

Sunday before Christmas
December 18, 2022

8:40 AM Rosary
 9:00 AM **Health/Blessings for all Parishioners**

Monday, December 19th

NO SERVICES

Tuesday, December 20th

9:30 AM **H/B for Ron Prexta** – by a friend

Wednesday, December 21st

9:30 AM + **Yurii Shevchuk** – by John Stecura
 5:00 PM Confessions in the Sacristy (or by appointment)
 5:30PM Rosary
 6:00PM **Moleben in Times of War: For the Suffering Land of Ukraine and her Children**

Thursday, December 22nd

9:00 AM Christmas Baking

Friday, December 23rd

9:30 AM + **Savilla Ukrainec** – by the Crookston Family

Saturday, December 24th Christmas Eve

9:00 PM + **Genevive Benedick** – by Jeannette Wolansky

Sunday, December 25th Christmas

9:40 AM Rosary
10:00 AM Health/Blessings for all Parishioners

His name, **Jesus**, literally means “**the Lord saves**,” Yeshua’. Yasha is to save in Hebrew, Yahweh is the Hebrew name for God or for the Lord, so if we put Ye or Ya and shua together you get the Lord saves. Second: the other aspect about this is just the emphasis once again on the virginal conception, that Jesus is not just the adopted son of the Davidic family, of the royal family of Joseph and the royal family of David, and therefore the heir to the Davidic throne, he’s also the divine son of God, he’s the divine son of God conceived through the power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, he is called Immanuel, God with us.

DONATIONS – December 11th:

Sunday: \$1,389
 Pyrohy: \$205
 Christmas offering: \$305
 Ukie Display: \$34.50
 Relief for priests: \$20
 Ukraine War relief
 In Memory of Mr. Shevchuk: \$300
 Conception of St. Ann: \$60
Total: \$2,417

CONGRATULATIONS:

This week **David Griffiths (Dec 18)** celebrates his birthday. We wish you a wonderful celebration, and a year of health and blessings flavored with pure joy, and **many blessed years... mnohaya i blahaya lita!**

Wedding Banns:

Nicholas Griffiths & Lauren Dulik

Emergency Relief Fund:

This fund can provide HGUCC members with emergency financial aid in times of need. Parishioners can contact Father Sal with total confidentiality to request assistance along with prayers and counseling.

UNIQUE CHRISTMAS GIFTS:

Are available at our Ukrainian Display in the social hall. Items for sale include religious icons, Christmas ornaments. Ukrainian and English greeting card (most \$ 1.50), pysanky (Ukrainian eggs), jewelry, embroidery, cookbooks, ceramics, aprons, woodworking (plaques, plates, jewelry boxes, candleholders), shalws, t-shirts, caps visors, angels, bookmarks, key chain, magnets, etc. (reasonably priced).

Meaning of Christmas:

Jesus chose to become man to show us that he doesn’t just want to save us, but that **he loves us**. And he knew that in the incarnation and the crucifixion, there would be no greater way to show us that he loves us, than to become man and then go to the cross and die for us. “For greater love hath no one than this, that he lay down his life for someone else / for his friends” (see John 15:13). So God wanted to show us that he loves us, and he does that through the incarnation and the cross. Jesus also becomes one of us to teach us how to love him back! How to be holy and to give ourselves totally to God.

Prayer for Vocations:

Almighty and merciful God, inspire those You have chosen to hear and answer Your call to the Priesthood and Religious Life. Give them the courage to be the prophets for our times. Give them the wisdom and openness to live their personal call. Give them the strength to be ready witness of Your love and care for the world. Amen.

2023 Church Calendars:

are available for you in the vestibule.

Divine Liturgy Etiquette:

No food or drink in Church. The exceptions would be for small children, or water for the priest or choir and water for those who are ill. Bringing a snack into church is not appropriate because we want to set the church apart as a place of prayer and reflection. Silence your phone.

Christmas Eve – Saturday Dec 24th 9pm
Christmas Day – Sun Dec 25th 10:00am

REFLECTION ON SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FOREFATHERS

Today, on the second Sunday before the Nativity of our Lord, the Holy Church remembers the Holy Forefathers - those righteous people who lived before Jesus Christ, and lived righteously with faith in Him. Everyone from Adam and Eve to Joseph the Betrothed and John the Baptist. On this day the Church brings as an example those God pleasing people who did not live to see or hear of the birth of Jesus Christ. These people sought salvation in the faith.

These people did not have access to books like we have. They did not have televisions or the internet from which we can obtain so much useful information on the Church and religious topics. And we should ask ourselves - are we utilizing these sources of information to further our knowledge of the Church?

The doors of the Heavenly Kingdom are open to us ! All we have to do is realize that fact, repent and to truly start living a Christian life. We must attempt to learn the teachings of the Church, the feast days and the saints the same way that we study the statistics of sports teams, the economy, culinary recipes and all that attracts us from the worldly aspect.

Let us prepare ourselves spiritually in these last days of Philip's Fast so as to be worthy to meet the upcoming joyous feast of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ - the appearance into the world of the God-child in Bethlehem.