



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 December 18, 2016

Sunday, December 18 ~ Sunday Before Christmas

9:00 AM For the Parish Family
of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Monday, December 19 ~ Boniface - Martyr

8:00 AM +Michael Starrs by Dan Starrs

Wednesday, December 21 ~ Juliana - Martyr

7:00 PM Moleben for the Christmas Fast

**Saturday, December 24 ~ The Vigil of Christmas
Christmas Eve**

7:15 PM Grand Compline

8:00 PM For the Parish Family
of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Sunday, December 25 ~ Christmas Day

9:00 AM Special Intention
The Divine Liturgies for Christmas
will be followed by Festal Anointing

CANDLE DEDICATION FOR DECEMBER

Tetrapod

In Honor of all the ECF Children by
M. Catherine McFarland

“Remembering that a child led the way...”

Altar of Preparation

In Memory of Nelli G. Donatelli,
my grandmother by Robert P. Donatelli

Blessing Altar

In Memory of Frank Scalia, my father by Nora Scalia
Downs & Greg Downs



2017 LOTTERY CALENDARS

Margaret Churilla will have
2017 Lottery Calendars for sale
at \$20.00 per calendar. Every
night a possible winner based
on 3 digit PA Evening Daily

Number. Prizes vary from \$20 to \$200.

Ow



Holy Supper Svjatyj Večer

Fr. Ed has the tradition of preparing Holy Supper
for his family and friends on Christmas Eve. The
parish Family of OLPH is also invited. If you
would like to attend, please sign up on the sheet on
the table at the entrance of the church **TODAY** so
he can prepare. Holy Supper will be held in the
Parish Hall at 4:30 PM. If you would like to bring
something or help, please let Fr. Ed know. (It is
not necessary to bring something)

Offertory – December 11, 2016

Weekly Offerings - \$1,660.00 * Building Fund - \$35.00

St. Nicholas - \$87.00 * Flowers \$10.00

Initial - \$2.00

Conception of the Mother of God - \$95.00

Attendance ~ 63

PERSONAL ASSESSMENT 2016

Special Thanks to those who have responded to OLPH
Special Assessment Fundraising Drive

If you haven't contributed, please do so as soon as possible.

While the suggested amount is \$250.00 per family, all
contributions no matter what size are appreciated.



Please remember our Seminarian Tim
Fariss during the Christmas Season he
will be delighted to hear from you.

Tim Fariss

Byzantine Catholic Seminary
3605 Perrysville Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15214

A SPECIAL GIFT FOR CHRISTMAS



– A special gift for Christmas is a fitting
way to thank God for coming to us and
showering us with His Light. As Christmas
falls on a Sunday this year, please use your

Sunday envelope in addition to the special Christmas
envelope. *Thank you for your generosity.*

Special Liturgical Celebrations

Christmas

The Nativity of Our Lord

Saturday, December 24

7:15 PM – Grand Compline

8:00 PM – Divine Liturgy

Sunday, December 25

9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

Synaxis of the Theotokos

Monday, December 26 - 7:00 PM

Divine Liturgy

Stephen - Protomartyr

Tuesday, December 27 - 8:30 AM

Divine Liturgy

Sunday Before Theophany

Feast of St. Basil

Circumcision of Our Lord

Sunday, January 1

9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

Theophany

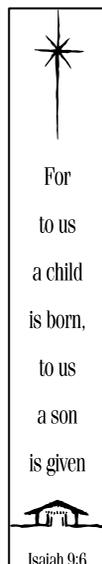
Thursday, January 5 ~ 7:00 PM – Liturgy

Vespers with Divine Liturgy with
the Great Sanctification of Water

Friday, January 6 ~ 8:30 AM

Theophany Liturgy

(Theophany is a Holyday of Obligation)



For
to us
a child
is born,
to us
a son
is given

Isaiah 9:6

2017 CHURCH ENVELOPES

Now available at the entrance of the church. If there is not a box of envelopes with your name on it, please make a note on the sheet.



House Blessings - As you know, it is our tradition to have our homes blessed after the feast of Theophany on January 6. If you wish to have Fr. Ed come and bless your home, fill out and return the form below. Fr. Ed will contact you to arrange your house blessing.

