

# St. Mary Protection of the Theotokos Cathedral

## Катедрa Покрови Пресвятої Богородиці

Pokrova-allentown.org 1031 Fullerton Ave, Allentown PA 18102

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**GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST!**

**GLORY FOREVER!**

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**СЛАВА ІСУСУ ХРИСТУ!**

**СЛАВА НАВІКИ!**

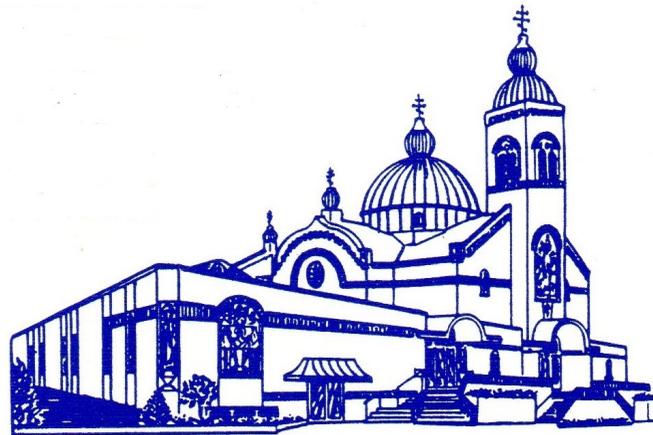
### The Effect of Virtuous Work

On this Labor Day weekend, let us rededicate ourselves to Christ and His work. We know what happens outside these doors when people refuse to work. What it does to their own souls, what it does to our economy, and what it does to our culture. And please don't misunderstand me, I am not talking about official unemployment – many of the supposedly “unemployed” work really hard and many people who are drawing a paycheck are complete shirkers. The simple fact is that when people outside the of our church refuse to work, everyone is affected.

How much more true is that of what happens inside our doors, in the life of the church. We are the body of Christ in this world. We are called to do His work, to transform the world according to His will. When we refuse to work, when we shirk our duties, everyone is affected.

Virtuous people do not work to make money or because they enjoy their jobs (although this is welcome when it comes). Virtuous people work because they are good and work is what good people do. The Liturgy on Sunday and Feast days is this kind of work. It is what good people do. It is what God's people do. When people “out there” work, they become better and the economy and the culture flourish. This is wonderful, but it is a pale reflection of what happens here. Because the work we do here is done in Christ, we don't just become better – we are perfected; more importantly, through this labor, the world doesn't just flourish – it is recreated in Glory.

Let's rededicate ourselves to Christ and his work. - Fr. Anthony



## Worship Schedule

<b>Sunday</b>	9/4	9:00AM	Divine Liturgy, Panakhida for Carolyn R., Coffee Hour
<b>Saturday</b>	9/10	3:30 (after our kitchen)	Pakakhida for Eugene H. (Chapel)
		4:00PM	Cathedral Vigil (Chapel)
			<b>***9/11 IS A SOLEMN FAST DAY***</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	9/11	9:00AM	Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour
			<b>***9/11 IS A SOLEMN FAST DAY***</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	9/14	10:00AM	Hierarchical Liturgy (at Seminary in S. Bound Brook)
<b>Saturday</b>	9/17	4:00PM	Cathedral Vigil (Chapel)
<b>Sunday</b>	9/18	9:00AM	Teaching Divine Liturgy, Blessing of Church School Year (and start of Fall Schedule) Coffee Hour
<b>Wednesday</b>	9/21	10:00AM	Divine Liturgy: Nativity of Our Lady (Chapel)
		7:00PM	Bible Study & Intercessory Prayer
<b>Saturday</b>	9/24	4:00PM	Cathedral Vigil (Chapel)
<b>Sunday</b>	9/25	9:00AM	Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour, Education
<b>Monday</b>	9/26	4:00PM	Cathedral Vigil of the Cross (Chapel)
<b>Tuesday</b>	9/27	10:00AM	Divine Liturgy: Exaltation of the Cross (Chapel)
<b>Wednesday</b>	9/28	7:00PM	Bible Study & Intercessory Prayer
<b>Saturday</b>	10/1	4:00PM	Cathedral Vigil (Chapel)
<b>Sunday</b>	10/2	9:00AM	Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour, Education
<b>Wednesday</b>	10/5	10:00AM	Divine Liturgy (Chapel)
		7:00PM	Bible Study & Intercessory Prayer

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

### Adult Education

**Each Sunday (11AM).** For our Fall “Spiritually Speaking” series I will be offering a weekly series on the “tough questions” people ask. I will spend the first 20 minutes of each 30 minute session answering a (preselected) “tough question”; then we will spend the final 10 minutes in Q&A. If you have a question, get it to me and I will put it into the queue; this is your chance to stump the priest (and find out why we do what we do)!

**Each Wednesday (7PM).** Bible Study. We will spend the first 45 minutes of these hour-long sessions working through the selected scripture, trying to understand the text as its authors did and how it has been illumined by the Light of Christ and the Holy Spirit. The final 15 minutes will be spent offering up our praise and prayer concerns to the Lord.

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!

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!

# September 4<sup>th</sup>: 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

## The Order of Worship

**Blessed is the Kingdom .... Amen.** Heaven and earth are joined in praise of God. We put aside all cares to join the cosmos in praise of God and do our most Holy Work: The Divine Liturgy!

