

# St. Mary Protection of the Theotokos Parish

Pokrova-allentown.org 1031 Fullerton Ave, Allentown PA 18102  
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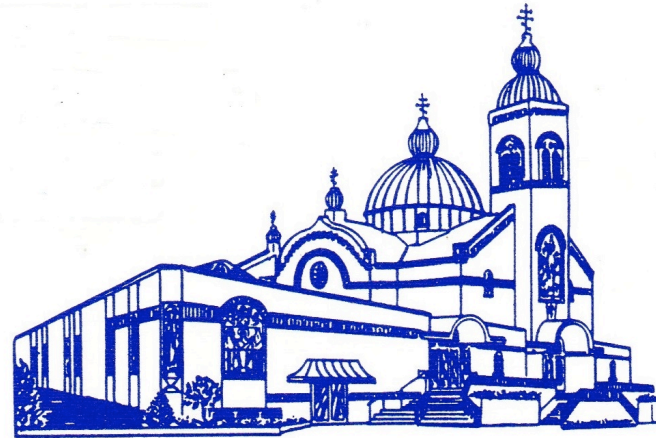
**GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST!**

**GLORY FOREVER TO GOD!**

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**СЛАВА ІСУСУ ХРИСТУ!**

**СЛАВА НАВІКИ БОГУ!**



Welcome to the God-loving and God-protected Orthodox Christian parish of *Pokrova* (Protection of the Holy Theotokos or “St. Mary’s”)!

**It is a blessing to have you with us today and we encourage you to come back as often as you are able.** Like us, you may find that you have found your spiritual home here!

We are a parish of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA under the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople and our doors and hearts are open to you and your family!

Please visit our website: pokrova-allentown.org and help yourself to the many pamphlets located on the literature racks outside the church. Fr. Anthony would love answering your questions; you can reach him at 484-232-9423, father.anthony@yahoo.com, on Facebook (Douglas Anthony Perkins or facebook.com/pokrova.allentown), or face to face after services.

Handicap parking is available behind the church; regular parking is available on the street and (on Sundays) at Kohut Funeral Home.

## Upcoming Services

**Sign-up for House Blessings!!!**

**The sign-up sheet is in the back of the church.**

- Zac. Sun.** 2/14 9:00AM Divine Liturgy; Coffee, Church School
- Monday** 2/15 9:00AM Festal Divine Liturgy; Candlemass (Meeting)
- Tuesday** 2/16 10:30AM Funeral Service for Mary Kline
- Wednesday** 2/17 7:00PM Moleban (CHURCH)
- Saturday** 2/20 9:00AM Divine Liturgy (CHAPEL)  
6:00PM Great Vespers w/Litya (CHAPEL)
- Sun P&P** 2/21 9:00AM Divine Liturgy, Mem. Litya (Kathryn Lazor);  
Coffee, Church School, Spiritually Speaking  
**\*\*\* Fast Free Week: 22-28 February !!! \*\*\***
- Wednesday** 2/24 7:00PM Moleban (CHURCH)
- Saturday** 2/27 9:00AM Divine Liturgy (CHAPEL)  
6:00PM Great Vespers w/Litya (CHAPEL)
- Sun Prdgl** 3/1 9:00AM Divine Liturgy; Coffee, Church School  
**\*\*\* Last Week of Meat (Normal Fasting)\*\*\***
- Wednesday** 3/2 **\*\*\*NO SERVICE\*\*\***
- Saturday** 3/5 9:00AM Divine Liturgy (CHAPEL)  
6:00PM Great Vespers w/Litya (CHAPEL)
- Sun of LJ** 3/6 9:00AM Divine Liturgy; Coffee, Church School  
Spiritually Speaking
- Wednesday** 3/9 **\*\*\*NO SERVICE\*\*\***

**Check our website for the full listing of services & activities!!**

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**In Orthodoxy**, communion is reserved for those who are members in good standing of an Orthodox parish and who have prepared themselves through prayer and fasting. We would love to have you as a member and communicant here at St. Mary’s - See Fr. Anthony if you would like to join our parish!

