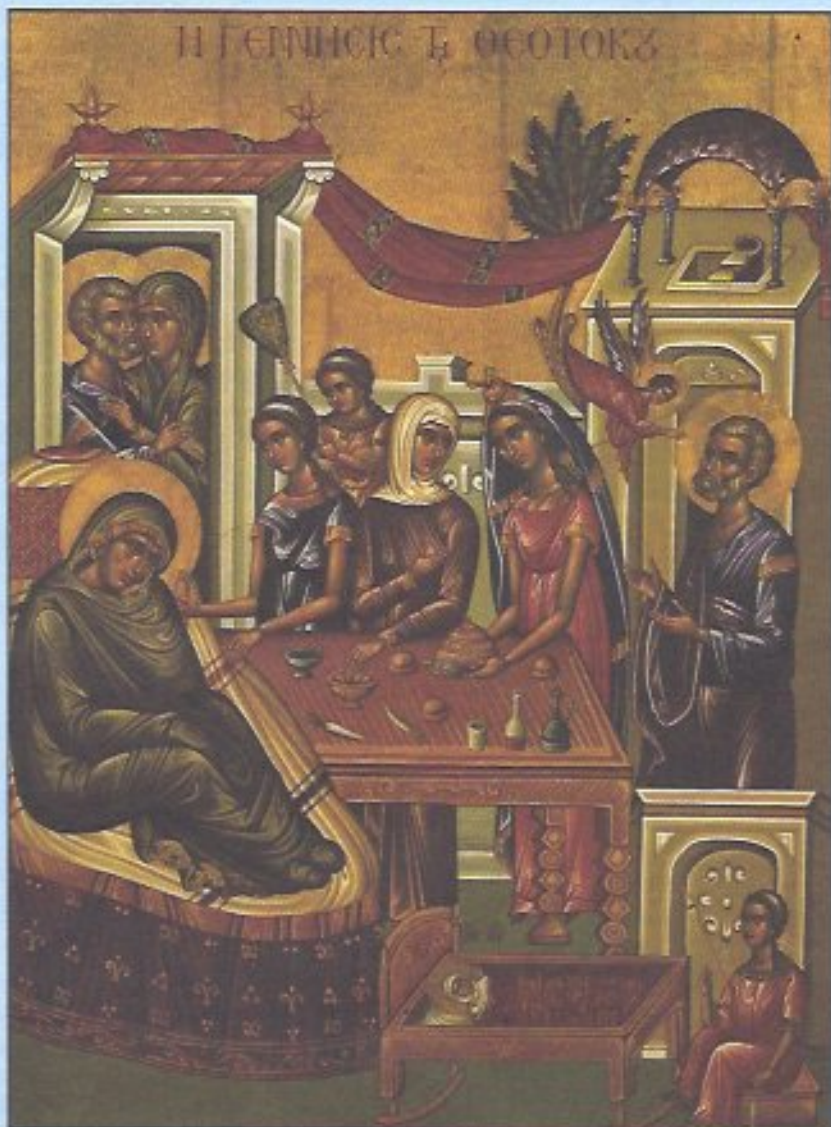


THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW



*Icon of the Nativity of the Mother of God -- September 8th*

# HOLY GHOST UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

315 Fourth Street, West Easton, Pennsylvania 18042

Rectory (610) 252 - 4266 cell: 717-554-2994

Website: [www.holyghost-ukrainian-catholic.org](http://www.holyghost-ukrainian-catholic.org) [dan.troyan@yahoo.com](mailto:dan.troyan@yahoo.com)

**Archpriest Fr. Daniel Troyan – Pastor**

September 3-10, 2017

13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: 1 Cor 16:13-24

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-42

**SATURDAY 6:00PM (English) +Margaret Hutnik – Fulmer Family**

13<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost: September 3, 2017

9:00AM (Ukrainian) For the Parishioners

11:00AM (English) Special Intention: Bishop Andriy Rabi

*All Daily Divine Liturgies celebrated at 9:00AM unless otherwise scheduled.*

**MONDAY** Health of Fr Mark Fesniak – Pyrohy Workers

**TUESDAY** +Joseph & Stella Bodnar – Dan & Loretta Bodnar

**WEDNESDAY** No Divine Liturgy

**THURSDAY** +Walter Kiniuk- Katheryn Whitehead

**FRIDAY** NATIVITY OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

5:30PM +Maria & Pietro Pliszka – Yaroslawa Zuk

**SATURDAY (English) 6:00PM** Andrea & Tyler Keener Anniversary Intention:  
Craig Stoken Family

Sunday Before the Exaltation of the Cross: September 10, 2017

9:00AM (Ukrainian) For the Parishioners

11:00AM (English)+Alexander Trusz – Stefania Trusz

COLLECTION – \$ 1328.00 Thank you for your generosity and support.