Fr. Ed, I/We would like to have our home blessed

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

The best days of the week are: _____

The best time of day is: _____

If possible, this is the best date and time:

CARPENTER NEEDED

Are you handy with a saw, hammer and router? Fr. Ed is looking for someone who enjoys carpentry work to join a team to help build a temporary iconscreen. The project would involve modifying screen doors to be used to frame icons. Let him know if you are able to help.

DOCSESIAN DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN

If you haven't sent in your donation to the Annual Bishop's Appeal, please do so before the end of the year.



Sunday before Christmas The Ancestors

The following is an excerpt from The Winter Pascha, by Fr. Thomas Hopko



The gospel reading for the Divine Liturgy on the Sunday before Christmas is “the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham,” taken from the gospel according to St. Matthew. This genealogy lists the generations of people from Abraham to David, to the Babylonian captivity of the people of Israel, to the birth of Jesus. It is a selected genealogy, ending in the appearance of “Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ” (Mt 1:16). It differs from the genealogy presented in St. Luke’s gospel which begins with Jesus “being the son (as was supposed) of Joseph,” and goes back all the way not simply to Abraham but to Adam (Lk 3:23-38).

There are many purposes for presenting the genealogy of Jesus in the gospels, chief among which is the affirmation that Jesus, being in truth the Son of God, as all the gospels testify, has come “in the flesh” as a real human being. This affirmation was critically important in the time of the apostles and the first Christian generations because, unlike today, the temptation of the early period of Christianity was not to deny Jesus’ divinity, but to deny His real and authentic humanity. As a matter of historical fact, the first Christian heretics were those who said that Jesus was some sort of divine being (how this was explained had many variations and versions) who only appeared to be a true man, but was not really one since “flesh and blood” were taken to be intrinsically degrading if not downright evil. Thus the apostle Paul had to insist that in Jesus, who belongs to the Jews “according to the flesh” (Rom 9:5), the “whole fulness of deity dwells *bodily*” (Col 2:9), and that it is the same Jesus who died and was buried and raised in the flesh as a real man, who is Messiah and Lord.

The genealogies in the gospels of Saints Matthew and Luke are made to and from Joseph. This is not to give the impression that Jesus came from Joseph’s seed. Both gospels are absolutely clear on this point. Jesus is born from the Virgin Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit. The point is rather that Joseph is Jesus’ father according to the law, and it is from the father that one’s lawful descent is to be traced. Jesus’ legal father is “Joseph, son of David,” the legal husband of Mary (Mt 1:20).

One other important point is made in listing the human generations which led to the birth of Jesus. This is the fact that God is faithful to His promises even though His chosen people are often not faithful. Among the people from whom Jesus came are both sinners and heathens. In a word, Jesus comes not only from the righteous and holy, but from the wicked and sinful. And He comes not only from Jews, but from Gentiles. The names of the four women specifically mentioned in St. Matthew’s list— Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, and the wife of Uriah (Bathsheba)— were noted, not to say notorious, Gentiles, including one of David’s own wives, the mother of Solomon. The point to be seen here is one beautifully made in an early Christian hymn quoted in the Bible in the second letter to Timothy:

If we have died with Him, we shall also live with Him; If we endure, we shall also reign with Him; If we deny Him, He also will deny us; If we are faithless, He remains faithful for He cannot deny Himself. (2 Tim 2:11-13)
This is the wonderful witness of the genealogies of Jesus: If we are faithless, the Lord God remains faithful— for he cannot deny Himself!

WELCOME VISITORS!
“MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER
FOR ALL PEOPLES.” - Isaiah 56: 7

If you are a visitor to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, we want you to know how welcome you are; whether you have come from another part of the country, from across the world, or simply from another parish. We hope you find our worship true and reverent and our people here friendly and cordial. If you are seeking a spiritual home, we would be honored by your presence in our family. For more information about becoming a parishioner, please see Fr. Ed.

FR. MYRON RETIREMENT DIVINE LITURGY – Michael Sudik has prepared a CD of Fr. Myron’s retirement Divine Liturgy. The cost is \$10.00. Please see Michael to get a copy of this historical recording.



On the Road with Fr. Ed
Spain Pilgrimage with Fatima, Lourdes & Barcelona
Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions at Fatima November 1- 11, 2017
\$2,989 per person from Newark - See Fr. Ed for more info.