## February 14<sup>th</sup> ; Tone 4: Zacchaeus Sunday

### **Tone 4 Troparion (Resurrection)**

When the women Disciples of the Lord /learned from the Angel the joyous message of the Resurrection, / they cast away the ancestral curse / and elatedly told the Apostles: / “Death is overthrown! / Christ God is risen, //granting the world great mercy!”

### **Tone 1 Troparion (Forefeast)**

The celestial choir of heavenly Angels / bends down to the earth / and sees the First-born of all creation / being carried into the Temple as a babe by a Mother / who has not known man, / and in amazement sings with us // a pre-festal hymn.

### **Tone 4 Troparion (Parish Patron/Pokrova)**

O Mother of God, sheltered by thy coming / we faithful people today keep feast in joy, / and looking at thy most pure image, / moved to the depths. Of our hearts, we say: / “Protect us with thy precious veil / and deliver us from every ill, / by entreating Christ, thy Son and our God, // to save our souls.

### **Tone 4 Kontakion (Resurrection)**

My Savior and Redeemer / as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. / He has shattered the gates of hell, / and as Master, // He has risen on the third day!

### **Tone 2 Kontakion (Parish Patron/Pokrova)**

The Choirs of Saints and the Virgin / stand in church praying to God for us. / Angels and hierarchs bow in adoration, / Apostles and Prophets all rejoice / in thee, O Mother of God, // who for us prays to God Eternal.

### **Tone 6 Kontakion (Forefeast)**

The Word unseen with the Father, / now is seen in the flesh, ineffably born of the Virgin, / and is given into the arms of the priest and Elder. // Let us worship Him, our True God.

### **Prokeimenon Tone 4**

O Lord, how manifold are Your works; in wisdom have You made them all. (Ps 104:24)  
v: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, You are very great! (Ps 104:1)

**Epistle:** 1 Timothy 4:9-15. This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance...

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!** (Ps. 44:5,8)

v. Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth!

v. For You love righteousness, and hate iniquity. (Ps 44/45:8)

**Gospel:** St. Luke 19:1-10. Summary: Zacchaeus was a wee little man, and a wee little man was he!

## Excerpts from the Joint Declaration by the Roman Pope and Russian Patriarch

4. We thank God for the gifts received from the coming into the world of His only Son. We share the same spiritual Tradition of the first millennium of Christianity. The witnesses of this Tradition are the Most Holy Mother of God, the Virgin Mary, and the saints we venerate. Among them are innumerable martyrs who have given witness to their faithfulness to Christ and have become the “seed of Christians”.

12. We bow before the martyrdom of those [in the Middle East] who, at the cost of their own lives, have given witness to the truth of the Gospel, preferring death to the denial of Christ. We believe that these martyrs of our times, who belong to various Churches but who are united by their shared suffering, are a pledge of the unity of Christians. It is to you who suffer for Christ’s sake that the word of the Apostle is directed: “Beloved ... rejoice to the extent that you share in the sufferings of Christ, so that when his glory is revealed you may also rejoice exultantly” (1 Pet4:12–13).

13. Interreligious dialogue is indispensable in our disturbing times. Differences in the understanding of religious truths must not impede people of different faiths to live in peace and harmony. In our current context, religious leaders have the particular responsibility to educate their faithful in a spirit which is respectful of the convictions of those belonging to other religious traditions. Attempts to justify criminal acts with religious slogans are altogether unacceptable. No crime may be committed in God’s name, “since God is not the God of disorder but of peace” (1 Cor14:33).

18. The Christian churches are called to defend the demands of justice, the respect for peoples’ traditions, and an authentic solidarity towards all those who suffer. We Christians cannot forget that “God chose the foolish of the world to shame the wise, and God chose the lowly and despised of the world, those who count for nothing, to reduce to nothing those who are something, that no human being might boast before God” (1 Cor1:27–29).

19. The family is the natural centre of human life and society. We are concerned about the crisis in the family in many countries. Orthodox and Catholics share the same conception of the family, and are called to witness that it is a path of holiness, testifying to the faithfulness of the spouses in their mutual interaction,

to their openness to the procreation and rearing of their children, to solidarity between the generations and to respect for the weakest.

