



BICHUK BULLETIN

HOLY TRINITY UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

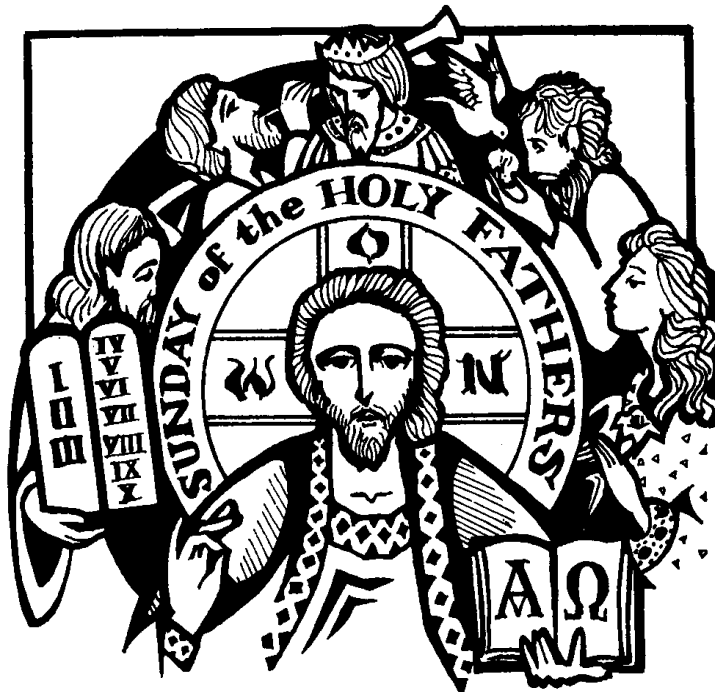
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December 22, 2024

Vol. 57, No. 51

Sunday of the Holy Fathers

Matthew 1:1-25



Divine Liturgies:

Sundays: 9:00 a.m. (Ukrainian) & 11:15 a.m. (English)

Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m.

Saturdays: 5:00 p.m.

Holy Days of Obligation: 10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Baptisms & Funerals: By arrangement.

Marriages: By arrangement eight months in advance.

NOTE: Marriage preparation course required.

Confessions: 20 minutes before Sunday Divine Liturgies, or by appointment.

Pastor: Fr. Iryney Valyavka, OSBM

Assistant Pastor: Fr. Yosafat Oliynyk, OSBM

Parish Secretaries (part time): Lorraine Stoyko & Michelle Yakimetz

HOLY TRINITY PARISH OFFICE HOURS (Monday-Friday)
9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Sunday before Christmas directly introduces us to this great feast. The word of God, which we have just heard, takes us into a kind of worldwide movement. Listening to the readings of the Apostle and the Holy Gospel, we feel that everything has moved. Hearing Matthew tell us the genealogy of Jesus Christ, we feel not just a change of generation, but a cosmic movement of convergence – man seeks and looks for God, and He seeks to unite with him.

Christmas invites us to a meeting with God, who comes as the Savior of the world, a meeting that brings heavenly joy. However, as we prepare for it, we inevitably realize our own weakness and unworthiness, which creates fear in us. In itself, this fear is not a bad thing, if it stems from the submission of a creature to its Creator, a student to his Teacher, a servant to his Lord. At the Divine Liturgy, the minister invites the faithful people to Holy Communion with the words: “Come with fear of God and faith.”

Consciousness of our sins and weaknesses should not lead to paralysis, but to repentance and action. That is why the angel says to the shepherds, who were frightened by the bright vision of God's glory: “Do not be afraid!”. The Lord overcomes our sinfulness and weakness.

That is why a person should not be afraid of heavenly joy. We are called to a joy that is real, sincere, deep, and eternal. It is given to us as a generous gift from God. This is the profound meaning of the incarnation of God's Son: He became one of us to pave the way for us to the joy of His Father and ours.

Therefore, despite all his limitations, anxieties and fears, man is called to accept this joy, to open his heart to it. The angel explains how to recognize it: “And here is a sign for you: You will find a child wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger” (Luke 2:12).

Almighty God makes Himself known “not in the royal palace, but among the cattle, in the wilderness, in a stall...” as we sing in a carol.

God's way to true joy is through weakness and patience, as St. Paul notes: “Therefore, I will rather boast of my infirmities, so that the power of Christ may abide in me” (2 Cor. 12:9).

Thus, a person is called to share the joy of Christmas: “The shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go to Bethlehem and see the event that the Lord has revealed to us.’” (Luke 2:15).



We would like to gratefully acknowledge the \$10,000 donation we have received from the estate of the late +Marshall Ewaskiw, and from his late mother, +Annie Ewaskiw.

May God grant them eternal rest, and may perpetual light shine upon them. Amen.

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Gift of Love Envelopes – Reminder

Enclosed in your 2024 boxed envelopes are the green-bordered envelopes labelled as “Gift of Love – Basilian Fathers and Bishop.”

*All donations given in this envelope will go to the Bishop and Basilian Fathers, **not** to the Parish. Please make cheques payable to the Basilian Fathers. **This is a free will offering; no income tax receipt will be issued.***

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Parish Weekly Donations:

- Sunday Offerings – December 01: \$2,025.00
 - Sunday Offerings – December 08: \$ 910.00
 - Sunday Offerings – December 15: \$ 985.00
- December Total Donation: \$3,920.00**

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Parish Office Christmas Season Hours:

The Parish Office will be open until 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 24th, and closed for Christmas on Wednesday, December 25th and Thursday, December 26th. It will also be closed on Wednesday, January 1st for New Year’s Day.

