

PARISH BULLETIN - January 23, 2022

31st Sunday after PENTECOST

31-ша Неділя після Зіслання Святого Духа

Welcome! Bienvenue! Вітаємо! Welcome to St. George's Church!

Our mission is to know, love and serve our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ.

Here at St. George's Church, the center of our life is the Sunday and daily Divine Liturgy.

It is here where we come to know Christ in each other, in the Sacred Scriptures and through participation in the Holy Sacraments.

A life of Christian Catholic stewardship includes a strong commitment toward the sacramental life through prayer, Liturgy and active ministry.

We are called to become the image and likeness of Christ God in all we say and do.

Website: <http://www.stgeorgessarnia.ca>

Email: pastor@stgeorgessarnia.ca

Pastor: [Fr. Bohdan Winnicki](#)

Office: [519-542-9903](tel:519-542-9903)

Pastoral Emergency: [416-419-1097](tel:416-419-1097)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS / ПРОСИМ О МОЛИТВУ ЗА ЗДОРОВ'Я

... all our parishioners who are in the hospitals, care homes, shut-ins and those who are not able to join us actively due to health reasons.

Anyone wishing to have a home visit from Father Bohdan or know of a parishioner who would like to have a visit please contact the parish office to book a time.

Please CALL - especially in this time of the Pandemic. *Visiting, praying for and reaching out to the sick and lonely is one of the works of mercy taught by Christ.*

Please Remember to Support Your Parish.

If your preference is to use a debit or credit card, please find the [DONATE Link](#) on our website main page.

May Our Lord reward you a hundredfold for your generosity.

Дякуємо за вашу щедрість!

LAST WEEK COLLECTION:

Sunday envelops collection - \$800.00

General collection - \$30.25

Special donation to the church - \$160.00

Chornobyl / Poor - \$265.00

Initial Offering - \$10.00

Because some people may be sick, have a compromised immune system, or feel uncomfortable returning to church, the dispensation of the obligation for Sunday Divine Liturgy (Mass) remains in effect until further notice.

Divine Liturgies this week:

DATE:	TIME OF SERVICE:	INTENTION:	OFFERED BY:
Saturday, January 22 nd	5:00 PM	<i>(This Divine Liturgy will be recorded and posted on Parish Website)</i> For the Intensions of Tracy Burns & Family	Janet Smith
Sunday January 23 rd	8:30 AM	For the intensions of Maria Vander Vloet	Frank and Carrie Vander Vloet
Sunday, January 23 rd	10:30 AM	Health & God's Blessings for Mathieu Beauchamp	Marc Beauchamp
Thursday, January 27 th	9:00 AM	For the intensions of Brian Crowe	Brian Crowe

LITURGY INTENTIONS

You can request Father Bohdan to celebrate Liturgies for your intentions. Please contact the parish office: 519-542-9903 to book a Liturgy. The suggested stipend for a Divine Liturgy is \$20.00

Please note that as of Friday July 16th our church is opened to celebrate Divine Liturgies with 30 % capacity or 65 people inside the church.

You do not have to pre-register for Sunday or any other services.

You must wear a mask in church.

For those unable to attend - Divine Liturgy (Mass) will be recorded on Saturday, and you'll have access to it on our Parish website.

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR:

Your family; your fellow parishioners; especially the shut-in or those in the hospital; those seeking God's answer to their prayers or those rejoicing with God's answer; those celebrating a birthday or anniversary; those called to their eternal reward and for the family they leave behind; as well as any other need.



Your 2022 Church Envelops are ready for pick up.
If you don't see a set with your name on them, please contact the parish office.

A SPECIAL REQUEST:

At the conclusion of each Divine Liturgy please close all Liturgy books and/or hymn books/brochures and return them to their proper place. Let us all do our part to be true stewards of our St. George's Church by helping to keep the Church pews clean and neat. Thank you very much for your understanding and cooperation.



