

## **Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church Bulletin**

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### **HOLY MYSTERIES**

**VISITATIONS OF THE SICK AND INFIRM** – If you are going into the hospital for any reason, please inform Father Stephen at the Rectory. Our hospitalization code for Christiana and Wilmington Hospitals is **UKR**.

**EMERGENCY CALLS** – Please call the Rectory anytime (day or night) in an Emergency!

**BAPTISMS** – Celebrated by appointment.

**CROWNING IN MARRIAGE** – Please discuss timing with Father prior to setting a date. At least six months notice is needed. There are three 2-hour courses that must be attended prior to the Wedding.

**BULLETIN DEADLINE** – The deadline for getting information printed in the Weekly Bulletin is Wednesday.

**SUNDAY COLLECTIONS** – For the Needs of the Parish; 2<sup>nd</sup> Youth Ministry

**June 9, 2024**  
**Volume 60: Number 23**  
**Schedule of Services and Activities**  
**Week of June 9 - 16, 2024**  
**Celebrating our 97<sup>th</sup> year of Service to the Lord**

Sunday, June 9 - Sunday of the Man Born Blind – Tone 5

8:30 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Pankahyda: +Protopresbyter Frank Estocin (14 Yrs)

Coffee Hour – UOL Meeting

Tuesday, June 11

6:30 PM – Parish Board Meeting

Wednesday, June 12 – Leave-taking of Paska

8:00 AM – Resurrection Matins – Divine Liturgy

6:00 PM – Great Vespers for the Feast

Thursday, June 13 – Ascension of Our Lord

Archpastoral Visit of His Eminence, Metropolitan Antony

9:45 AM – Greeting the Metropolitan

10:00 AM – Archpastoral Divine Liturgy

12:00 PM – Dinner in the Hall

Saturday, June 15

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy (Holy Trinity – Whaleyville, MD)

Sunday, June 16 – Sunday of the 1<sup>st</sup> Council – Father’s Day – Graduate Sunday - Tone 6

8:30 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Pankahyda: +Melanie Ervin (8 yrs) +Thomas Ervin (37 yrs) – Patricia Kozak

Father’s Day Dinner

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## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday of the Man Born Blind – Matins: John 20:11-18; Liturgy: Acts of the Apostles 16:16-34; John 9:1-38

Monday – Acts of the Apostles 17:1-15; John 11:47-57

Tuesday – Acts of the Apostles 17:19-28; John 12:19-36

Wednesday – Acts of the Apostles 18:22-28; John 12:36-47; Vespers: Isaiah 2:2-3; Isaiah 62:10-12; 63:1-3, 7-9; Zachariah 14:4, 8-11.

Thursday – Ascension of the Lord – Matin: Mark 16:9-20; Liturgy: Acts of the Apostles 1:1-12; Luke 24:36-53

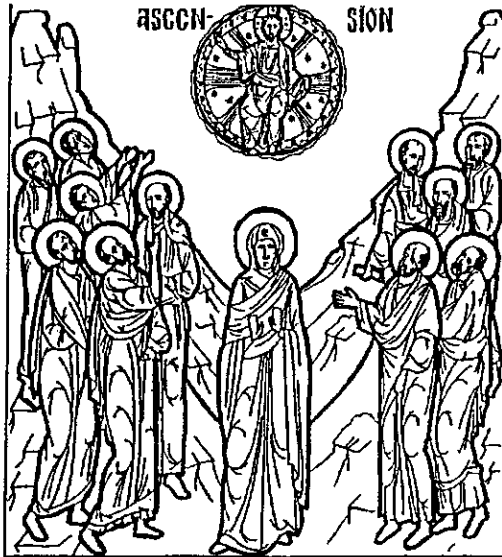
Friday – Acts of the Apostles 19:1-8; John 14:1-11

Saturday – Acts of the Apostles 20:7-12; John 14:10-21

Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council – Matins: John 21:1-14; Liturgy: Acts of the Apostles 20:16-18, 28-36; John 17:1-13

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## FEAST OF THE ASCENSION



Ascension is a feast which should raise us up above the smallness and the narrowness of earthly cares. Christ has made our Ascension possible, too. We will one day, please God, be lifted up away from all the troubles and the annoyances that seem so overpowering and so numerous now.