22. Today, in a particular way, we address young Christians. You, young people, have the task of not hiding your talent in the ground (cf. Mt 25:25), but of using all the abilities God has given you to confirm Christ's truth in the world, incarnating in your own lives the evangelical commandments of the love of God and of one's neighbour. Do not be afraid of going against the current, defending God's truth, to which contemporary secular norms are often far from conforming.

23. God loves each of you and expects you to be His disciples and apostles. Be the light of the world so that those around you may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father (cf. Mt 5:14, 16). Raise your children in the Christian faith, transmitting to them the pearl of great price that is the faith (cf. Mt 13:46) you have received from your parents and forbears. Remember that "you have been purchased at a great price" (1 Cor 6:20), at the cost of the death on the cross of the Man-God Jesus Christ.

26. We deplore the hostility in Ukraine that has already caused many victims, inflicted innumerable wounds on peaceful inhabitants and thrown society into a deep economic and humanitarian crisis. We invite all the parts involved in the conflict to prudence, to social solidarity and to action aimed at constructing peace. We invite our Churches in Ukraine to work towards social harmony, to refrain from taking part in the confrontation, and to not support any further development of the conflict.

27. It is our hope that the schism between the Orthodox faithful in Ukraine may be overcome through existing canonical norms, that all the Orthodox Christians of Ukraine may live in peace and harmony, and that the Catholic communities in the country may contribute to this, in such a way that our Christian brotherhood may become increasingly evident.

28. In the contemporary world, which is both multiform yet united by a shared destiny, Catholics and Orthodox are called to work together fraternally in proclaiming the Good News of salvation, to testify together to the moral dignity and authentic freedom of the person, "so that the world may believe" (Jn17:21). This world, in which the spiritual pillars of human existence are progressively disappearing, awaits from us a compelling Christian witness in all spheres of personal and social life. Much of the future of humanity will depend on our capacity to give shared witness to the Spirit of truth in these difficult times.

## Parish News and Events

**Start the new year right!** I will be blessing homes for two more weeks. The sign-up list is on the table in the narthex (or you can call me).

**Please help with this need!** This is the last week we will be taking a second collection so that we can pay for our new snow blower!

**Membership envelopes are available;** please pick yours up in the office.

**UOL Lenten Retreat, Saturday 4/2, 395 Bridle Path Road.**

This year Dr. Natalie Bilynsky and Fr. Anthony Perkins will talk about the challenges we all face throughout life and how Orthodoxy can help us respond to them. Fr. Mark Leasure will be bringing the myrrh-streaming Icon of the Karidiotissa for participants to venerate. Registration forms are available in the hall.

Wolodymyr Katolik (from Phily) is organizing a **Paschal trip to the Holy Land to experience the miraculous Paschal fire.** Anyone interested can contact him at wkatolik@gmail.com or 215-531-0538.

Bishop Daniel is leading a **pilgrimage to Ukraine** in May. See Fr. A. for details.

**Spiritually Speaking** (every other Sunday after Coffee Hour in the Social Hall):

2/21 "The Word Made ~~Flesh~~ Into A Book; Islam as a Christian Heresy"

3/6 "The Beauty of Creation: Why science and Orthodoxy work well together"

3/20 "The Structure and Beauty of the Presanctified Liturgy"

4/3 "Q & A on Lent, Life, and Everything"

4/17 "To Hell and Back: The Services of Holy Week"

**St. Mary's Seniors:** Lunch Meeting; 2/24, 8AM Hoagie Making

**St. Mary's Ukrainian Dance Group:** Every Wednesday @6:30 in the Social Hall

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### Reading and Greeter Schedule

Today's Epistle Reader: Rdr. Nicholas Perkins; Next Week: John Sokalsky

Today's Communion Prayers: Marianne Schrantz; Next Week: Kaitlyn Zimmerman

Today's Greeters: Eleanor Fox & Katherine Kramer;

Next Week: Judy Miller & Vera Muzychka

**Let me know if you would like to be added to the schedule!**