

SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS

December 17, 2017

9:10 AM Rosary

9:30 AM **Health/Blessings for all Parishioners**

Tuesday, December 19th

NO SERVICES

Wednesday, December 20th

9:00 AM **+ Paul Yaworsky** – by Mary Maluke

Thursday, December 21st

9:00AM **+ Rose Kline** – by the Family

Friday, December 22nd

9:00 AM **+ Olga Mosyjowski** – by Peter & Norma Kopko

Saturday, December 23^d

5:00 PM **+ Demko & Kateryna Schmeida** – by Maria Schmeida

Sunday, December 24th Christmas Eve

9:30 AM **Health/Blessings for all Parishioners**

12:30 PM **+Anna, Joseph Sr, and Christopher Skubiak** – by Dressler & Skubiak **CANTON**

10:00 PM **Great Compline** (Abbreviated)

10:15 PM **Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great** (*Myrovannya*)

Monday, December 25th **THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST**

10:00 AM Health/Blessings for all Parishioners (*Myrovannya*)

The Church was a mother to you in life, providing for your spiritual needs; please remember the Eparchy of Saint Josaphat in Parma in your last will and testament. The wording to do this is as follows:

“I give and bequeath to the Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of St. Josaphat in Parma, located in Parma, Ohio, _____% of the residue of my estate [or: the sum of \$_____].”

Thank you!

CONGRATULATIONS:

This week **David Griffiths (12/18), Teddy Chrapko (12/23), and Magdalene Paronish (12/24)** celebrate their birthdays. We wish you a wonderful celebration, and a year of health and blessings flavored with pure joy, and **many blessed years... mnohaya i blahaya lita!**

PLANNING AHEAD:

Dec 24th – Divine Liturgy at 12:30 in **Canton**

Dec 24th –Christmas Eve Liturgy **10:00 PM**

Dec 25th – Christmas Liturgy **10:00 AM**

Jan 1st – Circumcision of Our Lord **9:30AM**

Jan 5th – Vigil of Theophany 6:30 PM

Jan 6th – Theophany of Our Lord 9:00 AM

Jan 7th – Prosphora Dinner

PYROHY PROJECT DATES 2018:

Feb 10

Mar 17

Apr 21

May 19

June 23

“PERFECTLY YOURSELF”:

Learn that you have enough brains, talent, beauty, laughter, soul, ideas, and love to live the incredible life God created you to live. For you and yours, pick up a FREE paperback copy of “Perfectly Yourself: at either entrance into church. This gift was dropped off by St. Nicholas during his visit last Sunday. Enjoy!

CHRISTMAS PROSPHORA DINNER:

The Annual Holy Ghost Parish Prosphora Dinner will take place on **Sunday, January 7, 2018**, following the 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy. **All parishioners and visitors are invited.**

To ensure a variety of foods, and perhaps larger quantities, at this pot-luck fellowship meal, we kindly ask that you inform Mary or Irene as to what you would like to bring.

Pyrohy, holubci, borscht (beet soup), herring, ham, jello, au gratin potatoes, sauerkraut, and kolachi are already sponsored.

We are still in need of sponsors for kutya (wheat mix), fruit compote, fresh fruit bowl, haluski, mushroom gravy, sauerkraut, a beef dish, pastas, salads, vegetables, additional potatoes, cookies and desserts...or whatever else your heart desires. *We also accept monetary donations to help cover the kielbasa that will be provided by the parish. Thank you!*

UNIQUE CHRISTMAS GIFTS:

Are available at our Ukrainian store in the social hall. Items for sale include religious icons, Christmas ornaments, Ukrainian and English greeting cards(most \$ 1.50), pysanky (Ukrainian eggs), jewelry, embroidery, cookbooks, ceramics, aprons, woodworking (plaques, plates, jewelry boxes, candleholders), t-shirts, visors, angels, bookmarks, key chains, magnets, etc.

All new items are reasonably priced, and estate items are a bargain.

OUR SYMPATHIES:

We wish to express our prayers and deepest sympathies to the family of † **Walter Tomko**, who died on Dec. 16th 2017 with his family by his side. Funeral arrangements will be printed in the newspapers.

May his memory be eternal!

Follow us on facebook: *Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church in Akron, Ohio*

VISIT THE HOLY GHOST PARISH LIBRARY

Located in the parish hall near the double doors, our library has books and other materials to borrow. Browse selections on Liturgy, Scripture, Mary and other Saints, Prayer, the Sacraments, and some children's items. There is a small collection of books in Ukrainian. Let us know if you have books to add to the library on our Liturgy, theology, and traditions. Books of this type may be left in the box marked "Book Donations" near the Library shelves. Questions: Pete or Norma Kopko 330-477-9650.

BYZANTINE DAILY OFFICE:

A while back you received an insert with our parish bulletin detailing a new electronic product from Easter Christian Publications to assist with your prayer life. However, for the iTunes and other audio download websites, the albums of the Daily Office cannot be found with the text "ECP-BDO" as indicated in the flier. You must use "**Byzantine Daily Office**" instead, in order to search those websites. Please make note of this, those of you who desire to raise your level of daily prayer.

Also check www.ecpubs.com/daily-office.html for more information.

THE UNITED STATES COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

We are all invited to visit www.usccb.org/conscience to learn more about various social issues relative to the teaching of the Catholic Church. It helps to stay informed, as we continue to mature in our Catholic Christian Faith. See what the hierarchy has discussed, decided and published in order to guide the faithful.

