

DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK**18th Sunday After Pentecost, September 26, 2021**

9:00 AM - Lit. + Bohdan Podoliuk r/by Ulana Wowk

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

Monday, September 27, 2021

No Liturgy Scheduled

Tuesday, September 28, 2021

8:00 AM - Lit. Mykola (40 days) r/by Michailo

Wednesday, September 29, 2021

8:00 AM - Lit. + John and Mary Gallant - Legate

Thursday, September 30, 2021

8:00 AM - Lit. Health of Ron & Ana

Friday, October 1, 2021**PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS (HOLY DAY)**

8:45 AM - Lit. + Kenneth Chordas r/by Michael Raab

Saturday, October 2, 2021

9:00 AM - Lit. + Katherine Sepcsik r/by Family

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

19th Sunday After Pentecost, October 3, 2021

Epistle - 2 Cor 11:31-12:9; Gospel - Lk 6:31-36

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

11:30 AM - Lit. + Mecha, Ed, Karl r/by Family

Religious Education For Children.

Attention all parents! The Church School will begin October 11th. Please sign your kids up using the the yellow form at the back of the church or contact Fr. Ivan at 732-826- 0767. Drop this form, completed, in the collection basket.

Divine Liturgy Intentions

It is a holy act to remember individuals in Divine Liturgies. We remember our living loved ones on birthdays, baptism and wedding anniversaries, health needs and any intention. We should remember our deceased family and friends on the anniversaries of their death or any other time we wish. Offertory stipends are traditionally given to the priest for these services but no one is ever denied a Divine Liturgy intention based on a stipend. To pray for one another is directly from Our Lord and His holy church. "Pray for those who love us and pray for those who hate us". See Fr. Ivan to schedule Divine Liturgy intentions or call the parish office.

Altar Servers needed!

As we return to normal parish life, there is a need for more men, young and not-so-young to assist during the liturgical celebrations, especially for English Liturgies. If you are interested, please talk to Fr. Ivan or Fr. Deacon Paul.

Holy Protection.

In the Eastern Christian Churches, we remember when the Mother of God appeared in the Church of Blachernae in the year 911. The city was under attack and the faithful gathered in the church to pray for protection. It is said that while the people were praying, the doors of the church opened and the Mother of God along with St. John the Baptist and St. John the Beloved walked down the main aisle and Mary went to the holy table and knelt and prayed. When she was finished she walked out the doors of the church. The faithful followed her but she was gone. She appeared in the sky holding her mantle over the city. The attackers lost the battle and the city was saved by her Holy Protection. Her protecting veil shone "more than the rays of the sun." The Mother of God prayed to her Son to accept the prayers of all the people who call on His Name, and to respond quickly to her intercession, "*O Heavenly King, accept all those who pray to You and call on my name for help. Do not let them go away from my icon unheard.*"

Our Condolences.

Right Reverend Monsignor Leon A. Mosko, mitred archpriest died at the age 91. This Saturday morning, the Requiem Divine Liturgy was celebrated here at Assumption, his home parish. Вічна Пам'ять!

Philadelphia Archieparchial Clergy Gather in Long Branch, NJ for Annual Spiritual Retreat.

This week Fr. Ivan and Deacon Paul attended retreat and prayed for all parishioners. The retreat director was Bishop Paul Chomnitsky, OSBM, D.D., Eparch of the Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of Stamford.

Sow Bountifully, Reap Bountifully.

Following the Feast of the Precious Cross, we begin a new cycle of Scriptural readings in our Sunday worship. The Gospel lessons are taken from St. Luke and the Epistle readings from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians. The Ecclesiastical Year begins in September (as does the Jewish New Year), and in so many ways September is a more appropriate time for new beginnings than the icy days of January. Children start the new school year. The crisp days of fall invigorate us for hard work after the lazy days of summer. So, we begin anew studying God's saving words for us. We do all this even while feeling the pressure of the Virus and the constraints it places on everyone and everything.

Today's reading is 2 Corinthians 9:6-11. St. Paul is writing to the Corinthians to inspire them to contribute to the fund he is raising from the newly formed Gentile Churches. The purpose is to offer a gift to the needy brothers and sisters in Jerusalem and all of Palestine. The Holy Land was never a very wealthy place. During the time of St. Paul's missions, a great famine had broken out over the whole region. Everyone there was in great need. St. Paul saw a gift from these newly formed communities to the brethren there as a way to tighten the bond between Christian believers, especially between Jewish and Gentile Christians. This is the background for today's reading.

Even though his words were written with a very specific intent, St. Paul has left generations of Christians a number of important guidelines to live by when considering giving and generosity.

St. Paul bestows on us this blessing "*You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God*" (v. 11).

When we are generous, we not only provide material relief to the person in need, we also strengthen their hope and faith in God. We are the instruments of God's mercy. He gives to each of us the means and the power to act, comfort, and gladden those around us. Let us use this gift, not sparingly, but bountifully; not grudgingly, but cheerfully. So that together we might thank and glorify our Heavenly Father who loves us.

October is Youth Month.

"Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth." (Ecclesiastes 12:1) This month, we celebrate the contributions and needs of our youth. Therefore, we call upon our youth to share in the many opportunities to minister in the Church. The youth are encouraged to read the Epistle, chant and sing in the choir, help distribute bulletins, assist the priest with his work at the parish. If young people are interested in creating a youth group in our parish, Fr. Ivan is willing to help and support you. Active participation for all our parishioners, youth and adults alike, is glorious before God's eyes.

Stay Focused

A lady went to the Pastor and said ... "I won't be attending Church anymore."

He said, "May I ask why??"

She said, "I see people on their cell phones during the service, some are gossiping, some just ain't living right, they are all just hypocrites."

The Pastor got silent and he said, "Ok... But can I ask you to do something for me before you make your final decision?"

She said, "What's that?"

He said, "Take a glass of water and walk around the Church 2 times and don't let any water fall out the glass."

She said, "Yes I can do that."

She came back and said "It's done."

He asked her 3 questions:

1. Did you see anybody on their phone?

2. Did you see anybody gossiping?

3. Was anybody living wrong?

She said, "I didn't see anything because I was so focused on this glass, so the water wouldn't fall."

He told her, "When you come to Church, you should be just that focused on God, so that you don't fall. That's why Jesus said 'Follow me.' He did not say follow Christians. Don't let your relationship with God be determined by how others relate with God. Let it be determined by how focused YOU are on God."