

St. Mary Protection of the Theotokos Parish

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**GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST!
GLORIFY FOREVER!**

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Two Things Worth Checking Out.

Movie: Bitter Harvest.

Bitter Harvest is a 2017 romantic-drama film set in Soviet Ukraine in the early 1930s. Inspired by actual events, the movie follows two lovers, played by Irons and Barks, struggling with their farming families to survive the Holodomor, the Kremlin's regime-forced famine-genocide which took place as part of the Soviet famine of 1932–33. As Joseph Stalin attempts to build a strong and prosperous Soviet Union, a young Ukrainian artist named Yuri (Max Irons) fights to survive starvation, detainment, and torture to spare his childhood sweetheart Natalka (Samantha Barks) from the famine-genocide. Against this backdrop, Yuri escapes from a Soviet prison and joins the resistance movement as he fights to rejoin with Natalka and proceed with the battle for a free Ukraine.



The nearest showing is at Regal Cinema (Address: 1011 Ridge Pike, Conshohocken, PA 19428. (844) 462-7342.

The exhibition of Russian Icon paintings “Windows to Heaven: Treasures from the Museum of Russian Icons” opened Feb. 5 and will be in the Williams Center Gallery until the end of March. The exhibit in the Williams Arts Center features icons from the collection of Gordon Lankton, founder of the Museum of Russian Icons in Clinton, Mass. The museum houses one of the world’s largest collections of Russian icons, with more than 1,000 icons spanning six centuries. The exhibit is open regularly for visitors Mon. – Fri. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m and on the weekends from 12 p.m to 5 p.m. The exhibit will go through March 26, according to the Calendar of Events page.



Upcoming Worship Schedule

Sunday	2/26	9:00AM	Divine Liturgy of Forgiveness (Cheesefare); Service of Forgiveness
*** GREAT LENT BEGINS ***			
Monday	2/27	7:00PM	Great Canon of St. Andrew
Tuesday	2/28	7:00PM	Great Canon of St. Andrew
Friday	3/3	10:00AM	Presanctified Liturgy
Saturday	3/4	4:00PM	Parish Vigil
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

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. On 3/5 we will have a guest speaker, Daria Pishko!

Wednesdays (7PM). This Bible Study will resume after Pascha.

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!

February 26th; Forgiveness Sunday

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 3 Tropar (*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 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 6 Kondak (*from the Lenten Triodion*)

O Master, Teacher of wisdom, / Bestower of virtue, / Who teaches the thoughtless and protects the poor, / strengthen and enlighten my heart! / O Word of the Father, / let me not restrain my mouth from crying to You: / “Have mercy on me, a transgressor, // O merciful Lord!”

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 (*Resurrection; Psalm 75:11,1*)

Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God!

v: In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.

Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! (*Psalm 91:1, 2*)

v. It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your Name, O Most High.

v. to declare Your mercy in the morning, and Your truth by night.

Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21. 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.

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. Along with all the saints, we remember the Mother of God after the *Epiclesis* (calling of the Holy Spirit).

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.

The **St. Mary's Seniors** are celebrating the beginning of Great Lent today at Red Lobster at 11AM.

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.

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** service on Sunday March 5th 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.

Reading and Greeter Schedule

Date	Epistle Schedule	Greeters
2/19	Dennis Ritter	Richard Rosko
2/26	Joseph Truchan	Eleanor Fox
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: Romans 13:11-14:4 (NKJV)

11 And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. 12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. 13 Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. 14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

14 Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things. 2 For one believes he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats only vegetables. 3 Let not him who eats despise him who does not eat, and let not him who does not eat judge him who eats; for God has received him. 4 Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand.

Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21 (NKJV)

14 "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

16 "Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. 17 But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, 18 so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

19 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.