With the events taking place in Ukraine,

We offer the following petitions in today's Divine Liturgy to our brothers and sisters:

O good and loving Master, look down with compassion, heal, comfort and protect Your servants who are wounded and suffering in Ukraine, and receive the souls of all those who have lost their lives from the violence, let us pray to the Lord. We also pray that the Holy Spirit may open the hearts and minds of all in Ukraine to wisdom, grace and prayer so that sincere dialogue may lead to peace and reconciliation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy (3 times)

A Prayer for Peace in Ukraine

Heavenly Father, Your Son taught us
*"Blessed are the Peacemakers for
they shall be called Children of God."*

At this hour, we fervently pray that
Your Holy Spirit may inspire men and
women in Ukraine to become Peacemakers.

May they seek reconciliation and dialogue
and end the violent confrontation and killing.

May they restore tranquility to their nation
and restore human rights, democratic principles
and religious liberty to their troubled land.

God, our Father, we beseech you to comfort
the suffering, heal the wounded and accept the
souls of the departed into Your Heavenly Kingdom.

And may the Most Holy Mother of God, extend her
Blessed Mantle of Protection over Ukraine.

And may each of us always live our lives
as instruments of Your Peace.

Amen.

METROPOLITAN LAWRENCE HUCULAK, OSBM
Will be Celebrating his birthday on January 25, 2022





PRAY FOR PEACE

We have recently seen on the news how Russia has deployed troops along their border with Ukraine. Russia has shown its aggression towards Ukraine in the past with the annexation of Crimea and parts of Eastern Ukraine. Western leaders are trying to get Russia to deescalate a potential threat to peace for Europe and the world. The Synod of Bishops of Ukraine (in their Kyivan-Halych Synodal gathering in the region of Briukhovychi) have asked that the following petitions be added to the Divine Liturgy. Please consider offering up one of these prayers for peace in your private daily prayers too.

We also pray that the Lord God would send His Holy Spirit upon the whole Ukrainian nation and grant them the grace of perseverance in faith, hope and love amidst the present arduous trials; and grant peace and deliverance from all enemies that they would be able to give glory to our good and merciful God in truth and justice, Lord hear us and have mercy.

We also pray for God's care over all soldiers that perform their duty in defending their country - that the Lord God would bolster their courage and bravery and protect them from all visible and invisible enemies, Lord hear us and have mercy.

We also pray for those that have suffered as a result of combat: for the wounded, the refugees, those that have lost loved ones, homes and property, for all those that live in the conflict areas - that the Lord would protect and heal them and preserve them from all evil and grant them His grace - Lord, kindly hear us and have mercy.

The End of the Christmas Season

The Christmas cycle of feast days concludes with the The Feast of the Encounter - February 2nd is the Feast when we remember the prophet Simeon and the prophetess Anna meeting the 40-day old Jesus in the Temple in Jerusalem. Jesus was brought to the Temple by Joseph and Mary.

Ask the Pastor...

QUESTION: *What is the significance of receiving a blessing of a priest or a bishop? And when should you get such a blessing?*

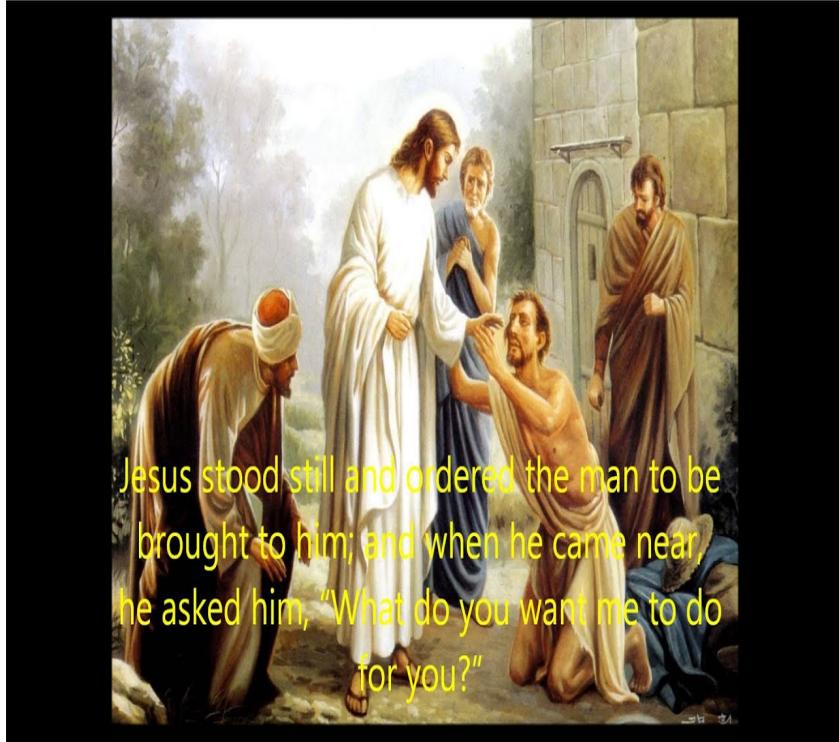
ANSWER: In Holy Scripture, we find stories of blessings given to the entire people of God by the High Priest and blessings given to individuals by Prophets and by parents. So we see that there are two types of blessings -- sacramental or liturgical and personal. We must remember that the liturgical and personal blessings are not the blessings by human beings, but are the blessings of the Lord. In our Church today, we see the same sorts of blessings as can be found in Scripture. Blessings are commonly sought at the beginning of any arduous task, going to war, having surgery, after confession. In 'the old country' people frequently asked the blessing of priests as they walked down the street.



