

**DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK****Sunday of the Forefathers, December 15, 2019**

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

11:30 AM Lit. + Anthony Kuzniak r/by Ron &amp; Ana Mascenik

**Monday, December 16, 2019**

No Liturgy Scheduled

**Tuesday, December 17, 2019**

8:00 AM - Lit. + Edith Schott r/by Family

**Wednesday, December 18, 2019**

8:00 AM - Lit. &amp; Pan. + Vera Lahola r/by Frances Konikewich

**Thursday, December 19, 2019**

8:00 AM - Lit. Health of Danylko r/by Family

**Friday, December 20, 2019**

8:00 AM - Lit. + Tekla Lewkowicz r/by Roger &amp; Ann Allen

**Saturday, December 21, 2019**

8:00 AM - Lit. + Giovanni &amp; Elena Fazio r/by Family

5:00 PM - Lit. + Mary Stek r/by Ann Marie Stek

**Sunday Before Christmas, December 22, 2019***Epistle - Heb 11:9-10 & 32-40; Gospel - Mt 1:1-25*

9:00 AM - Lit. + Ivan Kuchirka - by sister Olesya Kuchirka

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

**Welcome**

We extend a warm welcome Fr. Ivan's parents, Vasyl and Olha Turyk, who will spend their Christmas with us.

**Bishop Gabro School Endowment Fund**

\$1,000.00 - Ernest Moryan, in memory of wife, + ANNA

**Donations to Church**

\$2,000.00 - Senior Citizens Club

from their annual fundraising trips to Atlantic City

\$200.00 - Ernest Moryan, in memory of + GEORGE LADAY

**Rental needed**

A parishioner is looking for an apartment/rooms to rent. Please call the rectory with info, 732-826-0767.

**NAME AND CONTACT REQUEST**

Our parish is asking for your help! We are looking to reach out to those who have fallen away from the parish in the past 50 years still remaining in the area. Please send in the name, address and phone number of people you know to the office. If you would like to help in the effort to reach out, please talk to Fr. Ivan or email the name to our parish email,

assumptionchurch@verizon.net.

**Bethlehem Peace Light**

For many years now, the Bethlehem Peace Light from the Birthplace of Our Savior in Bethlehem has been carried throughout the world. It is once again a part of our parish, burning on the Tetrapod table through this Holy Season. Our sincere thanks to Adrian Wowk and his parents Larissa and Andy Wowk for their initiative.

**Thanks.**

Thank you to the men of the parish Holy Name Society who worked hard to decorate the inside of our church for Christmas. Last Saturday, they managed to put up most of the outside decorations and today spent the evening making sure the new Christmas trees are working for our Christmas services. Everyone had a good time and fellowship. Also thanks to our ladies, "linens angels," for preparing altar linens for Christmas.

**O Who Loves Nicholas The Saintly.**

The event was held at the school hall last Sunday and was attended by 87 children who received presents from St. Nick. We thank the parish Holy Name Society for sponsoring the event.

**Church Envelopes**

Personalized donation envelopes will be delayed due to a problem at the envelope company. Temporary envelopes will be provided for the beginning of January 2020 if needed.

**Sunday of the Forefathers.**

Two Sundays before the celebration of Christmas, the Church rejoices in the festival of the Holy Forefathers of the Old Covenant. Indeed, the Lord Jesus did not come to abolish the Law and the Prophets, but to redeem humanity, which suffered the weight of evil since Adam, to realize the promise made to Abraham, to change the Law of Fear into the Law of Love and to give Resurrection and Life to mankind. This feast prepares us for the Nativity of Jesus Christ, placing before us the anticipation and hope for His coming among us.

**2019 Christmas Schedule**

*Come, join us as we celebrate the Birth of our Lord!*

**Tuesday, Christmas Eve, December 24**

4:00 PM - Children's Divine Liturgy (Eng.)

10:30 PM - Great Compline (Eng.)

