

SUNDAY BEFORE THE
EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS



Icon of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross — September 14th

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 dan.troyan@yahoo.com

Archpriest Fr. Daniel Troyan – Pastor

September 11-18, 2016

Sunday before Exaltation of the Cross

Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18

Gospel: John 3: 13-17

SATURDAY 6:00PM (English)+John Hutnik- Frank & Marge O'Such

SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

9:00AM (Ukrainian) For the Parishioners

11:00AM (English) Health and Blessings Stefania Trusz – Trusz Family

All daily Divine Liturgies celebrated at 9:00AM. Please support the prayer life of our church by your participation.

MONDAY No Divine Liturgy

TUESDAY + Tony Stojkiewicz- Craig Stoken

WEDNESDAY FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

5:30PM Health and Special Intention Archbishop Stefan Soroka

THURSDAY +Josephine Iieczko – Kathryn Hauser

FRIDAY +John Vedomsky – Mattes Family

SATURDAY (English) +Tony & Justyna Stojkiewicz- Daughters Audrey and Jane

SUNDAY AFTER THE FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

9:00AM (Ukrainian) For the People

11:00AM(English) +John Terleski- Helen and Elizabeth Terleski

COLLECTION – \$1330.00 Thank you for your generosity and support

\$50.00 In memory of +Karen Bakros- Karen Clark \$6.60 Recycling

Redners Tapes: \$56.65

Eternal Light & Altar Candles Special Health Intention: Margaret Hutnik- Bill & Ruth Hutnik

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

Helen Terleski

Teodozia Sroka

Catherine Kutzler

Olga Turczyn

Mae Kulczykcki

Sophie Troyan

Jean Lakomski

Michael Trusz

Archbishop Stefan

Peg Hutnik

Richard Suter

Martha Charon

Olga Bryksa

Julian Trusz

Michael Sidlar

Walter Kiniuk

Joseph Bodnar

Lillian Opp

Frank & Betty Maitzki

Sarah Shanks

Kim Lightcap

Gregory Neff

Stephen Terleski

Bob Bassler

Margaret Dashe

Helen Potak

Anna Drozd

Olga Trusz

Mary Heverling

Frieda Lubosky

Mary Heverling

Estelle Troyan

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS POSTFEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

Troparion (8):

You came down from on high, O Merciful One, and accepted three days of burial to free us from our sufferings. O Lord, our life and our resurrection, glory be to You.

Troparion (4):

Your nativity, O Mother of God, has made joy known to all the world, for from you dawned the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God. He abolished the curse and gave the blessing; and by making death of no effect He bestowed on us eternal life.

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

Kontakion (4):

By your birth, O immaculate one, Joachim and Anna were freed from the reproach of childlessness, and Adam and Eve from the corruption of death. And your people, redeemed from the guilt of their sins, celebrate as they cry out to you: The barren one gives birth to the Mother of God and nourisher of our life.

Now and for ever and ever: Amen.

Kontakion (8): When You rose from the tomb, You also raised the dead and resurrected Adam. Eve exults in Your resurrection, and the ends of the world celebrate Your rising from the dead, O Most Merciful One.

Prokimenon (6):

Save Your people, O Lord, and bless Your inheritance.

Verse: To You, O Lord, I call; my God, be not deaf to me.

Prokimenon (3):

My soul extols the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Epistle: Reading of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (Gal 6, 11-18)

Brethren: See with what large letters I am writing to you in my own hand! It is those who want to make a good appearance in the flesh who are trying to compel you to have yourselves circumcised, only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. Not even those having themselves circumcised observe the law themselves; they only want you to be circumcised so that they may boast of your flesh. But may I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither does circumcision mean anything, nor does uncircumcision, but only a new creation. Peace and mercy be to all who follow this rule and to the Israel of God. From now on, let no one make troubles for me; for I bear the marks of Jesus on my body. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.

Alleluia Verses:

Verse: I have exalted one chosen from the people; and with My holy oil, I have anointed him. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Verse: My hand shall always be with him, and My arm shall make him strong. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel: (Jn 3, 13-17)

The Lord said, "No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

It is truly right... (Or the Hirmos of the Feast):

O my soul, extol the Virgin Mary, wondrously born.

Hirmos:

Mothers cannot be virgins, nor virgins be mothers; but in you, O Mother of God, both virginity and motherhood were present. Therefore, all the people of the earth unceasingly extol you.

Communion Verse:

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest.

