

**25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:**

**BRIGHT (GOLD) VESTMENTS. Tone 8. Matins Gospel # 3: Mark 16:9-20.** The holy and Great-Martyr Barbara and the holy martyr Juliana (286-305); Our Venerable Father John of Damascus (749); our ven. Father and priest-martyr Seraphim, bishop of Phanar.

**5:00 PM – DIVINE LITURGY (all English, recited)  
+Dmytro & Daria Drechsler (Family)**

**SATURDAY, DEC. 3  
Fr. Yaroslav**

**There will be no 7:45 am MATINAL LITURGY on**

**SUNDAY, DEC. 4**

**9:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY (Ukrainian and Old Church Slavonic; choir)  
+John & Viola Cashi (Family)**

**Fr. Yaroslav**

**11:30 AM - DIVINE LITURGY (English; congregational singing)  
+ God's Blessings on Parishioners**

**Fr. Yaroslav**

**The vespers for the Feast of St Nicholas will be on Monday evening, Dec 5.**

**26<sup>th</sup> MONDAY (ACTS OF PENANCE ARE ENCOURAGED  
ON ALL WEEKDAYS OF THE ST. PHILIP'S FAST)**

**DECEMBER 5**

Our Venerable and God-bearing Father Sabbas the "Sanctified", meaning "ordained" because in the early Church all monks were called "fathers," but not all monks were ordained as priests (532); holy martyr Nectarius of Betelia.

**9:00 AM +Steve Kurhan (Dolores & Martin Schultz)**

**Fr. Yaroslav**

**7:00 PM – VESPERS FOR FEAST OF ST. NICHOLAS in the chapel, in English,  
with blessing of non-perishables DONATED TO THE COLLECTIONS BEING  
CONDUCTED BY OUR CHURCH AUXILIARY**

**Fr. Yaroslav**

**26<sup>th</sup> TUESDAY (ACTS OF PENANCE ARE ENCOURAGED  
ON ALL WEEKDAYS OF THE ST. PHILIP'S FAST)**

**DECEMBER 6**

FEAST OF OUR HOLY FATHER AMONG THE SAINTS NICHOLAS THE MIRACLEWORKER, ARCHBISHOP OF MYRA IN LYCIA (TRADITIONALLY CA. 337).

**9:30 AM - + Nicholas Hoskowicz (Christine & Dan Berstein)  
+ Daria Drechsler (Ruth Spernak)**

**Fr. Ivan  
Fr. Yaroslav**

**No Moleben on Tuesday evening**

**26<sup>th</sup> WEDNESDAY**

**(ACTS OF PENANCE ARE ENCOURAGED ON ALL WEDNESDAYS)**

**DECEMBER 7**

Our Holy Father Ambrose, Bishop of Milan (397); the passing of our ven. Father Antony of Siya, miracle worker (1556); the passing of our ven. Father Nilus of Stolbensk Lake, miracleworker (1554); our ven. Father John, faster of the Kyiv Caves, near caves (12<sup>th</sup> century).

**9:00 AM +Emilia Levy (Buckholt Family)  
+Anna Husar (George Family)**

**Fr. Ivan  
Fr. Yaroslav**

**26<sup>th</sup> THURSDAY (ACTS OF PENANCE ARE ENCOURAGED ON ALL WEEKDAYS OF THE ST.**

**PHILIP'S FAST)****DECEMBER 8**

Prefeast of the Conception by Saint Anna, When She Conceived the Most Holy Mother of God; Our Venerable Father Patapius, hermit of Egypt (7<sup>th</sup> century); holy apostle Sosthenes, and six others, of the Seventy (1<sup>st</sup> century); holy 62 priests and 300 laity martyred by Arian heretics in Africa (477). *In the Roman-Latin Rite, the Feast of the Conception by St. Anna was renamed "Immaculate Conception" and moved to December 8. It is the Patronal Feast Day of the Roman Catholic Church in the USA.*

**PYROHI MAKING AND SELLING ON THURSDAYS**

**"Pinchers" are asked to come between 7:00-8:00 AM;**

**thus until May 2012 there will usually be**

**NO DIVINE LITURGY ON THURSDAY MORNINGS**

**THURSDAY: 7:00 PM, Vespers with Divine Liturgy  
for Feast of Conception of St Anne**

**26<sup>th</sup> FRIDAY (DARK (RED) VESTMENTS, BECAUSE ACTS OF PENANCE ARE OBLIGATORY ON ALL FRIDAYS)**

**DECEMBER 9**

**HOLY DAY - FEAST OF THE CONCEPTION BY SAINT ANNA, WHEN SHE CONCEIVED THE MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD;** also, the holy prophetess Anna, mother of the prophet Samuel (1100 BC); and, veneration of the miraculous icon of the Theotokos known as "Unexpected Joy".

**THURSDAY: 7:00 PM, Vespers with Divine Liturgy for Feast of Conception of St Anne, + Dmytro & Daria Drechsler (Family)**

**FRIDAY: 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy for Feast of Conception of St Anne  
95<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Helen Pergzola (Dolores & Martin Schultz)**

**26<sup>th</sup> SATURDAY****DECEMBER 10**

The Holy Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes, Callicelladus and EUGRAPHUS (circa 313).

**10:00 am – Akathist for Grandchildren and Children to Theotokos in chapel**

**Sunday OF THE HOLY FOREBEARS OF CHRIST: THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST, which occurs between December 11-17:**

**BRIGHT (GOLD) VESTMENTS. Tone 1. Matins Gospel # 4: Luke 24:1-12.**

**This Sunday IS ALWAYS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF THE HOLY "FORE-FATHERS AND FORE-MOTHERS IN THE FLESH" (SOMETIMES TRANSLATED "ANCESTORS") OF OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST, including those who lived before and after the giving of the Law through Moses, especially the holy Patriarch Abraham, to whom God said, "In your seed shall all of the nations of the earth be blessed" (Gen. 12:3, 22:18).** There are more of them but in addition to Abraham the Liturgical Propers for Vespers and Matins mention at least the following saints by name: Aaron, Abel, Adam, Ananiah, Anna, Azariah, David, Deborah, Elijah, Elisha, Elizabeth, Enoch, Enos, Eve, Ezra, Isaac, Jacob, Japheth, Jesse, Jesus son of Navi, John the Baptist, Judith, Melchizedek, Miriam, Mishael, Moses, Nathan, Nehemiah, Noah, Rachel, Rebecca, Samuel, Sarah, Seth, Shem, Solomon, Suzanna, the major prophets (i.e. long books) (*Isaiah, Jeremiah, Baruch, Ezekiel and Daniel*), the minor prophets (i.e. short books) (*Hosea, Amos, Micah, Joel, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habbakuk-Avvakoum, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi*), some other prophets who did not write any books (*Ahijah, Jehu, Elias, Elisaiois and Micaiah*), the twelve patriarchs (*Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Zebulun, Issachar, Dan, Gad, Asher,*

*Naphtali, Joseph and Benjamin*), and Zechariah, father of John the Baptist. If you carry any one of these names, then today is your Patronal Feast Day, or Name's Day. **On both Sundays before Christmas, the icons on the tetrapod should be those of the Holy Prophet Daniel (Belteshazzar) and the Three Holy Youths: Ananiah (Shadrach), Azariah (Abed-Nego) and Mishael (Meshach) (6<sup>th</sup> century BC), who are also some of the saints celebrated on December 17.**

**Благословення Дідів й Бабів, Blessing of Grandparents:** *This Sunday is an appropriate occasion for children to invite their grandparents to stand with them during the Divine Liturgy. This day can also serve as an opportunity for the grandparents to share their stories of faith with their grandchildren, either in a more or less formal way.*

**Also on December 11:** Our Venerable Father Daniel the Stylite (493); our ven. Father Nikon the Thin of the Kyiv Caves, near caves (12<sup>th</sup> century).

**5:00 PM – DIVINE LITURGY (all English, recited)  
God's Blessings on Parishoners**

**SATURDAY, DEC. 10  
Fr. Yaroslav**

**There will be no 7:45 am MATINAL LITURGY on**

**SUNDAY, DEC. 11**

**9:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY (Ukrainian and Old Church Slavonic; choir)  
+Wasył Boburczak (Antonia Olijnyk)**

**Fr. Ivan**

**There will be no 11:30 AM - DIVINE LITURGY ON THIS PARTICULAR SUNDAY; HOWEVER, St Nicholas will visit with our parish children in the church hall after the 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy.**

### **АНДРІЇВ ГРІШ - ANDREW'S PENCE**

У кожен неділю грудня можна зложити пожертву на благочинну збірку «Андріїв гріш», щоб допомогти нашому Синодові "огорнути духовною опікою всіх вірних нашої Церкви, хоч би на якому континенті вони перебували і хоч би з яких причин покинули батьківщину, ... забезпечуючи опіку нашим вірним там, де ще немає тривалих структур нашої Церкви." Просимо використати спеціальні конверти із датою 30-го листопада.

