

**UNIVERSAL EXALTATION OF THE PRECIOUS AND LIFE-GIVING
CROSS OF OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST**
SEPTEMBER 14, 2008
Festal Tone

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 15– SEPTEMBER 21, 2008

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15	NO DIVINE LITURGY	
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16	NO DIVINE LITURGY	
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17	8:30 DIVINE LITURGY	SOFIA BANKSTON; REQ: FR. JAMES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18	6:00 PM WEEKDAY VESPERS	
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19	8:30 DIVINE LITURGY	SPECIAL INTENTION
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20	6:00 PM GREAT VESPERS	
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21	10:00 AM LITURGY	FOR ALL PARISHIONERS

Вічна Пам'ять!

On September 7th, Myroslaw Trojan, the uncle of Xenia Moore fell asleep in the Lord in New York and on September 12th, Maria Bodnaruk, the sister of Michael Boyko fell asleep in the Lord in Arizona. Please keep Myroslaw and Maria as well as their families in your prayers.

New Refrigerator

Thanks to all the ladies & those who support the coffee get-together after the Sunday Liturgy. Since our community is so scattered let us make the most of these opportunities for us to come together to grow in fellowship.

Парафіяльний Празник – Parish Patronal Feast

We will celebrate our patronal feast of Покров – The Holy Protection of the Mother of God on October 5. Tickets will be available in the church hall after Divine Liturgy. Ticket prices: Adults - \$12.00; school-aged children (13-17) - \$6.00; children 12 and under – Free. We also need volunteers to help with preparation, serving and clean-up.

Vespers

Please note the changes in the schedule of services on Thursday and Saturday when Vespers will be served.

Volunteers needed

In October, we will begin the “Generations of Faith” program of whole parish catechesis. There are many tasks that need to be done for this. Presenters, Hospitality, Craft/Project preparation, Food preparation, set-up, and clean-up. This will be a monthly event and will involve the whole parish. **There will be a meeting today after the Divine Liturgy of all those interested in volunteering to make this program a success.**



Sunday Collection: September 7, 2008:	\$1,000.00
Candle Offerings:	\$11.50
Total:	\$1,011.50

Anna and Martha Oleksyshyn Memorial Matching Fund

Through the generosity of Roman Oleksyshyn and in memory of his wife and sister, this fund has been established to reduce the parish debt. Pan Roman will match donations to this fund up to \$10,000.00 – for a grand total of \$20,000.00! Donations to this matching fund must be noted as such. Please note that contributions should be made *in addition* to your normal weekly contribution. We have thus far received donations totaling \$7,075.00. With Pan Roman’s matching contribution, that brings the Grand Total to \$14,150.00.

ХРЕСТ — ЦЕ ЗНАК БОЖОЇ ЛЮБОВІ

Сьогодні, схиляючи наші голови перед Чесним Животворним Хрестом, ми признаємо, що хрест — це знак Божої любові і знаряддя жертвовної смерті Господа нашого Ісуса Христа. Хрест є серцем Святого Євангелія.

Христос вмер на хресті, щоби нас грішних поєднати з Богом. Він дозволив Своє тіло прибити до хреста і вмер, щоби ми мали вічне життя. Ось тому євангелісти так детально розповідають про Христове розп'яття. Вони хочуть нам пригадати: хто ми, і що ми робимо.

Євангелісти ставлять хрест перед нашими очима, щоб пригадати, що ми спричинилися до Христової смерті. Наші гріхи, наша гордість, наше себелюбство і брак співчуття, нелюдяне поводження з нашим братом, наша нехоть змінити життя на краще, все це — бунт, гріх, який пригвоздив Христа до хресного дерева. Людські гріхи вбили Христа.

Якою повинна бути наша відповідь на любов жертвовної смерті Христа? Наша найкраща відповідь на Божу любов це — покута, чи інакше кажучи, нам треба признати провину, що ми спричинилися до Христових мук і Його смерті. Ми викручуємося, щоби лише себе оправдати. Якщо провинилися, тоді, звичайно, переносимо провину на інших. Ми звинувачуємо батьків, що нас погано виховали і не підготували до життя у світі, в якому ми опинилися. А як доведеться нам бути батьками, тоді звинувачуємо дітей.

Одна політична партія звинувачує іншу, один народ звинувачує інший, завжди є хтось, хто винен, що ми зблудили. Євангелісти кажуть нам не звинувачувати нікого. Не жидівська старшина розп'яла Христа, але наші гріхи. Жидівська старшина була лише знаряддям виконання хресної смерті. Наші гріхи розп'яли Христа. Тому нам треба признати свої провини і покутувати. Найкращий спосіб, який веде нас до покути є дивитись на хрест. Нам треба впасти на коліна і промовити: „*Хресту Твоєму поклоняємося, Владико, і святеє Воскресення Твоє славимо*”.