I shall raise the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Divine Liturgy

Of all the services of the Christian Church, there is one in which we come most closely into the presence of our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ. This is the service at which we commemorate our Lord's sacrifice on the Cross and his Resurrection from the dead, at the conclusion of which we share in His Body and Blood. Among Catholics of the Latin Rite, this is called the **Mass**; among Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Christians, it is called the **Divine Liturgy**. It is natural for human beings to offer sacrifice - that is, to make an offering of some good thing to another person. A sacrifice may be a sign of honor and respect; it

might be made in thanks to the other, or to seal a breach in a relationship. It is usually intended to somehow bind together the one making the sacrifice, and the one to whom the

sacrifice it made. The value of the sacrifice depends on what it is that is sacrificed, and its meaning to the two parties; and on the intent and worthiness of the one making the sacrifice. In the Old Testament, we see such offerings from the time of our first parents - for example, in the story of the sacrifice of Abel, whose offering to God was accepted, and of Cain, whose offering was not. In the Old Testament, fathers offered sacrifices for their families, and priests offered sacrifices on behalf of the people. God ordained certain sacrifices to be made in reparation for sin, and as thanksgiving offerings. Such sacrifices could consist of crops, incense, or animals, and were often accompanied by prayers that God would accept these sacrifices. Sacrifice formed a basic part of the covenant that God made with the people of Israel on Mount Sinai - that He would be their God, and they would be His people, keeping His commandments. As God prepared to deliver His people from slavery in Egypt, He ordered that each family should sacrifice a lamb, and spread its blood on the doorposts of their home, so that the destroying angel sent against the firstborn of Egypt would "pass over" them; the family would then consume the lamb as "food for the journey." Each year thereafter, the people of Israel were to repeat this meal, recalling their deliverance as if they themselves were present to see it accomplished. Thus, the Passover was both an event in the past, and one kept continually present - a sacrifice, and a meal that renews a covenant. In the fullness of time, God sent His only Son to be born as a man, to teach, to suffer death on the Cross, and to rise again from the dead. The prophets of the Old Testament had spoken of a new sacrifice that would wipe away the people's sins, and the words of John the Baptist, "There is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!", made it clear that Jesus Christ (that is, the Messiah) was to be this new sacrifice. In His death on the Cross, Christ made a new covenant with the human race, in order to save them from their sins; in rising from the dead, He destroyed death and re-opened Heaven to those who had fallen. In His last supper with the disciples, Christ offered bread and wine in the context of a Passover supper, and declared them to be His body and blood - "the blood of the covenant", telling the disciples to do this "in remembrance of me." For the Byzantine churches, the Divine Liturgy is precisely this remembrance.

As the Fathers remind us, the Eucharist or Divine Liturgy is a true sacrifice: we take God's gifts, formed by human labor into bread and wine, and offer them to God, along with our prayers and thanksgiving. In doing so, we not only obey the command of the Lord Jesus, but our sacrifice is united to the one sacrifice He made on the cross, as the bread and wine become His body and blood by the power of the Holy Spirit. These gifts are then given back to us, to be received as Holy Communion, for our sanctification.

Thus, the Divine Liturgy is the one sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross, made present in our midst, and concluding with a meal that renews our baptismal covenant with God.

CENTENNIAL CROSS BLESSING

Our parish centennial is in 5 years: 2021. We thank a member of our parish who has fabricated from wood a cross which has been erected in the corner of our property to begin our celebration countdown. The cross reminds us of our commitment to the way of life Jesus has shown us. It will be blessed on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross on Wednesday September 14, after the 5:30PM Divine Liturgy. May God bless our cross maker and benefactor for this beautiful symbol of our faith for one hundred years in West Easton . Mnohaya lita!

STREET PAVING

The borough will be finalizing the street paving on September 14, 2016 . For parking for the Divine Liturgy for the cross, use the chapel lot across the street or park on the lot behind the rectory. Thank you.

FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross will be celebrated on Wednesday evening September 14 at 5:30PM with the Divine Liturgy.

The Elevation of the Cross, celebrated on the fourteenth of September, commemorates the finding of Christ's Cross by Saint Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine in the fourth century; and, after it was taken by the Persians, of its recovery by the Emperor Heraclius in the seventh century at which time it was "elevated" in the Church of the Resurrection in Jerusalem. From this latter event the "universal elevation" of the Cross was celebrated annually in all of the churches of the Christian Empire.

VISITATION OF THE SICK

The sick and homebound will be visited with the sacrament of Holy Communion on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week. If you are not presently being visited and would like to have a visit please contact the rectory office. Thank you.

OCTOBER 2nd BASILIAN PILGRIMAGE

The Sisters of St Basil the Great in Fox Chase PA invite you to their annual Pilgrimage on Sunday October 2, 2016. The Theme for this year's Pilgrimage is "Mary, Mother of Mercy" The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 11:00AM and Moleben to the Blessed Mother at 4:00PM. For more information and directions please visit their website at www.stbasils.com .