On every Sunday of December, please feel free to make your donation for the charitable collection of our Synod of Bishops, known as "Andrew's Pence". It is our desire to envelop all the faithful of our church with their own Church's spiritual care, no matter what continent or for whatever reasons they emigrated from Ukraine. To that effect our Church is collecting funds especially "TOWARDS SUSTAINING EXARCHATES IN EASTERN UKRAINE AND CLERGY LIVING IN TERRITORIES WITHOUT OFFICIAL CHURCH STRUCTURES." Please use the Green Envelope in your boxed sets for November 30 which is marked "Andrew's Pence". If you wish you can also use a plain envelope but please clearly mark your name on that envelope. Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

## **ПИЛИПІВКА - 15 листопада до 23 грудня**

Традиційно, строгий піст у понеділок, середу та п'ятницю, із полегшенням у вівторок, і четвер. Загально говорячи, між християнами на Сході в суботу й неділю немає посту. **Від 20 до 23 грудня творимо так зване Передпразденство, тоді коли звичайно відбувається уздоблення домів та всі інші підготовки до празника.** Хоча в наших часах звільнено правила про строгий піст й заборону весільних забав, правила щодо Молитви й Милостині (діл милосердя) надалі зобов'язують всіх, як це було в попередніх віках. Звичайно на 24 грудня маємо традиційно строгий піст від набілу і м'ясних страв, але тому що цього року Різдво випадає в неділю, піст й Царські Часи переносимо на п'ятницю, 23 грудня. Молебн Пилипівки до Христа Еммануїла служитиметься; просимо слідкувати за дальшими оголошеннями в тижневику.

### **WHAT'S IN A NAME?**

### **IS IT ADVENT OR IS IT ST. PHILIP'S FAST?**

The word "advent-adventus" is Latin and was and is used by the West in a way that did not - and does not - exist in the Christian East. Easterners use St. Philip's Fast as a time dedicated to personally prepare (by increased prayer, fasting and almsgiving) for a proper communal celebration of "God-Christ With Us" that is to say, of the Incarnation of God, which we will celebrate on December 25. We do not wait for Jesus to come, or pretend to be like people who are waiting for Him to come, not just because He has already come, but because His coming – first or second - is not the primary focus. Some people explain St Philip's Fast as away of preparing for Christ's Second Coming, or our own death, whichever comes first, in order to make a connection with the penitential spirit of this season, but alas this is not the main purpose of St Philip's Fast. The East does not use St Philip's Fast to celebrate Christ's coming to us, either in the past or in the future. Rather, the Lord's incarnation in the flesh is our primary focus. The Creator has become a creature: what does this mean for us, as a human community, and for us, as singular persons? As Christians, we affirm the basic goodness of the need for food and drink, and meeting bodily needs, and since Christmas means that God made a decision to connect himself to this good human condition of needing food and drink, we choose to fast not because we hate the body or any of the things that involve the body, but rather so that we can enhance our understanding of this relationship which we are called to enter into with a fully divine Jesus Christ, Who is also fully human in all things except sin. Abstinence can also help to make our enjoyment of food and drink that much more rich and festive, when the feast finally arrives. But most importantly fasting should lead to spiritual disciplines of praying and almsgiving; again, the focus is on the Creator and our mutual relationship with one another. Physical hunger also serves to remind us that we have a soul or spirit that needs to be fed, just as much as the body, but which we often ignore. This is why our Typikon actually says that "the faithful eat sumptuously" but not until after the Divine Liturgy on December 25 and that this lavish feasting should continue until the Strict Fast of Theophany Eve, on January 5, and is resumed again from after the Divine Liturgy on January 6 until January 14. Meanwhile, even after the sumptuous feasts give way to a more typical way of satisfying bodily needs for food and drink, the celebration of Christ's Incarnation still does not stop until February 8, once it has begun on December 25. Thus, it is the opinion of many Eastern Christian theologians that the current social custom of Eastern Christians

celebrating the Lord's First or Second Coming between the evening of November 14 and the afternoon of December 25 - with parties, fanfare, banquets, special gatherings and meals, and such, - is motivated mostly either by ignorance of the faith or by embracing subconsciously or unwittingly the prevalent secular, and even pagan, spirit of our age. The desire for growth towards maturity in one's Faith in Christ prefers to avoid this. It consciously aims for and deliberately puts all its energies (of body, soul and spirit) into focusing on the person of Christ. It's not about Him coming to us, it's about us going towards Him. That having been said we can move on to the rules and regulations for this season.

### **ST. PHILIP'S FAST, in Ukrainian: PILIPEEVKA**

#### **On the Gregorian (new) calendar: NOVEMBER 15-DECEMBER 23**

As each Christian is called to ongoing repentance and amendment of life, the ancient practice of fasting is to be maintained. The following rules apply to those Catholics who have been baptized in the Ukrainian-Byzantine Catholic Church regardless of which parish one attends. Also, according to the 1999 *Pastoral Guide*, "Art. 170 - Although every Catholic may fulfill his obligation of assisting at the Divine Liturgy, Vespers or Matins on Sundays and holy days in any Catholic church, **our faithful should as a rule attend their own parish church.**"

- 1) Fasting or abstaining on all Wednesdays of the entire church year is still traditionally encouraged, but no longer obligatory. Originally this day's fast was a way of honoring the day when our Lord was betrayed and of contemplating that we do not fall into the same sin.
- 2) According to the 1999 *Pastoral Guide*, in the Archeparchy of Philadelphia, and the Eparchies of Stamford and St Nicholas in Chicago: all those from children who have completed their 7<sup>th</sup> year to adults who have completed their 59<sup>th</sup> year, as a way of honoring the day when our Lord was crucified, must do Works of Penance (see # 9, 10 & 11 below), which must include abstaining from meat, on each and every Friday of the whole year.
- 3) According to Very Rev. Fr. Monsignor George Appleyard, Protosyncellus of our diocese and Protopresbyter of our deanery, in our Eparchy of St. Josaphat of Parma, Ohio: all those from children who have completed their 14<sup>th</sup> year to adults who have completed their 59<sup>th</sup> year, as a way of honoring the day when our Lord was crucified, must do Works of Penance (see # 9, 10 & 11 below), which may or may not include abstaining from meat, on each and every Friday of the whole year.
- 4) In numbers (2) and (3) above, the only exceptions are certain fast-free or "Privileged weeks", or if Friday occurs on a Feast of our Lord or of the Mother of God. The usual penitential rules for the Friday after Thanksgiving Day, November 25, 2011, are NOT mitigated, unless, following the custom of the Latins, one asks for permission to do so from one's Pastor or Father Confessor.
- 5) Abstaining from meat, in addition to eating only one full meal and a smaller snack, obliges all on Christmas Eve, December 24, and on Theophany Eve, January 5, but only if these feasts do not occur on a Saturday or Sunday because Eastern Christians do not fast or abstain on a Day of Rest (Saturday) or a Day of Celebration (Sunday). The custom of also abstaining from all "dairy foods" on these two eves is traditional, but no longer obligatory. "Dairy foods" include products derived from mammals and birds such as milk, eggs, lard, cheese, etc. and their by-products. In 2011, Christmas occurs on a Sunday; therefore the Service of the Royal Hours and the strict fasting that would normally occur on Christmas Eve (Dec 24) are both

transferred to Friday, December 23rd.

- 6) Pregnant and nursing mothers, the ill and infirm, those who work at hard physical labor and the "very poor" (living on alms) are excused from fasting and abstinence.
- 7) Traditionally, during St. Philip's Fast, from November 15 thru December 23, a strict fast - with other acts of penance - was kept on Monday's, Wednesday's, and Friday's, with a lesser fast or abstinence on Tuesday's and Thursday's.
- 8) **Holy day preparations and decorations are normally attended to between December 20-23 which is called the Fore-Feast, or Pre-Feast, of Christmas.**
- 9) **Although in our times the rules for Fasting and Wedding Receptions have been mitigated, the rules for Prayer and Almsgiving (Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy) continue to oblige all, as it was in ages past.**
- 10) Voluntary penance, prayers for the intentions of the hierarchs of the Church, the Bishop of Rome, the Patriarch (Major Archbishop), the Metropolitan, and the Eparchial Bishop; voluntary offerings to the Church, the seminaries, the Church in Ukraine, self-denial of alcohol, smoking, attendance at entertainment, etc., may be supplementary only with the explicit permission of your Father Confessor. **Attending or hosting so called "Christmas parties" should be avoided as much as possible until after the feast has occurred (Dec. 25).**
- 11) Bread and water alone is a good fast for those who are able to do it without causing harm to their physical health.
- 12) Following the custom of the Latins, our Ukrainian Catholic eparchial bishop can dispense all the faithful of our eparchy, as well as any individual persons, for a good reason from any of these fasting prescriptions. A pastor may also dispense any of his individual parishioners for a good reason. A pastor cannot, however, dispense the entire parish.

The St Philip's Fast Moleben to Christ Emmanuel will be served mostly on Tuesday evenings. Please see church bulletin for dates and times.

Діла Милосердя для Душі й Духа: (1) грішника навернути, (2) невіжу навчити, (3) у сумніві порадити, (4) сумного потішити, (5) кривду терпеливо зносити, (6) образу з серця прощати, (7) за живих і померлих молитися, наприклад, жертвувати на Парастас, чи Бож. Літургію. *Чи не Найкращий Подарунок це замовити Службу Божу за здоровля ваших рідних і друзів?* Діла Милосердя для Тіла: (1) голодного нагодувати, (2) спраглого напоути, (3) нагого зодягнути, (4) подорожнього в дім прийняти, (5) недужому послужити, (6) в'язня відвідати, (7) померлого похоронити.