Newly Blessed Holy Water is available in church for those attending Sunday Divine Liturgy. When you pick up the newly blessed water in church, *please remember to bring your own containers.*

Humor... The Children Of Israel

The boy listened closely as the rabbi read the Bible. "May I ask a question" he asked. "Sure. Go ahead. Ask your question," replied the rabbi. "Well, the Bible says that the children of Israel crossed the Red Sea, the children of Israel built the temple, the children of Israel did this and the children of Israel did that. Didn't the grown-ups ever do anything?"



Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?"

GOSPEL REFLECTION: Luke 18:35-43

Have you ever encountered a special moment of grace, a once in a life-time opportunity you knew you could not pass up? Such a moment came for a blind and destitute man, named Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-52). He was determined to get near the one person who could meet his need. He knew who Jesus was and had heard of His fame for healing, but until now had no means of making contact with the *Son of David*, a clear reference and title for the Messiah. It took a lot of "guts" and persistence for Bartimaeus to get the attention of Jesus over the din of a noisy throng who crowded around Jesus as He made His way out of town. Why was the crowd annoyed with the blind man's persistent shouts? He was disturbing their peace and interrupting Jesus' discourse. It was common for a rabbi to teach as He walked with others. Jesus was on His way to celebrate the Passover in Jerusalem and a band of pilgrims followed Him. When the crowd tried to silence the blind man he overpowered them with his emotional outburst and thus caught the attention of Jesus.

This incident reveals something important about how God interacts with us. The blind man was determined to get Jesus' attention and he was persistent in the face of opposition. Jesus could have ignored or rebuffed him because he was disturbing His talk and His audience. Jesus showed that acting was more important than talking. This man was in desperate need and Jesus was ready, not only to empathize with his suffering, but to relieve it as well. A great speaker can command attention and respect, but a man or woman with a helping hand and a big heart is loved more. Jesus commends Bartimaeus for recognizing who He is with the *eyes of faith* and grants him physical sight as well. Do you recognize your need for God's healing grace and do you seek Jesus out, like Bartimaeus, with persistent faith and trust in His goodness and mercy?

The Significance of the Holy Eucharist



- (1) Baptism and Confirmation are fulfilled in the Eucharist. Baptism is a beginning of the Christian life, Confirmation its strengthening and witnessing, but the Holy Eucharist nourishes this life. Hence, Baptism and Confirmation lead to and are fulfilled in the Holy Eucharist.
- (2) We do not receive the Body of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist without receiving His other Body, the Church. Hence, to receive the Eucharistic Body and Blood of Christ is to receive and accept the Church. It means that we are responsible to the Church, and responsible members of the Church. We belong to the Church, and are to manifest concretely our membership of and in the Church by being members of a parish and receiving Holy Communion in that parish. Therefore, the Holy Eucharist is a Sacrament of Church unity. It unites the members together in being the very Body of Christ and it maintains that unity.
- (3) Christ's presence in the Holy Eucharist is not solely a passive presence; it is not a presence solely to be worshipped and to inspire awe. His is an active presence of giving Himself to us, which not only constantly unites us into His one Body, the Church, but which strengthens and gives light to us in our work and struggles. His is an active presence of giving His graces and offering us protection and hope. He is the source and driving force of our Christian lives, and without Him we are nothing.
- (4) But though Christ is active in the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist, He is also the object of our adoration. For He is totally and substantially present under the appearance of bread and wine and, therefore, the subject of our adoration and worship. We worship Him in many ways: visiting Christ in the tabernacle, our bows accompanied by a sign of the cross, etc.

