

St. Mary Protection of the Theotokos Parish

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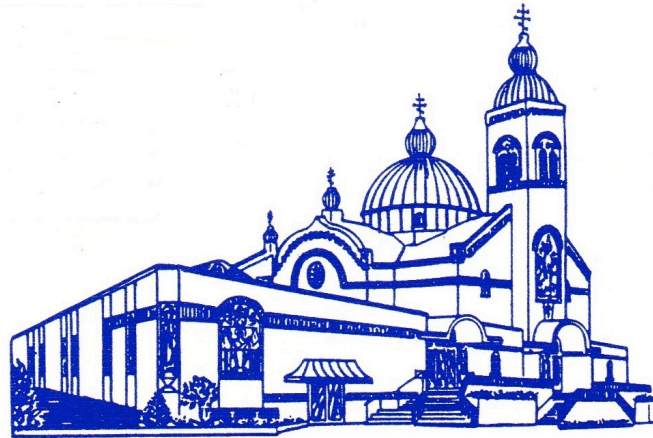
GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST!

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

*** Great Lent (we fast from meat, fish, dairy, wine, oil, anger, & sloth)***

Sunday of the Cross	4/3	9:00AM Divine Liturgy, Coffee & Church School. ANNUAL MEETING (no pan-Orthodox Vespers)
Wednesday	4/6	9:00AM Annunciation Vespers/Presanctified Liturgy
Thursday	4/7	9:00AM Festal Divine Liturgy of the Annunciation
Friday	4/8	7:00PM Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Saturday	4/9	9:00AM All Souls Liturgy (St. Paul AOC in Emmaus) 6:00PM Parish Vigil (CHAPEL)
Sunday (Ladder)	4/10	9:00AM Divine Liturgy; Coffee, Church School. 4:00PM Pan-Orthodox Service (GOC, Blandon)
Wednesday	4/13	9:00AM Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Friday	4/15	7:00PM Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Saturday	4/16	9:00AM Divine Liturgy (CHAPEL) 6:00PM Parish Vigil (CHAPEL)
Sunday (St. Mary)	4/17	9:00AM Divine Liturgy, Coffee & Church School. SS 4:00PM Pan-Orthodox Service (St. Mary’s!!!)
Wednesday	4/20	4:00PM Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts 6:00PM Holy Unction (joint, in Northampton)
Friday	4/22	7:00PM Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Saturday	4/23	9:00AM Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy (CHAPEL) 6:00PM Parish Vigil of Palm Sunday (CHAPEL)
Sunday	4/24	8:50AM Blessing of Willows/Palms (so that we can hold them during the service) 9:00AM Palm Sunday Liturgy (youth participate!)

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

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!

St. Mary Protection of the Theotokos Cathedral

Катедра Покрови Пресвятої Богородиці

Pokrova-allentown.org

1031 Fullerton Ave, Allentown PA 18102

V. Rev. Anthony Perkins

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April 2nd ; Tone 3, Holy Cross

The Order of Worship

Censing of the Altar, Iconostasis, Nave/Sanctuary, & People.

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!"

Psalms 102. The Psalms are the greatest hymns of the Church.

The Little Litany. "Again and again" we lift up our praises and prayers to God.

Psalms 145 & "Only Begotten Son". This psalm and song remind us why we are here.

The Little Litany. "Again and again" ... we are learning to pray continuously.

The Beatitudes. The wisdom of the Logos offered in song – beautiful consolation.

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"

Come Let Us Worship. An invitation to enter into deeper worship of Jesus Christ.

Hymns for Today

Tone 3 Troparion (Resurrection)

Let the heavens rejoice! / Let the earth be glad! / For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. / He has trampled down death by death. / He has become the first born of the dead. / He has delivered us from the depths of hell, / and has granted to the world // great mercy.

Tone 1 Troparion (Cross)

O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Your Cross, // preserve Your habitation!

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, they Son and our God, // to save our souls.

Tone 7 Kontakion (Cross)

Now the flaming sword no longer guards the gates of Eden; / it has been mysteriously quenched by the wood of the Cross. / The sting of death and the victory of hell have been vanquished; / for You, O my Savior, have come and cried to those in hell: // "Enter again into Paradise!"