***Corporal Works of Mercy (in the Early Church, what deacons should model for us):*** feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, visiting the imprisoned, sheltering the homeless, visiting the sick and burying the dead. ***Spiritual Works of Mercy (in the Early Church, what priests should model for us):*** counseling the doubtful, instructing the ignorant, admonishing sinners, comforting the afflicted, forgiving offences, bearing wrongs patiently, praying for the living and the dead !

**A REMINDER FROM OUR FATHER AMONG THE SAINTS,**  
**JOHN CHRYSOSTOM (+407 AD)**

Do you keep the fast? Give me proof of it by your works. If you see a poor man, take pity on him. If you see a friend being honored, do not envy him. Do not let only your mouth fast, but also the eye, and the feet, and the hands and all the members of our bodies. Let the hands fast, by being free of avarice. Let the feet fast, by ceasing to run after sin. Let the eyes fast, by disciplining them not to glare at that which is sinful. Let the ears fast by not listening to evil talk and rumors and gossip. Let the mouth fast from foul words and unjust criticism. For what good is it if we abstain from birds and fishes, but bite and devour our brothers and sisters?

**ЧИТАННЯ ІЗ СВЯТОГО ПИСЬМА  
25-ТОЇ НЕДІЛІ ПІСЛЯ П'ЯТИДЕСЯТНИЦІ:  
SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE  
25-TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:**

**На Вечірній Літургії - At the Vesperal Liturgy: three optional readings**

**(1) (Second Book of Moses) Exodus 24:1-18; (2) 1 Samuel 1:1-18;  
(3) Isaiah 40:1-8; and then ...**

**(4) На Утренній Літургії, Новий Завіт, Трете Утренне Євангеліє: ВІД  
МАРКА СВЯТОГО ЄВАНГЕЛІЯ (БЛАГОВІСТУВАННЯ) ЧИТАННЯ:** У той час воскрес Ісус уранці першого дня тижня, і найперше з'явився Марії Магдалині, з якої вигнав був сім бісів. Вона пішла й повідомила тих, що були з ним і що сумували й плакали. Вони, почувши, що він живий та що вона його бачила, не йняли віри. Після цього з'явився в іншій вигляді двом із них, що були в дорозі й ішли на село. І ці, вернувшись, сповістили інших, але і їм не йняли віри. Нарешті, з'явився він також і одинадцятьом, коли вони були за столом, і докоряв їм за їх невірство та заскоружність серця, що не повірили тим, які бачили його воскреслого з мертвих. І сказав їм: « Ідіть по всьому світу і проповідуйте євангеліє (благовістування) всякому сотворінню. Хто увірує й охреститься, той буде спасений; а хто не увірує, той буде осуджений. І ось знаки, що будуть супроводити тих, які увірують: ім'ям моїм виганятимуть бісів, говоритимуть новими мовами; братимуть гадюк руками і хоч би випили що смертельне, не пошкодить їм; на хворих кластимуть руки, і їм стане добре. » Господь же Ісус, промовивши до них так, вознісся на небо й возсів праворуч Бога. А вони пішли й проповідували всюди, і Господь помагав їм та стверджував слово чудесами, які його супроводили. [And they reported all the instructions briefly to Peter's companions. Afterwards Jesus himself, through them, sent forth from east to west the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation. Амінь]. (16:9-20).

**(4) At the Matinal Liturgy: New Testament: Third Matinal Gospel: A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to MARK:** [At that time,] when Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom He had cast out seven demons. She went and told those who had been with Him, as they mourned and wept. But when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it. After this He appeared in another form to two of them, as they were walking into the country. And they went back and told the rest, but they did not believe them. Afterward He appeared to the eleven themselves as they sat at table; and He upbraided them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who saw Him after He had risen. And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be

condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: in My name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up serpents [with their hands], and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.” So then the Lord Jesus, after He had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that attended it. [And they reported all the instructions briefly to Peter’s companions. Afterwards Jesus himself, through them, sent forth from east to west the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation.] Amen. (16:9-20).

**(5) На Божественній Літургії, Апостол у 25-ту НЕДІЛЮ ПІСЛЯ ЗІСЛАННЯ СВЯТОГО ДУХА: Новий Завіт: ДО ЕФЕСЯН ПОСЛАННЯ СВЯТОГО АПОСТОЛА ПАВЛА ЧИТАННЯ:** Браття! Благаю вас я, Господній в'язень, поводитися достойно покликання, яким вас покликано, тобто, щоб бути зняряддям діючої в нас Божої сили, через яку, вище над усяке уявлення, Бог може зробити з нас багато більше, ніж те чого ми просимо або що ми розуміємо; отже, поводитися в повноті покори й лагідности, з довготерпеливістю, терплячи один одного в любові, стараючися зберігати єдність Духа в зв'язку миру. Одне тіло, один Дух, як і ви були покликані в одній надії нашого покликання. Один Господь, одна віра, одне хрещення. Один Бог і Отець усіх, що над усіма і через усіх, і в усіх. Кожному ж з нас дана благодать за мірою Христового дару. **(4:1-6 [ 7 ])**.

**(5) At the Divine Liturgy: EPISTLE READING for the 25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER THE DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT: New Testament: A READING FROM THE LETTER OF SAINT PAUL, THE APOSTLE, TO THE EPHESIANS** (*though uncertain, most agree that it was written by Paul from Rome sometime between 61-63 A.D.*): Brethren! I, the prisoner in the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, to become by the power of God at work within us, those who are able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we would ever dare to ask or even dream of — infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, or hopes; and to walk, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love, striving to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one Body, and one Spirit, even as you were called in the one hope of your calling: one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. But to each one of us is given the grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ **(4:1-6 [7])**. *Underlined Text has been added for clarity; it is copied from an earlier chapter in the same Letter.*

**The Gospel for the 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday (Luke 14:16-24) is identical to the Gospel for the Second Sunday before Christmas, thus it should always be read on the Sunday between December 11 and 17, when the feast of the Holy FOREBEARS OF CHRIST occurs. Therefore, so as to avoid repeating the same gospel two weeks in a row, today's Gospel is taken from the 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost: (Luke 17:12-19).**

**(6) На Божественній Літургії, Євангеліє 29-ої Неділі після П'ятидесятниці: Новий Завіт: ВІД ЛУКИ СВЯТОГО ЄВАНГЕЛІЯ (БЛАГОВІСТУВАННЯ) ЧИТАННЯ:** Одного разу, простуючи до Єрусалиму, Ісус проходив між Самарією і Галилеєю. Коли він входив в одне село, вийшло йому назустріч десять прокажених, що стояли здалека. Вони зняли голос і казали: Ісусе, наставнику, змилуйся над нами! Побачивши їх, він промовив: Ідіть, покажіться свя-

щеникам. І сталось, як вони йшли, очистилися. Один з них, побачивши, що видужав, вернувся, славлячи великим голосом Бога. І припавши лицем до ніг Ісуса, став йому дякувати. Він був "самарянин" (чужинець). Озвався Ісус і каже: Хіба не десять очистилось? Де ж дев'ять? І не було між ними нікого, хто б, вернувшись, воздав хвалу Богові, крім чужинця цього? І сказав до нього: Встань, іди: віра твоя спасла тебе » **(17:12-19)**

**(6) At the Divine Liturgy: GOSPEL READING for the 29<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: New Testament: A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE:** At that time, as Jesus entered a village, Jesus was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan (foreigner). Then said Jesus, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And Jesus said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well". **(NKJV - 17:12-19)**

*НАСТУПНОЇ НЕДІЛІ: 11-го грудня, 2011 рБ: Друга неділя перед Різдом Христовим припадає між 11 та 17 грудня. Вона завжди присвячена пам'яті святих, по плотті, Праотців й Праматерів Христових, тобто тих, що жили до часу Закону Мойсеєвого, а також й після того. Пам'ять святих дня (св. Даниїла чи Спиридона) пропускається. На Вечірній Літургії, неділі: (1) Буття 9:18-29; (2) 2 Царів (2 Самуїл) 22:1-3, 26-51; (3) Ісая 56:1-7. На Утренній Літургії, неділі: (4) від Луки 24:1-12. На Євхаристійній (Божественній) Літургії, неділі: (5) Колосян 3:4-11; (6) від Луки 14:16-24. За-амвонна Молитва: Праотців й Праматерів # 49.*

**NEXT SUNDAY: Scripture Readings for December 11, 2011:** *(The Second Sunday before Christmas, which occurs between December 11 and 17, is always dedicated to the memory of the Holy Forebearers (Fore-Fathers and Fore-Mothers, sometimes translated "ancestors") in the flesh of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, including those who lived before and after the giving of the Law through Moses); the commemoration of Saints Daniel and Spiridon are omitted. At the Vespereal Liturgy, for Sunday: (1) Genesis 9:18-29; (2) 2 Kings (2 Samuel) 22:1-3, 26-51; (3) Isaiah 56:1-7; At the Matinal Liturgy, for Sunday: (4) Luke 24:1-12. At the Eucharistic (Divine) Liturgy, for Sunday: (5) Colossians 3:4-11; (6) Luke 14:16-24. Amvon Prayer: Fore-Fathers and Fore-Mothers, # 49.*

