why Jesus would have chosen St. Peter to lead His church when Peter denied him three times and it was St. John who walked with Mary all the way to the foot of the cross and remained there until Jesus was taken down. Wouldn't it appear St. John would have been the better choice as a loyal follower and much loved by Jesus to lead the Church? The bible has referred to St. John as "the apostle Jesus loved". I am certain He loved them all, however with that reference it would appear St. John was very special in some way to Jesus. It is what it is, however, I am simply curious if there is any reference any where as to why He chose St. Peter?**

Jesus certainly did love all his apostles because He chose them to be the leaders of His newly formed Church. Jesus did love Saint John as his "beloved apostle." And John did not run from and did not hide his love for His Savior and Lord. And Jesus gave the care of His mother, Mary, to John. And John is the only apostle that wasn't martyred for the Name of Jesus. He died of old age in Ephesus.

Yet, for some reason known only to the Lord Jesus, Peter was chosen to be the leader of the Church. Even though Peter denied Jesus three times, Jesus also asked Peter three times if he loved Him. And when Peter said, "Yes, Lord, I love you," Jesus replied three times, "Feed My lambs." And it was Saint John in his gospel that recounted this choice of Peter as leader of the Church (and Peter's successors) in JOHN 21:15-19.

Jesus wanted someone who knew what it was like to fall flat on one's face in sin and who knew what it was like to be forgiven by the Lord. Jesus wanted a strong headed man with a strong faith to be the rock on which His Church was to be built (see Matthew 16:16-19). Peter's rock faith in Jesus became the foundation of the Church because it is through faith in Jesus that we have our salvation assured.

Saint John was loving and loyal to the Lord. There is no record in the scriptures that John sinned as terribly as Peter and Judas, though that is not to say that John was not a sinner for he was a sinner and needed salvation like all of us. The difference between Peter and Judas was that Peter asked and begged for forgiveness while Judas did not (hence, the sin against the Holy Spirit, the unforgivable sin, is the inability to ask and receive the free gift of forgiveness from our Merciful Father in heaven. Please see Matthew 12:31-32).

Since Peter intimately knew and understood the mercy of God through forgiveness of his betrayal, Peter became the prime example as the one forgiven. And that is what Christianity is all about: forgiveness, reconciliation, and spiritual healing that leads to eternal life in heaven. Peter became the rock of faith and the leader of the Church in which Jesus gave him the keys of the kingdom. To this very day, the successor of Saint Peter, Pope Francis, holds those same keys to the kingdom of heaven through the forgiveness of sin through faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior. Amazing Grace, I call it. That Amazing Grace of forgiveness and healing given to all through an active life faith in Jesus.



**ВІТАМОЄМО -КАВА**

Після літніх вакацій вітаємо всіх наших парафіян і надіємося що ви гарно відпочили. Тепер, знову повертаємось до звичайного порядку; праця, школа, різного роду зайняття і очевидно церква і молитва. Надіємося що ми знову побачимо вас на недільних Богослужіннях і що ви активно включитеся до праці у наших парафіяльних справах і подіях. Після Служби Божої сьогодні запрошуємо усіх присутніх у церковний зал на каву та спілкування.

**"ВОЛЯ АБО СМЕРТЬ"**

Минулої Неділі, наша парафія та 135-й відділ Союзу українок Америки організували показ документального фільму «Воля або смерть» режисера-документаліста українського походження Дем'яна Колодія. Автор фільму Дем'ян Колодій - американець за походженням, але українець за покликанням був присутній на показі фільму і відповів на запитання численних глядачів. Дякуємо всім присутнім за підтримку і особливо дякуємо Еміл Брандафі за озвучення і організацію перегляду фільму у гарній якості.

**Катехетична Школа**

Проводиться реєстрація дітей котрі будуть вперше приймати Перше Урочисте Св. Причастя і Сповідь так і для дітей які уже ці Тайни прийняли але бажають і даліше продовжувати навчання релігії.



**• Катехетична Школа для Дітей у віці 6-7**

Усі діти віком від 6-7 років розпочнуть навчання у Неділю 2 ЖОВТНЯ. Уроки відбуваються кожної Неділю з 10-11 год у будинку парафіяльної школи. Просимо звертатися до о. Івана або до Сестри Йосафати зателефонувавши 732-826-9165 щоб записати ваших дітей до катехетичної програми. Цього року Перше Урочисте Св. Причастя буде у Неділю 7 Травня 2017.

**• Катехетична Школа для Дітей у віці 8-15.**

Для старших дітей які уже мали Першу Сповідь і Причастя навчальний рік розпочнеться також у Неділю 2 Жовтня в школі з 10 до 11 ранку. Учителькою буде і Ненсі Біалковскі.

**Прислужники.**

Заохочуємо всіх хлопців нашої парафії долучитися до цієї поважної і Богом вгодної праці служіння при Божому престолі. Якщо ваш син, відчуває покликання служити нашій парафії таким чином, просимо Вас повідомити о. Івана про його намір.

**Замовлення на Службу Богу.**

Якщо ви хочете, щоб Служби Божі у вашому наміренні відправлялися у нашій Церкві то будь-ласка замовте їх. Ви можете зайти до офісу підчас тижня, написати карточку і помістити ваше прохання в конвертку і дати її о. Івану або поставте її в кошик підчас збірки на Літургії. Закажіть Служби Божі за душі померлих, або за здоров'я; в будь-який намір в час вашого терпіння, який ви можете мати у вашому житті, в час особливих щасливих випадків і ювілеїв, і це є "найбільша яка може бути молитва подяки і заступництва, оскільки вона є ідеальним проханням до Бога Отця через Бога-Сина, Христа, восхваляючи Літургійно Його Великодню Таємницю Смерті і Воскресіння".

