

St. Mary Protection of the Theotokos Parish

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

GLORIFY FOREVER!

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Anaphora of St. Basil (Prayed during today's Liturgy)

... O God, when You had fashioned mankind, taking dust from the earth, and had honored them with Your Image, You set them in a paradise of plenty promising immortal life and the enjoyment of eternal good things in the observance of Your Commandments. But, when they disobeyed You, the True God Who had created them, and were led astray by the serpent being slain by their own trespasses, You banished them from paradise into this world in Your righteous judgment, O God, and turned them back to the earth from which they were taken, dispensing salvation for them through regeneration which is in Christ Himself.

Yet You did not turn away until the end from the creatures which You had made, Good One, and neither did You forget the work of your Hands, but You watched over them in many ways through Your tenderhearted mercy. You sent forth prophets. ... You gave the Law as an aid and You appointed angels as guardians. And when the fullness of time had come, You spoke to us through Your Son Himself through Whom You made the ages. Being the brightness of Your Glory, the express likeness of Your entity, and upholding everything by the Word of His Power, He deemed it not robbery to be equal to You, God and Father. But, although he was God before the ages, yet he appeared on earth and lived with humans. And He was Incarnate of a Holy Virgin, by emptying Himself and taking on the form of a servant, becoming conformed to the humility of our body that he might conform us to the image of His Glory. ... He was born under the Law that He might condemn sin in His Flesh, that they who were dead in Adam might be made alive in Your Christ Himself.

And becoming a citizen in this world giving ordinances of salvation, He .. acquired us for Himself as His own People, a Royal Priesthood, and a Holy nation. ... He gave Himself as a ransom to Death, by which we were held captive being sold under sin. ... And He has left with us as remembrances of His saving Passion these things which we have set forth according to His command. ...

He gave it to His Holy Disciples and Apostles, saying: Take, eat, this is My Body which is broken for you for the forgiveness of sins.



Upcoming Worship Schedule

Sunday	3/5	9:00PM	Divine Liturgy, Sunday of Orthodoxy
		4:00PM	Pan-Orthodox Vespers & Meal (here!)
Wednesday	3/8	7:00PM	Presanctified Liturgy
Friday	3/10	10:00AM	Presanctified Liturgy
Saturday	3/11	NO SERVICE HERE (Building & Altar Consecration in MD)	
Sunday	3/12	9:00PM	Divine Liturgy, St. Gregory Palamas
		4:00PM	Pan-Orthodox Vespers & Meal St. Nicholas OCA, 980 Bridle Path Rd, Bethlehem
Wednesday	3/15	7:00PM	Presanctified Liturgy
Friday	3/17	10:00AM	Presanctified Liturgy
Saturday	3/18	4:00PM	Panakhida (All Souls)
		4:30PM	Parish Vigil
Sunday	3/19	9:00AM	Divine Liturgy
		2:00PM	Lenten Retreat (Holy Assumption, Northampton)
		4:00PM	Pan-Orthodox Vespers, Holy Assumption UOC 1301 Newport Avenue, Northampton
Wednesday	3/22	7:00PM	Presanctified Liturgy
Friday	3/24	10:00AM	Presanctified Liturgy
Saturday	3/25	10:00AM	Memorial Liturgy (All Souls)
		4:00PM	Parish Vigil

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

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Adult Education

Sundays (11AM). Our “Spiritually Speaking” series meets the first Sunday of each month after coffee hour. Today we will have a guest speaker, Daria Pishko!

Wednesdays (7PM). This Bible Study will resume after Pascha. The Presanctified Liturgy is at this time during Great Lent; it's readings, hymns, and homilies are a review of the themes we have covered thus far.

Saturdays (3:30PM). Chanting class. We'll be working on Lenten music.

Thursdays (10AM). The next meeting will be on 3/9 at Helen Sayre's house (974 Bridge Court, Catasauqua).

Welcome to the God-loving and God-protected Orthodox Christian parish of *Pokrova* (“St. Mary 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 (and a wonderful home, it is)!

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, your family, and your friends!

March 3rd; Sunday of Orthodoxy (First Sunday of Great Lent)

The Order of Worship

(A more complete version is found in the black prayer book in the pews)

Blessed is the Kingdom Amen. Heaven and earth are joined in praise of God.

Great Litany. Prayers of supplication to God w/ refrain “Lord have mercy!”

Psalm 102. The Psalms are the greatest hymns of the Church. It is followed by a Small Litany (“Again and again...”).

Psalm 145 & “Only Begotten Son”. This psalm and song remind us why we are here. It is followed by a Small Litany (“Again and again...”)

The Beatitudes. The wisdom of the Logos offered in song – beautiful consolation. We take on the virtues of and in Christ to become “blessed.”

The Little Entrance/Gospel Entrance. This symbolizes Christ coming from heaven into the world. We can kiss the Gospel (an icon of “The Word”) in celebration saying; “Christ is in our midst” “He is and shall be!” “*Khristos Posered Nas*” “*I Ye I Budet*”

Hymns for Today. As with all the music, everyone is encouraged to sing along!