### **PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL CANOPY**

**Adapted from the prayer written by Robert Abel and published at [http://www.romancatholicrevival.com/catholic\\_seminars/catholic\\_revival\\_prayers.htm](http://www.romancatholicrevival.com/catholic_seminars/catholic_revival_prayers.htm)**

Almighty and merciful Father, we come before you to intercede on behalf of Your [one] holy Catholic [and apostolic] Church [which is actually a communion of 22 ritual Catholic Sister Churches, wherein the Church in Rome is both "Mother" and "Sister"]. We beseech You, Lord, to send forth Your purifying fire to cleanse every aspect of our parish community. We ask that You establish an impenetrable spiritual canopy around our Saint John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Parish where we worship. Please wash

and purify everything inside this spiritual canopy with Your most precious blood, Lord Jesus Christ. We ask You to send forth Your angelic army to strike down and destroy all forms of demonic spirits that have come against Your [One] Holy Catholic [and Apostolic] Church. Destroy and bind to the abyss all demons and their devices that have access to our parish through the sins of idolatry (one of which You point out to us in Matthew 19:16-26) and superstitious behaviors. Send forth Your warring angels to strike down and destroy all anti-Christ spirits, religious spirits, and any other demonic spirits of perversion, stagnation, and complacency. Drive out all demonic spirits of division and isolation that have been preventing Your Holy Spirit's bond of brotherly love. Send forth Your power to create in our community a desire for authentic Christian *koinonia* (communion-fellowship). Help us to establish the loving bonds of a healthy, caring community. Drive out all demonic spirits of oppression and heaviness that are militating against Your Holy Spirit's gift of joy-filled celebration, sanctification, and freedom in Christ. We ask You to destroy all demonic spirits of fear, shame, self-condemnation, false forms of guilt, unhealthy desires to suffer, and all other forms of unworthiness. Send forth Your Holy Spirit to lead our entire congregation [those present here, those absent for honorable reasons and those who visit with us this day] into Your heavenly courts to experience Your loving presence. Flood the minds and hearts of everyone who enters through the doors of our parish community with an authentic spirit of praise, as we bow down and worship Your magnificent presence. For to You Almighty and merciful Father belong all glory, honor and worship, together with Your Only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, with Whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

### **PRAYER FOR BISHOPS**

Heavenly Father, in these trying times when the spirit of the age threatens Christian values, give our bishops holiness of life and wisdom to direct and guide our eparchial/diocesan families so that we may grow in Your love. We pray that You grant them strength and power in prudently guiding Your spiritual flocks entrusted to them, and that they may enrich those over whom they watch, that together with the flocks committed to their care, they may attain eternal life through Your Only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, with Whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

---

**Special *PETITIONS* modified for use in the Great Ekteniya (Litany of Peace), originally intended for use in the Insistent Litany (Ekteniya of Fervent Supplication)**

---

#### ***PETITION* COMMONLY USED IN MANY OF OUR EPARCHIES:**

**Deacon:** Since the Lord, Jesus Christ, Our God, told us to pray for vocations to the spiritual life, saying; "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. Ask the harvest master to send out workers to gather his harvest" (Mat. 9: 37-38), that our Lord would call and send our Church, good and generous souls from among our youth to become good and fervent sisters, brothers, nuns, monks, deacons, and priests, let us pray to the Lord.

***PETITIONS*** requested by His Beatitude Patriarch Lubomyr Cardinal Husar, 12-28-2009

**Deacon:** Uniting our hearts in prayer for a better future for Ukraine under the protection of the Mother of God (Theotokos), let us pray to the Lord.

**PETITION** mandated by His Grace Bishop Robert in a letter dated 9-18-2008,  
at the Request of the League of Ukrainian Catholics:

**Deacon:** That God's faithful Servant Metropolitan Andrey (Sheptytsky), together with all of our Church's holy Martyrs and Confessors of Faith in Christ, be glorified among the saints, let us pray to the Lord.

**Petitions for St Philips' Fast, from Nov 15 to Dec 23:**

**Deacon:** Щоб утвердитися святій Христовій Церкві по всьому світі як видимим знаменом близини Царства Божого, щоб вірні, в євангельській надії і вбожестві, сміло очікували Спаси, хто гряде справдити жителів нового небесного Єрусалиму, молимося Тобі: вислухай нас, Господи, і помилуй

We also pray that the Church of Christ be established throughout the world as a visible sign of the nearness of the reign of God, so that in evangelical hope and poverty believers may confidently await the Savior who is coming to confirm the citizens of new and heavenly Jerusalem, we implore You, Lord, hear us and have mercy.

**Deacon:** Щоб во Христі сестри і брати наші на Україні (і по всьому світі), які переслідувані нині вчинками темряви, знайшли силу в надії справедливого суду, що погубить несправедливість людей, усердно молимося Тобі, Отче праведний і Боже всякої утіхи: вислухай нас і милостиво помилуй

We also pray that our brothers and sisters who are persecuted by the works of darkness may find power in the hope of a just (righteous) judgment which will destroy all injustice, we earnestly implore You, O righteous Father and God of all consolation, hear us and graciously have mercy.

**Deacon:** Щоб у святій цей постний час, самі себе і один одного присвячуючи на приготування путі (дороги) Тому хто гряде, благий Дух Його благодаті знизив гори гріхів і прогрішень наших і вирівняв криві наші дороги, молимося: Господи, вислухай і помилуй

We also pray, as we dedicate ourselves and one another during this holy time of fasting to preparing a path for the One who is coming, that the good Spirit of His grace would level the mountains of our sins and failings, and make our crooked ways straight, we implore You, Lord, hear us and have mercy.

**Deacon:** Щоб Божа любов, спонукуючи нас до наслідування Господа Ісуса в Його подвизі примирення людей до Отця і до один одного, творила нас учасниками спасенного діла притягнення всього до купи у згоді й мирі, усильно молимося: вислухай нас, Боже, і помилуй

We also pray that the love of God, which urges us to imitate the Lord Jesus in His struggle to reconcile us to the Father and to each other, would make us sharers in the saving work of drawing all things together in harmony and peace, we fervently implore You, Lord, hear us and have mercy.

**DECEMBER 4, 2011 - PRO-LIFE MESSAGE AND PETITION**

*Today's reflection is based on "Mary's Pregnancy" by J.C. Willke M.D.* While society continues to deny the humanity of the unborn child, the Bible tells us that Elizabeth tells Mary that when she heard her greeting, her child (John the Baptist) leaped in Elizabeth's womb for joy upon recognizing his cousin Jesus. The six-month old "fetus" recognizes His Lord and Savior, even when He was a ten-week old embryo.

**Deacon:** That this nation may hear the call of John the Baptist and repent from

the sin of legalized abortion, let us pray to the Lord.

### **POPE BENEDICT XVI'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER 2011**

*General Intention:* **We also pray that the nations of the earth, through knowledge and mutual respect, may grow in harmony and peace, ...**

*Missionary Intention:* **...and that children and young people may be messengers of the Gospel and that their dignity may always be respected and preserved from all violence and exploitation, we pray You, Lord, hear and have mercy.**

### **PROPOSAL for ACOLYTE ASSIGNMENTS**

**If servers would like this to be modified, they are asked to notify the office:**

**5:00 PM — SATURDAYS: David Sawczak; Rick Sawczak**

**7:30 AM — SUNDAYS: Antony Chirovsky**

**9:00 AM — SUNDAYS: Joseph Levy; Michael Levy;**

**Mark Rad; Andrew Hodowanec**

**11:30 AM — SUNDAYS: Drew Buckholt; Antony Chirovsky**

### **LECTOR ASSIGNMENTS**

***25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: Ephesians 4:1-6***

Saturday, December 3, 2011 – 5:00 PM – Stephanie Vargo

Sunday, December 4, 2011 – 9:00 AM – Joan Hess

Sunday, December 4, 2011 – 11:30 AM – Linda Chomko

***FEAST OF SAINT NICHOLAS: Hebrews 13:17-21***

Monday, December 5, 2011 – 7:00 PM – Lectors needed for the four readings:

Tuesday, December 6, 2011 – 9:30 AM – Cantor and lector needed

***HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION - FEAST OF THE CONCEPTION BY SAINT ANNA,  
WHEN SHE CONCEIVED THE MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD:***

(1) Genesis 20:1-17; (2) Ezekiel 43:27-44:4; (3) Proverbs 9:1-11; (4) Galatians 4:22-31

Thursday, December 8, 2011 – 7:00 PM – Lectors needed for the four readings:

Friday, December 9, 2011 – 9:30 AM – Cantor and lector needed

***SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS:***

***SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FOREFATHERS AND FOREMOTHERS OF CHRIST:***

***also annual "GRANDPARENTS SUNDAY"***

***EPISTLE READING: Colossians 3:4-11***

Saturday, December 10, 2011 – 5:00 PM – Joanne Giancola

Sunday, December 11, 2011 – 9:00 AM – Irene Borodycia

Due to Visitation of St. Nicholas to our parish after this Liturgy there will be only one Divine Liturgy on Sunday, DEC. 11.

