

Facing Death with Us

There is a legend about a tribe of people who, many years ago, had the custom of offering one of their maidens in sacrifice. When the appointed time arrived, the young girl was placed in a boat and allowed to drift over the falls to her death below. The chief of the tribe was a good man who loved his family very much. He was very saddened when his daughter was chosen to be the next sacrifice. When the day for the sacrifice arrived, the chief was not to be found. Nevertheless, the tribesmen put the chief's daughter in a boat, and set her adrift on the river towards the raging falls.

As the girl floated down the river, she passed the spot where her father secretly waited in his own boat. He paddled quickly

and brought his boat next to hers. When he was close enough, he grasped her hand and pulled her close to him. Then, they both went down the falls together!

It is interesting that the legend does not say that the father rescued the girl. Instead, he gave up his own life so that she should not have to face death alone. The same is true with our Lord, Jesus Christ. He does not take away the reality of death from us. Instead, by His crucifixion and resurrection, He makes death powerless! By His death, Christ has conquered death. Christ is with us at the time of our own death and leads us to eternal life. This is the great victory of the Cross – which we gloriously exalt today!

SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS



Icon of Saint Euphemia -- September 16th

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE HOLY FAMILY

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Pastoral Care entrusted to:

Father Robert Hitchens

Father Wasyl Kharuk

Sunday – September 19, 2021

Слава Ісусу Христу – Слава на віки Glory to Jesus Christ – Glory to Him Forever

Our Church is open for Divine Liturgies. We will continue to Livestream our 9:00 a.m. English Divine Liturgy and our 11:30 a.m. Ukrainian Divine Liturgy. The dispensation from attending Sunday Divine Liturgy and Holy Days of Obligation throughout the Archeparchy is still in effect until further notice.

All Services will be Live Streamed at 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM

Platform: <https://www.facebook.com/holyfamilyshrine/>

OUR CHURCH IS OPEN FOR LITURGIES

Sunday September 19 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	(For the Parish) (+Constantine Klufas from Family)
Monday September 20 9:00 a.m.	(+Lydia Kernitsky from Andrew and Michele)
Tuesday September 21 9:00 a.m.	(+Special Intention from Ruth Fedack)
Friday September 24 9:00 a.m.	(+Stephen Rapawy from the Stecura Family)
Sunday September 26 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	(For the Parish) (+Nestor Bazarko from Family)

CONCERNING FUTURE PARISH EVENTS

District of Columbia Mayor Bowser announced July 29 that the District is re-instituting a universal, indoor masking mandate for everyone, even those fully vaccinated. Persons attending Church in the District, even if they are fully vaccinated, must wear a mask. Fellowship with Cake and Coffee after the Sunday Divine Liturgies will also continue to be suspended.

Everyone is kindly asked to return to wearing a mask during the Divine Liturgies.

Prayer List

Our prayer list of the sick or elderly and friends of our parish: **Theresa Aranda, Liana Arnold, Fr. Frank Avant, Susan Avant, Chuck Basile, Charles Belanger, Barbara Blendy, Bluey Family, Yevhenia Borys, Taisia Bullard, Michele Burns, Robert Matthew C., Mary Connors, Jack Davis, Darlene Dossick, Solomia Dutkewych and Theresa, Ruth Fedack, Bernard F, Lindsey Fedyk, Lilian Garland, Thomas Gutmann, H.H., Josie Hacker, Catherine Hetmansky, Bernadell Rita Higgins, Daniel Horeczko, Nila Iwaskiw, Kateryna Jurach, Oksana K, Sarah Kelt, Dorothy Kozmoski, Suzanne Krumpelman, Fr. Mykhailo Kuzma, Michael Joseph Little, Mark Pidlusky, Michele Pretka Litvar, Yaroslava L., Mufada and Family, Sallie Miller, John Moeller, Deborah Pickering, Alexandra Pohorecka, Ron#119, Michael Joseph Radigan, Roman Rusynko, James Salandro, Maria Sawkiw, Lisa Schaible, Christopher Sell, Shliakhta Bogdana, Shliakhta Mark, Shliakhta, Andrew, Timothy Stock, Lindsey Sydnor, Thomas Sydnor, Helen Lefcheck Torre, Lisa Pretka Turner, Gloria and Luis Vega, Jennifer Wilson.** If you know of someone who should be on this list, please email or call with the name of the individual. Our intercessory prayer for the sick and the aged is truly helpful and comforting. In your Christian Charity, kindly remember our sick parishioners in your prayers and perhaps a card or note.

God With Us Catechism

The Epistle which is proclaimed in the Church today is one that has been misused by many nonApostolic Christians who would look to reject the Church’s teaching on salvation. “Faith” in our understanding is the union of our entire self to Christ. This union which entrusts my intellect, spirit, soul and body to the Savior joins me to Christ in such an intimate way that my life is transformed into his life. This is the process of Theosis or divinization. As Saint Paul says “it is now no longer I who live, but Christ is living in me.” Faith, then, is an aspect of love by which I give my life to the one that I love. In this act of total self-gift we can discern two important truths. The one who loves first must die to himself in as much as the lover’s life is no longer about himself but totally about the one whom he loves and whom he sustains through the gift of his life. The second truth that results from the first is that the lover, having died to himself, comes to life or is “resurrected from the dead” in the life of the beloved. The Gospel which is proclaimed today confirms and makes explicit for us the above explanation of loving faith. “If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For anyone who would save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake and for the sake of the Good News will save it.” The cross, the exaltation of which we celebrated this past Thursday, is the sign of the Lord’s total self-giving love. The cross reveals to us the breadth and depth of God’s love. What remains is our response to that gift and our union with that love. Practical Questions:

1. How can we understand Saint Paul’s teaching that he is “nailed to the cross” with Christ?
2. How can we unite ourselves to the cross of Christ and why would Jesus want us to do so?
3. How do we save our life by losing it?
4. What kind of life are we called to give up and what kind of life do we gain?