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**Divine Liturgy Schedule**  
**September 3, 2023, A. D.**  
**Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na Viki!**  
**Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!**

**Saturday, September 2**  
**6:00 PM**

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
✠Michael Sawczuk- Jean Barney

**Sunday, September 3**  
**10:30 AM**

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
✠ Helen Bogdan- Brian & Joanne Kawczenski  
✠Beatitude Josef Cardinal Slipyg

**Wednesday, September 6**

**MIRACLE OF THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL**  
**(No Liturgy)**

**Friday, September 8**  
**10:30 AM**

**NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS-Solemn**  
✠Olympia Pasicznyk-Diane, Janice & Rite  
All the Souls in Purgatory

**Saturday, September 9**  
**6:00 PM**

**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
God's Blessings on America- Tom & MaryAnn Potsko

**Sunday, September 10**  
**10:30 AM**

**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
✠Ted Weron-Ray & Sue Rutkowski  
✠Metropolitan Ambrose Senyshyn



**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.

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**SEPTEMBER 3, 2023**

**TROPAR:** Let us the faithful acclaim and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, and born of the Virgin for our salvation. For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to suffer death and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Now and for ever and ever. Amen.**

**KONDAK:** You, my Savior, descended to Hades, and as the Almighty, You shattered its gates. With Yourself You, as the Creator, raised the dead and shattered the sting of death, and delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Mankind. And so we cry out: "Save us, O Lord."

**PROKEIMENON:** You, O Lord, will guard us and will keep us from this generation and forever. verse: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer left a just man. You, O Lord, will guard us and will keep us from this generation and forever.

***A Reading from the Second Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul's to the Corinthians (1:21-2:4):***

Brethren, now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. I call God as my witness—and I stake my life on it—that it was in order to spare you that I did not return to Corinth. Not that we lord it over your faith, but we work with you for your joy, because it is by faith you stand firm. So, I made up my mind that I would not make another painful visit to you. For if I grieve you, who is left to make me glad but you whom I have grieved? I wrote as I did, so that when I came, I would not be distressed by those who should have made me rejoice. I had confidence in all of you, that you would all share my joy. For I wrote to you out of great distress and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to grieve you but to let you know the depth of my love for you.

**ALLELUIA:** Alleluia (3). Your mercies, O Lord, I will sing forever; from generation to generation, I will announce Your truth with my mouth. Alleluia (3). verse: For You have said: Mercy shall be built up for ever; in the heavens Your truth shall be prepared. Alleluia (3).



### **Gospel of Matthew 22:2-14**

The Lord told this parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a king who made a marriage feast for his son. And he sent his servants to call in those invited to the marriage feast for his son, but they would not come. Again, he sent out other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, behold, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and fatlings are killed, and everything is ready; come to the marriage feast.’ But they made light of it, and went off, one to his own farm, and another to his business; and the rest laid hold of his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. But when the king heard of it, he was angry; and he sent his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burnt their city. Then he said to his servants, ‘The marriage feast indeed is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy; go therefore to the crossroads and invite to the marriage feast whomever you shall find.’ And his servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; and the marriage feast was filled with guests. Now the king went in to see the guests, and he was there a man who had not on a wedding garment. And he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?’ But he was speechless. The king said to the attendants, ‘Bind his hands and feet and cast him forth into the darkness outside, where there will be weeping and the gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

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



### **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.



### **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.

### **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

Mark & Arlene Jennings in loving memory of Anna Wrobel.

The **Proscomedia 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.

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

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** A Very Happy Birthday to Bobby Miles who celebrates his Birthday on Wednesday, September 6th! A Very Happy Birthday to Diane Petry who celebrates her Birthday on Friday, September 8th! Mnohaya Lita!! May God Grant Them Many Happy Years! And Salvation!

**PRAYERS:** Please keep in your thoughts and prayers Mr. Mike Oresick who is currently undergoing health issues.

**UKRAINIAN FOOD FESTIVAL:** Thank you to everyone who donated, worked, and purchased items to help make our Festival a Success!

**EPILEPSY FUNDRAISER: 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).

**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.

## Psalm 137

By the rivers of Babylon, we sat and wept when we remembered Zion.

There on the poplar, we hung our harps, for there our captors asked us for songs,  
our tormentors demanded songs of joy; they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

How can we sing the songs of the LORD while in a foreign land?

If I forget you, Jerusalem, may my right hand forget its skill.