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.

In Place of the Trisagion: Before Your Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master, and Your holy Resurrection, we glorify.

Prokeimenon **Tone 6** (Psalm 27:9,1)

O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance!

v: To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

Epistles: Hebrews 4:14-5:6. Our High Priest is both God and man; and this is awesome!

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! (Ps. 73:2, 12)

v: Remember Your congregation, which You have purchased of old!

v: God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth!

Gospel: St. Mark 8:34-9:1. Don't be ashamed of God; follow Him to the Cross!

Litanies for the Faithful and for the Catachumens. Catachumens are Christians preparing to enter into the Mysteries of the Orthodox Church (e.g. Communion).

Cherubic Hymn. This song reminds us that we must "put aside all earthly cares" so that we can join the angels in worshipping God in fullness and in truth.

The Great Entrance. The priest brings out the bread and wine that will become the Body and Blood of Christ. This ritual act symbolizes Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem... and His sacrifice on the Altar of the Cross.

Litany of the Sacrifice. The work of the people is to enter into Communion with God.

Deacon's exhortation: "Let us love one another...." We answer by proclaiming our faith in the Trinity and Holy Orthodoxy through reciting the Profession of Faith.

Commemoration of the Last Supper (also known as the Mystical Supper).

The Consecration of the Gifts.

Hymn to the Birthgiver of God, Mary. Litany of Preparation.

Lord's Prayer. We join together praying the "Our Father", the prayer Jesus taught us.

"Holy Things for the Holy". We now enter into the greatest Mystery of Communion.

Pre-Communion Prayer. Reminds us of our need for the Body and Blood of Christ.

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 and Dismissal

Distribution of the Antidoron. At this point everyone is invited forward to kiss the cross and receive the blessed bread cut from the Eucharistic loaf before the service.

Parish News and Events

ANNUAL MEETING: TODAY AFTER DIVINE LITURGY

Beginning This Week: St. Mary's is sponsoring a Grief Support Group. Tuesdays. 6:30PM – 8:00PM in the Library. The cost is free. For more information or registration, please call Joe Truchan at 610-262-3251. **We ask for your prayers for this important ministry.** Please spread the word!

Back to the Future: Yes, the rumor is true: we are planning on attaching the steps to the raised pulpit in time for the reading of St. John Chrysostom's Paschal Homily! This is the amazing homily that is offered between Paschal Matins and the Divine Liturgy.

Blessing of Pussy Willows/Palms: I (Fr. Anthony) REALLY want people to have their pussy willows/palms during the Divine Liturgy. As a result, I will be following the guidance of the Church (i.e. the Ustav) and blessing them before the start of Divine Liturgy. During the service, our children and youth will be leading the Great Entrance through the nave with their willows/palms in hand. If you want your willows/palms blessed and are too late to have them blessed with the others, just bring them up when you kiss the cross and we will bless them then!

Rdr. Nicholas Perkins has been selected to be part of a two-week medical mission trip to Indonesia in June (he is an EMT). Please support him if you can.

Flash Frozen Potato Perohi are available for purchase in our kitchen!

Spiritually Speaking (every other Sunday after Coffee Hour in the Social Hall): 4/17 "Q & A on Lent, Life, and Everything"

St. Mary's Seniors: 4/4 Meeting and lunch.

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

Please Plan on Attending: we are hosting the Pan-Orthodox Lenten Vespers Service on 4/17 at 4PM.

Reading and Greeter Schedule

Today's Epistle Reader: Joseph Truchan; Next Week: Richard and Carolyn Rosko

Today's Greeters: Judy Miller & Vera Muzychka;

Next Week: Richard and Carolyn Rosko

Let Fr. Anthony know if you would like to be added to the schedule!

Today's Scripture Readings

Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was.

So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him,

“Thou art my Son, today I have begotten thee”;

as he says also in another place,

“Thou art a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.”

Gospel: St. Mark 8:34-9:1

And he called to him the multitude with his disciples, and said to them, “If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.” And he said to them, “Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see that the kingdom of God has come with power.”