Taken from: Catholic Faith Guide (Rev. Anthony Holowaychuk, OSBM)



Holy Tradition

God the Father, who revealed himself through his Son in the Holy Spirit, offers his life to the faithful through the Church. The gracious action of the Holy Spirit, who reveals truth—and life in that truth—to all who live in communion with God, we call Holy Tradition. God, “who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth” (1 *Tm* 2:4), that is, to the knowledge of Jesus Christ (see *Jn* 14:6), reveals to humanity “what has been hidden since the foundation of the world” (*Mt* 13:35). His word remains firm and unchangeable: “In his gracious goodness, God has seen to it that what he had revealed for the salvation of all nations would abide perpetually in its full integrity and be handed on to all generations. ”Therefore, Christ is to be preached to all nations and all peoples, so that God’s Revelation may thus reach the ends of the earth.

According to Saint Irenaeus of Lyons, the essence of Holy Tradition is this—that all Christians share one and the same faith, by which they become partakers of God’s life:

All receive one and the same God the Father, and believe in the same dispensation regarding the incarnation of the Son of God, and are cognizant of the same gift of the Spirit, and are conversant with the same commandments, and preserve the same form of ecclesiastical constitution, and expect the same advent of the Lord, and await the same salvation of the complete man, that is, of the soul and body.

According to the testimony of Saint Basil the Great, Holy Tradition is that which “the Lord himself taught us, what the apostles preached, what the Fathers held fast, and what the martyrs confirmed.” It includes all that was transmitted to us by Christ himself, as well as the teaching of the apostles and the faith of the Church. Saint Basil notes: ... of the beliefs and practices which are preserved in the Church, some that we possess are derived from written teaching; others we have received, delivered to us through the Mysteries and by Apostolic Tradition; all of these in relation to true religion have the same force ... Were we to attempt to reject such customs as having no written authority, on the ground that the importance they possess is small, we should unintentionally injure the Gospel in its essentials; or, rather, we would make our public definition a mere phrase and nothing more.

Saint Basil connects Holy Tradition with liturgical life, noting that in addition to the profession of faith in the Most Holy Trinity, it also embraces the sign of the Cross in the Rite of Reception into the Catechumenate; one’s orientation during prayer, that is, facing East; the renunciation of Satan and his dominion; the triple immersion at Baptism; standing during worship on Sundays; the *epiklesis* [i.e., invocation of the Holy Spirit] in the Eucharist; the blessing of water and oil, and so forth.

~ From Catechism of the UCC “Christ - Our Pascha” ~



Chains of St. Peter

In scripture we find St. Peter imprisoned twice in Jerusalem. Once he was jailed with the rest of the apostles and set free by an angel (Acts 5:17-25). The second time, the authorities took no chances. They assigned him two guards and bound him in his cell with double chains. But, again, “an angel of the Lord appeared, and a light shone in the cell; and he struck Peter on the side and woke him. . . . And the chains fell off his hands” (Acts 12:7). Once freed, Peter brought the Gospel first to Syrian Antioch and then to Rome. In the imperial capital, during the reign of Nero, he was jailed briefly in the Mamertine Prison before suffering death by crucifixion.

Iron chains became, paradoxically, an early symbol of Christian freedom. They are, according to St. Polycarp, writing in the second century, “the fitting ornaments of saints, and . . . indeed the diadems of the true elect of God and our Lord.” Though the emperors possessed the power to chain the popes – from Peter to Alexander and beyond – the Church endured and triumphed.

NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Interested in serving on our Pastoral or Financial Council? Or would you like to recommend another parishioner who would be a valuable addition to either Council? Nominations are being accepted for vacancies on both Councils. Nominees must be at least 18 years old and a member in good standing with the Church. Nominations are to be submitted to the church office in written form by February 6th. Please consider Eparchial Guidelines in making your decisions. For further information about the Councils or to submit nominations please see Father Bohdan Winnicki.

THE EPARCHY OF TORONTO AND EASTERN CANADA STATUTES OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Polices and Guidelines

STRUCTURE AND MEMBERSHIP

Art. 6. Only adult persons over the age of 18 can be invited to serve on the pastoral council. Members must: belong to the Ukrainian (Greek) Catholic Church, be of good faith, lead a moral way of life, take an active part in the life of their parish, be distinguished by gifts of wisdom, prudence, the ability to engage and cooperate with other people, have expertise in a particular area, useful for ministry, and demonstrate a readiness to dedicate their time and skills for the good of the parish community. Such persons should have a temporary or permanent place of residence on the territory of the parish, in accordance with the prescriptions of CCEO can. 912.

COMPETENCE

Art. 19. The fundamental and primary task of a pastoral council is to support the pastor or administrator by advising and assisting him in his apostolic and social-charitable activity in the parish. In this, a pastoral council has the right to propose its own initiatives, especially in the area of catechesis and education of the faithful of any age and status and in the area of charitable ministry, and to effectively support the pastor or administrator in their implementation, to make every necessary effort to develop various lay initiatives, movements and communities.

Art. 20. The other functions of a pastoral council are:

- 1) to initiate and develop apostolic initiatives among the parishioners;
- 2) to coordinate various religious initiatives;
- 3) to assist the parish clergy and catechists in their pastoral work;
- 4) to care for the sick and elderly members of the parish, especially those who are in need of assistance;
- 5) to promote the development and deepening of prayer and religious life in the parish;
- 6) to foster the formation of good public opinion about the Church, the parish itself and the clergy;
- 7) to promote the preservation and development of an ecclesial and public consciousness, founded on Christian principles, among the members of the parish community;
- 8) to cooperate with all organizations active within the parish.
- 9) in cooperation with the parish finance council, to care for adequate financial security and preservation of parish property;
- 10) to support and help coordinate the pastoral activity of the parish in accordance with the decrees and instructions of the eparchial bishop;
- 11) to assist the pastor in implementing parish pastoral planning, in accordance with the *Handbook for Pastoral Planning*;
- 12) to refer to the parish finance council pastoral needs which are of a material and financial nature;
- 13) to assist the clergy of the parish to care for the beauty, cleanliness of the parish church, of other church facilities, parish buildings and adjacent territory;
- 14) to assess and analyze the true state of parish life and propose action for improvement and perfection, for correction of possible flaws, deficiencies;
- 15) to fulfill other tasks and services at the request of the pastor or administrator.



BLESSINGS OF HOMES

There will be no visiting and blessing homes with the blessed Jordan Water at this time due to the strict COVID restrictions.

A Short blessing of Homes on the Feast of the Theophany

Leader: Let us pray to the Lord!

Response: Lord, Have mercy!

Leader: O God our Saviour, the true Light, who was baptized in the river Jordan by John to renew all people by the waters of regeneration, and Who condescended to enter under the roof of Zacchaeus to bring salvation to him and to all his household, keep safe also from all harm those who dwell here; grant them Your blessing, purification and bodily health and all their petitions for their salvation and life everlasting. For blessed are You, together with Your eternal Father and Your all-holy, gracious and life-giving Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen!

Lord God hear our prayer and now please bless this home in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever Amen.

The Kondak of the feast (below) may be sung repeatedly (or favorite Christmas carols) while the father of the house processes around the home to each room while sprinkling holy water and asking the Lord to bless each space.

(Tone 4) Today You have appeared to the world and Your light, O Lord, has been signed on us, who with knowledge sing Your praises. You have come, You have appeared, O unapproachable Light.

Jesus at the Window

There was a little boy visiting his grandparents on their farm. He was given a slingshot to play with out in the woods. He practiced in the woods but he could never hit the target. Discouraged, he headed back to dinner. As he was walking back he saw Grandma's pet duck. Just on an impulse, he let the slingshot fly, hit the duck square in the head and killed it. He was shocked and grieved. In a panic, he hid the dead duck in the woodpile only to see his sister watching.