TRICKY TRAY DONATIONS

We will be holding our Annual Tricky Tray Fundraiser on October 16, 2016. We have sent a letter out to all of our parishioners asking for your support of \$50.00 for each family to help us prepare the prizes. The Tricky Tray is one of our major fundraisers and helps us to meet our goal of maintaining our church here in West Easton. Fliers will be available soon to distribute. If anyone is willing to help us solicit prizes from the local businesses please see Fr. Dan or John Drozd after the Liturgies. Thank you.

\$50.00 : Karen Clark, Olga Bryksa, Juriy Shevtziv, Tetyana Bondar,

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We have begun our religious education classes for the children of our parishes. Pre-school to age 12 meet Tuesday evenings at 5:00-6:00PM in the Church hall. Three children have registered for First Confession and Holy Communion : Zachary Mattes, Nila Martinez, and Sarah Bellfy. If you wish for your child to receive the sacraments this year they must be attending these classes.

This year we are covering the stories of the Bible from the Book of Genesis through the New Testament. Copies of the classes will be available in the vestibule of the church for those who are unable to attend. Parents please take a copy and go over them with your children. Their faith and knowledge of God will last them a lot longer than anything else you give them.

PYROHY THIS WEEK:

Special thanks to all those who came to help at our pyrohy sale this past week: Donna Sidlar, Joann Fulmer, Maryann Kramer, Judy Palinkas, Kathy Sargent, Wilhelmina Wlchryk, John Drozd Jr, Craig Stoken, Oleh Balaziuk, Teodozia and Marion Sroka, Olga Bryksa, Elizabeth Poleschuk, Stefania Trusz, Yaroslawa Zuk, Heather Hill, Debbie Osmun, Robert Sarisky, Diane Bush, Pat Peters, Maria Best, Fr. Dan, Paulette Bellis, Donna Hale, Jean Lakomski, Bill Hutnik, Linda Hutnik
Special thanks to Cindy & Pat for a delicious lunch. Next sale October 4-5

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Our Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy invites you to it's **Wedding Anniversary Celebration** on Sunday October 16, 2016. Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan Soroka invites you to celebrate your wedding anniversary at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception at a Divine Liturgy at 11:00AM in your honor followed by a banquet for all couples and guests. Registration forms are in the vestibule of the church. Cost is \$50.00 per couple \$30.00 for guests. Deadline for registration is October 1, 2016

9/11 15th Anniversary remembrance

Tragedy can teach us many lessons. From pain, we can learn compassion. From division, we can learn solidarity. And when our world is shattered, as it was on September 11, 2001, we can learn to seek understanding. On that violent day which shook us silent, America fractured. The lines between "us" and "them" grew thicker, darker, and harsher, muddying our shared humanity. We have since inhabited the shadows they cast, shouting at one another from across divides. On this, the fifteenth anniversary of that heartbreaking day, we mourn and remember those we lost and all who were affected. But we are also given an opportunity: to overcome the lie of "them" and "I" and learn to live together. The terrorists of 9/11 were guided by a narrative of intercultural incompatibility. But as people of diverse religious and secular identities, we can prove them wrong in our unity. By building bridges of understanding, we can emerge from the shadows and learn — from one another — how to be our best selves.

God of love we place in your loving arms the thousands of innocent lives that were lost on that unforgettable morning of September 11, 2001. We also remember the courage of the countless men and women who put their lives at risk in order to rescue, alleviate and bring solace to the afflicted. Help us to continue to work for a world free from every form of hatred, violence and ignorance. May terrorism — in all its forms — disappear from the face of the earth. Amen.

Glory to You, Lover of Mankind

Master of all, alone without sin, for me the unworthy sinner were given over to death, death on a Cross, that you might free the sinner's soul from the bonds of sins. And what shall I give you in return for this, Master?

Glory to you, Lover of mankind! Glory to you, O Merciful! Glory to you, O Long-suffering! Glory to you, who pardon every fault! Glory to you, who came down to save our souls! Glory to you, incarnate in the Virgin's womb! Glory to you, who were bound! Glory to you, who were scourged! Glory to you, who were crucified! Glory to you, who were buried! Glory to you, who were raised! Glory to you, who were proclaimed! Glory to you, who were believed! Glory to you, who were taken up! Glory to you, who were enthroned with great glory at the Father's right hand, and are coming again with the glory of the Father and the holy Angels to judge every soul that has despised your holy

sufferings in that dread and fearful hour, when the powers of heaven will be shaken; when Angels, Archangels, Cherubim and Seraphim will come all together with fear and trembling before your glory; when all the foundations of the earth will tremble, and everything that has breath will shudder at your great and unendurable glory.

In that hour your hand will hide me under its wings and my soul be delivered from the fearful fire, the gnashing of teeth, the outer darkness and unending weeping, that blessing you, I may say, Glory to the One, who wished to save the sinner through the many acts of pity of His compassion.

St. Ephrem the Syrian

For more information on Eastern spirituality, visit
www.ecpubs.com