**МОЛІМСЯ ЗА МИР І КРАЩУ ДОЛЮ УКРАЇНИ!**

Через літо ми назбирали \$318 у скриньці для потребуєчих. Щиро дакуємо усім за пожертви! Ця скринька для пожертв на лікування ранених воїнів Української армії є при вході до церкви.

**Calendar Dinner Dance - Танці**

Парафіяльне сестрицтво Св. Анни приготує Calendar Dinner Dance – Вечерю з Танцями яка відбудеться у Суботу, о 7 год 22 Жовтня 2016. Квитки по \$40 можна придбати на каві, або зателефонуйте до секретарки Анни на 732-826-0767.

**Рент при Католицькій Церкві Св. Володимира у Елізабет NJ**

Здається 2 кімнати в рент у 2 поверховому будинку:

- 1. Кімната із меблями площею 90 сквер фіт - \$300 включаючи всі послуги;
- 2. Кімната площею 170 сквер фіт - \$500 включаючи всі послуги.

Здається також дво-поверховий будинок у рент при Церкві Св. Володимира у Елізабет NJ

- 1. 3 спальні, 2 туалети, кухня, їдальня, вітальня, бейсмент, великий бекард. За ціною на будинок і за додатковою інформацією прошу звертатись по телефону до о. Руслана : 215- 360 -7163

**Запитайте Священника**

- **Чи можна уділяти вмираючому Таїнство Оливопомазання всупереч його волі - заради порятунку його душі? Чи буде це актом милосердя?**

Якщо людина не бажає приймати Таїнство або, приймаючи його, не має ніякого каяття у своїх гріхах, то отримане Таїнство не веде до спасіння і не приносить ніяких плодів. У Таїнстві Ісус дає спасенну благодать через дії і наміри служителя, з'єднуючись з віруючим через його волю і доброзичливість до прийняття Таїнства.

Але коли двері віруючого залишаються закритими, скільки б не стукав Господь, Він не зможе увійти зі Своєю благодаттю. Тому звершення Таїнства Оливопомазання над людиною, що відмовилася від нього, не буде проявом любові й не відкриє їй двері до порятунку. Таїнство не діє магичним чином, але це завжди зустріч між Христом і людиною, і двері людини повинні бути відкриті для Христа.

- **У людей є ангели-хоронителі. Чи Ісус в часі свого туземного життя мав ангела-хоронителя?**

Оскільки Ісус є правдивим Богом і правдивою людиною, то нема жодних підстав сумніватися у тому, що в часі Свого туземного життя Він мав ангела-хоронителя. Побожне християнське передання каже, що таку роль виконував Архангел Михаїл. Святе Письмо нам свідчить, що ангели служили Ісусу. Зокрема в Гетсиманському саді. Євангелист Лука каже: "І з'явився Йому ангел з небес і скріплював Його" (Лк. 22,43). Євангелисти Марко (Мк. 1,13) і Матей (Мт. 4,11) кажуть, що ангели з'явилися Ісусу в пустелі й служили йому, після того, як Він переміг диявольські спокуси.

- **Моя подруга народжує хлопчика в Португалії, хрестити дитину вона теж буде там! Дуже мене хочуть за хресну, але я не маю змоги туди поїхати! І вони хочуть, щоб замість мене дитину тримала дівчина хресного, але мене запишуть в хресний лист як хресну! Чи можна так?**

Якщо Ви не можете бути присутньою на Таїнстві Хрещення, то тримати дитину може хрещений батько або ж інша людина. При цьому можна записати Вас до хресного листа як першу хреснену. Коли випаде нагода нарешті зустрітись-воз'єднатися з похресником тоді Ви можете зайти до храму разом зі своїм похресником (похресницею), зустрітись зі священником, розповісти йому про ситуацію, що склалася, та попросити благословення. У будь-якому випадку, навіть за відсутності можливості бути присутньою на Таїнстві, Ви все рівно є хрещеною матір'ю цієї дитини.

- **Ще дитиною загубила хрестик, яким мене хрестили. І дитинство і юність у мене були далеко не найкращим періодом в житті. І, як результат, ранній шлюб і розлучення. Чи можуть ці випробування бути пов'язані із тим, що я будучи малою дитиною загубила хрестик?**

Для того, аби відповісти на Ваше питання, згадаємо Євангеліє від Матея: "У той час ученики приступили до Ісуса і кажуть: хто більший у Царстві Небесному? Ісус, покликавши дитя, поставив його серед них і сказав: істинно кажу вам, якщо ви не навернетесь і не будете як діти, не ввійдете у Царство Небесне; Отже, хто упокориться, як дитя це, той і більший у Царстві Небесному..." (Мф. 18:1 - 4).

Виходячи з цього, ми можемо сказати, що Господь наш Ісус Христос дуже любить дітей і прощає їм усе, бо "таких є Царство Боже" (Мк. 10:14). Тому, втрата хрестика у дитинстві не є причиною Ваших негараздів. Аби зрозуміти з чим пов'язані випробування, послані Вам, зверніться до Бога з молитвою. Він обов'язково вкаже Вам вірний шлях.

- **Скажіть, будь ласка, з якого віку можна приводити дитину до Святого Причастя? Моєму синові три місяці, чи можна його причастити?**

Приводити дитину до Святого Причастя можна у будь-якому віці, головне - аби вона була охрещеною. Тобто, якщо Ваш син вже прийняв Святе Хрещення, то його