Sally had seen it all but she said nothing. After lunch that day Grandma said, "Sally, let's wash the dishes." But Sally said, "Grandma, Johnny told me he wanted to help in the kitchen." Then she whispered to him, "Remember the duck?" So Johnny did the dishes. Later that day, Grandpa asked if the children wanted to go fishing and Grandma said, "I'm sorry but I need Sally to help make supper." But Sally just smiled and said, "Well, that's all right because Johnny told me he wanted to help." She whispered again, "Remember the duck?"

So Sally went fishing and Johnny stayed to help. After several days of Johnny doing both his chores and Sally's he finally couldn't stand it any longer. He came to Grandma and confessed that he had killed the duck. Grandma knelt down, gave him a hug and said, "Sweetheart, I know. You see, I was standing at the window and I saw the whole thing. But, because I love you, I forgave you. I was just wondering how long you would let Sally make a slave of you."



A Glass Of Milk

A poor student was walking along a road, carrying a bundle of books, to his school. He was from a very poor family and his parents could not provide him even regular food. As he was already late, he was almost running. He was hungry and very weak. Suddenly he felt exhausted and fell down, scattering his books on the roadside. Seeing his fall, a lady rushed to the spot from her house. She helped the boy to get up, collected his books and carried him to her house. The boy was very weak and hungry, but he did not ask for food. He asked for a little water to drink. The lady sensed his state and offered him a glass of milk. The boy accepted it with gratitude and continued his journey to the school. The incident remained fresh in his mind.

Several years rolled by. The lady became old, sick and weak. She was admitted to the local hospital. As her condition became worse, she was shifted to a large medical institute in a distant city. The senior doctor, who was also the director of the institute, examined her. He diagnosed her disorder and performed an immediate surgery. She was carried to the best room in the hospital and provided expert medical care. The staff was always ready to offer all assistance and care. Within a month, she could regain her health fully. She was informed that she would be discharged the next day. She was worried about the bill as she was poor and could not afford to pay a large amount. She planned to sell her house to settle the bill. She enquired about the bill. The bill was presented to her. She examined it anxiously. On the top of the bill, there was a note signed by the director of the institute, "THE AMOUNT HAS BEEN PAID IN FULL BY A GLASS OF MILK."

Slowly she recollected the incident when she gave a glass of milk to a poor, weak and hungry boy who fell down on the road near her residence. By this time, the director himself came to her room and she could recognize his face. He was the same boy whom she had helped with a glass of milk a long time ago. He had recognized her earlier and gratefully made elaborate arrangements for her treatment and paid the expenses from his own pocket, all for a glass of milk and tender care received in a crucial moment of his life, during his hard times, long before he became a distinguished doctor by his hard work and earnest efforts.

The road from Jerusalem to Jericho passes through our front. Let us behave like the Good Samaritan and be of help to any one in need.

"Give to the poor and you will never be in need" (Proverbs 28:27).

"Be generous and share your food with the poor. You will be blessed for it" (Proverbs 22: 9).

"Happy are those who are merciful to others; God will be merciful to them!" (Matthew 5: 7).

"I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me a drink; I was a stranger and you received me in your homes, naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you took care of me, in prison and you visited me" (Mt. 25:35, 36)

"I tell you, whenever you did this for one of the least important of brothers of mine, you did it for me!" (Mt. 25:40)

A Prayer for the Beginning of the Day

O Lord, grant that I may meet this day and all it shall bring with spiritual peace. Grant that I may submit myself completely to Your holy will. In every hour of the day, be my support and guide. Whatever news I may receive today, teach me to accept it with a peaceful soul and with the firm conviction that Your will governs all things. In all my deeds and words, guide my thoughts and feelings. In unforeseen events, let me not forget that all are sent by You. Teach me to act firmly and wisely without embittering and embarrassing others. O Lord, give me the strength to bear the fatigue of the coming day with all that it shall bring. Direct my will. Teach me to pray, to believe, to hope, to endure all things, to forgive and to love. Amen.