Imagine for a moment the thoughts of our divine Lord as He rose slowly from the Mount of Olives: He could see Bethlehem where no one had welcomed Him when He was born, Nazareth where He had lived a life of poverty and hardships for thirty years, Jerusalem where He had been reviled and tortured

and crucified.

Having triumphed, and won the day, how did these scenes of His sufferings appear to Him now? Our day will come, too, when we can look down with joy on the battlefields of life where we were sore-tried and wounded, but persevered through God's grace, and won. How small will our effort seem then, compared with the greatness of the reward! How short-lived our battles, compared with the eternity of the heavenly peace we have won!

The Apostles returned from the Mount of Olives not with heavy hearts, but with souls full of confidence and trust. There was work to be done for the Master and for souls. That work would take them they knew not where, that apostate would bring on them they cared not what, their lives were now in their Master's hands. How well-placed their confidence was subsequent history proves; their names are inscribed forever in the Book of Life.

YOU AND I can also return from the Mount of Olives today with a greater confidence and a surer trust in our loving Savior. He has gone, as He Himself said, to prepare a place for us. He has asked us to carry on, for a short while more, with the task He has given us to do here.

He will be back, sooner than we realize, and if He finds us struggling on, doing nothing world-shaking, but putting our heart and soul into the trivial daily tasks, we will hear not the voice of the stern Judge, but the welcome call of the beloved Shepherd: "Come ye blessed of my Father, take possession of the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

### **BLINDNESS TAKES MANY FORMS**

Helen Keller, who became a famous author and lecturer despite being born deaf and blind, was once asked if she thought that there was anything worse than not having her sight. "Only one thing is worse than blindness," she replied, "and that is to have eyes and not see!" The truth of Helen Keller's words are painfully obvious in this morning's Gospel lesson. Christ encounters a man who has been blind from birth. Because of his handicap, the blind man is somewhat of an outcast. Even the Apostles question their Master, "Who sinned that this man should have been born blind?"

What is the reaction to Christ's miracle of giving sight to the blind man? Some of his neighbors express doubt that he is really the same person they knew as sightless. The Pharisees question him as they would a common criminal. The man's own parents distance themselves from him, refusing to get involved in the controversy. The eyes of everyone were blinded to the fact that the Lord had chosen the unfortunate man to be a means of showing His power.

Sadly, many of us who proclaim ourselves to be "Christians" do not see Jesus as being the **LIGHT OF THE WORLD**, stubbornly remaining mired in the darkness of our sins. May the words of the Kondakion for this Sunday remind us of our need to be illumined by our Savior: "I come to You, O Christ, like the man born blind from birth, and I cry to You with repentance: You are a radiant and glorious light to those who stumble in darkness."



## **ASCENSION is Christ's "Moving Day" HEAVEN our eternal home**

When our Lord ascended into heaven, He took no worldly thing with Him. This is another instance in which He was as we are: we shall, when we die and leave the world, take not a single worldly thing with us. If we haven't sent our "riches" on ahead of time, we shall have nothing.

The Bible tells us that we are born into the world naked, and so shall we leave it. We may accumulate worldly things during our short stay here, but we shall shed them all when we leave have often thought of Ascension Thursday as "moving day". Our Lord moved out of the hut (as it were) of the world into His palace in heaven. He moved easily and joyfully because He was unencumbered by worldly obstacles.

We too will have to move from the world into eternity. We don't know when, but we are positive the day will come. It may be soon or it may be a little later. But, we are more certain of the fact of our eventual moving than we are of anything else in our life.

The day of our moving will be a most important one. Our eternal home depends upon it. We must daily prepare to make our moving day one of joy and ease following the example of our Savior and Model, the Ascending Christ.