Eternal Light & Altar Candles: In memory of +John & Agnes Gutowski – Dan & Loretta Bodnar

*Please remember to pray for the sick and all those who have requested our prayers*

Helen & Betty Terleski	Paul Ridilla	Catherine Kutzler	Olga Turczyn
Mae Kulczykcki	Sophie Troyan	Claudette Kemmerer	Iryna Stefurak
Melvane Thatcher	Craig Stoken	Richard Suter	Donna Mareska
Olga Bryksa	Julian Trusz	Michael Sidlar	Fr Dan Gurovich
Joseph Bodnar	Lillian Opp	Frank & Betty Maitski	Sarah Shanks
Kim Lightcap	Gregory & Dot Neff	Stephen Terleski	Fr Mark Fesniak
Margaret Dashe	Helen Potak	Anna Drozd	Olga Trusz
Mary Heverling	Frieda Lubosky	Barbara Hacker	Fr. David Clooney
Fr Dan Gurovich	Harold Osmun	Timothy Kohutka	Citizens of Texas

### **THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**Troparion (4):**When the disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the glorious news of the resurrection and cast off the ancestral condemnation, they proudly told the apostles: Death has been plundered! Christ our God is risen, granting to the world great mercy.

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

**kontakion (4):**My Savior and Deliverer from the grave, as God, has raised out of bondage the children of earth and shattered the gates of Hades; and as Master, He rose on the third day.

**Prokimenon (4):**How great are Your works, O Lord; You have made all things in wisdom.

**Verse:**Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, You are exceedingly great.

### **Epistle:Reading of the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians.(1Cor 16,13-24)**

Brethren: Be on your guard, stand firm in the faith, be courageous, be strong. Your every act should be done with love. I urge you, brothers -you know that the household of Stephanas is the firstfruits of Achaia and that they have devoted themselves to the service of the holy ones -be subordinate to such people and to everyone who works and toils with them. I rejoice in the arrival of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus, because they made up for your absence, for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. So give recognition to such people. The churches of Asia send you greetings. Aquila and Prisca together with the church at their house send you many greetings in the Lord. All the brothers greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write you this greeting in my own hand. If anyone does not love the Lord, let him be accursed. Marana tha. The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love to all of you in Christ Jesus.

**Alleluia Verses:** Poise yourself and advance in triumph and reign in the cause of truth, and meekness, and justice. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Verse (4):**You have loved justice and hated iniquity. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Gospel:(Mt 21,33-42)**The Lord told this parable: "There was a land-owner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went on a journey. When vintage time drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to obtain his produce. But the tenants seized the servants and one they beat, another they killed, and a third they stoned. Again he sent other servants, more numerous than the first ones, but they treated them in the same way. Finally, he sent his son to them, thinking, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and acquire his inheritance.' They seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes?" They answered him, "He will put those wretched men to a wretched death and lease his vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the proper times." Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; by the Lord has this been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes'?"

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

**Adult Religious Education** classes will be held for the adults of our parish on Monday evenings from 5:30-6:30PM, beginning September 11. All are invited and welcome.

**Children's Religious Education** classes will be held on Sunday from 12:15PM-1:00PM . If you child is receiving the sacrament of First Confession this year they should register using the form in the vestibule of the church. Thank you

### ST NICHOLAS GREAT MEADOWS RUMMAGE SALE

St Nicholas Church in Great Meadows is holding their annual Rummage Sale on Friday September 22 from 9:00AM-3:00PM and Saturday (Bag Day) from 9:00AM - 3:00PM. Located at 335 Rt 46 in Great Meadows NJ. All are welcome and invited.

### WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome into our parish family ***Karen & Thomas Eible and their children Kayla and Andrew*** . They have chosen to make Holy Ghost their spiritual home. We ask God's blessings upon them and that God grant them many healthy, happy years with us. Mnohaya Lita!

### LEAGUE OF UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CONVENTION

The 78<sup>th</sup> Annual LUC Convention will be held on October 6,7,8 at Genetti's Best Western Hotel and Conference Center in Wilkesbarre PA. There is a registration form available in the vestibule of the church. The League is a great organization founded many years ago to foster our Ukrainian Catholic faith, customs and traditions. There are various workshops , field trips, banquet and dancing. All are welcome!

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SUNDAY: September 17

On Sunday September 17 at the 11:00AM Divine Liturgy there will be a blessing of the new Catechetical Year, and the Students and teachers for our Religious Education program. All children of our education program are asked to join with us that Sunday as we plan our new year of faith and adventure!

### FEAST OF THE BIRTH OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated on Friday September 8 at 5:30PM to celebrate the birthday of Mary the Mother of God . Please join with us in offering our love and prayers to this very special and powerful Lady who intercedes for us before God and loves us as her own children.

## FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

On September 8/21, the Church celebrates the most holy human birth, the birth of the Mother of God who was elect and sanctified from the moment of conception. According to the sacred tradition of the Church, the Theotokos was born of barren and aged parents, Saints Joachim and Anna. Saint Joachim was descended from the holy line of Prophet-King David, of the tribe of Judah. Saint Anna was of the priestly tribe of Levi.

Saints Joachim and Anna were childless for many years but they continued steadfastly to beseech the Lord that He would show mercy on them and remove this burden. At that time, being childless was considered a reproach and a humiliation. One day, when Saint Joachim came to the temple to make an offering, he was turned away by the High Priest who chastised him for his lack of children. To hide his shame, the Saint retreated to the hill country to pray. There he remained for a long time in constant prayer and remembrance of how God had given Patriarch Abraham offspring in his old age. He remained away for so long that Saint Anna was afraid she would never see him again.

As Saint Joachim was praying in the hill country, his wife, Saint Anna was praying at the same time at their house in Jerusalem. Archangel Gabriel appeared to both of them and announced that Saint Anna would have a child whose name would be known throughout the world. He commanded Saint Joachim to return to his home in Jerusalem and the Archangel told him that Saint Anna would be waiting for him at the *Golden Gate*. When Saint Anna saw her husband approaching she ran to him giving thanks to the Lord. The barrenness of Saints Joachim and Anna was overcome and they brought forth the *Mother of God*.

This Feast is a source of hope and great joy for all Christians. Saints Joachim and Anna were freed from their sterility and brought into this world the Mother of God, showing us that our sterile nature can bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit. Not only through the prayers of Saints Joachim and Anna is our spiritual barrenness dispelled, but many childless couples that have turned in prayer to Saints Joachim and Anna have been blessed with children.

### Teachings from the Service of the Feast

The Birth of the Theotokos is unlike that of any other miraculous birth. The barrenness of Saint Anna is emphasised to remind us of the overcoming of infertility by Divine Grace. Many miracles of the Old Testament are seen as prophetic *Types* of the Birth of the Theotokos from a barren mother. In the Great Vespers, this holy birth is seen in the pouring forth of the well-spring of life from a rock in the desert, which saved the People of God. The barren rock is Saint Anna, the well-spring is the Theotokos and our Lord is the life-giving water. ( In the following *Sticheron*, the barrenness of Mount Sinai, from where we received the *Law of God*, is seen as a prophetic type of the barrenness of Saint Anna, from whom we received our salvation. *Truly the barrenness of Anna is revealed as that overshadowed mountain from whence divine salvation is given to all faithful men (Aposticha of the Forefeast)*. This miracle is far greater than any other miracle in which barrenness was overcome because through this miracle God prepared for Himself a holy throne upon the earth.

In the Vespers of the Feast we are told:

*Today God, Who rests upon the noetic thrones, has made ready for Himself a holy throne upon the earth. He that established the heavens in wisdom, has prepared a living Heaven in His love for man.*

Throughout Vespers and Matins, we are reminded of the *Economy of our Salvation* as foretold in the Old Testament. The Birth of the Theotokos is the blossoming of the *Rod of Jesse* as was promised by God. The *Genesis 28:10-17* reading for the feast focuses on the vision of Jacob, son of Isaac, son of Abraham. At Bethel, he sees in a dream a ladder set up on earth and the top reaching into heaven with the angels of God ascending and descending on it. The title *Jacob's Ladder* is often applied to the Theotokos because she became *the Gate of Heaven* by which God incarnate is with us.

The reading from *Ezekiel 43:27-44:4* presents us with one of the Old Testament Prophecies of the ever-virginity of the Theotokos: *This gate shall be shut, it shall not be opened, and no man shall enter in by it; because the Lord, the God of Israel, shall enter in by it, and it shall be shut (44:2).*

*Proverbs 9:1-11* also presents us with Prophecy of the Lord's choosing the Theotokos as the house in which He will dwell, making her holier than the Temple of Solomon. The instruction given to us in this selection of Proverbs is the preparation for the teachings of our Saviour as reflected in the Epistle and Gospel readings of the Feast.

The Epistle for the feast, *Philippians 2:5-11*, tells us to have the mind of Christ, extreme humility. The humility of Saints Joachim and Anna is seen in their patient bearing of the pain which their barrenness brought them. We are instructed *Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind.* The Gospel, *Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28*, teaches us that the Mother of God is blessed not because she was the Theotokos but because above all she kept the word of God. The Theotokos is also *Panagia - The Most Holy*, because she, above all, subjected herself to the Will of God.

### **Icon of the Feast**

The icon of the Nativity of the Theotokos presents to us the central figures of Saint Joachim, standing and pointing to the Mother of God (1) and Saint Anna, reclining on her bed (2), surrounded by attendants who have assisted with the birth and are preparing to wash the newly-born infant. In many icons the meeting of Saints Joachim and Anna at the *Golden Gate* (4) is shown off to one side.

