

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of Saint Catherine, Martyr -- November 24/25th

28TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NOVEMBER 23, 2008
Tone 3

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 24 – NOVEMBER 30, 2008

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26	6:30 PM	SMALL VESPERS	
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27	9:00 AM	LITURGY	THANKSGIVING TO GOD
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28	8:30 AM	LITURGY	LESYA LOZNYCKY; REQ: BILL AND DALRENE LOZNYCKY
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29	6:00 PM	GREAT VESPERS	
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30	8:00 AM	LITURGY	NATALIA LOZNYCKY; REQ: BILL AND DARLENE LOZNYCKY
	10:00 AM	LITURGY	FOR ALL PARISHIONERS

Thanksgiving Day

There will be a Divine Liturgy at 9:00 AM on Thanksgiving Day so that we may all offer to God our thanks for all of the blessings that we have received in our lives.

Christmas Cards

Ukrainian Christmas Cards will be for sale in the Church Hall. Please see Mary Kitt to purchase.

Books for sale:

Millennium of Christianity in Ukrainian: A Symposium, published in 1987 by St. Paul University in Ottawa, Canada. It is available for \$5.00.

The Divine Liturgy: Anthology for Worship. Published in 2004 by the Metropolitan Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies in Ottawa, Canada. It is available for \$40.00. Please see Fr. James if you wish to purchase one of these books.

Pastoral Visit by Bishop Richard

Bishop Richard, will be making a pastoral visit to our parish on Sunday, December 14th. We will have one Liturgy that Sunday so that the whole parish community can celebrate with our Bishop. Following the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy there will be a parish luncheon.

Catechism for Youth and Young Adults

Catechism classes for the youth and young adults (5-18) will begin in January. Registration forms are available in the church hall. Please return them to Fr. James by December 7th so that the appropriate number of needed texts can be ordered. The schedule and cost for the classes will be determined once the number of students has been finalized.

<i>Sunday Collection: November 16, 2008:</i>	\$686.00
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БОЖЕСТВЕННИЙ ЛІКАР

Христос має силу випростувати те, що є скривлене. Він простує не лише скривлене тіло, але також наше скривлене життя. З усіх створінь лише людина — з прямою поставою. Але тілесні пристрасті спокушають нас до гріха, який тягне донизу. Чим більше в нас гріха, тим більше наш розум, наше серце й ціле наше духовне життя є зігнуте, скручене, скривлене. Наш Божественний Спаситель Христос прийшов на світ, щоби змінити нашу зіпсовану природу, щоби випростувати нашу скривлену особистість. В листі до Коринтян апостол Павло пише: „*Такими ви були колись: п'яниці, ідолопоклонники, злодії, обманці, але тепер ви перемінилися, бо стали новими людьми в Христі*”.

Дуже часто ріки, в своїй течії роблять круті повороти. Ті повороти мають свою причину. Вода тече туди, де вона зустрічає менший спротив. Так воно є і в нашому житті. Якщо ми не йдемо прямо, дорогою, що її нам показує Христос, а йдемо дорогою, яка є часом без найменшого спротиву, куди заманюють нас пристрасті і гріх, тоді наше життя буває скривлене, з крутими поворотами.

Ми повинні пам'ятати, що ані скривлений хребет, ані зломане життя людини не було й не є в Божому плані. На жаль, дуже часто ми поєднуємо Божу волю з нашими нещастями, недугами, смертю. Мужчина, в якого померла жінка й залишила четверо малих дітей, промовив з гіркою: „Годі, така є Божа воля”.

Ані швидка чи раптова смерть, ані недуга, ані природні катаклізми не приходять тому, що Господь того хоче. Божою волею є здоров'я, щастя людини. Господь оздоровлює, випростовує наше життя, яке розбите на куски стражданнями й болями.

Господь збирає куски скривленого гріхами, розбитого терпіннями, болями, нещастями наше життя й покращує його. Життя в терпінні не є в Божому плані.

Господи, дозволь нам прийти до Тебе зі скривленим, розбитим життям, щоби Ти випростував його, а з розбитих кусків, зробив образ спокійного, щасливого життя.