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### **THE ASCENSION OF JESUS AND OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE**

After the Resurrection, Jesus did not come back to live among us as before. He now returned to the glory He had with the Father. This is especially evident in the Gospel of St. John where Jesus tells His disciples before His arrest, "I came from the Father and have come into the world. Now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father" (John 16:28). "Father, the hour has come. Give glory to Your Son, so that Your Son may glorify You" (John 17:1). Jesus is truly and physically risen, but He did not return to life in this world as did Lazarus, the son of the widow of Nain and the daughter of Jairus.

Each of the Gospel writers expresses this mystery in a different way. In Matthew, Jesus' last words are "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to Me... I am with you always, until the end of the age" (Matt. 28:18). Jesus did not return to live among us, but He is with us in power and Spirit. In the Gospel of John, the first action of the risen Jesus when He appears to His disciples is to give them the gift of the Holy Spirit (John 20:19-23). In the Gospel of Mark, "the Lord Jesus, after He spoke with them (the disciples) was taken into heaven & took His seat at the right hand of God" (Mark 16:19). Jesus is alone the true high priest whose

role is to mediate between God & His people & to bring salvation. Those who function as priests on earth only do so in the power of the Holy Spirit, the gift of Jesus to His Church. The Epistle to the Hebrews echoes what Mark says, "we have such a high priest, who has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of the majesty in heaven, a minister of the sanctuary & of the true tabernacle that the Lord, not man, set up" (Hebrews 8:1-2). St. Luke alone tells us that Jesus ascended on the 40th day (Acts 1:3) & describes the Ascension as Jesus being "taken up"(Luke 24:51) & "lifted up", disappearing into a cloud (Acts 1:9). As He was taken up, He was blessing His followers, a priestly action that He now performs from the right hand of the heavenly Father.

Because St. Luke says that the Ascension took place on the 40th day, this day has been kept by the Church to celebrate the glorification of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Just as the life of the earthly Jesus was transformed by glory, so also the lives of those who believe in Him are transformed by the Resurrection. Before the Resurrection, Jesus had a mission to the people of Israel. When a Canaanite woman - a foreigner - asked Christ to cure her daughter, He replied, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel" (Matt. 15:24). After the Resurrection, our Lord tells His followers: "Go ... and make disciples of all nations" (Matt. 28:19). St. Paul stated about 25 years later: "A;; of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is not male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:27-28). The Gospel of the Risen Christ is for all people, without distinction of race, gender or status.

The great feasts of the Church year recall the mighty deeds that God has done on our behalf. For these deeds we return to Him glory and praise. However, the feasts are not only a historical commemoration of what happened in the past, but also tell us about our life of the Spirit today. By the love that Christ showed on the Cross and by His 3<sup>rd</sup> day Resurrection, the faithful who believe in Him are also transformed by love and are filled with life. This happens in the Mystery of Baptism ("you are clothed with Christ") which is renewed every time that we receive the Mystery of the Eucharist: the Body and Blood of Christ, Himself. On the Feast of the Ascension, we sing: "Ascending in glory today from the Mount of Olives, through Your great love, You lifted up our fallen nature and enthroned it with the Father on high... Therefore, serve Him in justice and holiness."

The spiritual life is not a private and lonely journey. The kingdom of God will be the restoration of Paradise. It will come about only when we will be able to treat everyone equally, without distinction of race or ethnicity or status or gender. God

has created every human being and loves every person equally. He wishes all to come to salvation, and if we are to find Him in our own lives, and if we are to be united with Him, then we too must be at the service of our neighbor. We must see in every person a fellow traveler on the road to unity with God. Our Lord has told us that we serve Him when we show kindness to each other, for "whatever you do for one of these least brothers of Mine, you do it for ME!" (Matt. 25:40).

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### **WHY GO TO CHURCH?**

A Churchgoer wrote a letter to the editor of the newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So I think I'm wasting my time and the priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all." This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher: "I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me those meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

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### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY** - is expressed to Vincent Artman, 6/9; Svetlana Duffy, 6/11; Halyna Feleshchuk, 6/11 & Tatianna Tischtschenko, 6/11. May God grant them a very happy birthday and keep them for many, happy & blessed years!