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW AUXILIARY BISHOP**

We offer our love, prayers and congratulations to our new Bishop for the Ukrainian Catholic Church : Bishop Andriy Rabyi, who was consecrated bishop in the Cathedral of St George in Lviv today at the synod of bishops. May the Holy Spirit guide, inspire and bless our new bishop, the youngest Catholic bishop in the United States, and grant him many healthy happy years! **MNOHAYA LITA!**

## THE CHAPEL SCHEDULE

- **Alcoholics Anonymous** Every Monday at 7:00AM there is an open meeting for those interested in learning more about alcoholism and alcoholics.
- **Ukrainian American Veterans Post 42 meets** monthly on the 2nd Wednesday at 7:00PM for their business & Post meeting.
- **ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES** : Monday evening at 5:30PM in the chapel.

## TRICKY TRAY

Our Annual Tricky Tray Fundraiser will be held on October 15, 2017 in the parish hall. Preparations are made all year to make this one of the best Tricky Trays in the area. We are again asking for your support for the Tricky Tray through your donation of \$50 per family. Please help us achieve our goal again.

***We need some volunteers to go to some local businesses seeking donations.***

There are letters of introduction and a list of local businesses to solicit, Please see Joann Fulmer or John Drozd Jr after services. Thank you

**Tricky Tray Donations:** \$50: Andrea Suter, Charles Morykan, Sharon Komanesky DeVito, Ihor Mirchuk

## IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN ☺ : PYROHY SALE SEPTEMBER 5-6

After our summer break, we will begin pyrohy making again September 5 & 6. Pyrohy are \$6.00 a dozen and can be ordered by calling the rectory office at 610-252-4266 or by placing your order on the order form in the back of the church. Potato peeling & prep Tuesday 9:00AM – 6:00PM Pyrohy Making Wednesday 9:00AM till finish. Volunteers are needed .. if you can help either day or both, during the day or clean up after 5, your help would be appreciated. Thank you.

## FIRST HIERARCHICAL DIVINE LITURGY

Anyone wishing to attend the First Divine Liturgy of Bishop Andriy Rabyi, please register in the vestibule of the church. The Divine Liturgy will be at our Cathedral in Philadelphia on September 24, 2017 beginning at 3:00PM. All are welcome and invited. We will be leaving from Holy Ghost Church at 12:00 noon.

## SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR TEXAS DISASTER RELIEF

There is a collection basket in the vestibule of the church for the relief effort underway for all of those affected by Hurricane Harvey in Texas. Our collection will be gathered and sent into the chancery to be sent to Texas through Catholic Charities. Thank you for your contribution.

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If you wish to join Holy Ghost Church and become a member of our parish family, please contact Fr. Dan at the parish rectory to register with us.

**Sacraments of Initiation:** Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Communion. Classes are required for parents and godparents prior to sacrament. Please contact the parish office

**Marriages:** Couples wishing to be married must be registered in the parish and attending Pre-Cana classes. One year notification is required.

**Anointing of the Sick/Visitation of the Sick:** Anyone wishing to be visited with Holy Communion and/or anointed for healing, please contact Fr. Dan at the parish office.

**Confession:** Regular confession helps us in our journey of faith.

Confessions will be held

Saturday's from 5:15PM-5:45PM Sunday from 10:15AM-10:45AM

## *The Old Has Passed Away: All Things Are Made New*

The fulfillment of the law is Christ himself, who does not so much lead us away from the letter as lift us up to its spirit. For the law's consummation was this, that the very lawgiver accomplished His work and changed letter into spirit, summing everything up in Himself and, though subject to the law, living by grace. He subordinated the law, yet harmoniously united grace with it, not confusing the distinctive characteristics of the one with the other, but effecting the transition in a way most fitting for God. He changed whatever was burdensome, servile and oppressive to what is light and liberating, so that we should be enslaved no longer under the elemental spirits of the world, as the Apostle says, nor held fast as bondservants under the letter of the law.

Justly, then, do we celebrate this mystery since it signifies for us a double grace. We are led toward the truth, and we are led away from

our condition of slavery to the letter of the law. How can this be? Darkness yields before the coming of the light, and grace exchanges legalism for freedom. But midway between the two stands today's mystery, at the frontier where types and symbols give way to reality, and the old is replaced by the new. Therefore, let all creation sing and dance and unite to make worthy contribution to the celebration of this day. Let there be one common festival for saints in heaven and men on earth. Let everything, mundane things and those above, join in festive celebration. Today this created world is raised to the dignity of a holy place for Him who made all things. The creature is newly prepared to be a divine dwelling place for the Creator

*St. Andrew of Crete*

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