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## Divine Liturgy Schedule

August 27, 2023 A. D.

Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na Viki!  
Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Saturday, August 26  
6:00 PM

Sunday, August 27  
10:30 AM

### THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

†Michael Yurchak- wife, Julia & Family

### THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

†Evelyn, Charles & Della Sailus- Marianne Sailus

†Bishop Michael Kuchmiak C.S.S.R.

### FESTIVAL MEETING AFTER CHURCH

Monday, August 28  
10:00 AM

Tuesday, August 28  
10:00 AM

Saturday, September 2  
8:00 AM  
6:00 PM

Sunday, September 3  
10:30 AM

†Ryan Cooper- Vogel Family

### BEHEADING OF JOHN THE BAPTIST-Simple

God's Blessings on America-Tom & MaryAnn Potsko

### FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

#### Liturgy

†Michael Sawczuk- Jean Barney

### FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

† Helen Bogdan- Brian & Joanne Kawczenski

†Beatitude Josef Cardinal Slipyg



Petitions & Prayers for Our Parishioners: Please pray for our Parishioners Assisted Living: Mary Hoolick. At Home: Geraldine Adamchak; Dolores Miller, Rita Kurtz, Diane Petry, Arlene Czarnecki, Mary Louise Bailey. Away: Leona Kobela Prayer Request: Michelle Miller; Kerri; Ellen Kobela, Fr. Peter Waslo; Sister Evhenia Prusnay MSMG; Mary Oresick; Fr. Paul Wolensky, Pavlyk Motychka (baby in Ukraine with SMA); Joyce Kishbaugh, Ken Weber; Marie Slota; Fr. Gregory Maslak, Angel Ocasio, Elizabeth Biasci, Dolores Jennings, Barnett Kurtz.

## THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 27, 2023

**TROPAR:** When the disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the glorious news of the resurrection and cast off the ancestral condemnation, they proudly told the apostles: “Death has been plundered! Christ our God is risen, granting to the world great mercy.”  
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Now and for ever and ever. Amen.**

**KONDAK:** My Savior and Deliverer from the grave as God raised out of bondage the children of the earth and shattered the gates of Hades; and as Master, He rose on the third day.

**PROKIMEN:** How great are Your works, O Lord You have made all things in wisdom. Bless the Lord, O my soul: O Lord my God, You are exceedingly great. How great are Your works, O Lord You have made all things in wisdom.

### **A Reading from the First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians (16:13-24):**

Brethren, Watch over yourselves, stand fast in the faith, be courageous, and be strengthened. Let all your things be done in charity. And I beseech you, brethren, you know the house of Stephanas, and of Fortunatus, and of Achaicus, that they are the first fruits of Achaia, and have dedicated themselves to the ministry of the saints: That you also be subject to such, and to everyone that works with us, and labors. And I rejoice in the presence of Stephanas, and Fortunatus, and Achaicus, because that which was wanting on your part, they have supplied. For they have refreshed both my spirit and yours. Know them, therefore, that are such. The churches of Asia salute you. Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house, with whom I also lodge. All the brethren salute you. Salute one another with a holy kiss. The salutation of me Paul, with my own hand. If any man loves not our Lord Jesus Christ, let him be anathema, maranatha. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. My charity be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

**ALLELUIA:** Alleluia (3). Poise yourself and advance in triumph and reign in the cause of truth, and meekness, and justice. Alleluia (3). You have loved justice and hated iniquity. Alleluia (3).

## **Gospel of Matthew 21:33-42**



The Lord told this parable: “There was a man, a householder, who planted a vineyard, and put a hedge about it and dug a wine vat in it, and built a tower; then he let it out to the vine-dressers, and went abroad. But when the fruit season drew near, he sent his servants to the vine-dressers to receive his fruits. And the vine-dressers seized his servants, and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again, he sent another party of servants more numerous than the first; and they did the same to these. Finally, he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But the vine-dressers, on seeing the son said among themselves, ‘This is the heir; come let us kill him. When, therefore, the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vine-dressers?’” They said to him, “He will utterly destroy those evil men and will let out the vineyard to other vine-dressers who will render to him the fruits in their seasons.” Jesus said to them, “Did you never read in the Scriptures, ‘The stone which the builders rejected, has become the corner stone; by the Lord this has been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes.’”

