



Our Lady of Perpetual Help

# Our Lady of Perpetual Help Byzantine Catholic Church

1773 Woodbourne Road \* Levittown, PA 19057

Fr. Edward G. Cimbala, D.Min – Pastor

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Rev. Myron Badnerosky – Pastor Emeritus

## Liturgical Schedule

### for the Week of March 19, 2017

**Saturday, March 18 ~ 3<sup>rd</sup> All Souls Saturday**

**8:30 AM** Liturgy for the Deceased and the reading of the Hramoty  
**Vigil of the Third Sunday of the Great Fast**

**Veneration of the Cross**

**5:30 PM** Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great  
For the Parish Family of OLPH

**Sunday, March 19 ~ Third Sunday of the Great Fast**

**Veneration of the Cross**

**9:00 AM** Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom  
+Michael Macinsky by Patricia Marks  
Followed by Advisory Committee Meeting

**Wednesday, March 22 ~ Mid-Lent**

**7:00 PM** Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts  
For the Deceased Faithful

**Friday, March 24 ~ Zachary - Venerable**

**Noon** Lenten Moleben

**Saturday, March 25 ~ Annunciation of the Theotokos**

**8:30 AM** +Edward Zapala by wife Mary  
**Vigil of the Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast**

**Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel**

**5:30 PM** Divine Liturgy  
of St. John Chrysostom  
For the Parish Family of OLPH

**Sunday, March 26 ~ Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast**

**Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel**

**9:00 AM** Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great  
+Raul Stevens by Steve Macinsky

Festal Anointing in celebration of the

Feast of the Annunciation following both weekend Liturgies



**OUR LENTEN THEME**  
**Jesus Christ Son of God**  
**Have Mercy**  
**on Me a Sinner**

**LENTEN WRISTBANDS** – Please continue to out the wristbands and share our Lenten message. Thank you for your enthusiastic response.

The Prayer of St. Ephrem the Syrian



*O Lord and Master of my life, keep from me the spirit of indifference and discouragement, lust of power and idle chatter. Instead, grant to me, Your servant, the spirit of wholeness of being, humble-mindedness, patience, and love. O Lord and King, grant me the grace to be aware of my sins and not to judge my brother; for You are blessed now and ever and forever. Amen*

## NO COFFEE SOCIAL ON MARCH 26

The Kool Kids Consignment Sale will be taking place that weekend.

### APRIL COFFEE SOCIALS

April 9 – Palm Sunday

April 23- Thomas Sunday

We will celebrate birthdays the first social of each month

### NEXT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

March 19 - Following the Divine Liturgy in the church.  
All parishioners are welcome to attend.

## Candle Intentions for March SANCTUARY

In Memory of Theresa Sudik, our daughter

By Maura & Michael Sudik

### TETRAPOD

In Memory of Robert C. Donatelli, my grandfather

By Robert P. Donatelli

### ALTAR OF PREPARATION

In Memory of Helen Yulich, my mother

By Betty Yulich Slezak & Dan Slezak

### ALTAR OF BLESSING

In Memory of the Yatsko & Puketza Families

By Helen Yatsko

### Offertory – March 11 & 12, 2017

|              | Saturday   | Sunday   | Total      |
|--------------|------------|----------|------------|
| Regular      | \$674.00   | \$672.00 | \$1,346.00 |
| Special Gift | \$1,000.00 | 0        | \$1,000.00 |
| Candles      | 0          | \$23.00  | \$23.00    |
| Assessment   | \$25.00    | 0        | \$25.00    |
| Total        | \$1,699.00 | \$695.00 | \$2,394.00 |
| Attendance   | 22         | 45       | 67         |

**SATURDAY EVENING LITURGY** – We will no longer be celebrating Vespers with the Divine Liturgy – it will the Liturgy as usual.



## Saturday, April 8

Following the 8:30 Divine Liturgy for Lazarus Saturday Volunteers needed to clean up the grounds of OLPH to make it attractive for Easter.

Bring your rakes, brooms, shovels and whatever you like to use for yard work.

We will also continue the clean-up in the Parish Center Kitchen at that time.

**Plenty of work for people of all ages!!!**

**PIZZA FOR LUNCH!**

**MAILING ADDRESS** – Please note that if you wish to mail anything to OLPH the new mailing address is:

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help**

PO BOX 777

Levittown, PA 19058-0777



*We bow to Your Cross O Lord and  
we Glorify Your  
Holy Resurrection*

**SAY HELLO** .... If you see someone in church that you do not know – stop and say hello and welcome them to OLPH. Your friendly greeting will help them to decide to make OLPH their spiritual home. Make sure you introduce newcomers to Fr. Ed. Don't be shy!

