

DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK**The Publican and Pharisee, January 21, 2018**9:00 AM Lit. + Maria Podolsky; Emil & Olha Karas
r/by Oksana & Bohdan Kuzyszyn

11:30 AM Lit. For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners

Monday, January 22, 2018

No Liturgy Scheduled

Tuesday, January 23, 2018

7:30 AM Lit. + Helen Czaban r/by Rozalia

Wednesday, January 24, 20187:30 AM Lit. + Gerhard Rainer Debarry
r/by Larissa Wowk**Thursday, January 25, 2018**

7:30 AM Lit. Sp. Int. Health of Fernando Villamar

Friday, January 26, 2018

8:45 AM Lit. + Wilson r/by Miller

Saturday, January 27, 2018

8:00 AM Lit. + Nastia Yurechko r/by Anna Iras

5:00 PM Lit. + Tekla Lewkowicz r/by Family

The Prodigal Son, January 28, 2018*Epistle - 1 Cor 6:12-20; Gospel - Lk 15:11-32*

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

11:30 AM Lit. + Helen Hutnick r/by Daughter, Eleanor

St. Ann Society

A meeting will be held today, Jan. 21 after the 11:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy.

St. Ann Society Gift Auction

The annual Gift Auction will be held on Sunday, March 4, 2018. Mark your calendars!

Members or anyone wishing to make a donation are reminded that gifts for the auction may be dropped off at Bingo on Wednesday or Friday evenings. Items may also be dropped off at the rectory office during the day (call 732-826-0767).

Celebrate Catholic Schools Week- You're Invited!

You are invited to the celebration of Catholic Schools Week at ACS (January 28th through February 3rd). Come experience our beautiful learning community, witness our academic excellence, and feel the presence of God that permeates all areas of our school. Join us at the 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy on Friday, February 2, celebrated by newly-ordained auxiliary bishop of Philadelphia, the Most Reverend Andriy Raby, followed by His Excellency visiting ACS students at the school.

There will also be an open house on Sunday January 28 from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Light refreshments and school tours will be available for prospective students and their parents. To receive more information about the school, call 732-826-8721 or visit www.assumptioncatholicsschool.net**Holy Name Society Officers Installation 2018**

The Holy Name Society (HNS) had its solemn installation of officers on Saturday, January 13, 2018 after the 5:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy. Afterwards, the HNS had its Christmas party at the Barge Restaurant. The HNS does many good works for the parish while enriching the spiritual side of its members. Congratulations and best wishes to the newly elected officers of our parish Holy Name of Jesus Society. If you would like to join the Holy Name Society, speak to our new President Mr. Ronald Mascenik or call Fr. Ivan at 732-826-0767 or just come to the next meeting at 8:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month.

St. Ann Society Christmas Party 2018

A wonderful Christmas celebration was held on Sunday, January 14 for members of St. Ann's Society of Ukrainian Assumption Church. The afternoon of fellowship and sharing a meal made for a festive and fun time! Congratulations to Mrs. Colette Baginsky our new President and may God bless all ladies abundantly for their loving service to our church.

TODAY: The Sunday of the Publican and the PhariseeThis is the first Sunday of a three-week period prior to the commencement of Great Lent. The theme of this parable is repentance. Repentance is the door through which we enter Lent, the starting-point of the journey to Pascha. To repent signifies far more than self-pity or futile regret over things done in the past. The Greek term *metanoia* means "change of mind." To repent is to be renewed, to be transformed in our inward viewpoint, to attain a fresh way of looking at our relationship with God and with others. Our preparation for Lent thus begins with a prayer for humility, the beginning of true repentance. Through repentance, we can find and return to the true order of things, a restoration of our spiritual vision that will guide us in a very difficult and challenging world.**Christmas Concert at Assumption Parish**

Thank you to everyone who made our parish Christmas Concert a huge success last Sunday! Thanks to the parish youth group "Svitanok" for presenting a beautiful selection of carols, to our younger children for putting together a Vertep (Christmas play) and to our famous parish choir "Boyan" for singing popular Christmas carols. It was an outstanding teamwork effort and a successful parish event. I would like to thank all those who gave their time and talents to make that afternoon possible, especially Mrs. Iryna Borsa and Mrs. Olga Lytvyn for preparing the children's program, parents of children for bringing them to rehearsals, Mrs. Alla Korostil for leading choir "Boyan", the choir members for sharing their talents and voices in Christmas Joy. May God bless each and every one of you this year and forever.

Festival of Ukrainian Christmas Carols

The Annual Festival of Christmas Carols was held last Sunday at the Ukrainian Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia, PA. Our fine parish choir "Boyan" under the direction of Mrs. Alla Korostil did a great job of caroling and glorifying Christ's birth. Thank you to all members of our choir who participated!

Classroom Blessings 2018On Friday January 12, the staff and students of ACS celebrated the feast of Theophany (Baptism of the Lord) with a special ceremony. After morning Liturgy, Fr. Ivan walked around the school and blessed every room in the school with a sprinkle of holy water. He was accompanied by a small choral group lead by 8th grade students.**PASTOR'S CORNER:***Why does the priest cense us?*

During the services, the priest censes many things in church. He also censes the people. Why does he cense the people? As clouds of smoke from the burning incense rise up, we are reminded that we were created in the "image and likeness of God." It is this image in us that the priest censes. Just as he censes the icons of the saints, he censes each of us. We are called to be saints. When we turn to God and tell Him we are sorry for our sins, He visits us and blesses us. He encourages us to grow and become more like Himself who is both holy and good. When the priest censes us, he reminds us to keep the divine image in us pure and God-like.

Church Etiquette

All Divine Liturgies in our church start on time and everybody should try not to arrive late. When you do arrive late and the Epistle or Gospel is being read or the priest is preaching the sermon or the Great Entrance is taking place, please REMAIN in the Vestibule until it is finished before entering the Church. At the end of the Divine Liturgy please keep your conversation until the "Coffee Hour". We should leave the Church in silence. Our faithful are reminded that as you leave the sanctuary, to do so reverently and quietly. Also, please take the Sunday bulletins with you or return them to the vestibule rather than leaving them in the pews or bookracks. Also, out of respect to your fellow parishioners and to God, please turn off all electronic devices such as cell phones before entering the church so as to not interrupt the solemnity of our prayers.