***FIRST SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS***

***SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FATHERS AND MOTHERS OF CHRIST***

***EPISTLE READING: Hebrews: chapter 11, verses 9-10, 17-23, 32-40***

Saturday, December 17, 2011 – 5:00 PM – Stephanie Vargo

Sunday, December 18, 2011 – 9:00 AM – Joan Hess

Sunday, December 18, 2011 – 11:30 AM – Linda Chomko

### **DAY OF STRICT FASTING AND PRAYER**

Friday, December 23, 2011 – 7:00 – 8:30 PM – readers are needed to volunteer for the **“Royal Hours-Office of Readings” for Nativity of our Lord**. This most important Liturgy of the Word teaches everyone how to meditate properly on the scriptures implied by the Feast of our Lord’s Nativity (Christmas), namely, *using Septuagint Greek text and numbering for O.T.*: **(1 hour)** Psalms 5, 44 and 45, Micah 5:1-3, and Hebrews 1:1-12 with Matthew 1:18-25; **(3 Hour)** Psalms 66, 86 and 50, Baruch 3:36 – 4:4, and Galatians 3:23-29 with Luke 2:1-20; **(6 Hour)** Psalms 71, 131 and 90, Isaiah 7:10-16, 8: 1-4, and 8:9-10, and Hebrews 1:10-2:3 with Matthew 2:1-12; and **(9 Hour)** Psalms 109, 110 and 85, Isaiah 9:6-7, and Hebrews 2:11-18 with Matthew 2:13-23. Attendance at this Office of Readings does not satisfy the obligation to gather for the Feast of Christmas.

### **FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD (Christmas):**

Saturday, December 24, 2011 - **9:00 PM – The First Divine Liturgy of Christmas will be the Vigil Service** (first part of Vespers of Christmas with Epistle, Gospel & remainder of the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom for Christmas). According to St John Chrysostom, all should come prepared for this service by having read at home and by reflecting upon the scriptures of this day: (1) Genesis 1:1-13; (2) Numbers 24:2-3.5-9.17-18; (3) Micah 4:6-7; 5:2-4[1-3]; (4) Isaiah 11:1-10; (5) Jeremiah (Baruch 3:35-4:4); (6) Daniel 2:31-46.44-45; (7) Isaiah 9:6-7 [5-6]; (8) Isaiah 7:10-16; 8:1-4.9-10; (Prokeimenon verses) Ps 2:7-8; (9) Hebrews 1:1-12 or Galatians 3:15-22; (Alleluia verses) Ps 109 [110]:1.2.3; (1) Luke 2:1-20 or Matthew 13:31-36

Sunday, December 25, 2011 - **9:30 AM – The Second Divine Liturgy of Christmas will be the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great for Christmas**. According to St John Chrysostom, all should come prepared for this service by having read at home and by reflecting upon the scriptures of this day: (Matins) Matthew 1:18-25; (Divine Liturgy) (Prokeimenon verses) Ps 65:2 and 4; (9) Galatians 4:4-7; (Alleluia verses) Ps 18:2 and 3; (1) Matthew 2:1-12.

### **ARCHEPARCHIAL - ARCHDIOCESAN NEWSPAPER:**

Our Philadelphia Archdiocesan newspaper, *The Way*, is available in both languages; Ukrainian and English but is no longer printed and sent out to people’s homes. However, those who wish, may access it at [www.ukrarcheparchy.us](http://www.ukrarcheparchy.us) or you can sign up to receive it in your emails by writing to [theway@ukrarcheparchy.us](mailto:theway@ukrarcheparchy.us)

### **OUR ST JOHN’S PARISH WEB SITE**

To see our parish web site please go to <http://stjohnspittsburgh.com/>

### **ONGOING CHURCH AUXILIARY PROJECTS**

#### **SARRIS “Candy Sales” - ENJOY books - GFS Marketplace**

The Church Auxiliary is once again selling a variety of Sarris chocolate bars (including pretzel, dark chocolate, plain milk chocolate, chocolate with almonds, crispies, peanut butter and caramel) for only \$1.00 each. Normally sales are on Thursdays and Sundays after the Divine Liturgies. If you attend Saturday evening services, please see Margie Klimko or Diane Vargo if you wish to buy some delicious candy at a bargain price. Also we are selling ENJOY books at \$ 27.00 each. Please see Rose Breen or Margie Klimko about the books.

As you purchase food, you can save money and help your church at the same

time. **GFS Marketplace** is a store that offers a variety of food, cleaning products, paper items, etc. at prices comparable to the discount warehouses—except there is no membership fee and our church gets a rebate on the items that you purchase. There are flyers that describe the program. Also on this flyer is an application for a free membership card and a coupon for \$10.00 off a \$50.00 purchase. The closest GFS Marketplace store is on Route 51. There is also one across from Costco's in Robinson and one in Monroeville. You can also sign up at our parish web site at <http://www.stjohnspittsburgh.com/>, under "Updates" where it says "Like to shop?"

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15 to MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2011**  
**CHURCH AUXILIARY: HERE AND THERE**

During St Philip's' Fast our Church Auxiliary usually conducts a collection for the poor and needy. The Church Auxiliary invites you to join us as we share our blessings with others. As we all know life is difficult for many people both here and in Ukraine. In previous years, we collected non-perishable food items for the food bank at St. Paul's Monastery during St. Phillip's Fast. Then, during Lent (Great Fast), we collected for the orphanage in Ukraine. This November, we will be collecting for both here and there---the food bank here in Pittsburgh and for the children there in Ukraine.

There will be containers in church for non-perishable food items for the food bank at St. Paul's Monastery, and envelopes for contributions for the orphans. You can place these envelopes in a special box located in the front of the church.

Whether you give to the food bank or to the orphans or to both, your gifts will be much appreciated. Please bring the non-perishable food items for the food bank to church before December 5, 2011, since they are usually then blessed during the Great Vespers for the Feast of our Holy Father Nicholas. More details to follow as they become available.

**PYROHY MAKING AND SELLING AT OUR OWN ST. JOHN'S PARISH**

We thank all of our wonderful and hard-working volunteers this week. We need extra help, so if you find that you have time on your hands, please come and volunteer your time. **You can place your orders on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, when food preparations occur. This week's gross total was: \$2,590.00.**

**APARTMENTS FOR SENIORS:**

Sheptytsky Arms and St. George Close have apartments available for seniors who can live independently. If anyone is interested, please call Char Rumsky at 412-766-8802 or Sr. Olga Marie at 412-766-6354.

**ALL TUESDAYS until further notice**  
**Ukrainian Cultural Trust Choir Practices**

The Ukrainian Cultural Trust Choir of Western Pennsylvania will begin practicing for its upcoming two Christmas concerts. Practices are held each Tuesday evening from 7 to 9 PM at Sts. Peter and Paul Church hall on Mansfield Boulevard in Carnegie. Our first practice was held on Tuesday, October 25th. We will be practicing Ukrainian Christmas carols (kolyadi and shchredrivki), sung in traditional Ukrainian and Church Slavonic. For those who do not read Ukrainian, all music is also printed in English-lettered phonetics. Not only will your voice help to keep our Ukrainian traditions alive, but you will have a great time interacting with our friendly group. UCTC is ecumenical, welcoming all Christians to our choir, directed by Mrs. Dorothy Waslo. For more

information contact Dorothy at 412-487-0208.

**TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS at 7:00 PM - NEOCATECHUMENATE GROUP  
AT OUR LADY OF VICTORY MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Would you like to: KNOW THE MEANING OF YOUR LIFE ? TO UNDERSTAND YOUR SUFFERINGS ? TO LEAD YOUR CHILDREN AND YOUR GRANDCHILDREN BACK TO THE CHURCH ? TO BE TRULY HAPPY? Jesus Christ is the answer! Come and listen! To a Catechesis designed for Adults and Youth (**13 and older**) and approved officially by His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI and the various leaders of our worldwide Eastern Catholic Churches. 1000 Lindsay Road, Carnegie, PA., 15106, (412) 278-0841.

**MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2012: LIGHT OF LIFE RESCUE MISSION**

Fr. Sub-Deacon Myron Spak, a member of Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic parish in Carnegie and a Deacon candidate for our St Josaphat Eparchy has informed us that he belongs to a group called "Men Following Jesus Christ". They have been asked once again to serve dinners at the Light of Life Rescue Mission. Their new Volunteer Coordinator Doug Smith has asked for help on these dates: Monday - January 9, 2012; Monday - March 14, 2012; Monday - May 14, 2012; Monday - July 9, 2012; Monday - September 10, 2012; Monday - November 12, 2012. Can any men of our parish get together enough support to help them to serve dinners on these dates? They need at least seven volunteers to serve dinners (to work approximately from 4:45 p.m. through 6:15 p.m.). One shift serves between 100 and 150 meals to the homeless, and those in need in the North Side area, every day. For those from the group called "Men Following Jesus Christ" that volunteered in the past for this service project, all found this to be a very rewarding experience. The Light of Life Rescue Mission saves lives, and we should all take pride in the service provided by them. Thanks for your help in supporting this ministry, especially with your prayers! For further info please contact Myron Spak at Mobile: 412-303-9086 or Email: [mjspak@verizon.net](mailto:mjspak@verizon.net)

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2011  
for EPARCHY OF ST. JOSAPHAT'S YOUNG ADULT RETREAT  
OCCURRING ON DECEMBER 29-30**

Join us for a wonderful winter gathering! Enjoy fun, food, faith, fellowship, and a warm fire as we celebrate the Christmas season together with games, music, and much more! This retreat has been especially created for the young adults of our Eparchy, ages 19 – 35, and will be held at the Woodlands, a beautiful 32-acre facility in Wexford, PA and minutes from the PA turnpike! <http://www.woodlandsfoundation.org/> In addition to Holy Services in a beautiful indoor worship site with a fire place, we will have time to relax in the state-of-the-art heated indoor pool, play in the indoor gym and fitness center, and enjoy the outdoor archery range! Register now for this exciting event! Registration deadline is Friday, December 9. Call or email Lisa Hladio for a registration form or additional information: **724-934-1026** [lmhladio@zbzoom.net](mailto:lmhladio@zbzoom.net)

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2011: ATTENTION: PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS  
AUNTS AND UNCLES, BROTHERS AND SISTERS, ETC.**

Inspired by the spiritual biography of Saint Nonna in the August 5, 2007 church bulletin, a number of men and women have created a special prayer group for satisfying the need to intercede in prayer for the welfare of our children and grandchildren.