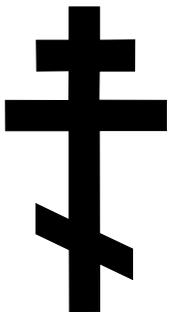


### Remember OLPH

It's not a topic we are very comfortable talking about or even thinking about. Maybe that's why over 60 percent of Americans die

without a will. And yet a will is one of the deepest expressions of love and commitment we can leave behind. It is the way we let family and friends know how much we truly treasure them. It is also a way to ensure that our parish will continue to prosper after we are gone. Your bequest to OLPH is a wonderful way to thank God for the place our parish has had in your life. Please complete a will for your own sake and for your family's sake after you are gone. Please consider OLPH in your estate plans.

### WHY DO WE WEAR A CROSS?



In pre-Christian times, the Cross was the instrument of a shameful and horrible death. The ancient Romans invented it and used it everywhere in order to intimidate the people whom they had dominated. Everyone looked on this instrument of execution the shameful Cross with

horror. But a remarkable change took place with respect to the Cross after Our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified on it. The Lord suffered and died on the Cross. He took horrible sufferings upon Himself in order to save us from sins. The Cross received great glory, such as no other object made by the hands of man has possessed. The Cross became the sign of our salvation, through which we receive the power of God the grace of God.

The Cross is the first and greatest Christian sacred object. When the priest sanctifies water, he immerses the Cross in it, and the water becomes holy. When we wear the Cross, our body constantly touches it, and from this touch it, too, is sanctified. The Cross that we wear protects us from all kinds of danger. One ought not to look upon the Cross as some kind of jewelry like a bracelet or brooch. The Cross must adorn our soul and not our clothing, and must constantly remind us that we are Byzantine Catholic Christians, called to live according to our faith, which is founded on the Savior's sufferings on the Cross.

### The Annunciation of the Theotokos

**Celebrated March 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Divine Liturgy at 8:30 AM**

*Epistle: Hebrews 2:11-18 ~ Gospel: Luke 1:24-38*

*Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos! Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you! Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, for you have borne the Savior of our souls!*

The Incarnation, it has been rightly said, “was not only the work of the Father, of His Power and His Spirit, it was also the work of the will and the faith of the Virgin.” On the Feast of the Annunciation, therefore, the Church commemorates not only the divine initiative, but also the human response, whereby Mary freely accepted the vocation set before her. God always respects human liberty, so when He elected to become man, He desired to do so with the willing agreement of the woman He chose to be His mother. Mary's answer to the angel was not a foregone conclusion: she could have refused! She was not a passive instrument, but an active participant, with a free and positive part to play in God's scheme of salvation.

In the services of the Church, Mary's doubts are set forth with the utmost directness; we see her incredulity and her embarrassment. This is done to make it clear that she acted in full freedom. This feast is celebrated nine months before Christ's birth, December 25<sup>th</sup>.



**About the Icon** In the center of the icon, a scroll on a stand reminds us of the Old Testament prophecy of Isaiah that a virgin shall bear a child. The Angel Gabriel (on the left) points to Mary, with his hand centered over the scroll, as

fulfillment of that prophecy. Mary, on the right, holds a spool of woolen yarn: as the sheep give their wool to clothe us, so she will give her flesh and blood to clothe the Son of God in a garment of humanity.

*Adapted from The Icon Book, by Boojamra, Essey, McLuckie & Matusiak.*

## Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel

Commemorated on March 26



The Archangel Gabriel was chosen by the Lord to announce to the Virgin Mary about the Incarnation of the Son of God from her, to the great rejoicing of all mankind. Therefore, on the day after the Feast of the Annunciation, the day on which the All-Pure Virgin is glorified, we give thanks to the Lord and we venerate His messenger Gabriel, who contributed to the mystery of our salvation.

Gabriel, the holy Archistrategos (Leader of the Heavenly Hosts), is a faithful servant of the Almighty God. He announced the future Incarnation of the Son of God to those of the Old Testament; he inspired the Prophet Moses to write the Pentateuch (first five books of the Old Testament), he announced the coming tribulations of the Chosen People to the Prophet Daniel (Dan. 8:16, 9:21-24); he appeared to Saint Anna (July 25) with the news that she would give birth to the Virgin Mary.