**COMMUNION VERSE:** Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest. Alleluia (3).



### **Prayer For Peace in Ukraine**

Heavenly Father, Your Son taught us “Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the sons of God.” We fervently pray in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, that you inspire men to become peacemakers. May mankind seek reconciliation and peace as is Your Will in this world. May tranquility be restored to all nations and especially Ukraine. God, Our Father, we beseech You to comfort the suffering, heal the wounded, and accept the souls of the dearly departed into Your heavenly kingdom. May the Most Holy Mother of God extend Her Mantle of Protection over Ukraine and the whole world. May each of us always live our lives as instruments of Your peace, in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**CHURCH NEWS ....** Every day is a Holy Day of Opportunity. Pray Always. - *Father Daniel Gurovich*

**FESTIVAL MEETING:** There will be a Festival Meeting after church on Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup>. We need Help on that day, Raffle Baskets & Baked Goods.



**UKRAINIAN FOOD FESTIVAL:** We will hold our Annual Ukrainian Food Festival on Saturday, September 2nd from 11am to 4pm. **HELP IS NEEDED THE DAY OF THE EVENT.** If you can, please show up at 10:30AM to get everything set up.

**BAKE SALE AT FOOD FESTIVAL:** Once again we call upon the talented bakers of our parish to donate homemade baked goods for our Food Festival on September 2. Please have cakes cut into serving pieces and items individually wrapped. Baked goods can be brought to the hall the day of the food festival or contact Lisa at 570-574-1016 to make arrangements. Please bake.

**PYROHY MAKING:** We will be making **Pyrohy on Wednesday, August 30** at 8:30am to use “fresh” and not frozen for festival food. Help is needed.

**FOOD PREPARATION:** Schedule Tuesday, August 28 @ 9:00am is Piggies in Hall. Thursday, August 31 @ 9:00am is Haluski in the Hall. Please check with Mark for Set-up times.

**BASKET RAFFLE:** Please consider donating a Basket for our Ukrainian Basket Raffle in conjunction with our Food Festival. If you have any questions, please contact Johana Longenberger at 570-256-7883. If you cannot contribute a basket and would like to help, consider... donating lottery tickets, gift cards you are not using, cash, etc. All these items can make one basket.

**3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL SUNSHINE IN NEPA:** On Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> the Epilepsy Foundation will hold a fund raiser from 11am-2pm at Holy Transfiguration Church Hall. Advance tickets \$15/Tickets at the door \$20. Questions contact Sally Smith 570-709-5514. (See the Church Bulletin Board Ad.)

**SISTERS OF THE ORDER OF ST: BASIL THE GREAT 92<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE:** This year's 92<sup>nd</sup> Pilgrimage honoring the Mother of God will be held on Sunday, October 1, 2023 on the grounds of the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great in Fox Chase Manor. The theme of this year's Pilgrimage is "Our Lady, Our Protectress and Refuge" with emphasis on calling upon the Mother of God to protect Ukraine during this time. (See Bulletin Board Ad)



## **AUGUST CANDLES**

The **Candles on the Tetrapod** are given by Diane Petry  
in loving memory of Jason Yankosky.

The **Altar Candles** are given by Koretz Family  
In loving memory of Leo R. Koretz.

The **Eternal Light** is given by the Lee Family  
in loving memory of Danny Lee.

The **Candle Before the Icon table of the Theotokos** is given by  
Lipowski & Placek Families in loving memory of Mrs. Olympia Pasicznyk.

The **Candle Before John the Baptist** is given by Slota Family  
In loving memory Peter & Pauline Slota and Jennifer Wetzel.

The **Candle Before the Icon of Jesus Christ** is given by  
MaryAnn & Donna Kelley in loving memory of Julia Boback.