Whenever he can, Father Ivan facilitates this prayer gathering for us. Currently we use the Akathist Hymn to the Mother of God in her miraculous icon, known as Vospi-tanie – Воспитание – Vikokhuvatel'ka Deetey – Викохувателька Дітей – Nurturer of Children (venerated on March 5) and then add spontaneous prayers, if necessary. If you are interested, then please call Irene Borodycia at 412-881-4635. **For the time being, it has been decided that we will meet IN THE CHAPEL on first Saturday of each month, at 10:00 am, except for December when it will be second Saturday.**

### **SATURDAY and SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10-11, 2011**

Because of the Feast of the HOLY GRANDPARENTS (FOREBEARS) of OUR LORD LORD, **we will be blessing the grandparents of our parish at the Divine Liturgies during this weekend.** Grandchildren are asked to send out invitations to their grandparents to attend the Divine Liturgy with them; or, if they live far away, to send them a prayer card in celebration of this occasion.

### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2011: YOUTH GROUP** **HOLY TRINITY UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

The parish youth group is open to all “teenagers”—generally 7<sup>th</sup> grade through college—and is a function of Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church in Carnegie. This group typically meets in the church hall from **5:00pm to 6:30pm** on the third Sunday evening of the month, unless otherwise noted. The youth group is an active group and has a schedule of events planned for the fall 2011. The parish youth group is a safe and holy environment for teenagers and young adults, and provides a forum for young people to discuss issues relevant to their lives (sports, dating, school, family, money, etc.) in the light of our faith as Ukrainian Catholics. **December 18, 5:00 pm:** Topic: “Being Forgiven”: What is the priest’s role when we ask for God’s forgiveness? How does God show that He has forgiven us? What is “forgiveness”? Why do we ask God for it?

### **THE SUMMARY OF SUNDAY COLLECTIONS** **NOVEMBER 26 & 27, 2011**

NON-ENVELOPE WEEKLY SUNDAY OFFERINGS	33.00
ENVELOPE WEEKLY SUNDAY OFFERINGS	860.00
MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP DUES (2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday)	45.00
MONTHLY FUND FOR REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE (1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday)	20.00
MONTHLY UTILITIES & INSURANCE (3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday)	25.00
MONTHLY DIOCESAN COLLECTION (4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday)	357.00
WEEKLY CANDLES	46.00
11/21/2011 – ENTRANCE INTO TEMPLE OF THE THEOTOKOS	34.00
11/24/2011 – THANKSGIVING	129.00
11/30/2011 – ANDREW’S PENCE	104.00
MEMORIAL FUND	10.00
MEMORIAL CANDLES	20.00
BOOK FUND	20.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,703.00</b>

# INVITATION



*We invite all grand-  
parents, parents and  
children to participate  
in the one bi-lingual  
Divine Liturgy  
to be celebrated at  
9:00 am  
on Sunday, Decem-  
ber 11, AD 2011.*

*Afterwards, refreshments  
will be served,  
activities are planned  
and St. Nicholas will be there,  
also.*

*Please register your child by calling  
Irene Borodycia at  
(412) 881-4635, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!*

## **MEMORIAL FLOWERS**

If you wish to provide flowers in memory of a loved one, at any time of the year, in thanksgiving for blessings, or to celebrate an occasion, please call Margie Klimko: 412-431-0430.

**No donations this week**

## **MEMORIAL CANDLES**

If you would like to sponsor a candle in front of the copy of the miraculous Pochayiv Mother of God Icon or in front of the Icon of the Cross of Our Lord, or four lamps at the iconostas icons, or seven lamps in the seven-branched candlestick at our Altar (Holy Table), for whatever intention you desire, at \$5.00 per week, please write to or call the parish office at: 412-431-2531.

**Prayers of Good Health for Paul Czuczman on his birthday, December 8<sup>th</sup>:  
\$20.00 – Czuczman Family**

**ROOF & POINTING REPAIR FUND**

Parishioners are advised that holes and leaks in the roof of our church and other buildings are repaired periodically, as needed. There is a possibility for us to get a grant for money to repair not just the roof but also other areas of our church structures. **Anyone interested in assuming responsibility for filling out the forms and helping our parish to get these funds, should contact Fr. Ivan, ASAP.**

**No donations this week**

**MEMORIAL FUND**

All donations collected in this fund will be used to purchase new Liturgical items, including any new vestments or repairs to liturgical items. In the meantime, as we use what we have for the greater glory of God, please remember that we still paying off certain items from the last few years. Your generosity, as always, will be greatly appreciated.

**In Memory of Mykola Hodowanec, Timothy & Shirley Kaiser:**

**\$10.00 – Anna Hodowanec**

**SEMINARIAN EDUCATION FUND**

**No donations this week**

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST  
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

***The next four pages are a "work-in-progress".  
Please bring any errors or suggestions to the  
attention of the church office. Thank you.***

**PASTORAL STAFF**

Fr. John (Ivan) Chirovsky, Pastor, office: (412) 431-2531

Fr. Yaroslav Koval,

Priest-in-Residence/Sick & Shut-Ins, cell: (412) 770-4915

Fr. Deacon Alexander Wroblicky, Krilos, cell: (412) 527-8456

*In alphabetical order:*

Irene Borodycia, Director of Religious Education, Pyrohy  
Ministry, and Intercessory Prayer Group Ministry,

John Chomko, Faith Outreach Ministry

Sr. Olga Faryna, Sick and Shut-Ins

Margie Klimko, Beauty of the House of the Lord and Church  
Auxiliary

Parish Office, (412) 431-2531

Diane Vargo, Youth Ministry

Michael Vargo, Church Sign Ministry

Steve Zinski, Cantor and Director of Church Choir

The *direct* supervision of the Altar Servers (i.e. Brotherhood  
of the Entrance of the Mother of God) and Lectors'  
Ministry is currently defaulting to Fr. Pastor, but there is  
no reason why someone could not contact Fr. Ivan  
about becoming more involved in these ministries.

**PASTOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Fr. John (Ivan) Chirovsky, Pastor,

Fr. Yaroslav Koval

Fr. Deacon Alexander Wroblicky

*By appointment:*

Irene Borodycia (DRE)

Michael Haritan

*We used to have two other members, but they passed  
away since then.*

*By special invitation:*

Margie Klimko

In our St Josaphat Eparchy, the whole Body of  
Christ is to act in mutual communion in the furthering of  
the saving work of the Church. The mission of the Church  
is the responsibility of both Fr. Pastor and of the lay people,  
who work together. This makes obvious sense because  
although the Pastor is responsible before Church and civil  
authorities for overseeing all aspects of parish life, there is  
no way that he can complete all of the tasks personally.  
Thus, His Beatitude Patriarch Lubomyr (Cardinal Husar) has  
often stated: *"The first task of the Church is to evangelize,  
to share the Good News. We must consider how to do this  
best, how to prepare for it, how this should be understood.  
In fact, by the power of baptism we are all called to evan-  
gelization."*

The Pastor's Advisory Council (henceforth PAC) of  
each parish is concerned with the spiritual, pastoral, educa-  
tional, financial and social needs of the parish. Depending  
on the size or needs of the parish, the lay membership of  
the PAC should be selected by the Pastor with an eye to-  
wards a balanced representation of the parish. So, there  
can be no less than three and nor more than nine lay mem-  
bers. Their selection by the pastor should ideally be repre-  
sentative of both genders, the various ministries of the par-  
ish, and the following age groups – 18-35, 36-55, and 55+.  
The *ex-officio* members of the PAC are the pastor/ admin-  
istrator, the parochial vicar(s), the pastoral associate(s), and  
the deacon(s), as well as the director of religious education

Although it is inaccurate to say that "all heads of lay  
organizations are *automatically* members of the PAC", this  
does not mean that Fr. Ivan is not allowed to choose them,  
to ask for their advice, or that he cannot invite such persons  
to attend a PAC meeting, or that they, in turn, cannot agree  
to be nominated by Fr. Ivan *to become official PAC mem-  
bers at a future date.* Father Ivan is currently spiritually  
discerning about the names that were suggested to him by

Fr. John Ropke (before he passed away in June of 2009)  
and by our parishioners in June of 2010. Soon all will be  
ready, and then the Lay Members of the PAC will be nomi-  
nated by Fr. Ivan in a letter to His Grace Bishop John (Bu-  
ra), who may then write a confirmation-appointment letter,  
if he so wishes. When it is received by Fr. Ivan, it will be  
published in the church bulletin. The Pastor sets the agen-  
da and members may propose items for the next meeting.  
This must be done prior to any meeting and be approved  
by the Pastor. The decisions of the PAC are advisory only.  
They are not binding on the Pastor, or on the Parish.