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Our parish would like to extend a special thank you to all of the volunteers who assisted in every way with the Christmas decorating of the church and grounds, including the setup of both the outdoor & indoor Nativity Scenes; the Christmas trees, the lighting, the wreaths, and all other decorating that has been done.

PARISH EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Weekday Divine Liturgies are celebrated Mon.–Fri. @ 8 AM).

Saturday, December 21st & 28th:

- 5:00 p.m. – Divine Liturgy

Sunday, December 22nd & 29th:

- 9:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian)
- 11:15 a.m. – Divine Liturgy (English)

Tuesday, December 24th: Christmas Eve
(Day of Abstinence from Meat)

- 9:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
- 8:15 p.m. – Great Compline (“God With Us”), Lytia
- 9:00 p.m. – Solemn Divine Liturgy (bilingual)

Wednesday, December 25th: Nativity of Our Lord
(Holy Day of Obligation)

- 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy (bilingual)

Thursday, December 26th: Synaxis of the Blessed Mother of God & St Joseph

- 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy (bilingual)

Friday, December 27th: Feast of Saint Stephen, First Martyr

- 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy (bilingual)

Tuesday, December 31st: End of Year (New Year’s Eve)

- 5:00 p.m. – Thanksgiving Divine Liturgy

Wednesday January 1st, 2024: Circumcision of Our Lord and Feast of Saint Basil the Great

- 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

Sunday, January 5th: Eve of Theophany, «Shchedryy Vechir» – *(Day of Abstinence from meat)*

- 9:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian)
- 11:15 a.m. – Divine Liturgy (English)
- 4:00 p.m. – Great Compline (“God With Us”), Great Blessing of the Water

Monday, January 6th: THE HOLY THEOPHANY
(Holy Day of Obligation)

- 10:00 a.m. – SOLEMN DIVINE LITURGY & Great Blessing of the Water

22 Грудня: Неділя перед Христовим Різдвом – Неділя Святих Отців

Воскресний Тропар, голос 6: Ангельські сили на гробі Твоїм, * і сторожі омертвіли; * Марія ж стояла при гробі, * шукаючи пречистого тіла Твого. * Полонив Ти ад і, не переможений від нього, * зустрів Ти Діву, даруючи життя. * Воскреслий з мертвих, Господи, слава Тобі!

Тропар Отців, голос 2: Величні діла віри! * Три юнаки посеред полум'я раділи, немов на водах відпочинку, * а пророк Даниїл, ніби овечкам, появився пастир левам. * Їхніми молитвами, Христе Боже, спаси душі наші.

Слава Отцю, і Сину, і Святому Духові, І нині і повсякчас, і на віки вічні. Амінь.

Кондак Праотців, Голос 6: Рукотворному ідолові не поклонившись,* але озброївшись неохопним буттям, прехвальні,* ви у змаганні з вогнем прославилися,* Стоячи посеред полум'я нестерпного, ви благали Бога:* Поспіши, о Щедрий, поспіши, Милосердний, нам на поміч,* бо Ти можеш, якщо хочеш.

Прокімен, голос 4: Благословен єси, Господи, Боже батьків наших, * і хвали достойний: ім'я твоє преславне на всі віки.

Стих: Бо Ти праведний у всьому, що вчинив єси нам.

Прокімен, голос 4: Благословен єси, Господи, Боже батьків наших, * і хвали достойний: ім'я твоє преславне на всі віки.

До ЄВРЕЇВ Послання Святого Апостола Павла Читання (11:9–10, 17–23, 32–40)

Хор: Алилуя! Алилуя! Алилуя!

Стих: Боже, на наші вуха ми чули, наші батьки нам розповіли.

Хор: Алилуя! Алилуя! Алилуя!

Стих: Але Ти врятував нас від наших ворогів і засоромив ненависників наших.

Хор: Алилуя! Алилуя! Алилуя!

Від МАТЕЯ Святої Євангелії Читання (1:1–25)

Причасний: Хваліте Господа з небес, * хваліте Його на висотах. * Радуйтеся праведні, в Господі, * правим належить похвала. * Аلیلія! Аلیلія! Аلیلія!

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Sunday, December 22nd: Sunday before the Nativity of Christ – Sunday of the Holy Fathers

Troparion, Tone 6: Angelic powers were upon Your tomb* and the guards became like dead men;* Mary stood before Your tomb* seeking Your most pure body.* You captured Hades without being overcome by it.* You met the Virgin and granted life.* O Lord, risen from the dead,* glory be to You!

Troparion, Tone 2: Great are the achievements of faith!* In the fountain of flames, the three holy youths rejoiced as by the water of rest,* and the prophet Daniel was revealed shepherding lions like sheep.* Through their intercession, O Christ God,* save our souls.

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

Kontakion, Tone 6: Armed by the Being that defies description* You defied the man-made idol, O thrice blessed youth.* In the midst of the unbearable flames you stood and cried out to God:* “In Your mercy, O gracious One, hasten and come to our aid,”* for You can do whatever You will.

Prokeimenon, Tone 4: Blessed are You, Lord God of our fathers,* and praised and glorified is Your Name forever.

Verse: For You are righteous in everything that You have done to us. (Daniel 3:26,27)

Prokeimenon, Tone 4: Blessed are You, Lord God of our fathers,* and praised and glorified is Your Name forever.

A reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews (11:9–10,17–23,32–40)

Faithful: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse: O God, we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have told us the work You did in their days.

Faithful: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse: You saved us from our oppressors and put to shame those who hate us. (Psalm 43:2,8)

Faithful: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew (1:1–25)

Communion Hymn: Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest (Psalm 148:1).* Rejoice in the Lord, O you just;* praise befits the righteous (Psalm 32:1).* Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia.