Prayer in the Evening

O eternal God and Ruler of all creation, You have allowed me to reach this hour. Forgive the sins I have committed this day by word, deed or thought. Purify me, O Lord, from every spiritual and physical stain. Grant that I may rise from this sleep to glorify You by my deeds throughout my entire lifetime, and that I be victorious over every spiritual and physical enemy. Deliver me, O Lord, from all vain thoughts and from evil desires, for yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and forever. Amen.

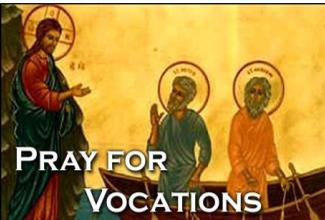
Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring love. Where there is offence, let me bring pardon. Where there is discord, let me bring union. Where there is error, let me bring truth. Where there is doubt, let me bring faith. Where there is despair, let me bring hope. Where there is darkness, let me bring your light. Where there is sadness, let me bring joy. O Master, let me not seek as much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love, for it is in giving that one receives, it is in self-forgetting that one finds, it is in pardoning that one is pardoned, it is in dying that one is raised to eternal life.

PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF FATIMA:



O Most Holy Virgin Mary, Queen of the most holy Rosary, you were pleased to appear to the children of Fatima and reveal a glorious message. We implore you, inspire in our hearts a fervent love for the recitation of the Rosary. By meditating on the mysteries of the redemption that are recalled therein may we obtain the graces and virtues that we ask, through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.



PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Almighty and merciful God, inspire those You have chosen, to hear and answer Your call to the Priesthood and Religious Life. Give them the courage to be the prophets for our times. Give them the wisdom and openness to live their personal call. Give them the strength to be ready witnesses of Your love and care for the world. May they find support and encouragement, in our words and in our prayers, through the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God, and all the Saints. Amen.



Prayer for the Beatification of the Servant of God Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky

Our Lord Jesus Christ - You always regard Your faithful servants, not only with special gifts of Your love, but also with the eternal reward of the saints in heaven, and in many cases You grant them the recognition of sanctity by Your Church here on earth. We humbly pray: grant that Your faithful servant Metropolitan Andrey be numbered among the saints. Throughout his just life, "full of suffering and trials," he was a good shepherd for his flock and a great labourer for Christian unity. And through his beatification and intercession, grant our entire people the great gift of unity and love. O Lord, in your mercy grant me the favour that I ask for through the intercession of the Servant of God, Andrey Sheptytsky. Amen.

PRESERVE AND PROMOTE OUR OWN TRADITIONS:

WHEN YOU ENTER CHURCH, it is customary to first go to the Tetrapod Table up front, in the middle of church – we are to make the sign of the cross, bow, and kiss the icon and cross displayed there (we are excused of kissing the cross and/or icons at this time due to the pandemic). We then bow and make the sign of the cross again, and then go to light candles or take our place for Liturgy. In our Byzantine Catholic Churches, we make the Sign of the Cross (holding together the right thumb, index and middle fingers) starting with our forehead, then to our mid-chest, then to our right shoulder first, then the left shoulder. Also in our churches, we do not genuflect (brief bending of the right knee towards the altar) - instead we make the sign of the cross the Eastern way, and bow towards the altar. And remember that church is a holy place, so try to keep quiet (not to talk or laugh loudly) before, during, or after the church services. Let's pre-serve and promote our own and beautiful traditions.

Leave quietly. We encourage you to visit with others, but once you are outside of the church you won't disturb others who want to stay and pray. So, please leave quietly and then visit afterward.

Cell phones should never be used in Divine Liturgy for calls or texting. The exceptions are emergencies (big ones, not everyday ones) and if you do use one, please walk out of church to do so. Also, if you are using the phone for readings or prayers, this is appropriate, but try to be discreet. Proper Church Attire - Church is a sacred place with its traditions. When we come to worship we should respect those traditions. Our clothes should be modest and tasteful. Inappropriate attire such as shorts, sneakers, tight pants, mid-thigh dresses and skirts, low cut blouses can be perceived as disrespectful and could be offensive to other worshipers. Thank you for your consideration.