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

**Psalm 102.** This sung Psalm is followed by a Small Litany (“Again and again...”).

**Psalm 145 & “Only Begotten Son”.** These are also followed by a Small Litany.

**The Beatitudes.** God’s wisdom 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*”

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

### **Tone 2 Troparion** *(Resurrection)*

When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,  
You destroyed hell with the splendor of Your Godhead.  
And when from the depths You raised the dead,  
all the powers of heaven cried out://  
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!”

### **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 2 Kontakion** *(Resurrection)*

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior,  
seeing the miracle of Your Resurrection from the tomb!  
The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with You, //  
and the world, my Savior, praises You forever.

### **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.

**Trisagion:** We join the angels in proclaiming God’s glory (Holy God, Holy Immortal...)!

**Prokimen** *(Tone 2; Psalm 117: 4, 18)*

The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation.

*v: The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.*

**Epistle:** 1 Corinthians 9:2-12

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!** *(Tone 2; Psalm 19: 1, 9)*

*v: May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect you!*

*v: Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call! (Ps 19/20:9)*

**Gospel:** Matthew 18:23-35. Children are encouraged to come up front; “Let the little children come unto me.” (Matthew 19:14)

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

**Cherubic Hymn.** We “put aside all earthly cares” and join the angels in worship.

**The Great Entrance.** This ritual reminds us of Palm Sunday... and the Passion of Christ. The children are welcome and encouraged to line the aisle.

**Commemoration of the Last Supper and Consecration of the Gifts.** During this time we ask the Holy Spirit to come and sanctify us and the gifts we have presented according to Christ’s command (i.e. the bread and wine) Please kneel or stand as we pray (either is fine). The prayers of the anaphora are available in the new Service Books. These prayers summarize the economy of our salvation and the role of the Last Supper and Eucharist in it.

**Hymn to the Birthgiver of God, Mary.** The Angels, as they looked upon the Dormition of the Virgin, were struck with wonder, seeing how the Virgin went up from earth to heaven. The limits of nature are overcome in you, O Pure Virgin: for birthgiving remains virginal, and life is united to death; a virgin after childbearing and alive after death, you ever save your inheritance, O Theotokos.

**Litany of Preparation. Lord’s Prayer.** Please join us as pray together using the words Jesus the Messiah taught us during His earthly ministry.

**“Holy Things for the Holy”.** We enter into the greatest Mystery of Communion.

**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. See Fr. Anthony if you would like to learn more about joining this parish!

**Post-Communion Prayers, Dismissal & Distribution of the Antidoron.** Everyone can come forward, kiss the cross, and receive some homemade blessed bread.

## Parish News and Events

**God bless everyone** who helped make last Sunday's Liturgy and Picnic in the Park such a success! This includes not just the Sunday School (who sponsored and organized the picnic) and those who brought food and helped with the setup and take-down, but all those who came ... and especially those who invited friends! It was such a blessing!

**The UOC-USA Sobor** will be held October 19-22. Vera Muzychka, Alex Mackiewicz, Robert Neubauer (alternate), and Fr. Anthony (priest) will be representing St. Mary's. The most important thing planned for the Sobor is the presentation and (Lord willing!) approval of the UOC-USA Strategic Plan. You can read and download a copy of the plan at [stewardshipcalling.org](http://stewardshipcalling.org) (look under the "Church Strategic Planning" tab at the top).

**The St. Mary's Seniors** are meeting (and feasting) at the Old Country Buffet on 9/6.

**We will have a perohi session** on September 10<sup>th</sup> – please come!

**Soup Kitchen** – God bless our soup kitchen workers and all the many hands that made the perohi that were used to feed the hungry last week!

**Grief Support Group.** Tuesdays. 6:30PM – 8:00PM in the Library. For more information or registration, please call Joe Truchan at 610-262-3251.

**Fr. Anthony's Seminary Schedule:** this semester I am teaching on Monday mornings (Dogmatic Theology) and Tuesday evenings (Old Testament).

**Fall Weekday Liturgies:** will be every Wednesday except 9/28, 10/19, 10/26, 11/16 & 12/7. These are offered in place of the Saturday liturgies.

**The Scholarship Committee** is looking to restart the Golf Tournament (beginning in 2017)! See Joe Zimmerman if you are interested in helping!

**Please let me know** if you would like something put into the bulletin and/or announced in church.

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### Reading and Greeter Schedule (through September)

Date	Epistle Schedule	Greeters
9/4/2016	John Sokalsky	Richard Rosko
9/11/2016	Robert Noecker	Eleanor Fox
9/18/2016	Alex Mackiewicz	Judy Miller & Vera Muzychka
9/25/2016	Richard Bodner	Richard Rosko

**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: 1 Corinthians 9:2-12**

If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. My defense to those who examine me is this: Do we have no right to eat and drink? Do we have no right to take along a believing wife, as do also the other apostles, the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working? Who ever goes to war at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat of its fruit? Or who tends a flock and does not drink of the milk of the flock? Do I say these things as a mere man? Or does not the law say the same also? For it is written in the law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain." Is it oxen God is concerned about? Or does He say it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written, that he who plows should plow in hope, and he who threshes in hope should be partaker of his hope. If we have sown spiritual things for you, is it a great thing if we reap your material things? If others are partakers of this right over you, are we not even more? Nevertheless we have not used this right, but endure all things lest we hinder the gospel of Christ.

### **Gospel: Matthew 18:23-35**

Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt.

"But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!' So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?' And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him.

"So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."