11:00 PM - Divine Liturgy (Eng.)

**Wednesday, Christmas Day, December 25**

9:00 AM - Divine Liturgy (Ukr.)

11:30 AM - Divine Liturgy (Eng.)

**Thursday, December 26, Synaxis of the Mother of God**

9:00 AM - Divine Liturgy (Ukr/Eng)

**Friday, Dec. 27, Feast of St. Stephen, Protomartyr**

9:00 AM - Divine Liturgy (Ukr/Eng)

**Traditional Christmas Eve Supper (Prospora)**

The event is hosted by the Holy Name Society on Monday, January 6, 2020 starting at 7:00 pm at the school hall. Prospora Registration form for those who wish to attend the free dinner is located on the table in the church vestibule. Please register by Sunday, December 29.

**ACS News**

On Thursday, December 12, 2019, ACS children were united with all Catholic school students in the Diocese of Metuchen. At exactly 12:30, a pre-recorded Consecration Prayer Service for Children was played in each school throughout the Diocese, thereby consecrating the Diocese of Metuchen community to Our Lady of Guadalupe. Students were provided with copies of the prayer service and songs to enable full participation. Father Ivan prefaced the prayer service with a brief talk and ACS students then presented roses to Our Lady of Guadalupe. This symbolizes the roses she gave to Juan Diego 488 years ago in Mexico as proof she appeared to him. It was a moving afternoon and we were grateful to be one Catholic school community.

**Senior Citizens Christmas Party.**

At Assumption parish, we are blessed to have Young At Heart Senior Citizens Club. The members of the club gather once a month, on the first Thursday of the month at 12 noon in the parish hall. They enjoy each other's company, share lunch and pray with Fr. Ivan. They also sponsor awards for students at ACS and organize trips to a casino. Recently, the Seniors Citizen's Christmas party was held at the Superior Diner in Perth Amboy, NJ. After a delicious lunch all in attendance received a poinsettia, a donation from Novak Funeral Home and seniors also donated \$2,000 to the Church for ongoing parish programs. Thanks, and may the Lord Almighty bless all its members for many many years of life and especially the two driving forces of the organization, the President - Joan Zaleski and Treasurer - Eleanor Kataryniak.

**Pick up your 2020 church calendar today**

Thank you to Novak Funeral Home for sponsoring our annual calendar. Calendars are available at the back of the Church. Take one per family.



### Social Service Projects before Christmas 2019

*Thank you again for your generous support of our efforts to reach these souls in Ukraine and in our country and the local community, and we look forward to your continued support next year.*

#### Church Projects:

- Food and Toys Drive for the needy people in Perth Amboy, NJ
- Ukraine Orphan Outreach. Helped 33 children in two state-run orphanages in Boryslav and Drohobych stay warm this winter. Each child received a new winter coat, hat and gloves.

#### Assumption Catholic School Project:

- Orphanage to Ukraine - each class was assigned a child to purchase small gifts, school supplies and write letters and cards to.
- Purple Heart Project - we created ornaments in honor of Veterans who have received a Purple Heart of Valor. The ornaments are sold and the proceeds go to train Service Dogs.
- Nursing Home - Penny Wars: Each class had a competition against each other where they collected pennies and change for the elderly. Collected over \$250
- Veteran's Day Cards Part I: Each student, under the leadership of our ACS Service Club created Veteran's Day cards.
- Veteran's Day Cards Part II: Created over 150 Christmas cards for Veterans.
- Kindness Rock Project: Each student created a rock with a kind message - one for our garden on for the Community.
- Christmas Food Drive for needy families in Perth Amboy area.

### One Solitary Life.

*How do you explain the greatness of the Man whose birthday we celebrate on Christmas?*

He was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another village. He worked in a carpenter shop until He was 30, and then for three years was an itinerant preacher. He never wrote a book. He never held office. He never owned a home. He never traveled 200 miles from the place where He was born. He never did one of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but Himself.