FOR THOSE WHO CAN'T JOIN US:

Know that we are praying for all the souls connected with Holy Ghost Parish, the Ukrainian Catholic Church, the Greater Catholic (Universal) Church, and all Christian souls in the world. We also pray for non-Christians, and we pray for our enemies. The goal of our prayers is to bring the world into greater harmony, that all may become one in the unity of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ, as he commanded.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Please continue to bring in any Box Tops for Education labels and leave them in the tall container by the Sunday coffee service. Our altar servers really appreciate your collection of these labels as they donate them to their school.

"28. The parish is not an outdated institution; precisely because it possesses great flexibility, it can assume quite different contours depending on the openness and missionary creativity of the pastor and the community. While certainly not the only institution which evangelizes, if the parish proves capable of self-renewal and constant adaptivity, it continues to be "the Church living in the midst of the homes of her sons and daughters". This presumes that it really is in contact with the homes and the lives of its people, and does not become a useless structure out of touch with people or a self-absorbed group made up of a chosen few. The parish is the presence of the Church in a given territory, an environment for hearing God's word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, worship and celebration. In all its activities the parish encourages and trains its members to be evangelizers. It is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a center of constant missionary outreach."

Pope Francis, *Apostolic Exhortation on the Proclamation of the Gospel in Today's World*

The news media have made all of us aware of the valiant struggles that the Ukrainian people are engaged in these days. In solidarity with them, we follow Patriarch Sviatoslav's initiative to pray for Ukrainian's God-given rights to freedom of speech, choice and religion; therefore, Fr. Sal has added these liturgical Petitions to the Divine Liturgy at Holy Ghost Parish.

Liturgical Petitions:

O good and loving Master, look down with compassion, heal, comfort and protect Your servants in Ukraine as they seek to foster unity and end division, and enjoy human rights, liberty, and self-determination in their nation, let us pray to the Lord.

We also pray that the Holy Spirit may open the hearts and minds of all to wisdom and grace so that those in Ukraine and throughout the world will cease the acts of aggression and respect the territorial sovereignty of Ukraine, let us pray to the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

“Christ among us” - a program brought to you each Sunday at this time to reach those who are elderly or ill, and those who are not able to attend their church for Sunday worship.

Tune in to WPIT- 73 AM - Pittsburgh, PA every Sunday at 2:00 pm (EST) or listen to the radio program on-line at www.wpitam.com You can also listen any time at <http://stjosaphateparchy.com/listen/>

This Program is sponsored by the Diocesan Resource Committee of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saint Josaphat in Parma, OH, and by your contributions. Each Sunday we will bring to you the word of God, we hope to brighten your lives and bring you joy and solace

*****Vatican Announcement about Cremated Remains** – On October 25th the Vatican confirmed that Catholics may be cremated, but announced that they may not have their ashes scattered at sea or kept in urns at home. According to the new guidelines, cremated remains should be kept in a “sacred place” such as a church cemetery. For more details about this announcement, we forward all faithful to the Holy See website www.vatican.va

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ARE YOU READY?:

Many people think because they attend a particular parish, they automatically belong. But membership requires signing up---formally enrolling yourself in parish. Registration is a commitment to a community, a way to be included in the religious, social, and ministerial activities of your parish. Registering in your parish is a statement of faith and confidence in the life and work of your parish. Please make an effort to register in our parish.

FORGIVENESS:

Forgiveness does not mean acceptance of a lie. When we forgive, we don't put up with evil, but on the contrary, we name it and call a wrongdoer as such. But when we forgive, this means that first of all we throw evil out of our own heart. Only that person who is spiritually higher and stronger, can forgive. To forgive means to overcome evil. Forgiveness does not mean release from responsibility for wrongdoings. Fair punishment is necessary for reconciliation. Otherwise how can we speak about the due respect for the victims of crimes, due satisfaction for their offences if, according to the principles of justice, the person who offended them will not suffer deserved punishment?

MARRIAGE The Holy Mystery of Marriage (from the catechism of the Ukrainian Catholic Church) Marriage Is a Mystery of Love between a Man and a Woman # 472

Marriage is based on the fact that the married couple mutually complements one another. The Church gives witness to this in a prayer of the Rite of Crowning: “Holy God, you created man from the dust and from his side fashioned a woman as a suitable helpmate for him, for such was the good pleasure of your majesty that man should not be alone on earth.” In their gender differentiation, a man and a woman complete one another, creating an indissoluble union of one body

"The merciful Lord hurries to help others using our feet, supports the sick and frail with our hands, listens to those who have been wronged with our ears, consoles those who are sad with our mouths, carries the weak with our shoulders, brings others close to Himself with our hearts. In other words, the vocation of every Christian is to be an icon of God's goodness and love in the world."

- Patriarch Sviatoslav

On behalf of the Synod of Bishops
of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church

2018:

- **March 3-4: LOCK-IN RETREAT at St. Anne Ukrainian Catholic Church in Austintown, OH;**
- **June 14-15: EPARCHIAL YOUTH DAYS at Cheeseman Farm in Portersville, PA;**

- **October 6-7: FALL YOUTH RETREAT at (pending venue);**
- **December 7-9: YOUTH RALLY in Charlotte, NC (pending the exact name of and venue for the event);**

“Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up.” Galatians 6:9