

Life's Choices

Native Americans have a legend about the two paths one can take in life. One path is broad and easy and slopes down rolling hills. At the bottom of the hill, however, is a barren dessert where nothing lives. The other path is narrow and rocky. It winds around dangerous curves and is filled with unexpected difficulties. However, at the end of this path is the lush greenness of life and happiness. The Native Americans told this story to their children in order to teach them that the easy way is not always the best way. Strong character is built by facing obstacles, not by avoiding them. In the same way, Christians grow in virtue and grace often through facing trials and struggles.

The life of the holy martyr Charitina

is witness to this lesson. She was a young orphan girl – of great beauty – who was raised by devout Christian parents. At an early age she made the decision to dedicate her life to Christ in perpetual virginity. Through her example, many others were converted to Christ. This infuriated the pagan emperor who ordered that the hair of this beautiful servant of God be cut off and that hot coals be placed upon her head. She endured this and other inhumane and degrading tortures until the Lord took her soul to abide with Him in Paradise.

Her path in life was not an easy one, but it was the right one. Upon which path do the decisions that we make in life place us? Do we choose merely the easy path or the path that leads to Life?

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of Saints Charitina and Methodia -- October 5th

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE HOLY FAMILY

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Pastoral Care entrusted to:

Father Robert Hitchens

Father Wasyl Kharuk

Sunday – October 3, 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 October 3 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	(For the Parish) (+Monsignor Michael Fedorowich from the Futey Family)
Monday October 4 9:00 a.m.	(+Roman Roziy from the Drabyk Family)
Tuesday October 5 9:00 a.m.	(+Raymond and +Elizabeth Bluey from Ann Marie)
Wednesday October 6 9:00 a.m.	(+Roman Mac from Family)
Thursday October 7 9:00 a.m.	(+Anna Haberchak from Ruth)
Friday October 8 9:00 a.m.	(+Eugenia Osgood from Friend)
Sunday October 10 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	(+Cathleen Jacobson from Family) Fr.R. (For the Parish) Fr. R. (+Anna Shashkewych from Family) Fr. A.

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.

PLEASE REMEMBER +PETRO PYTLOWANY IN YOUR PRAYERS

+Petro Pytolwany, 75, passed away on September 25. At his family’s request, a graveside service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 5, at Cedar Hill Cemetery 4111 Pennsylvania Avenue Suitland, MD 20746. Please remember +Petro in your prayers. May his memory be Eternal – Vichnaya Yomu Pamyat!

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

In today’s Gospel, Jesus challenges us with a very personal question about motives. In every moral action of a human being there is a purpose, a motive, which “motivates” us to act. Sadly, in most instances, that motivation is for personal gain. I give someone a loan so as to hope for more in return. I love another because I was first loved by them. I do good to another because the other is doing good to me. I forgive another only if they first ask for forgiveness from me. Such is the world’s approach to life – to live my life for personal advancement, and for personal gain. Today Jesus challenges us to rise above this common approach to our moral actions, by inviting us to become “children of the Most High” and thereby beginning to live and act according to God’s way of acting. It is Jesus who is Love Incarnate, and because he is God from all eternity, he needs nothing, he lacks nothing. There is nothing that God’s creation can give him that he does not already possess. Hidden within this reality and revelation of the perfect nature of God is a simple but beautifully related truth: that God’s love is totally self-less. While the world would like us to believe that we will obtain happiness and fulfillment by the acquisition of things, the Lord challenges this thinking by turning it on its head, and showing us that we—made in the image and likeness of God—will only discover fulfillment and happiness when we learn to give of ourselves for the sake of others. True wealth is not the acquisition of things, but the acquisition of God’s way of life.