

St. Mary Protection of the Theotokos Parish

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GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST!

GLORY FOREVER!

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СЛАВА ІСУСУ ХРИСТУ!

СЛАВА НАВІКІ!



An Outline of the Divine Liturgy.

Service of Preparation:

The priest prepares prosphora and wine for the service. Pieces of the bread commemorating the saints and the living and departed of the community are placed on the paten along with the Lamb. The symbolism evokes the Nativity of Christ.

Liturgy of the Word:

“Blessed is the Kingdom...” With this, participants join the angelic hosts and all the members of Christ’s body of all times and places in the extra-dimensional worship that is a foretaste of the eternal banquet that is to come. The Little Entrance begins during the Beatitudes. The Gospel Book coming out of the altar into the nave evokes the coming of Christ from heaven into the world as a man 2000 years ago (i.e. the Incarnation).

Liturgy of the Eucharist:

During the Great Entrance, the Gifts (i.e. bread and wine) are brought through the nave into the altar. This reminds us of Christ’s entrance into Jerusalem just before his Passion. After we have communal affirmed our Orthodoxy (i.e. The Creed), we join Christ as He leads His disciples in the Institution (“Take, Eat”), then ask the Holy Spirit to come and change the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ (“Amen. Amen. Amen.”). From this point on, there can be no doubt that Christ is Among Us!

Summer Worship Schedule (through August)

Sunday	9/18	9:00AM	Teaching Divine Liturgy, Blessing of Church School Year (and start of Fall Schedule) Coffee Hour
Wednesday	9/21	10:00AM 7:00PM	Divine Liturgy: Nativity of Our Lady (Chapel) Bible Study & Intercessory Prayer
Saturday	9/24	4:00PM	Cathedral Vigil (Chapel)
Sunday	9/25	9:00AM	Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour, Education
Monday	9/26	4:00PM	Cathedral Vigil of the Cross (Chapel)
Tuesday	9/27	10:00AM	Divine Liturgy: Exaltation of the Cross (Chapel)
Wednesday	9/28	7:00PM	Bible Study & Intercessory Prayer
Saturday	10/1	4:00PM	Cathedral Vigil (Chapel)
Sunday	10/2	9:00AM	Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour, Education
Wednesday	10/5	10:00AM 7:00PM	Divine Liturgy (Chapel) Bible Study & Intercessory Prayer
Saturday	10/8	2:30PM	Wedding of Stephanie and Michael (no Vigil)
Sunday	10/9	9:00AM	Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour, Education
Wednesday	10/12	10:00AM 7:00PM	Divine Liturgy (Chapel) Bible Study & Intercessory Prayer
Thursday	10/13	4:00PM	PATRONAL VIGIL (ΠΟΚΡΟΒΑ)
Friday	10/14	10:00AM	PATRONAL LITURGY (ΠΟΚΡΟΒΑ)

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 (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!

September 18th; Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Order of Worship

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 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 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.

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

Prokimen Tone 4 (Psalm 103:24,1)

O Lord, how manifold are Your works; in wisdom have You made them all.

v: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, You are very great!

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 16:13-24

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! (Psalm 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.

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-42. 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. This song reminds us that we must "put aside all earthly cares" so that we can join the angels in worshiping 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. The 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. This is when the Holy Spirit comes down and changes the gifts. Ukrainian Orthodox often kneel during this part of the liturgy, but standing is also welcome.

Hymn to the Birthgiver of God, Mary. We praise her among the saints because God became incarnate through her; she is the mother of our salvation!

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. All are invited to join this parish and commune with us! See Fr. Anthony if you would like to learn more.

Post-Communion Prayers, 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

Today marks the beginning of the school year. We are kicking off the school year with a “Teaching” Divine Liturgy. At the end of the service, we will bless our students and teachers.

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 (look under the “Church Strategic Planning” tab at the top).

The **Grief Support Group** will not meet this week. It will resume at a the first “stand-alone” session in preparation for Thanksgiving. In the meantime, iff anyone needs help with their grief (or any other pastoral need), please contact Fr. Anthony. Joe Truchan, our Grief Share leader is in the hospital; may God bless him and grant him His healing mercy!

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

Fall Weekday Liturgies: will be every Wednesday except 9/28, 10/19, 10/26, 11/16 & 12/7. These Wednesday liturgies 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.

Reading and Greeter Schedule (through September)

Date	Epistle Schedule	Greeters
9/18/2016	Alex Mackiewicz	Judy Miller & Vera Muzychka
9/25/2016	Richard Bodner	Richard Rosko
10/2/2016	Robin Bodner	Eleanor Fox
10/9/2016	Dennis Ritter	Judy Miller & Vera Muzychka
10/16/2016	Joseph Truchan	Richard Rosko
10/23/2016	Nik Fartuch	Eleanor Fox
10/30/2016	Rdr. Nicholas Perkins	Judy Miller & Vera Muzychka

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 16:13-24

Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. 14 Let all that you do be done with love.

I urge you, brethren—you know the household of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves to the ministry of the saints— that you also submit to such, and to everyone who works and labors with us. I am glad about the coming of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus, for what was lacking on your part they supplied. For they refreshed my spirit and yours. Therefore acknowledge such men.

The churches of Asia greet you. Aquila and Priscilla greet you heartily in the Lord, with the church that is in their house. All the brethren greet you.

Greet one another with a holy kiss.

The salutation with my own hand—Paul's. If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed. O Lord, come! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-42

“Hear another parable: There was a certain landowner who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to vinedressers and went into a far country. Now when vintage-time drew near, he sent his servants to the vinedressers, that they might receive its fruit. And the vinedressers took his servants, beat one, killed one, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first, and they did likewise to them. Then last of all he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the vinedressers saw the son, they said among themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and seize his inheritance.’ So they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him.

“Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vinedressers?”

They said to Him, “He will destroy those wicked men miserably, and lease his vineyard to other vinedressers who will render to him the fruits in their seasons.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: ‘*The stone which the builders rejected / has become the chief cornerstone. / This was the Lord's doing, / And it is marvelous in our eyes*’?”