The **Candle Before the Icon of the Transfiguration** is given  
By the Koretz Family in loving memory of Leo Koretz.

The **Proscomedial Table Candles** are given by Tom & MaryAnn Potsko  
In Honor of Saint Benedict.

The **St. Nicholas Candle** is given for a special intention.

### **PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH**

We pray to You, O almighty and eternal God! Who through Jesus Christ hast revealed Your glory to all nations, to preserve the works of Your mercy, that Your Church, being spread through the whole world, may continue with unchanging faith, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

## **MEMORARE**

Remember, most loving Virgin Mary, never was it heard that anyone who turned to you for help was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, though burdened by my sins, I run to your protection for you are my mother. Mother of the Word of God do not despise my words of pleading but be merciful and hear my prayer. Amen.

## **PSALM 112**

Praise the LORD. Blessed are those who fear the LORD,  
who find great delight in his commands.  
Their children will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.  
Wealth and riches are in their houses,  
and their righteousness endures forever.  
Even in darkness light dawns for the upright,  
for those who are gracious and compassionate and righteous.  
Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely,  
who conduct their affairs with justice.  
Surely the righteous will never be shaken;  
they will be remembered forever.  
They will have no fear of bad news;  
their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the LORD.  
Their hearts are secure, they will have no fear;  
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.  
They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor,  
their righteousness endures forever;  
their horn will be lifted high in honor.  
The wicked will see and be vexed,  
they will gnash their teeth and waste away;  
the longings of the wicked will come to nothing.

## **PRAYER FOR THE BISHOP**

Heavenly Father, in these trying times when the spirit of the age threatens Christian values, give our bishop holiness of life and wisdom to direct and guide our Archeparchy so that we may grow in Your Charity. We pray in the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## SEPTEMBER CANDLES

The **Candles on the Tetrapod** are given by Joann Grout  
in loving memory of Bill & Ann Grout.

The **Altar Candles** are given by MaryAnn, Tom, & Jenn  
In loving memory of Irene Hvozda.

The **Eternal Light** is given by MaryAnn, Tom, & Jenn  
In loving memory of Irene Hvozda.

The **Candle Before the Icon table of the Theotokos** is given by  
Lipowski & Placek Families in loving memory of Mrs. Olympia Pasicznyk.

The **Candle Before John the Baptist** is given by Slota Family  
In loving memory Peter & Pauline Slota and Jennifer Wetzel.

The **Candle Before the Icon of Jesus Christ** is given by  
Joann Grout in loving memory of Mike & Olga Yurkowski.

The **Candle Before the Icon of the Transfiguration** is given  
By the Mark & Arlene Jennings in loving memory of Anna Wrobel.

The **Proscomedial Table Candles** are given by Brian & Joanne Kawczenski  
In loving memory of Mary & Joseph Englot.

The **St. Nicholas Candle** is given by the Placek Family  
In loving memory of Joanne Slota-Mendik.



### Feast Day – August 26 (Polish Tradition)

#### Prayer to Our Lady of Czestochowa

**Holy Mother of Czestochowa**, Thou art full of grace, goodness and mercy. I consecrate to Thee all my thoughts, words and actions---my soul and body. I beseech Thy blessings and especially prayers for my salvation. Today, I consecrate myself to Thee, Good Mother, totally--- with body and soul amid joy and sufferings to obtain for myself and others Thy blessings on this earth and eternal life in Heaven. **Amen.**

Believers in Ukraine and Belarus as former parts of the Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth- Ukrainians have a special devotion to the Madonna of Czestochowa. The icon is often mentioned in Ukrainian folk songs from the 16th and 17th centuries.