**WHOM CAN THE PASTOR NOMINATE TO THE PAC?**

Obviously, the people he chooses need to be Catholics in  
good standing who model their lives on the moral principles  
of the Church, frequent the Holy Mysteries, cause no scan-  
dal and are not hostile to the Church, or to her authorities.  
The Pastor is to determine that those people whom he  
appoints to the PAC are ALSO: (a) regular communicants  
who attend the Divine Services; (b) active parishioners  
involved in the life of the community, caring for the physical  
and spiritual needs; (c) parishioners eager to support and  
promote the parish's spiritual, educational, charitable,  
financial and social life by their direct involvement; and (d)  
people who are respected by the parish community. In our  
St Josaphat Eparchy, those who agree to serve on the PAC  
must be free to commit for a minimum of three years of  
service. The Recording Secretary of the PAC is appointed  
by the Pastor from among the PAC members, or he may let  
the PAC elect this person from among themselves.

**PARISH FINANCIAL BOARD:** meets once every six  
weeks to review our financial status and report its findings  
back to the PAC. Its current members are Fr. John Chi-  
rovsky, Fr. Yaroslav Koval, Fr. Deacon Alexander Wroblicky  
and James C Kaiser, Consultant. We appreciate their hard  
volunteer work for the good of the parish.

**FINANCIAL RECORDKEEPING:** Ann Korenoski & Rose  
Breen help Cathy Sawchak with the recordkeeping. We  
appreciate their hard volunteer work for the good of our parish.

**WEB-SITE:** [www.stjohnspittsburgh.com](http://www.stjohnspittsburgh.com)

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:** [stjohnucc@comcast.net](mailto:stjohnucc@comcast.net)

**PARISH TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Church Office	412-431-2531
Press NINE, to leave a message for the office	
Press ONE, in an emergency requiring a priest, if you have a rotary phone, stay on the line	
Church Office Fax (call ahead)	412-431-2531
Lower Hall & <b>PYROHI SALES</b>	412-481-5022
Diocesan Pastoral Ministry Office	412-481-9778

**DIVINE LITURGIES (MASS SCHEDULE) (each  
week's bulletin will post any changes to the sche-  
dule given below):**

**Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays** at 9:00 AM

**Saturdays** (*Anticipated, English, recited*): 5:00 PM

**Sundays: as follows:**

**REGULAR SUNDAYS in 2011:**

7:45 am – Matins in English, plainchant

9:00 am – Old Church Slavonic and Ukrainian Divine Liturgy  
sung by choir; homilies mostly in Ukrainian, but sometimes  
in English, or in both languages.

10:00 to 11:30 am – E.C.F. classes

(September 18, 2011 thru May, 2012)

11:30 am – English plainchant Div. Lit. with English homily

***Every year the new church calendar year begins on September 1 and ends on August 31.***

**THE MAJOR FEAST DAYS ARE:**

- **THE FEAST ABOVE ALL FEASTS**  
**Pascha (Passover) of our Lord:**  
3:00 pm to 5:30 pm on April 7, 2012, or  
8:00 am to 11:15 am on April 8, 2012  
**No 11:30 am Div. Lit. on April 15, 2012**  
Easter Breakfast: 12:00 NOON on April 15, 2012

**THE TWELVE MAJOR FEAST DAYS ARE:**

- (1) Nativity of the Mother of God:  
5:00 pm on September 7, 2012, or  
9:30 am on September 8, 2012
- (2) Exaltation of the Holy Cross of our Lord:  
*Veneration of Cross*  
5:00 pm on September 13, 2012, or  
9:30 am on September 14, 2012
- (3) Entrance of the Mother of God  
*Commissioning of New Altar Servers*  
5:00 pm on November 20, 2011, or  
9:30 am on November 21, 2011
- **(4) Nativity of our Lord:**  
9:00 pm on December 24, 2011, or  
9:30 am on December 25, 2011
- **(5) Theophany of the Trinity**  
**at the Baptism of our Lord:**  
*Blessing of Water*  
7:00 pm on January 5, 2012, or  
9:30 am on January 6, 2012
- (6) Encounter of our Lord:  
*Blessing of Candles*  
5:00 pm on February 1, 2012, or  
9:30 am on February 2, 2012
- **(7) Annunciation to the Mother of God:**  
5:00 pm on March 24, 2012, or  
9:00 am on March 25, 2012, or  
11:30 am on March 25, 2012
- (8) Entrance of our Lord:  
*Blessing of Pussy Willows and Palms*  
5:00 pm on March 31, 2012, or  
9:00 am on April 1, 2012, or  
11:30 am on April 1, 2012
- **(9) Ascension Thursday:**  
7:00 pm on May 16, 2012, or  
9:30 am on May 17, 2012
- **(10) Pentecost Sunday:**  
5:00 pm on May 26, 2012, or  
9:00 am on May 27, 2012,  
**No 11:30 am on Pentecost Sunday**
- (11) Transfiguration of our Lord  
*Blessing of First Fruits:*  
5:00 pm on August 5, 2012, or  
9:30 am on August 6, 2012
- **(12) Dormition of the Mother of God:**  
*Blessing of Plants (Flowers and Herbs)*  
5:00 pm on August 14, 2012, or  
9:30 am on August 15, 2012

**HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION:**

**Sunday of Pascha (Easter),**

**Every single Sunday** (which is a "little Pascha"),  
**# 4, 5, 7, 9, 10 and 12**, as above, and

**Sts. Peter and Paul, which is at:**

7:00 pm on June 28, 2012, or  
9:30 am on June 29, 2012

**OUR CHAPEL** with its entrance off of East Carson Street - across from our parking lot - is dedicated to the Mother of God in the Feast of her Protection, which is celebrated every year on October 1.

**OUR PARISH PATRONAL FEAST DAY IS:**

- **Nativity of St. John the Baptizer:**  
Great Vespers w Div Lit: 5:00 pm on June 23, 2012  
Divine Liturgy: 9:00 am on June 24, 2012
- **No 11:30 am on this Sunday**
- Annual Patronal Social Event: Noon, June 24, 2012

**LITURGIES DURING the GREAT FAST**  
**also known as the 40 days' Lent:**

**CHEESEFARE SUNDAY:** See "Community Sunday" above, and Luncheon at 12:00 NOON; Vespers at 1:30 pm – Byzantines give forgiveness as a way of beginning the Great Lent. The Latins begin 2.5 days later and give ashes.

**CONFESSIONS DURING LENT:** please call one of the priests at any time to make an appointment.

**All SOULS DAYS in 2012 (this may yet be changed):**

**PARASTAS LITURGY:** 10:00 AM on February 11, March 3, March 10, and March 17. May 25/26: TBA.

His Grace Bishop John (Bura), if he so wishes, may release a priest from the following duty, but only due to hardship. So, normally **THE PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY** may be celebrated on any weekday of Lent, but it **MUST BE CELEBRATED on: the First Monday evening of the Great Fast, and on every Wednesday and Friday of Lent. For the sake of young families and children, so that we can gather right from work, the consensus is that this year we try serving the Presanctified at 6:30 pm, and put out a fruit basket as people leave the church/chapel to go home circa 7:30-8:00 pm.**

Latin-Roman Rite services, like Stations of the Cross, have no public and communal place in our Byzantine churches' theological, liturgical spiritual and canonical tradition. One may pray using this personally on one's own.

If it cannot be arranged that a cantor or choir director leads the singing, the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts may be offered in simple *recto tono* chant.

The revised Old Church Slavonic editions of the liturgical books (published in Rome) are to be used or translations approved by the Synod of Bishops. Any other service, such as a Funeral Parastas or Funeral Liturgy, that would make the Presanctified Liturgy impossible to schedule and serve at its proper place and time, is strictly forbidden.

The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, being a joyful celebration of the Resurrection, is not to be celebrated on the weekdays of the Great Fast, since it is theologically and thematically **opposed** to the preparatory period of penitential prayer and almsgiving, fasting and repentance, which has assumed a preeminent position in the 40 day Great Fast period of the Constantinopolitan tradition. This obligation binds all of the priests of any given parish **in solidum**.

The only exception to this rule occurs when the *Typikon-Ordo-Ustav* gives directions for adding St. John Chrysostom's Divine Liturgy to the Lenten Vespers, as a way of breaking in the evening that weekday's lenten fasting by "celebrating" for a few hours in a joyful resurrectional fashion the importance of a feast worthy of such paschal joy, for example: February 24, March 9, or March 25.

Between February 20, 2012 and March 31, 2012, the SATURDAY AND SUNDAY DIVINE LITURGIES will be "lenten", as far as fasting and abstinence are concerned, but they are "non-lenten", as far as the joyful celebration of the Lord's Resurrection (i.e. consecration of holy gifts) is concerned. This is why, ideally, Bright (not dark) Vestments are to be worn on these Saturdays and Sundays.

**HOLY & GREAT WEEK (April 2-6, 2012)** is not part of the Great Fast (Lent); for, it is a separate liturgical season of increased vigilance, with the Presanctified Liturgy being served on the first three days and Anointing of the Sick also available to everyone on Holy & Great Wednesday.