May my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth if I do not remember you,  
if I do not consider Jerusalem my highest joy.

Remember, LORD, what the Edomites did on the day Jerusalem fell.

"Tear it down," they cried, "tear it down to its foundations!"

Daughter Babylon, doomed to destruction, happy is the one who repays you  
according to what you have done to us. Happy is the one who seizes your infants  
and dashes them against the rocks.



## **The Liturgical Year (Begins September 1) HOLY DAYS**

The ecclesiastical year, in the Eastern tradition begins on the first of September, is divided between movable and immovable, or fixed, holy days. The movable holy days are determined by the date of Pascha (Easter), the most important of all feast days and The Central Feast of the Liturgical Year. The determination of the date of Pascha was definitively regulated by the decision of the First Ecumenical Council, held in Nicaea (325 A.D.). Next in importance to Pascha are the "Twelve Great Feasts," of which three are movable. Eight of these feasts are devoted to Christ and four to the Theotokos (The Birth-giver, Mary). There are also a number of feast days of varying importance, most of which commemorate the more popular saints. The "Twelve Major Feast Days," as they occur in chronological order after September 1, are as follows:

**The Nativity of the Theotokos (Virgin Mary) (September 8)**

**The Elevation of the Life-giving Cross (September 14)**

**The Presentation of the Theotokos (Virgin Mary) in the Temple (November 21)**

**Christmas (December 25)**

**Epiphany (January 6)**

**The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (February 2)**

**The Annunciation (March 25)**

**Palm Sunday (the Sunday before Easter)**

**Feast of Ascension (40 days after Easter)**

**Pentecost (50 days after Easter)**

**The Transfiguration of Our Lord and Savior (August 6)**

**The Dormition of the Theotokos (August 15)**

## **Fast Days and Fast Periods**

**Four main fast periods are included in the ecclesiastical year. They are:**

**The Great Fast (Lent)--beginning on a Monday 7 weeks before Pascha.**

**Fast of the Apostles--varying in length from 1 to 6 weeks; it begins on a Monday, 8 days after Pentecost, and ends on June 28--the eve of the feast of Saints Peter and Paul.**

**Fast of the Dormition of the Theotokos Mary--August 1 to 14.**

**Philips Fast--lasting 40 days, from November 15 to December 24, so named because the fast begins the day following the Feast Day of St. Philip.**

Individual fast days include the feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross (September 14), the Beheading of St. John the Baptist (August 29), and the eve of Epiphany (January 5), as well as all Wednesdays and Fridays. There is no fasting, however, between Christmas and Epiphany, during the tenth week before Pascha, the week after Pascha because the whole week is Pascha, the week after Pentecost and the Wednesdays or Fridays of Post-Feast Periods of major Holy Days. Although the term fast, denotes total abstinence from food or drink, fasting as practiced in the Church means abstinence from meat, fish, dairy products, olive oil, and wine.

## **FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

A king arranged a wedding for his son. He sent once for those who were bidden and sent for them a second time, but because of earthly cares they did not come- one was occupied at home, another with business. A new invitation was made to others, and the wedding chamber was furnished with guests. Among them was found one not dressed for the wedding, and he therefore was cast out. The meaning of this parable is clear: The wedding is the Kingdom of Heaven, the invitation is the preaching of the Gospel, those who refused are those who did not believe at all, and the one who was not dressed for the wedding believed but did not live according to his faith. Each of us must discern for himself to which category he belongs. That we are bidden is clear, but are we believers? Indeed, it is possible to be among the believers, to be called by name, and completely lack faith. One person does not think at all about faith, as though it did not exist: another knows a little about it and is satisfied; another interprets the Faith in a distorted way; another relates to it with complete animosity. All are considered to be Christians, although they have absolutely nothing which is Christian. If you believe, determine whether your feelings and deeds conform to your faith-these are the garment of the soul, by which God sees you as dressed for the wedding or not. It is possible to know the Faith well and be zealous for it, but in actual life to serve the passions-to dress, that is, in the shameful clothes of a sin-loving soul. Such people are one way in the word, but another way in the heart. On their tongue is, "Lord, Lord!" but within they are saying, "Have me excused." Examine yourself, whether you are in the Faith (cf. II Cor. 13:5) and wearing the clothes of the virtues or wearing the shameful tatters of sin and passions. **-From St. Theophan the Recluse**