

TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 8, 2020

8:40 AM Rosary

9:00 AM **Health/Blessings for Holy Ghost Parishioners**

Monday, November 9th NO SERVICES

Tuesday, November 10th

9:00 AM + **Luba Hnytka** – by Ivan Stecura

Wednesday, November 11th

9:00 AM **Living and deceased Veterans** – by UAV Post #28

5:00 PM Confessions in the Sacristy (or by appointment)

6:30 PM BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, November 12th

9:00 AM + **Joseph & Sophia Szabat** – by Bill Szabat

10:00 AM Book Study

Friday, November 13th

9:00 AM PART 1 - PEELING & PREP OF ONIONS AND POTATOES

6:00 PM PART 2 - ADDITIONAL PREP

Saturday, November 14th

9:00 AM PYROHY PROJECT PART 3 - PINCHING

5:00 PM **H/B for Charlotte Hughes**

Sunday, November 15th 24th Sunday after Pentecost

8:40 AM Rosary

9:00 AM **Health/Blessings for Holy Ghost Parishioners**

Regarding masks when attending the Divine Liturgy:

Dear Parishioners,

The wearing of masks has now been mandated by the Governor while in Summit County and when out in public, **including when attending worship services. As always, please try to maintain at least 6 feet distance between family units.**

In accordance with this directive and for the safety and comfort of all of our parish family we are asking that you please wear your mask when attending the Divine Liturgy. If you are sick or not feeling well, please consider staying home and watching us live on Facebook. If you do become sick with Covid-19 please let us know as soon as possible!

CONGRATULATIONS:

This week **Alexander Griffiths (11/12)** celebrates his birthday. **Peter & Norma Kopko (11/12)** celebrate their wedding anniversary. We wish you all a wonderful celebration, and a year of health and blessings flavored with pure joy, and many blessed years... mnohaya i blahaya lita!

VETERANS DAY – NOV. 11TH:

On this special day, Ukrainian-American Post 28 of Akron, salutes all active military members and veterans for their service and sacrifice.

“Lest not forget! Freedom is not free.”

Emergency Relief Fund:

Parishioners can contact Father Sal with total confidentiality to request assistance along with prayers and counseling. Thank you everyone for contributing to this cause!

PHILIP’S FAST:

We will begin a new season in our Church, a period of spiritual preparation for the celebration of the birth of our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ. This season, which lasts 40 days (*from November 15th to December 24th*) is called Philip’s Fast. This is a traditional time of prayer, penance and fasting as we prepare our families and our hearts to be the dwelling place of our Lord. The church is asking you to abstain from meat products on Wednesdays and Fridays during the Fast.

Book Study:

We are finishing a new book: “The Good Listener” by James Sullivan. This is a must read book for anyone in who are in relationships with others -- that means everyone! It points out how our poor listening hurts others, often unintentionally. It also gives some suggestions how we can improve our listening and how we can share so the other will understand us better. It is short and easy to read but oh so powerful.

VIRTUAL FUNDRAISER TO SUPPORT UCU:

Please join the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation and the Ukrainian Catholic University (Lviv, Ukraine) for our Virtual Fundraiser to support UCU (join via ZOOM) on Sunday, November 8, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. CT; 2:00 p.m. ET. Inspiring speakers (Metropolitan Archbishop Borys Gudziak), lovely music, great entertainment, a virtual up-date about UCU and more. We promise an afternoon that will be enjoyed by all. To participate, register your email address with UCEF: ucef@ucef.org Once registered, we’ll provide the link.

Choir Members Wanted:

We are looking for new members (especially men!) to join our choir to help lead in the responses to the Divine Services. Rehearsals are held on Thursdays. If interested, please see Greg Jindra.

PLANNING AHEAD:

November 13th & 14th – Pyrohy

Listed here are 10 points for fruitful Scripture reading.

1. **Bible reading is for Catholics.** The Church encourages Catholics to make reading the Bible part of their daily prayer lives. Reading these inspired words, people grow deeper in their relationship with God and come to understand their place in the community God has called them to in himself.
2. **Prayer is the beginning and the end.** Reading the Bible is not like reading a novel or a history book. It should begin with a prayer asking the Holy Spirit to open our hearts and minds to the Word of God. Scripture reading should end with a prayer that this Word will bear fruit in our lives, helping us to become holier and more faithful people.
3. **Get the whole story! When selecting a Bible, look for a Catholic edition.** A Catholic edition will include the Church's complete list of sacred books along with introductions and notes for understanding the text. A Catholic edition will have an *imprimatur* notice on the back of the title page. An *imprimatur* indicates that the book is free of errors in Catholic doctrine.
4. **The Bible isn't a book. It's a library.** The Bible is a collection of 73 books written over the course of many centuries. The books include royal history, prophecy, poetry, challenging letters to struggling new faith communities, and believers' accounts of the preaching and passion of Jesus. Knowing the genre of the book you are reading will help you understand the literary tools the author is using and the meaning the author is trying to convey.
5. **Know what the Bible is – and what it isn't.** The Bible is the story of God's relationship with the people he has called to himself. It is not intended to be read as history text, a science book, or a political manifesto. In the Bible, God teaches us the truths that we need for the sake of our salvation.
6. **The sum is greater than the parts.** Read the Bible in context. What happens before and after – even in other books – helps us to understand the true meaning of the text.
7. **The Old relates to the New.** The Old Testament and the New Testament shed light on each other. While we read the Old Testament in light of the death and resurrection of Jesus, it has its own value as well. Together, these testaments help us to understand God's plan for human beings.
8. **You do not read alone.** By reading and reflecting on Sacred Scripture, Catholics join those faithful men and women who have taken God's Word to heart and put it into practice in their lives. We read the Bible within the tradition of the Church to benefit from the holiness and wisdom of all the faithful.
9. **What is God saying to me?** The Bible is not addressed only to long-dead people in a faraway land. It is addressed to each of us in our own unique situations. When we read, we need to understand what the text says and how the faithful have understood its meaning in the past. In light of this understanding, we then ask: What is God saying to me?
10. **Reading isn't enough.** If Scripture remains just words on a page, our work is not done. We need to meditate on the message and put it into action in our lives. Only then can the word be "living and effective."(Hebrews 4:12).

