

DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK**Easter, Pascha Sunday, April 20, 2025**

9:00 AM - Divine Liturgy in Ukrainian

Blessing of Easter Food Baskets outside the church

11:30 AM - Divine Liturgy in English

Bright Monday, April 21, 2025

9:00 AM - Lit. + Vira (4th anniv.) - r/by Sr. Veronica

Bright Tuesday, April 22, 2025

9:00 AM - Lit. Special intention of

Sr. Trijtsi and Sr. Svitanku

Bright Wednesday, April 23, 2025

8:00 AM - Lit. + Joseph and Ann Kopi - Legate

Bright Saturday, April 26, 2025

8:00 AM - Lit. + Olga Yurechko

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

Thomas Sunday, April 27, 2025*Epistle - Acts 1:1-8; Gospel - Jn 1:1-17*

9:00 AM - Liturgy for God's Blessings on Our Parishioners

11:30 AM - Ray Otlowski r/by Joan & Bob Galetta

Welcome

We extend a joyous welcome to all our parishioners and guests. At the conclusion of today's Divine Liturgies, as is the custom in our Ukrainian Catholic Church, the faithful will receive a special blessing through the anointing of one's forehead with Holy Oil. The priest will greet you with either, "*Христос Воскрес!*" or "*Christ is Risen!*", to which one responds: "*Воистину Воскрес!*" or "*Indeed He is Risen!*"

Donation for Easter Flowers

\$500.00 - Marta Galagoza

LITURGICAL NOTES ABOUT THE PASCHAL SEASON

This period of great festivity and joy finds its liturgical expression in the following manner:

❖ We greet each other with the Paschal salutation, "*Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!*" for 40 days, until Ascension Day.

❖ Starting today, the Feast of Pascha, and continuing until Pentecost Sunday (even throughout the week), we do not kneel during the Divine Liturgy. Kneeling is a sign of penance and contrition - but the joy of Pascha is so much greater in this season that we stand in celebration instead.

❖ Please remember that during Bright Week (Sunday of Pascha to the Sunday of St. Thomas), there is no fasting at all. Bright Week is seen, liturgically speaking, as one single day - a continuation of Pascha throughout the whole week

Sviachene - Easter Dinner.

We are happy to announce that our annual Parish Easter Dinner/Sviachene will be held in the school hall on Sunday, May 4, 2025 following a 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy. As in the past, only one liturgy will be held that Sunday. The dinner will consist of traditional Easter food, such as ham, kobasa, eggs, paska, cold salads, beets with horseradish, etc. Tickets are available the Sunday after Easter (April 27, last day to purchase) in the church vestibule and at coffee hour, or during office hours at the rectory. The cost is minimal, \$20 per adult, children \$10, complimentary under 5 years old. Ticket at the door will cost \$30.

*** *We will also have a special performance by the Ukrainian vocal band "Kruta Vezha".*

Women's Evening of Prayer

on Tuesday evening, May 27, 2025, at 6:30 pm, sponsored by St. Ann's Society. This is a prayer service and is used throughout the month of May, a time for Catholics to focus on honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary.

- *Homilist: Metropolitan Archbishop Borys Gudziak.*

We hope you can join us on this evening of Marian devotion where nourishment will be for both body and soul.

❖❖❖ **Thanks to all** *those who worked so hard during the Lenten season and during Holy Week to make this Paschal Celebration special for everyone! To Deacon Paul, to the choir members and cantors, the altar servers, to those who decorated the church, and to everyone who worked "behind the scenes" to make sure everything was prepared. May God grant you many years!*

WHAT IS BRIGHT WEEK?

Bright Week is the first week following the Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, which is celebrated each year at Pascha. It ends the following Sunday, the Sunday of St. Thomas. For all Eastern Christians Bright Week begins a period of celebration that continues for fifty days until Pentecost. This celebration includes the practice of the faithful joyously greeting each other with the salutation of Christ is risen, followed by the response indeed He is risen or truly He is risen, as the whole of creation is renewed by Our Lord and Savior. The services of Bright Week are done with the Royal Doors fully open. This unblocked view of the altar symbolizes the open door of Christ's empty tomb as well as the rent veil of the Jewish Temple, which was torn apart at the moment Christ died. The entire week is considered to be one continuous day and the main reason why fasting is completely prohibited to all Eastern Christians during the week.

Warm Traditions Rise with the Scent of Paska.

The comforting aroma of freshly baked bread drifts through the air at Assumption Ukrainian Catholic Church in Perth Amboy, NJ, signaling a beloved seasonal tradition in full swing. Inside the small but bustling church kitchen, volunteers work in harmony to create paska—a traditional Ukrainian Easter bread rich in symbolism and flavor.

Under the guidance of Mrs. Colette Baginsky, a dedicated team of helpers—John, Alla, Lisa, Mary, Robert, and Elizabeth—move with practiced ease through their tasks. Dough is mixed, shaped, and carefully placed into pans as warm trays emerge from the oven, their golden loaves filling the room with fragrance and pride. Over the course of two days, the team will craft over 100 paskas and 90 smaller loaves, continuing a cherished ritual that brings the community together in both faith and friendship. In each loaf lies not only the taste of Easter but also the spirit of shared heritage and love.

The funds raised from the Paska sale will be used to purchase a new Ukrainian Gospel book for the altar.

Lenten Retreat Day.

As part of their Lenten journey, ACS welcomed students, teachers, principals, and pastors from St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Schools in Minersville, PA, and Passaic, NJ for a day-long retreat. The event was led by Fr. Jonathan Kalisch, OP, Director of Chaplains and Spiritual Development for the Knights of Columbus.

The retreat offered a meaningful blend of spiritual reflection, prayerful moments, and interactive activities. Fr. Jonathan, alongside the Sisters Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matará, guided the students in exploring how God calls each of us into a deeper relationship with Him during Lent—and how He remains our unwavering source of hope.

From heartfelt discussions to creative crafts, the day provided students with the chance to grow in faith, reflect on their spiritual lives, and form new friendships. The retreat left a lasting impression on all who attended. Many participants praised the warm hospitality of the ACS community, the beauty of the church, and the delicious meal that was shared—often remarking, "It exceeded our expectations."

This Lenten retreat was a beautiful reminder of the power of coming together in faith and the grace that Lent brings to all who seek it.

Assumption Catholic School

OPEN HOUSE - May 2, 2025 - 12-2 pm and 4-6 pm

Looking for a nurturing, faith-filled environment for your child's education?

Assumption Catholic School in Perth Amboy, NJ is now enrolling for the upcoming school year!

Rooted in our mission "To Know, To Love, and To Serve God," Assumption offers students from Pre-K to 8th grade a well-rounded education grounded in faith, academic excellence, and community values.

Schedule your private tour today and discover the difference of a Catholic education!

Call 732-826-8721

or visit www.assumptioncatholicschool.net