### **A NOTE OF THANKS**

On behalf of my wife, Pani Elizabeth and our Family we would like to thank our Parish Family for their sympathy cards and for the beautiful fruit basket by Edible Arrangements as we were in mourning for the loss of my Godmother, +Irene Shemonski and the sudden death of Pani Elizabeth's brother +Peter Kurtasz. We would also like to thank Father Gerald and Pani Maryann for their beautiful flower arrangement and Father Constantine and Pani Georgia for their beautiful fruit arrangement by Edible Arrangements. May God reward your kindness a hundred fold!

With love and prayers,  
Father Stephen, Pani Elizabeth and Family



**VISIT OF METROPOLITAN ANTONY** – Please remember that His Eminence, Metropolitan Antony will be visiting with us this Thursday to celebrate the Feast of the Ascension. If you have not registered for the dinner, please do so today.

### **MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

(Please find a substitute if you cannot make a given week)

June 9 – John Plachuta and Linda Hnatow

June 16 – John Plachuta and Linda Hnatow

June 23 – Matthew Andreas and Victor Kaliakin

June 30 – Matthew Andreas and Victor Kaliakin

July 7 – Sonya Patronik and John Plachuta

### **MEETINGS**

**UOL MEETING** – Sunday, June 9 after Liturgy

**PARISH BOARD** – Tuesday, June 11 @ 6:30 PM

### **CLEANING OF THE CHURCH MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

Week of June 10 - John Plachuta and David Lazaration

Week of June 17 - Thomas and Lynn Sulpizi

Week of June 24 - Nancy Hlwiak, Jean Roeth, Zina Twardus

Week of July 1 - Earle and Jennifer Robinson

Week of July 8 - Michael Tilson & Linda Hnatow, Irene Maskaly

Week of July 15 - Mark & Laura Andreas

Week of July 22 - Earle and Jennifer Robinson

**DONATIONS (CREDIT CARDS) ACCEPTED** – for those who are interested, we can accept donations to the Church through credit cards. See Mark Andreas for details.

**WINE TASTING** - \$35/person, \$60/ couple – Saturday, June 29 from 5-8 PM – More Later

### **GREETER MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

June 9 - Zina Twardus and Nancy Tur

June 16 - Sandy Cramer

June 23 - Sonya Patronik

**June 30** - David and Eve Lazaration

**We need more Greeters!! If you would like to volunteer, please see Father Stephen**

## **TENTATIVE CALENDER OF EVENTS**

Thursday, June 13 – Ascension – Visit by Metropolitan Antony

Saturday, June 29 – Wine Tasting Event 5PM – 8PM

Sunday, June 16 – Father's Day Dinner

Monday, July 1 – Apostles' Fast

Sunday, July 14 – Patronal Dinner

Saturday, July 20 – Hall Rented

Saturday, August 3 – UOL Flea Market

Saturday, November 2 – Fall Bazaar

Tuesday, November 26 – Community Thanksgiving Service – Atonement Methodist

**SCHEDULING FOR THE PARISH** – Please remember that all events, work parties, use of the hall must be cleared through the calendar kept by Father Stephen so that dueling events can be avoided.

## **READERS MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

June 2 - Thomas Sulpizi

June 9 - Jean Roeth

June 16 - Pani Elizabeth Hutnick

June 23 - Linda Hnatow

June 30 – Andrew Duncan

July 7 – Thomas Scholtz

July 14 - Andrew Duncan

**We need more Readers, if you would like to volunteer, please see Father Stephen**

**GRADUATE SUNDAY** – will be celebrated on Father's Day, June 16. Please give to Father Stephen the name of the graduate from kindergarten, High School college or university with the name of the school, where the student will attend the next year or the degree (college) and where the graduate will go from here. All entries must be in by Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

**REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL** – Metropolitan Antony, Archbishop Daniel, Archimandrite Raphael, Father George Bazylevsky, Father Vasyl Dovhan, Father Oleh Hucul, Father Andrew Molewski, Father John Nakonechney, Father James Norton, Father Gerald Ozlanski, Father Volodymyr Wronskij, Father Michael Zaparyniuk, Matushka Andrejuk, Matushka Laura Odell, Matushka Lisa Weremedic, Pani Matka Oksanna Bazylevsky, Pain Matka Marianne Ozlanski, Matka Annette Zaparyniuk, , Alicia, Nerry, Mykola, Brennan, Henry, Deborah, Galina, Dolores, Julian, Madison, Maria, Marie, Matt, Michele, Mykola, Penelope, Rita, Ryan, Jonathan Angelo, Randy Allen, Carolyn Angelo, Colby Atkinson, Shannon Austin, Stephania Bacha, Joyce Belles, Neil Belles, Joyce Bendoakas, Ethel Bernhard, Yaroslav Bilinsky, Irene Billon, James Bolton, Maria Borowski, Betty Bosland, Becky Bosley, Angie Brengle, Paul Brengle, Patricia Bringle, Richard Bringle, Thomas Bringle, John Brick, Fedir Bukacz, Christine Cain, Mark Cello, Kathy Chalfont, Erik Colazo, Alex Czernik, Michael Dalaski, Sharon Dalaski, Stephen Dalecki, David Dalldorf, Paula Daubert, William Dewhurst, Peter DiVirgilio, James Dudrick, Kathleen Dugan, Margaret Durell, Mary Eagleton, Maria Economou, Mary Eagleton, Rose Eldridge, Thomas Fagan, Archantula Fanjoy, Mary Farrell, James Garrett, Lisa Gee, Peter Glenn, Ivan Golovnirov, Kathleen Gortva, Staci Gray, Charles Gunther, David Hamilton, Richard Haslam, Rick Hastings, Victoria Herrschaft, Carla Hitchings, Greg Hitchings, Alicia Hlywak, John Hlywak, John Hnatow, Daniel Holoziak, Jennifer Huertes, Joette Jago, Stephen Johnson, Linda Josepinson, Michael Kapelus, Walter Katolik, Diane Keyser, Wendy Klinedinst, Judith Kocinski, Lorissa Kozakova, Ludmyla Krawchenko, Mykola Krawchenko, Sue Kreisa-Christian, Marlene Kuhar, Ron Lazaration, Karen Livick, Charles Lontor, Alla Lysenko, Jeremy Madea, Andrew Makolynyk, Jean Marano, Frederick McCarthy, Beth McKirachan, Fred McKirachan, Stephen McNulty, Ronald Michel, Mary Ann Michalcewicz, Michelle Michalcewiz, Lisa Miller, Matthew Miller, Mary Elizabeth Moran, Barry Morris, Elsie Moroz, Karen Needham, Julie Neff, Ann Nester, Laurie Newman, Betty Painter, Anastasios Pantelopulos, Anthony Pantelopulos, Linda Phillips, Joseph Pierson, Barry, Bernice & Ryan Pinkowicz, Daphne Pantelopulos, George Pantelopulos, Joseph Porini, Robert Powers, Joanne Procak, Joseph Ptak, Carol Purse, Sharon Reigh, Christopher Riehl, Arlene Roginski, Wyatt Roland, Andrea Roman, Jeff Rozwadowski, Glenn Runyan, Carol Rusk, David Scharba, Isaac Schmidt, Joella Seale, Clay Seman, John Serth, Larissa Serth, Dawn Sheets, Justin Sheets, Emily Smitheman, Georgie Smolyar, Alexandra Sparco, Natalia Stanford, Rich Steinman, Joseph Stevens, Noel Strobino, Charles Joseph Sweeney, Evelyn Synczyszyn, Michael Synczyszyn, Pavlo Tabak, Nicholas Taylor, Sue Taylor, Elenora Thomas, Lydia Thomas, Michael Tilson, Brysen Tomei, Dominic Tomei, Mark Tomei, Violet Tomei, Aria Tonner, Mariel Trimble, Martha Vignali, Jack Vognetz, Margaret Vognetz, Marilyn Wagner, Olena Wasylevska, James Watts, Chris Way, Leah Way, Barbara Weeks, Peter Weremedic, Laura Worley, Jack Ziegler & James Zook.

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