

**DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK****29<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost, December 9, 2018**9:00 AM Lit. + John Andrewshetsko; Brothers and Sisters  
r/by Bobbie and Family

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

**Monday, December 10, 2018**

No Liturgy Scheduled

**Tuesday, December 11, 2018**

8:00 AM Lit. Health of Lesia r/by Victoria

**Wednesday, December 12, 2018**

8:00 AM Lit. + Dolores Karol r/by Rozalia

**Thursday, December 13, 2018**

8:00 AM Lit. + Ivan Hohol r/by Daughter, Lusia

**Friday, December 14, 2018**

8:45 AM Lit. + Rafaela Soto Torres r/by ACS Staff

**Saturday, December 15, 2018**8:00 AM Lit. + Nancy Safko Suchwala (40 Days)  
r/by Joan Zaleski

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

**Sunday of the Forefathers, December 16, 2018***Epistle - Col 3:4-11; Gospel - Lk 14:16-24*

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

11:30 AM Lit. + Anna Baralecki r/by Eleanor Kataryniak

**2018 Christmas Schedule****Monday, Christmas Eve, December 24**

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

10:30 PM - Great Compline (Eng.)

11:00 PM - Divine Liturgy (Eng.)

**Tuesday, Christmas Day, December 25**

9:00 AM - Divine Liturgy (Ukr.)

11:30 AM - Divine Liturgy (Eng.)

**Weds., December 26, Synaxis of the Mother of God**

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

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

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

**Today's Sunday**

The theme of this Sunday's gospel reading is gratitude. Although this is a real story, the actual encounter between Christ and the ten lepers, its moral is as valid today as it was two thousand years ago and throughout the ages ever since. St. Luke relates to us that although all ten lepers who, according to the rules of the time had to leave their families and communities and live in isolation, prayed with the same intensity ("*Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!*") and, as a result, received the same gift of healing, only one of them proved to be a man of character. And what's more interesting, this man wasn't even part of the "chosen people" but a Samaritan, a "foreigner." He alone returned to his benefactor and thanked Him. It is important to notice that this man didn't come back to thank his benefactor in a casual manner (the way we do it so often with a cold "thanks"); he "fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks," which means that he engaged in an act of adoration and praise, a liturgical act. When we show our gratitude to God for all the blessings He gives us on a daily basis we are the ones who actually benefit from this. We turn toward our benefactor, the merciful and loving God and, just like the cleansed Samaritan, reaffirm our role and vocation as liturgical beings. As Christians, we do this every day as individuals as part of our private prayers and collectively, as a community, when we come to partake in the Eucharistic celebration, on Sundays and Feast days. *Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!*

**Christmas Bazaar.**

The Assumption Catholic School Christmas Bazaar and Gift Auction held last Sunday at our parish school was a tremendous success. This annual FSA (Family School Association) fundraiser is a favorite of students, parents, parishioners and is a wonderful way to enjoy family time while supporting our school. The beautiful auction prizes, children's games, face painting, vendors, crafts, and delicious food all added to the festivities leaving attendees smiling and entertained. Thank you to the FSA board members, who spent months preparing for this day.

**Thank You**

Last Sunday, the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Branch 135 (Perth Amboy, NJ) organized the traditional Ukrainian doll-motanka making workshop in our parish. Participants under direction of Mrs. Olesya Kuchirka crafted their own dolls through the traditional no-needle winding method and incorporation of fabric scraps and threads. It was great Christmas project for the families.

**THE WAY NEWSPAPER**

Did you know *The Way*, our archeparchial newspaper is available for FREE through the internet? Our newspaper is published twice a month in both an English language version and a Ukrainian language version. To receive this online newspaper, simply send your email address to: ukrarcap.org. You may also share *The Way* with family and friends by sending their email addresses to ukrarcap.org. All parishioners are encouraged to receive and read *The Way*, the Catholic newspaper of our Philadelphia Archeparchy.

**WELCOME TO OUR PARISH**

Our warmest greetings are extended once again to all visitors and guests who are participating in today's Divine Liturgy. It is always a joy to have you praying with us. After the service please do not hesitate to introduce yourself to Fr. Ivan and find out more about our faith and our parish. Today, after Sunday's 9:00 and 11:30 am Liturgies we invite you to our school hall for St. Nicholas celebration sponsored by parish Holy Name Society.

**Senior Citizens Club** will have a Christmas Party to be held at Superior Diner, 464 Smith St., Perth Amboy, on Thursday, December 13 at 12:00 pm.

**Feed the Hungry in Our Community**

In preparation for the Christmas Holiday, until Sun. Dec. 16 our parish will have a special collection of non perishable goods and children's new toys for the needy people in Perth Amboy, NJ. Please leave your donation in the offering box in the Church foyer. You may also donate a financial gift or a gift card that will be given only to our parish or school families in need. "*Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?...*" Matthew 25:37

**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. Parishioners are invited to bring either a lantern fueled by smokeless paraffin oil or a devotional candle to church, with which they may carry the Peace Light to their own home. From your homes, the Bethlehem Peace Light can be shared with family, friends and neighbors.

**2019 Envelopes**

Parish envelopes for next year will be available for pick-up in the church hall Dec. 15 and 16. If you used envelopes in 2018, the envelopes will be labeled with your name and address. Please advise the office of any corrections or changes. We also have a number of unlabeled boxes should you wish to start using envelopes in 2019. To keep the parish records up-to-date, kindly include your name, address and phone number on the first few envelopes.

**Donations to Church**

\$500.00 - Sytar Family

\$200.00 - Ernest Moryan, in memory of  
+ GEORGE LADAY JR.**Bishop Gabro School Endowment Fund**\$1,000.00 - Ernest Moryan, in loving memory of wife,  
+ ANNA