

DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK**29th Sunday After Pentecost, Maternity of Holy Anna****December 8, 2024**

9:00 AM - Lit. + Maria and Stefan r/by Bobbie & Family

11:30 AM - Lit. Special Intention St. Ann Society

Monday, December 9, 20247:30 AM - Lit. God's blessing on the feast day
for Anna Kitchoula r/by Maria Derevenska**Tuesday, December 10, 2024**7:30 AM - Lit. Health and God's blessings
for Galagoza family**Wednesday, December 11, 2024**

7:30 AM - Lit. + Beverly Gee r/by Elizabeth Wutkowski

Thursday, December 12, 20247:30 AM - Lit. Health of Fr. Ivan, Fr. Oleh, Yuriy, Anna,
Michele, Roman, Marian r/by Iryna**Friday, December 13, 2024**

8:45 AM - Lit. + Florence Ficco r/by ACS Faculty

Saturday, December 14, 20248:00 AM - Lit. + Stepan Revytskiy (30 yrs.)
r/by Myroslava Cahn

5:00 PM - Lit. + Michael Romanko r/by Children

Sunday of the Forefathers, December 15, 2024*Epistle - Col 3:4-11; Gospel - Lk 14:16-24*9:00 AM - Lit. + John Andrewshetsko, brothers & sisters
r/by Bobbie and Family

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

TODAY - Christmas Bazaar

Assumption Catholic School will hold its Annual Christmas Bazaar & Gift Auction on Sunday December 8, 2024, 11 AM to 5 PM. Come to a special event on the eve of the Christmas and New Year holidays. You can expect a lunch of Ukrainian and Spanish dishes, Desserts & Treats, Vendors & Crafters market with the opportunity to purchase unique gifts, a cash raffle, Games and many interesting surprises. This Sunday, our Christmas Bazaar is THE place to be! Indulge in some of the best beef, chicken, and pizza empanadas in town—all made with love. And for our Ukrainian fans, don't worry—we've got your favorite stuffed cabbage and pyroghs.

- Admission is FREE and your entire family is welcome. It is a fun day and a great way to start the holidays as there will be something for everyone.

Thank You.

Our Student Council and all the 8th graders at ACS did an incredible job organizing this year's Thanksgiving Food Drive! Thanks to their hard work and dedication, we were able to donate over 150 bags of food to Baskets for the Needy, a nonprofit organization led by our alumna Amarilis and her family. We also want to extend our gratitude to the Bingo Committee for collecting contributions from our bingo players. This marks our biggest collection yet! A heartfelt thank you to all parishioners, the parents and students who supported this effort and helped make a difference in our community.

Bread Sale

St Ann Society will sponsor a CHRISTMAS BREAD Sale! Please sign up on the order sheet in the vestibule or call the rectory at 732-826-0767. Pickup between 5 pm and 8 pm on Thursday 12/19, and Saturday 12/21 after the 5 pm Liturgy. Large loaf \$12, Small braided loaf \$5. Pre-orders only, last day to order is Sunday Dec 15th. Any questions please email Colette at Ketrn@comcast.net.

Memorial Donation

\$2,000.00 - Ann Marie Stek, in memory of
CHARLES, ANNA, CHARLES A. STEK

NEW CHURCH ENVELOPES will be available for pick-up today. If you do not have envelopes and would like to become a parishioner, please call the parish office or speak to Fr. Ivan and a box of envelopes to support the church will be issued to you. Please check your name and address for accuracy. Any changes should be noted to the secretary at the rectory.

**"The Reason For The Season"***Isaiah 9:6-7*

As we draw closer to the holiday that the world celebrates as "Christmas," please don't lose sight of the whole reason for Christmas, which is to celebrate the birth and life of our Savior. Take time to read the story of the birth of Jesus and thank Him for His life and the eternal life He gives you. You can still enjoy the gifts and festivities of Christmas but always keep in your heart and mind the TRUE meaning of Christmas. Many people say that Jesus is the reason for the season but I believe that Jesus is the reason for every season and every day of our lives. For without Him, Christmas and life would have no meaning.

DANIEL Live on Stage.

On Saturday, November 30, a bus filled with parishioners and friends travelled to Lancaster, PA to enjoy the theatrical presentation of Daniel. The event was sponsored by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

Upon arrival in the Lancaster area, the group enjoyed lunch at Plain and Fancy Family Restaurant. Afterwards, a short drive took everyone to The Sight and Sound Theatre which is known for its spectacular productions that bring the Bible to life. This particular Old Testament account of the prophet Daniel and the children of Israel takes place during the Babylon Captivity, six centuries before the birth of Christ. The special effects, massive sets, and large cast (complete with live animals) provided a larger than life staging of the fiery furnace and the lions' den that served as a background to the prophet Daniel's tests of faith. The story of this Old Testament hero and his faithfulness to the one true God offered the opportunity for reflection on the journey home. A note of thanks extended to the ladies of St. Ann Society for organizing the event and to Mrs. Ana Maria Mascenik who made the arrangements and reservations for the day's activities.

St. Ann Society Sponsors New Cabinets

A section of the ACS auditorium has undergone a renovation as the result of a beautification project sponsored by St. Ann Society. New cabinets and a new granite countertop have been installed, providing a brightness and clean finish to the existing bar area. The countertop was procured through the efforts of Mr. Laffey, the owner of Granite Man LLC and the cabinets were installed by Mr. Peter Kukuruz, parishioner and husband of Mrs. Kukuruz, a current ACS teacher. The entire project was spearheaded by Mrs. Colette Baginsky and her husband John. Mrs. Baginsky is a long time member of St. Ann Society, who sponsored and financed the project.

Parish catechesis for December:

- December 10 - women (Ukrainian), Tues, 6:30 pm
- December 17 - women (English), Tuesday, 6:30 pm
- December 21 - teenagers (13-18 years old), Saturday, 6:30-8:30 pm
- December 22 - youth, over 18 years old, Sunday at 11:15 a.m. after coffee
- December 29 - Christmas Vertep following 9:00 am Liturgy

NEXT SUNDAY - Visit with Saint Nicholas Party

Parish Children 12 and under are invited to the annual St. Nicholas Party to be held in the church hall on Sunday, December 15, 2024. A sign-up sheet can be found in the church vestibule. Please sign up by December 8th.

The Miracle of Saint Nicholas

St. Nicholas is known for many stories of kindness and generosity, including one of the most famous stories of his generosity that says that he threw bags of gold through an open window in the house of a poor man to serve as dowry for the man's daughters, who otherwise would have been forced into prostitution. The gold is said to have landed in the family's shoes, which were drying near the fire. This is why children leave their shoes out by the door, or hang their stockings by the fireplace in the hopes of receiving a gift on the eve of his feast.