A SHORT DAILY PRAYER TO MARY, MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP

Mother of Perpetual Help, you have been blessed and favored by God.
You became not only the Mother of the Redeemer, but Mother of the redeemed as well.

We come to you today as your loving children.

Watch over us and take care of us.

As you held the child Jesus in your loving arms, so take us in your arms.

Be a mother ready at every moment to help us.

For God who is mighty has done great things for you, and God's mercy is from age to age on those who love God.
Intercede for us, dear Mother, in obtaining pardon for our sins, love for Jesus, final perseverance, and the grace always to call upon you, Mother of Perpetual Help.



God is Close: A Reminder in the Midst of Global Pandemic

God of silence and stillness, we trust you are with us in this time of noise and chaos.

We pray for an end to this pandemic. Whisper your words of comfort, encouragement and hope to all who need them in these days of fear.

Draw close to those who are sick and all those who risk illness, caring for them, protecting and uplifting them.

In Your name, we pray. Amen.

Prayer to St. Joseph

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen

Sunday, January 23, 2022

31 Sunday after Pentecost; Octoechos Tone 2

**The Holy Priest-Martyr Clement, Bishop of Ancyra; the Holy Martyr Agathangel (both 286-305)
Passing into Eternal Life (1952) of Blessed Olimpia Bida, Superior of the Sisters of St. Joseph, and Martyr**

Troparia and Kontakia

Troparion, Tone 2: When You went down to death, O Life Immortal,* You struck Hades dead with the blazing light of Your divinity.* When You raised the dead from the nether world,* all the powers of heaven cried out:* “O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory be to You!”

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Kontakion, Tone 2: You rose from the tomb, O almighty Saviour;* and Hades, seeing this wonder, was stricken with fear; and the dead arose.* Creation saw and rejoices with You, and Adam exults.* And the world, my Saviour, sings Your praises for ever.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Theotokion, Tone 2: The tomb and death could not hold the Mother of God,* unceasing in her intercession and an unfailing hope of patronage,* for as the Mother of Life she was transferred to life* by Him Who had dwelt in her ever-virgin womb.

Prokeimenon, Tone 2

The Lord is my strength and my song of praise, and He has become my salvation.

verse: The Lord has indeed chastised me, but He has not delivered me to death. (*Psalm 117:14,18*)

Epistle - 1 Timothy 1:15-17

A reading from the First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to Timothy.

Timothy, my son, this is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Alleluia, Tone 2

verse: The Lord will hear you in the day of tribulation; the name of the God of Jacob will shield you.

verse: Lord, grant victory to the king and hear us in the day that we shall call upon You. (*Psalm 19:2,10*)

Gospel - Luke 18:35-43

At that time, as Jesus was coming near Jericho, a certain blind man sat by the road begging. And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant. So they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. And he cried out, saying, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”

So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him, saying, “What do you want Me to do for you?”

He said, “Lord, that I may receive my sight.”

Then Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has made you well.” And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw *it*, gave praise to God.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest.* Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia. (*Psalm 148:1*)



Prayer of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in these Holy Gifts!

I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot receive You now, I place before You my whole life and hope, O loving Master; and I ask, pray, and entreat You:

Make me worthy to partake in a mystical way and with a pure conscience of Your awesome and heavenly Mysteries:
For forgiveness of sins, for the pardon of offenses, for communion of the Holy Spirit, for the inheritance of the kingdom of heaven,

For confidence before You, and not for judgment or condemnation.

I embrace You as You enter and abide in me, and I unite myself completely to You.

Permeate my soul and body,

and never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Мій Ісусе! Я вірю, що Ти присутній у цих Святих Дарів! Люблю Тебе над усе і моя душа тужить за Тобою. Не можу зараз Тебе прийняти в Євхаристії, тому хоча б духовно прийди до мого серця! Запрошую Тебе, відчиняю навстіж двері мого серця, згадаючи Твої слова: «Ось стою під дверима і стукаю. Якщо хто почує Мій голос і відчинить двері, Я ввійду до нього, і буду вечеряти з ним, а він зі Мною». Я весь єднаюся з Тобою. Ісусе, моє найвище Добро й моя солодка Любове! Торкнись мого серця і запали його, щоб воно завжди палало любов'ю до Тебе! Амінь.