Although He walked the land over, curing the sick, giving sight to the blind, healing the lame, and raising people from the dead, the top established religious leaders turned against Him. His friends ran away. He was turned over to His enemies. He went through the mocker of a trial. He was spat upon, beaten and ridiculed. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While He was dying, the executioners gambled for the only piece of property He had on earth, and that was His robe. When He was dead, He was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

Centuries have come and gone, and today He is the central figure of the human race. All the armies that have ever marched and all the navies that were ever built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that have ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man upon this earth as has that One Solitary Life.

*Merry Christmas! Celebrate the Son of God,  
Jesus Christ, and His gift of salvation!*



### KEEPING CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS AS BYZANTINE CATHOLICS.

**1. Go to Church.** One simple yet profound way to keep the focus on the Nativity this year is to attend church together as a family. You can attend the Compline Service with the blessing of the Loaves, Wheat, Wine and Oil on Christmas Eve or the Divine Liturgy on Christmas Day. There is something simultaneously solemn and joyful about the Byzantine Nativity liturgy. At the Great Incensation the priest will intone from the Compline Service—*“God Is with Us.”*

**2. Read the Christmas Story.** Reading the Christmas story from the Gospels of Matthew and Luke is another simple way to remember the reason for the holy day. Sit around the table or a fireplace and revel in this moment of quiet, pondering the deep mystery of our faith: God himself became man and dwelt among us.

**3. Pray Together as a Family.** Taking the time to pray together as a family in your icon corner sends a powerful message to your children. You could pause and say the Morning Prayers before or after you open presents. Or, you can come together for Evening Prayers before you have pie and coffee and play games at night. Each child can hold an icon (making sure that one holds the Nativity icon) for the adults to venerate. Whatever you do, be sure to lead your family in praying to the God who became flesh for us.

**4. Greet Each Other in English with “Christ is Born!”** (Or *“Christos Razdajetsja!”* in Ukrainian or *“¡Cristo ha nacido!”* in Spanish) In the Byzantine Catholic Church, we have responsive greetings for most feast days. Most people know the greeting for Pascha where one person says, “Christ is risen!” and the other responds, “Indeed he is risen!” There is a similar greeting for Nativity. One person will say, “Christ is born!” and the other will respond, “Glorify Him!” (or in Ukrainian “Slavite Jeho!”, or in Spanish, “¡Glorifiquemosle!”). We taught our children this response at a very early age, and they love saying it over and over on Christmas. We can be opening presents, eating dinner, or playing with toys and someone will cry, “Christ is born!” Everyone else joyfully calls, “Glorify Him!” What a beautiful, and enthusiastic, way to remember the birth of Christ on Christmas.

**5. Create a Nativity Scene.** Many families also have a nativity scene (preferably an icon) in their homes throughout the festal season. Why not consider letting the children make their own nativity scene. This could be a simple paper scene where children draw and then cut out each figure and place it on a poster of a cave. What a wonderful family project for the 12 days of Christmas!

**6. Research a person from the Nativity story.** Older children can study the life and story of one person from the Nativity narrative and then share their findings with the family. They could research Caesar Augustus, St. Joseph, the wise men, etc. to find out more about them. This may include looking at Scriptures, at church tradition, and on the Internet.