THE DIVINE PHYSICIAN

Christ has the power to straighten everything which is crooked. He can straighten not only the crooked body, but also the crooked life. Of all creation, the human being alone walks upright. But our human passions predispose us to sin, which pulls us down. The more sins we bear, the more our mind, heart and our whole spiritual being are bent and twisted. Our Divine Savior, Jesus Christ, came to earth to change our human nature, to straighten out our twisted personality. In his letter to the Corinthians, the apostle Paul writes: “*You were once drunkards, idolaters thieves and deceivers, but now you have changed and become new people in Christ.*”

Often rivers twist and turn as they flow. Water follows the path of least resistance. So it is in our life. If we do not follow the road Christ shows us, we follow a road that twists and turns along the path of least resistance, where passions and sin draw us in. Then our life becomes twisted and crooked.

We should remember that neither a crooked back nor a broken human life are part of God's plan. Unfortunately, often we blame God's will for our unhappiness, misfortune and death. A man, whose wife dies leaving him with four small children, bitterly says: “Such is God's will.”

Sudden death, misfortunes, natural disasters do not occur because God wills them. God's will is that people be healthy and happy. God makes us well and straightens out the life broken into pieces through sin, suffering, pain and misfortune.

God picks up these broken pieces of our life and puts our life back together. For neither a crooked back nor a life of suffering is in God's plan.

Lord, allow us to come to You with our twisted, broken life, so that You can straighten it out; so that You can take the broken pieces and create a peaceful and happy life for us.

Українська Католицька Парафія Матері Божої Неустаючої Помочі

Церква Святого Пророка й Предтечи Йоана Хрестителя
Святиня Святого Миколая, Архієпископа Мір Лікійського, Чудотворця

Ukrainian Catholic Parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Church of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptizer John
Shrine of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycea

4400 Palm Avenue
La Mesa, CA 91941
Parish Office: (619) 697-5085

Website: stjohnthebaptizer.org

Папox: о. Яків Бенькстон
Pastor: Fr. James Bankston
frjames@mac.com
Fr. James' cell phone: (619) 905-5278

The Holy Great Martyr Catherine

Saint Catherine of Alexandria was said to be an exceedingly beautiful maiden, most chaste, and illustrious in wealth, lineage, and learning. According to the *Legend of Saint Catherine*, this young woman converted to Christianity after receiving a vision. At the age of 18, she debated 50 pagan philosophers. Amazed at her wisdom and debating skills, they became Christians, as did about 200 soldiers and members of the emperor's family. All of them were martyred.

Sentenced to be executed on a spiked wheel, Catherine touched the wheel and it shattered. She was beheaded in the year 305. Centuries later, angels are said to have carried the body of Saint Catherine to a monastery at the foot of Mount Sinai where they were discovered many years later. The famous monastery of Saint Catherine was originally dedicated to the Holy Transfiguration of the Lord and the Burning Bush, but later was dedicated to Saint Catherine.

Devotion to her spread as a result of the Crusades. She was invoked as the patroness of students, teachers, philosophers, librarians and lawyers. According to the ancient usage, Saint Catherine was celebrated on the 24th of this month, whereas the holy Hieromartyrs Clement of Rome and Peter of Alexandria were celebrated on the 25th. The dates of the feasts of these Saints were interchanged at the request of the Church and Monastery of Mount Sinai, so that the festival of Saint Catherine, their patron, might be celebrated more festively together with the Apodosis of the Feast of the Entry of the Theotokos. The Slavic Churches, however, commemorate these Saints on their original dates.

St. John the Baptizer Ukrainian Catholic Church

CATECHISM REGISTRATION FORM

Dear Parents:

We would like to register all the children in the Parish in Catechism so that books and materials can be ordered before classes begins in January 2009. If you want your child to attend Catechism, please fill out all the information requested below and return it to Fr. James by December 7th, 2008.

Pupil's Name: _____

Age: _____ **First Confession? (y/n)** _____

Birthday: _____

Grade in School: _____

Pupil's Name: _____

Age: _____ **First Confession? (y/n)** _____

Birthday: _____

Grade in School: _____

Pupil's Name: _____

Age: _____ **First Confession? (y/n)** _____

Birthday: _____

Grade in School: _____

Parent(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: (Home) _____

(Work) _____

Signature: _____

Preferred Day and Time:

1st Choice: _____

2nd Choice: _____