PHILIP'S FAST (PYLYPIVKA) PASTORAL OF THE UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC HIERARCHY OF THE U.S.A. TO OUR CLERGY, HIEROMONKS AND BROTHERS, RELIGIOUS SISTERS, SEMINARIANS AND BELOVED FAITHFUL,

Glory to Jesus Christ!

St. Philip's Fast or *Pylypivka* is about to start. It is a joyful 40-day fast, which begins on November 15, the day after the feast of the apostle St. Philip, and lasts until December 24, Christmas Eve. This fast is meant to prepare us spiritually for the great and solemn holyday – the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ. This is the time given to us to deepen our understanding and awareness of God's mystery – the Incarnation of the Son of God and the coming of the Messiah, the King of Peace, Emmanuel and the Light of the world. It is time for us to find and rediscover true joy of the Nativity of Our Lord through prayer, meditation, and acts of charity, not like it is in the artificial atmosphere of Christmas parties, buying and exchanging gifts and enjoying specially prepared holiday delicacies.

We may think that the coming of Christ is a completed event and a historical fact of the past, and the anticipation of His coming is only symbolic for us. It is not! Christ always comes to us. He is constantly born spiritually in the heart of every person who believes and expects Him. He comes to us in prayer and the Holy Mysteries, especially in Holy Confession and Communion. Today He comes to be with us and among us.

This year, St. Philip's Fast and the understanding of the coming of Christ and His presence among us takes on a special meaning and significance for us. In the midst of the relentless COVID-19 pandemic, the suffering of many from this deadly illness, often resulting in the sad and tragic loss of family members and friends, political discord and instability, riots, wars and human rights abuses

around the world, we are thirsty for a deep awareness and conviction that Christ the Lord is truly present among us and that His grace is life-giving and necessary.

St. Philip's Fast recalls for us the Old Testament and the world, which froze in anticipation of the coming of Christ, the Light of the world. We will hear readings from the books of the ancient prophets Nahum, Habakkuk, Daniel, and Isaiah, who prophesied of His coming eight centuries before He was born. They wrote that the Messiah was to be born in Bethlehem, about the escape of the Holy Family to Egypt and the return to Nazareth, about His healing of the sick, about His rejection by the chosen people, about His betrayal and taking thirty silver pieces by one of the apostles, about His crucifixion among robbers, about His side being pierced, about His Resurrection and Ascension to Heaven. Later, the holy evangelists, while writing the Gospels inspired by the Holy Spirit, will include these prophecies to show us that Jesus Christ is the Messiah that everyone expected and that He is truly the Son of God.

The story of salvation does not end with the coming of Christ over 2,000 years ago, but it continues to this very day. We are all awaiting His second coming, which He Himself prophesied, and it will be very different from the first. When Christ comes a second time, everyone will recognize Him. During His first coming, He was not loved but was rejected. When He comes a second time, all the tribes will acknowledge Him as Lord. During His second coming, He will also be accompanied by the angels. During His first coming, He entered the world as a helpless baby in the manger. When He comes a second time, He will come as the King of kings and Lord of lords. That is why the expectation of the coming of Christ is not and cannot be symbolic, but is a completely genuine event – He will come a second time.

During the Christmas fast, let us prepare spiritually for His coming. Create a prayer corner in your home and display an icon of the Nativity of Christ, meditating daily on the mystery of the coming of the Messiah. Let us receive the Mysteries of Holy Confession and Holy Communion during these days, especially if we did not have the opportunity to do so during Great Lent. Let us abstain from meat on Fridays, overeating and excessive use of the Internet. Let us be generous

with our time and talents and serve the poor and disadvantaged as much as we can. Let us reconcile with those whom we have offended and those who have offended us. Let us always be aware that Jesus Christ will come a second time as our Lord and Judge, though “of that day and hour no one knows.” (Matt. 24:36).

May you and your family be blessed by Our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ, whose joyful Nativity in the manger of Bethlehem we patiently await!

+Borys Gudziak

Archbishop of Philadelphia for Ukrainians

Metropolitan of Ukrainian Catholics in the United States

+Paul Chomnycky, OSBM

Eparch of Stamford

+Benedict Aleksiychuk

Eparch of St. Nicholas in Chicago

+ Bohdan J. Danylo

Eparch of St. Josaphat in Parma

+Andriy Raby (author)

Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia

November, 2020