The holy Archangel Gabriel remained with the Holy Virgin Mary when she was a child in the Temple of Jerusalem, and watched over her throughout her earthly life. He appeared to the Priest Zachariah, foretelling the birth of the Forerunner of the Lord, Saint John the Baptist. The Lord sent him to Saint Joseph the Betrothed in a dream, to reveal to him the mystery of the Incarnation of the Son of God from the All-Pure Virgin Mary, and warned him of the wicked intentions of Herod, ordering him to flee into Egypt with the divine Infant and His Mother.

When the Lord prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane before His Passion, the Archangel Gabriel, whose very name signifies “Man of God” (Luke. 22:43), was sent from Heaven to strengthen Him.

The Myrrh-Bearing Women heard from the Archangel the joyous news of Christ’s Resurrection (Mt.28:1-7, Mark 16:1-8).

Mindful of the manifold appearances of the holy Archangel Gabriel and of his zealous fulfilling of God’s will, and confessing his intercession for Christians before the Lord, the Church calls upon its children to pray to the great Archangel with faith and love.

## INFORMATION ABOUT THE EASTER SERVICES

### Resurrection Matins & Divine Liturgy Saturday, April 15 – 7:00 PM



These services are the most important of the Liturgical Year. This is the culmination of your Lenten Journey, it is what makes our prayer, fasting and alms giving complete. We will celebrate Matins and Divine Liturgy as one service. The Matins portion with the procession takes the place of what is the beginning of the Liturgy and after that we continue as usual with the singing of “All you who have been baptized” and the readings. Fr. Ed hopes that the church will be jam-packed with hundreds of people singing Christ is Risen! Invite your family and friends for this beautiful celebration.

### BLESSING OF BASKETS

The blessing of the Easter Baskets will take place in the Parish Center. Please bring in your baskets before you come into church for the Easter services. FYI – Fr. Ed has been known to “steal” from the baskets!



### PROPER POSTURE FOR PRAYER DURING THE EASTER SEASON

~ From Resurrection Matins until the Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost the proper posture for **all** prayer is to stand rather than to kneel. Standing is a sign of joy. And what greater joy do we have other than the Resurrection of Christ? After the celebration of Pentecost the proper posture for prayer during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy is to stand during the times OLPH has been used to kneeling. This is because each Divine Liturgy is a celebration of the Resurrection. All of the parishes in the Metropolitan Church of Pittsburgh have been following this directive of the Bishops which was promulgated in 2006. This is a restoration of true Eastern Tradition. **If it is not physically possible for you to stand, please feel free to kneel or sit.** You may begin standing during the Divine Liturgies now if you wish to. If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to ask Fr. Ed.

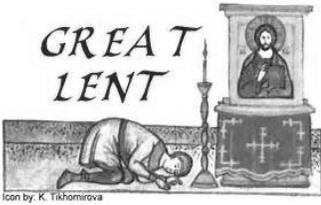
### Making the “Sign of the Cross” is an Act of Faith

To understand the Sign of the Cross, we need to look or begin with our right hand: The thumb, the index and the middle finger of the right hand are joined together, while the fourth and little fingers are joined and bent in the palm of the hand. The three fingers joined together express our Faith in the Holy Trinity: One God in three divine Persons. The two fingers joined together in the palm of the hand



signify that there are two natures in Christ. He is truly God and truly Man united in the Incarnation of one divine person: Jesus Christ. When we make the “The Sign of the Cross”, we proclaim our Faith in the Redemption (i.e. that we are saved by the redeeming action of our Lord Jesus Christ dying on the cross for our salvation, that we might dwell with Him in His Kingdom forever).

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS – OUR LENTEN & HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



Wednesdays, March, 22, April 5

7:00 PM – Presanctified Liturgy

Fridays, March, 24, April 7 – Noon – Lenten Moleben

Saturday, March 18 – 8:30 AM

All Souls Liturgy & Reading of the Hramoty

Saturday, March 25 – 8:30 AM

Divine Liturgy Feast of the Annunciation

Wednesday, March 29 – 7:00 PM – The Great Canon of Andrew of Crete

Friday, March 31 – Noon – Akathist to the Mother of God

### GREAT & HOLY WEEK

Great & Holy Wednesday, April 12 – 7:00 PM – Presanctified & Holy Anointing

Great & Holy Thursday, April 13 – 7:00 PM – Vespers and Liturgy of St. Basil

Great & Holy Friday, April 14 – 7:00 PM – Burial Vespers & Procession

Great & Holy Saturday, April 15 – 7:00 PM

Resurrection Matins & Divine Liturgy (all one service) followed by the blessing of baskets

The GREAT Day – Easter, April 16

9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy followed by the blessing of baskets