### Once Upon A Pew

Once upon a pew I sat, And heard the preacher ask,  
"We need someone to teach a class, Now who will take this task?"  
Then God sat down beside me there And said, "Son, that's for you."  
"But, Lord, to stand before a class Is one thing I can't do.  
Now Bill would be the man to call, There's nothing he won't do.  
I'd rather hear the lesson taught From here upon my pew."  
Once upon a pew I sat, And heard the preacher ask,  
"We need someone to lead the songs, Now who will take this task?"  
Then God sat down beside me there And said, "Son, that's for you."  
"But Lord, to sing before a crowd Is one thing I can't do.  
Now Brother King will do the job, There's nothing he won't do.  
I'd rather hear the music played From here upon my pew."  
Once upon a pew I sat, And heard the preacher ask,  
"I need someone to keep the door, Now who will take this task?"  
Then God sat down beside me there And said, "Son, that's for you."  
"But saying things to strangers, Lord, Is one thing I can't do.  
Now Tom can talk to people, Lord, There's nothing he won't do.  
I'd rather someone come to me And greet me on the pew."  
As years just seemed to pass me by, I heard that voice no more.  
Until one night I closed my eyes And woke on heaven's shore.  
'Twas four of us together there To face eternity.  
God said, "I need just three of you To do a job for me."

***"O Lord, I cried, "I'll do the job, There's nothing I won't do."  
But Jesus said, "I'm sorry, Friend, In Heaven there's no pew."***



**ЛАСКАВО ЗАПРОШУЄТЬСЯ**  
**всіх після Служби Божої до парафіяльної**  
**залі на солодощі, каву, і товариство.**  
**Так відбувається кожної неділі після 9-год**  
**Служби Божої.**

#### **Новорічна Забава**

у Вівторок 31 Грудня 2019  
у шкільній залі за адресою :  
380 Meredith St, Perth Amboy, NJ  
*Танці з Гуртом "Четверта Хвиля".*  
Дорослі - \$85.00  
Молодь ( 13-18 ) - \$ 45.00  
Діти ( до 12 ) – \$ 25.00  
Квиток включає: вечеря-буфет з 8-ої год.  
Святковий стіл, європейські салати, десерти,  
шампанське, весела музика і чудовий настрій  
весь вечір.  
За квитками дзвоніть  
(732) 826 - 0767 або (202) 368-2408.  
Квитки також можна придбати у церкві після Літургії.



на

#### **ПРОСФОРА - Святий Вечір.**

У нашій парафії у Понеділок 6 Січня 2020 року ми будемо мати Святку Вечерю у 7-год вечора у колі нашої парафіяльної сім'ї. Вечеря буде безкоштовною для усіх наших парафіян, але хто бажає може зложити при вході пожертву у кошик. Наступної Неділі, можна буде записатися для тих хто буде присутній на Св. Вечері.

#### **Подяка.**

Відділ 135 СУА висловлює щиру подяку парафіянам та гостям, які відгукнулися на нашу ініціативу проведення дитячого свята шоколаду. Завдяки вашій багаточисельній присутності та щедрим даткам наш відділ придбав та відправив зимове взуття, іграшки, одяг та засоби гігієни для 9-ти діточок у сиротинець, що знаходиться у м. Коломия. Також ми змогли надати таку потрібну грошову допомогу двом сім'ям у нужді на Україні. Особливо дякуємо пароху о. Івану за сприяння у проведенні свята і постійну підтримку, а також компанії Міст за розповсюдження реклами і допомогу у відправці пакунків. Напередодні святкових днів ми хочемо побажати вам і вашим родинам миру, достатку, щастя і багато нових можливостей для того, щоб творити добро. Хай радість Різдвяного ранку завжди буде присутня у ваших серцях, а щасливий сміх і молитви діточок сиротинця Св. Миколая зігрівають ваші душі. Веселих Різдвяних свят та щасливого Нового Року. Щиро, Ваші Союзники

#### **Благодійні проекти парафії і школи у Різдвяному Часі**

##### **\*\*\* ПАРАФІЯ**

- Збирали Їжу та дитячі забавки для нужденних людей в Перт Ембой,
- Допомогли 34 сиротам у двох дитячих сиротинцях у містах Бориславі та Дрогобичі зігрітися цієї зими. Кожна дитина отримала нову зимову куртку, шапку та рукавички.