Tone 4 Tropar *(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 2 Tropar *(Sunday of Orthodoxy)*

We venerate Your most pure image, O Good One; / and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ our God. / Of Your good will You were pleased to ascend the cross in the flesh / and deliver Your creatures from bondage to the Enemy. / Therefore with thankfulness we cry aloud to You: / “You have filled all with joy, O our Savior, // for You alone have come to save the world.”

Tone 4 Tropar *(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 8 Kondak *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

No one could describe the Word of the Father; but when He took flesh from you, O Theotokos, He accepted to be described, and restored the fallen image to its former state by uniting it to divine beauty. // We confess and proclaim our salvation in words and images.”

Tone 2 Kondak *(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.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal. All creation proclaims God’s glory.

Tone 8 Prokimen *(Song of the Three Holy Children, v. 3,4)*

Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name forever!

v: For You are just in all that You have done for us!

Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:1

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: Moses and Aaron were among His priests; Samuel also was among those who called on His Name.

v: They called to the Lord and He answered them.

Gospel: John 1:43-51. Children are encouraged to come up front; “Let the little children come unto me.” (Matthew 19:14)

Litanies for the Faithful and for the Catachumens. Catachumens are Christians preparing to enter into the Mysteries of the Orthodox Church.

The Great Entrance. The priest brings out the bread and wine that will become the Body and Blood of Christ. The children are welcome and encouraged to line the aisle.

The Last Supper and Consecration of the Gifts. We either stand or, as is customary among many Ukrainian Orthodox, kneel during this portion of the service.

Hymn to the Birthgiver of God, Mary. All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace: / the assembly of Angels and the race of men. / O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, / the glory of virgins, / from whom God was incarnate and became a Child – / our God before the ages. / He made your body into a throne, / and your womb He made more spacious than the heavens. / All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace. / Glory to you!

Litany of Preparation. Lord’s Prayer. The prayer Jesus Christ taught us to pray.

Communion of the Faithful. Communion is reserved for those who are members of an Orthodox parish and have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting, and regular confession. All are invited to join this parish and commune with us!

Post-Communion Prayers, Dismissal & Distribution of the Blessed Bread. Everyone is invited to come forward, greet the priest, have some of the blessed bread, and then join us for our agape meal (coffee hour) in the fellowship hall.

Parish News and Events

Parishioner end of the year statements of donations/contributions and dues owed are completed for you to pick up from Judy Miller.

Tomorrow morning (9AM-1PM), Fr. Anthony will be hosting area clergy for a retreat in the chapel and parish hall.

The Grief Support Group meets at 6:30PM on Tuesdays in the Hall. See Joe Truchan for details.

If you are ill and could use some help or a visit (or know someone else who could), please contact the parish care group leader, Robin Bodnar. If you would know of anyone that could use a visit from Fr. Anthony, please tell him.

The St. Michael's Men's Auxiliary is looking for work! If you have something you could use help with (or know of someone who does), please contact the group leader, Joe Zimmerman. Ditto if you would like a ride to/from church or would like to help get people to/from church.

The next **Parish Board Meeting** will be on 3/20 6:30.

Our **Annual Meeting** will be on 3/26 at 11:00AM. Please plan on attending.

We are hosting the **Sunday of Orthodoxy** TODAY at 4PM and hosting a Lenten meal afterwards.

UOC Lenten Retreat. April 1st at the St. Francis Center for Renewal (395 Bridal Path Road in Bethlehem). Contact Natalie or Oleh Bilynsky (610-892-7315 or nsufler@aol.com) for more information.

Movie: Bitter Harvest. Regal Cinema (1011 Ridge Pike, Conshohocken, PA 19428. (844) 462-7342.

Exhibit of Russian Icons. Williams Center Gallery (317 Hamilton St, Easton). M–F 11AM–5PM & weekends Noon–5PM. The exhibit will run through March 26.

Reading and Greeter Schedule

Date	Epistle Schedule	Greeters
3/5/2017	Nik Fartuch	Judy Miller & Vera Muzychka
3/12/2017	Rdr. Nicholas Perkins	Richard Rosko
3/19/2017	Rdr. James	Eleanor Fox
3/26/2017	John Sokalsky	Judy Miller & Vera Muzychka
4/2/2017	Robert Noecker	Richard Rosko

Please let Fr. Anthony know if you will not be able to greet/read and cannot find a replacement. Also let him know if you would like to be added to the schedule.

Today's Scripture Readings

Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:1. 24 By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, 25 choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, 26 esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.

32 And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: 33 who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, 34 quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. 35 Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. 36 Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. 37 They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented— 38 of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.

39 And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, 40 God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

12 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

Gospel: John 1:43-51 (NKJV). 43 The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." 44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. 45 Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." 46 And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" 48 Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." 49 Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" 50 Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." 51 And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."