Щоби християни, прямуючи до досконалості, під час практикування самозречення, умертвлення не зневірилися і витримали в своїх постановах Церква ставить перед нашими очима хрест, з якого ми черпаємо силу, відвагу та, щоб, перемигши внутрішніх і зовнішніх ворогів нашої душі, ми могли колись увійти в царство небесне.

THE CROSS — A SYMBOL OF GOD'S LOVE

Today, bowing our heads before the True Life-Giving Cross, we acknowledge that the cross is a symbol of God's love and the instrument of the sacrificial death of Our Lord Jesus Christ. The cross lies at the center of the Holy Gospels.

Christ died on the cross to unite us sinners with God. He allowed His body to be nailed to the cross and died so that we would have eternal life. That is why the evangelists speak in such detail about Christ's crucifixion. They want us to remember who we are and what we are doing.

The evangelists place the cross before our eyes in order to remind us that we are the cause of Christ's death. Our sins, our pride, our egotism and our lack of sympathy, inhuman behavior towards our brother, our unwillingness to change our life for the better; all this is the rebellion, the sin which nailed Christ to the cross. Mankind's sins killed Christ.

How should we respond to the love shown by the sacrificial death of Christ? The best response to God's love is penance; we must acknowledge our transgression, and accept that we contributed to Christ's suffering and death. We try to get around it, to make it seem as if it is someone else's fault. We blame our parents for not raising us well enough to prepare us for life. And when we become parents, then we blame our children.

One political party blames the other, one nation blames another; it is always someone else's fault. The evangelists tell us not to blame anyone else. It was not the Jewish hierarchy, but our sins, that crucified Christ. They were just the instrument to carry out the crucifixion. We must acknowledge our sins and repent. The best way to do this is to look at the cross, fall on our knees and say: *“We venerate Your cross, O Lord, and glorify Your Holy Resurrection.”*

In order that Christians maintain their resolve in the practice of self-denial and mortification, the Church places the cross before our eyes to give us the strength to overcome the internal and external enemies of our soul, so that we can one day enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

An announcement from Christina Shymkovich

Ukrainian President Victor Yushenko will be in Los Angeles on Sept 24th. Tentatively, he will be laying a wreath at the Holodomor monument downtown, greeted by a welcoming committee to which you are invited to attend. Exact time to be determined.

At 7:00 PM you are invited to a dinner at which His Excellency will be speaking at the World Affairs Council at the InterContinental Hotel located at 2151 Avenue of the Stars.

- **There will be NO tickets sold at the door!!** You must have your ticket & photo ID for entry. Please arrive early to clear security.
- Ticket price does not include valet parking (\$12). You may want to car pool.
- Since I am a member of the World Affairs Council, you may come as my guests at a cost of \$75.00 or we will try to arrange tables of ten for a cost of \$650.00. (\$65.00/person)
- Reservations need to be made by the morning of Sept 22nd You may call the Council and order tickets yourself; the cost is then \$80/person.

I will be collecting checks written to the Los Angeles World Affairs Council or by credit card on Sunday at both churches and on Wednesday at the Kobzar choir rehearsal if you want to order tickets as a group. Please pass the word on to anyone you think may be interested in attending.

– Christina Shymkovich 626 688 3948 (cell)

Ask Fr. James

Q: Why do you add two small litanies during the liturgy right before the *Іже Херувимів*? I haven't heard that done elsewhere and they are not printed in the books in the pews. I'm confused.

A: First of all, I'm not actually adding anything but rather restoring a part of the Liturgy that is regularly skipped. The text can be found in the book that the priest uses at the Holy Table but it has been omitted from the text found in the pews. The reason that I have restored it to our use is that there are two beautiful prayers – the “Prayers of the Faithful” that the priest is supposed to say (usually quietly) but when those two small litanies (ektenia) are omitted there is practically no time for the priest to actually pray those prayers with proper attention. They are often simply skipped over. I feel that I should not be omitting or rushing through any prayer from the Liturgy so by restoring those litanies I then have the time necessary to properly and attentively pray the prayers.

– Fr. James

Do you have a question about Liturgical Practices, the Church, Spirituality or any subject relating to our life as Eastern Christian? If so, write your question on a piece of paper and place it in the collection or e-mail your question to frjames@mac.com. He will answer your question in a future bulletin.