

DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee, February 6, 2022

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

11:30 AM - Lit. + Joe and Ann Romanetz r/by Nancy Sikora

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

7:30 AM - Lit. Health of Olga M. Yurechko r/by Maria Dzeva

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

7:30 AM - Lit. + Mary & Charles Kopi - Legate

Thursday, February 10, 2022

7:30 AM - Lit. + Carol Daly r/by Michael Peles

Friday, February 11, 2022

8:45 AM - Lit. + Susan Tarantino r/by ACS Faculty & Staff

Saturday, February 12, 20228:00 AM - Lit. + Miroslava Moriak (40th Day) r/by Family

5:00 PM - Lit. + Paul Roik r/by Wife, Anita

Sunday of the Prodigal Son, February 13, 2022*Epistle - 1 Cor 6:12-20; Gospel - Lk 15:11-32*

9:00 AM - Lit. + Teodor Worobel r/by Bobbie & Family

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

Reminder.

Our faithful are reminded that as you leave the church, to do so reverently and quietly. Depart and then greet neighbors and friends at the church vestibule or at fellowship hour. We must never lose reverence for our church sanctuary as the house of God simply because services have ended. Also, please take the Sunday bulletins with you or return them from where you took them rather than leaving them in the pews. If you use the bathrooms downstairs, please turn off lights after yourself. 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. Thank you.

Sorokousty Memorial Services

As in the past, we will honor the memory of our beloved deceased with Sorokousty Memorial Services at 9 a.m. on all Saturdays of Lent beginning Saturday, March 5, 2022. This is a time to remember our departed family and friends. If you would like your deceased family members commemorated during these services, **please submit your envelope with the names clearly listed, by Feb. 19**

Envelopes are included in your box of donation envelopes. Please clearly PRINT the first names of the deceased on the front. It is a pale grey envelope with your name and envelope number printed on the back. If there is no change from last year, please check "same as last year" on the envelope.

Divine Liturgy Attendance on Snowy Days.

It is very rare that the Divine Liturgy is canceled, especially on a Sunday. I want to encourage those of you who must walk further or more importantly, who drive to church, to PLEASE USE COMMON SENSE, when making a determination about attending the Divine Liturgy on snowy, icy, inclement weekends or even more so on the weekday. If attendance means putting yourself and others at risk, I am sure the Lord understands if you should decide to pray at home. Please use common sense and a well-informed conscience when making such a decision.

St. Ann Society Meeting

The next monthly meeting of St. Ann Society will take place next Sunday, February 13, following the 11:30 Divine Liturgy. This organization is open to all women of the parish, and anyone who is considering working with us is welcome to stop by and have coffee with us. Please consider serving your parish with our group. You will find a warm welcome as well as an opportunity to grow in faith and fellowship with us.

Church Donations

The Annual Report of parishioner donations is available in the church vestibule. This report is for your use in reporting your charitable donations to the church for income tax purposes. Please note that this list is for registered parishioners. Unregistered donors or visitors are not included in this report; only donations given in church issued envelopes are recorded. If you are a registered parishioner and you use a generic envelope, your donation will be recorded.

TODAY: Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee.

Our preparation begins with the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee. The gospel lesson (Luke 18:10-14) tells of two men who went up to pray. One, a Pharisee, is quite proud of his religiosity, making a great show of his piety. The second man, a tax collector, would not even look up as he prayed, but beat his breast asking God to forgive him, a sinner. Christ assures us it is the tax collector, not the religious man, who goes home justified. What is it the tax collector possesses that the Pharisee does not? What are we being taught is necessary for our Lenten journey? The answer is humility. Our Lenten fasting, almsgiving and church attendance will mean nothing if we engage in them in a spirit of pride. If we humble ourselves before God, we will be exalted during Great Lent; if we exalt ourselves before men, we will go home at the end of our Lenten journey worse than we began.

Catholic Schools Week 2022 - OPEN HOUSE

Assumption Catholic School will join nearly 8,000 Catholic Schools across the nation in celebrating Catholic Schools Week. Parents and prospective preschool through grade eight students are invited to visit our school on Sunday, February 6th, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. for the Open House. You will have the opportunity to tour the school and enjoy conversation with the Principal and current students, who will be assisting with each tour. Registrations for the 2022-2023 school year will be accepted at these sessions. It's never too early to start thinking about giving your children the great gift of a Catholic education - one which is effective and affordable! If you can't make it to the OPEN HOUSE, feel free to call the School office and set up a tour with us. Our principal Mrs. Shumny is always more than happy to do a walk-through with you and answer all your questions! To receive more information about the school, call 732-826-8721 or visit www.assumptioncatholicschool.net

ASK: Question about Our Faith.

- *What does the priest do in the sanctuary when the people or the choir chants, "One is Holy, one is Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father"?*

The priest takes the Lamb (the center portion of the communion bread/prosphora) in his hands and breaks it into four pieces following the lines of the seal imprinted on the bread.

The four pieces of the Lamb bear the respective letters, IC, XC, NI, KA. The "IC" and "XC" denote the first and last letters of Jesus (IC) Christ (XC) in Greek. The last two (NIKA) represent the Greek word for victor or conquers.

Thus, the seal of the Lamb bears the inscription "Jesus Christ Conquers." Liturgical scholars call this action, "the fraction of the bread", which calls to mind Christ's breaking of the bread at the Mystical Supper in the upper room. After the priest separates the Lamb into four pieces, he places the IC portion at the top of the paten (the round diskarios, which holds the bread during the Great Entrance and rest of the Liturgy). He then places the XC piece at the bottom of the paten, the NI at the left, and the KA at the right, so that all four pieces make the sign of the Cross.

As he places the four parts of the Lamb on the paten, the priest recites the following, "The Lamb of God is apportioned and distributed; apportioned, but not divided; ever eaten, yet never consumed; but sanctifying those who partake."

This prayer reminds us that we are all partakers of the same Body and Blood that the Apostles received that first Eucharist 2,000 years ago. For the Body of Christ cannot be divided—it is one as the Church, which also constitutes His Body, is one. Thus, we not only share in the same communion with our brothers and sisters in church at the Divine Liturgy, but also with every other Catholics Christian receiving that day, and at all times throughout history. In Perth Amboy or Jerusalem, in the year 2022 or 33, communion is the same—for "Christ is the same yesterday, today, and always."

Pick up your blessed candle by the side altar. Candles were blessed on the Feast of the Presentation, celebrated on February 2, forty days after Jesus' birth.