### **HOLY MYSTERY OF CONFESSION**

Saturdays: 4:00 PM and by request

Lenten Weekdays: before or after the services

### **HOLY MYSTERY OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

If requested, it can occur on a Saturday after the 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy, or at another time, agreed upon between the recipient and the priest. In cases of emergency, it may be administered by the priest wherever the recipient is: at home, at a hospital, at a nursing home, etc.

### **MINISTRIES:**

If you feel called to a ministry or think you have a particular talent that you would like to develop, then don't be shy but please do contact Father Pastor, who has the duty not only to oversee these ministries, but also to help you to discern and develop them. Our parish already has various functioning ministries, but we are open as new ones get called into being by the Holy Spirit. What follows is a list (not in any specific order):

### **GENERATIONS OF FAITH MINISTRY**

Generations of Faith for Byzantine Churches is an intergenerational catechetical process for the whole parish, regardless of the membership, based on the Eastern Christian liturgical year, scripture, patristics and the Divine Office. G.O.F. is a new approach to life-long faith formation that prepares all ages in the same session to participate actively in the events and life of the Byzantine Ukrainian Catholic Church. It is designated to nurture the Christian identity of all parishioners for a lifetime; re-engage all generations to participate in church life, especially Sunday Liturgy; equip and support families and adults especially parents, to create a pattern of family faith sharing and a Christian way of life; involve all the generations in learning together; and to transform the parish community into a community of lifelong learners. On November 11, 2010, His Grace Bishop John (Bura) mandated that all parishes of our eparchy should do everything possible to implement GOF as a way of revitalizing our parishes to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Currently, the G.O.F. is handled by:

Fr. Ivan Chirovsky, Fr. Yaroslav Koval, Fr. Deacon Alexander Wroblicky, Irene Borodycia (DRE), Presbytera Mariyka Chirovsky, Margie Klimko, Diane Vargo and volunteers who work the kitchen and set-up and clean-up, for which we are very grateful.

### **MINISTRY TO SICK AND SHUT-INS**

If you wish to receive Holy Communion on a regular basis, but can no longer come to church, please call Sr. Olga Faryna, OSBM at (724) 266-5578; as of September 9, 2012, Sr. Barbara will be helping Sr. Olga; If you wish to

have your confession heard or to receive Anointing of the Sick, please tell Sr. Olga to call one of the priests, or notify Fr. John (Ivan) Chirovsky directly at (412) 431-2531, or Fr. Yaroslav Koval, directly at (412) 770-4915.

### **PYROHY MINISTRY**

To some it may seem strange to call this a ministry, but if one looks closely enough it truly is a very important one. Not only do the ladies and gentlemen of all age groups form a social network of support for one another, but they also fulfill an important task of sustaining a steady source of income so that our parish may be equipped to fulfill its task of evangelization.

### **SPIR. DIR. OF CHURCH STUDY GROUP**

#### **& JESUS FILES:**

Fr. John (Ivan) Chirovsky

#### **CANTOR/CHOIR DIRECTOR**

Stephen H. Zinski

and all of the church choir. Though not all members of the church choir are also members of our parish, they are nevertheless dedicated volunteers. The choir is always interested in acquiring new members. If you like to sing in this fashion, please see Steve Zinski.

**KLIROS MINISTRY:** This ministry was started as a result of our Eparchial Cantor's Workshop led by Joseph Roll and after the 11:30 am Divine Liturgy came into existence, in October of 2010. The name derives from the Greek word for "lot", since originally those who read (chanted) and sang did not volunteer but were chosen by lot because the church needed them to learn and was calling them to receive this training for the good of the entire parish. Currently, **Fr. Deacon Alexander Wroblicky is responsible for training and leading in this ministry.** When we have reached a sufficient number of lay people to lead two Kliroi, then Fr. Deacon will return to serving at the Holy Table. Also, Ukrainians sometimes say "Krilos", but it is the same ministry.

**BEAUTY OF THE HOUSE OF OUR LORD** Margie Klimko keeps our temple decorated, with the help of dedicated volunteers, all of this within the boundaries permitted by church law. If a love of art and beauty is your niche for glorifying God, please ask Margie if she can use your help.

**CHURCH AUXILIARY** The Church Auxiliary of our parish functions in ways resembling a Lay Organization in any other parish, thus Fr. Pastor allows it to choose its own officers, but its activities and expenditures still require the pastor's knowledge and consent. Currently Margie Klimko is the head of the Church Auxiliary.

### **YOUTH MINISTRY**

Diane Vargo, Stephanie Vargo

### **EASTERN CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

**(2008/9-2010/11),**

**Sundays – 9:30 am to 10:45 am**

Irene Borodycia (DRE)

Presbytera Mariyka Chirovsky

### **St Nonna's INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP MINISTRY**

Currently our group's patrons are the Mother of God and the mother of St Gregory the Theologian - St. Nonna (August 5, 374). The group meets once a month on the first Saturday at 10:00 am in the chapel. Although not limited to this, its major activity is to intercede for the children and grandchildren of our parish. See Irene Borodycia for more details.

**LECTOR MINISTRY**

Irene Borodycia	Linda Chomko
Joanne Giancola	Joan Hess
Stephanie Vargo	

Fr. Ivan would love to hear from you, if you think you would be able to share this ministry with others on a rotating basis. We are always in need of more lectors. Our parish is currently in need of someone from the young adults who would be willing to learn how to read the Epistle in Ukrainian at the 9:00 am Divine Liturgy.

**SIGN MINISTRY**

???

**WEB-SITE MINISTRY**

Bob Gardner

Although we must pay for posting a web site, Bob, a member of the Byzantine Catholic Church, has graciously donated all of his time and energy to creating this for us. He maintains it for us cost-free, as a donation to our parish.

**FAITH OUTREACH MINISTRY**

John Chomko

**BAPTISM PREPARATION MINISTRY** - Holy Mysteries (Sacraments) of Initiation are normally administered on the Sunday nearest to the 40th day after the birth of the child. Please notify the parish rectory **as soon as you are aware that you are expecting a child.** Sister Ann Laszok, OSBM, from the Diocesan Pastoral Ministry Office will conduct special baptismal preparation sessions. **These two sessions are for all expectant parents, the God-parents and Grand-parents.** Parents must be registered and active members of the parish. The two sessions will **help you prepare FOR BIRTH and baptism** of your child. It is normal that a saint's name be chosen for the child. **ELIGIBILITY FOR GODPARENT** - One sponsor must be a practicing Catholic, attend Liturgy regularly, receive the Sacraments & fulfill all obligations and financial support to their parish, attested to by their pastor.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION MINISTRY** - Arrangements for the Holy Mystery of Crowning are to be made at least 9 to 6 months in advance of the date of marriage by contacting the parish rectory. Restating the obvious, clearly and loudly: under normal conditions, future Couples are expected to be active members of our parish for at least one year before the date of the marriage *because the responsibility for marriage preparation takes place at the parish level.* It is also required that you attend the **PRE-CANA PROGRAM** offered by the Office of Religious Education (ORE) for the Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh which contributes towards the usual preparations that occur on the parish level. For the past ten years, the ORE has helped hundreds of couples prepare for the Mystery of Marriage by sponsoring lessons that address topics pertinent to their future *Catholic Christian* marital lifestyle. The location for the Pre-Cana Program is the Byzantine Catholic Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, 210 Greentree Road, Munhall, PA 15120. To print a Pre-Cana Program Registration Form, Please go to web site at: **http://www.archeparchy.org**. You may also call the Office of Religious Education at 412-322-8773 for more information. Topics covered are: Eastern Spirituality & Traditions, Marriage Roles Today, Natural Family Planning, Worship in the Byzantine Church, Finances and the Theology of Crowning, Communication,

etc. They average 10-15 couples and there is usually a different speaker for each topic. Registration for both lessons \$125.00 paid by the couple. Our Parish is billed another \$125.00 afterwards. Marriages at St John's Parish will be celebrated only after all the normal spiritual requirements have been met to the Church's satisfaction. So, do not order church halls or send out your invitations until you are absolutely sure that you took care of the spiritual preparations!!! In fact, if the couple continues to choose to ignore them after being warned about this, then Father Pastor reserves the right to cancel the service, even as late as 24 hours before the wedding. In the meantime to visit the web-based resource offered by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) to help enrich your marriage, please go to: **http://www.foryourmarriage.org/**

**CREMATION** - Burial is the preferred and traditional Christian funeral practice. Although highly discouraged, cremation is permitted for economic reasons, esp. if it is NOT done for anti-Christian reasons. The cremation should occur after the funeral services are held in Church, since the presence of ashes in church is strongly discouraged. The ashes are to be buried, by the pastor, or a delegated priest or deacon, performing the usual rite of interment.

**Vol. 57, No. 49**

**4 DECEMBER, 2011 AD**



**PARISH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER  
SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST  
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
*Byzantine Rite*



**109 S. 7<sup>th</sup> STREET,  
PITTSBURGH, PA. 15203-1028  
412-431-2531**

**"Catholic" comes from the Greek, meaning:  
"according-to-the-whole" or "universal"**

**"Rite" or "Ritual Church" means "One of the twenty-one Eastern Catholic Sister Churches, who are simultaneously in Communion with the Church & Pope in Rome, while living their own distinctly non-Roman (non-Latin), and yet equally Apostolic Tradition (Theological, Spiritual, Liturgical & Canonical Heritage)."**