## Something to think about...

I have spoken with people who think there is an easy solution to the problem that church is sometimes boring. They say we should simply do what other churches do: Make the service shorter. Have a drama or some dancers. Make the music more exciting. Tell more jokes. I don't know what to say to this, especially when an Orthodox person is making the suggestion. I feel like we've almost lost that person. His concept of what it means to worship God has deteriorated to such a degree that we cannot speak the same language anymore. Is it really possible to take the atmosphere of a comedy club or stadium concert into church and expect that our worship of God will not change? Change really isn't a strong enough word here. Can we imagine our worship of God would not be destroyed? Look back on history and see examples of how the changing of one word in the creed or in the translation of Scripture has opened giant rifts between ancient churches. One word! One thought! One nuance of theology! The tiniest division in one century becomes an Insurmountable rupture in the next. - **FROM Page 35; Chapt 3:Help! I'm Bored In Church! -David R. Smith**



### **PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL (Feast Day September 6)**

Holy Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.





**ASK FATHER A QUESTION? What is the purpose of Blessing Icons?** The Realm of Angels and Devils is real. When a Blessing is given, and note, there are different levels of Blessing, the power of Angels and God is imparted on the person or item that is receiving the Blessing. The items or people receive the grace of God necessary in the amount God chooses to bestow on them at the request of the Priest and the Church. These objects or people with the power imparted upon them, becomes a means to have power over devils and sin and to help the faithful live a virtuous live. God imparts the graces necessary for the people to aid them in their struggle for sanctification.



### **DORMITION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS**

*Mary hath chosen that good part. (Luke 10:42).* The Dormition of the Mother of God represents a good end to such a choice. At her Dormition the Savior Himself received her soul into His arms. Many saints were made worthy of the same. In various ways and to varying degrees, all those who choose that good part encounter this. At the time this choice is made, the saints foresee this end through hope, and even feel it to a certain degree. But then labors, struggles, and forcing of oneself come, one after another, and obscure the chosen path. The good end of that good part remains as a guiding star. It is as a faraway shining light for a traveler who is overtaken by darkness. Hope is the stimulator of energy and maintainer of patience and constancy in what was begun, while hope itself is strong through faith. People make their choice according to faith, and through hope they are firm in their choice, while through patience they attain that good end. **-From St. Theophan the Recluse**

## October 1- Protection of the Theotokos



To understand the love of Ukrainians for the Madonna of Pokrov, we must go back to the 10th century. At that time, whenever the Byzantine Empire (recall that its capital city was Constantinople) was threatened by the Arabs or Slavs, the Virgin Mary appeared with St. John the Baptist and St. John. The Virgin Mary and these two saints appeared to St. Andrew, called Andrew the “Fool for Christ,” in

the Church of the Blachernae in Constantinople. This church is an illustrious Marian shrine and a very beautiful church in the city. During the apparition, the Blessed Mother went in tears to the altar, placing her own veil that covered her head over the people to protect and save them. “Pokrov” means “the veil” in the literal sense and borrows, from the Hebrew of the Old Testament, *seter* (veil), the figurative sense of “protection” or “security.” The feast of the Pokrov icon therefore means, in other words, Our Lady of Protection. This feast, which commemorates her appearance, has been proclaimed the national holiday of [Ukraine](#). During the time of the Soviet and Nazi occupation, this icon took on immense importance for the Ukrainian nation, which reveres it as one of its favorite icons. Interestingly, this festival was established in Russia in the 12th century during the reign of Prince Andrew Bogolioubsky (1157-1174), whose patron saint was St. Andrew. Outside Russia, it is celebrated in Ukraine, but also in Bulgaria, Romania and also in Greece. The icon of Pokrov represents the Mother of God standing *in orans* (praying position) with her arms raised, in a Byzantine church decor, and accompanied by the saints. Two variations exist: either the Virgin herself spreads her veil widely, or two angels spread the veil over the people. Above the extended veil stands the bust of Christ. Pokrov’s prayer to the Virgin alludes to her veil shining over the saved crowd:

**Cover us, O Queen with the mantle of mercy, O Pokrov and defense of men, Pokrov and defense of believers. By your help the Orthodox kings are crowned ... On this day we celebrate your luminous feast, O Mother of God, we the faithful protected by your coming and, contemplating your venerable icon, with tenderness we say: cover us with your holy protection and deliver us from all evil, praying your Son, Christ our God, to grant our souls salvation.”**