##### **\*\*\* ШКОЛА**

- Притулок в Україні - кожний клас придбав невеликі подарунки, наплічники, шкільні приналежності та написали листи та листівки до діток.
- Проект Фіолетового серця – учні створили ялинкові прикраси на честь ветеранів, які отримали Фіолетове Серце Доблесті і Честі. Прикраси продали по 10 доларів і кошти направили на підготовку службових собак.
- Будинок для Престарілих - Кожен клас проводив змагання один проти одного, де збирали копійки ( пені). Зібрали понад 250 доларів для людей похилого віку.
- Приготували понад 150 різдвяних листівок для ветеранів.

#### **Розклад Богослужень** **на Різдвяні Свята.**

- **Вівторок 24 грудня 2019 - Навечіря Різдва**  
4:00 по пол. Служба Божа (для дітей)  
10:30 веч. Велике Повечіря  
11:00 веч. Служба Божа (анг.)
- **Середа 25 грудня 2019 - Різдво Христове**  
9:00 рано Служба Божа (укр.)  
11:30 рано Служба Божа (анг.)
- **Вівторок 7 січня 2020**  
**Різдво Госпада нашого Ісуса Христа**  
**за Юліанським ( старим) календарем.**  
9:00 рано Служба Божа (укр.)



#### **НАГАДУЄМО НАШИМ ВІРНИМ І ГОСТЯМ ПРО** **ПРАВИЛА, ЩО СТОСУЮТЬСЯ СВЯТОГО** **ПРИЧАСТЯ У НАШІЙ ЦЕРКВІ:**

- Ми заохочуємо християн часто приступати до Святого Причастя;
- Ті, хто причащаються, повинні бути у мирі з іншими людьми перш ніж підійти до євхаристичної чаші (Св.Матвій 5:23-24);
- Перед тим, як прийти на Святе Причастя, дуже важливо ретельно осмислити гріхи і порушення, які було вчинено проти Бога, нас самих та інших і помолитися за їх відпущення;
- Тим, хто часто причащається, слід приходити до сповіді принаймні чотири рази на рік (під час кожного із чотирьох щорічних постів);
- Ті, хто причащається, перед прийняттям Святого Причастя, повинні за дві години припинити вживання всякої їжі і напоїв;
- Ті, хто спізнився на Божественну Літургію (прийшов після того, як було прочитано Апостол і Євангеліє) не можуть підходити до чаші;
- До євхаристійного Причастя не допускаються розлучені люди, які вступили в новий цивільний шлюб. Якщо ж розлучені розходяться з новим співжителем або живуть з ним як брат і сестра, то вони можуть бути допущені до Таїнства.
- Хворі, і ті, хто має обмежені фізичні можливості, звільняються від вище викладених вимог;
- Немовлята та діти, можуть отримувати Святе Причастя і звільняються від всіх викладених вимог. Дякуємо за те, що Ви прийшли помолитися з нами сьогодні у церкві. Разом з вами ми віддали славу Єдиному Господу, Отцеві, і Синові, і Духові Святому.

#### **Любов.**



На одному острові одночасно перебували різноманітні почуття: Щастя, Смуток, Вміння... І Любов також в їхньому числі. Якимсь Передчуття сповістило всіх, що скоро острів затопить водою. Поспіх та Квапливість першими стали покидати острів на човнах. Незабаром всі залишили острів, окрім однієї Любові. Вона бажала залишитися до останньої хвилини. Коли острів мав піти під воду, Любов вирішила покликати по допомогу.

Багатство пліло на величезному золотому кораблі. Любов заговорила: «Багатство, чи можеш мене звідси забрати?». А у відповідь тільки почула: «Ні! У мене на кораблі безліч золота, скарбів. У мене не знайдеться місця для тебе».

Щастя пропливало повз острів, але воно було таким щасливим, що навіть не почуло волення Любові про допомогу.

Коли Любов врятували, вона запитала у Знання, хто саме це зробив.

**– Час. Бо тільки Час здатен зрозуміти наскільки важливою є Любов!**