A Word of Warning

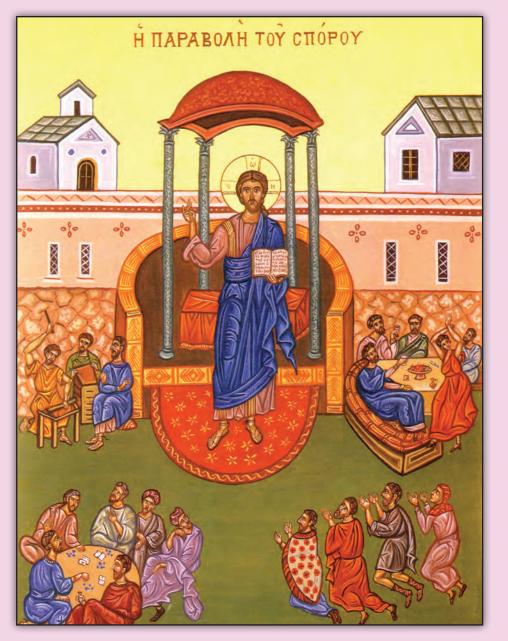
Store up in your minds the Lord's words which you receive through your ears, for the word of the Lord is the nourishment of the mind. When His word is heard but not stored away in the memory, it is like food which has been eaten and then rejected by an upset stomach. A person's life is despaired of if he cannot retain his food. So if you receive the food of holy exhortations, but fail to store in your memory those words of life which nurture righteousness, you have good reason to fear the danger of everlasting death. Be careful, then, that the word you have received through your ears remains in your heart. Be careful that the seed does not fall along the path, for fear that the evil spirit may come and take if from your memory. Be careful that the seed is not received in stony ground, so that it produces a harvest of good works without the roots of perseverance. Many people are pleased with what they hear and resolve to undertake some good work, but as soon as difficulties begin to arise and hinder them they leave the work unfinished. The stony ground lacked the necessary moisture for the sprouting seed to yield the fruit of perseverance.

Good earth, on the other hand, brings forth fruit by patience. The reason for this is that nothing we do is good unless we also bear with equanimity the injuries done us by our neighbors. In fact, the more we progress, the more hardships we shall have to endure in this world; for when our love for the present world dies, its sufferings increase. This is why we see many people doing good works and at the same time struggling under a heavy burden of afflictions. They now shun earthly desires, and yet they are tormented by greater sufferings. But, as the Lord said, they bring forth fruit by patience, because, since they humbly endure misfortunes, they are welcomed when these are over into a place of rest in heaven.

St. Gregory the Great

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TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SUNDAY OF THE 7TH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL



Icon of Parable of the Sower and Seed

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IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY PLEASE CALL: 202-262-5040

Pastoral Care entrusted to:

Father Robert Hitchens – Administrator Father Andrii Chornopyskyi – Parochial Vicar

Sunday – October 15, 2023

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

Confessions are available before the Divine Liturgies

All Services will be Live Streamed at 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM Platform: https://www.facebook.com/holyfamilyshrine/

Sunday October 15	
9:00 a.m.	(+Mary Ann Kuchmy from Lorraine)
11:30 a.m.	(For the Parish)
Wednesday October 18	
9:00 a.m.	(Blessings for Olena Chalupa from Family)
Thursday October 19	
9:00 a.m.	(+Frank Fisanich from Ferne)
Friday October 20	
9:00 a.m.	(+Steve Henshaw from A.M. Gogniat)
Sunday October 22	
9:00 a.m.	(For the Parish)
11:30 a.m.	(+Kateryna Jurach from Family)

FAMILY PUMPKIN DECORATING AFTER THE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2023 10:30 DIVINE LITURGY

All are welcome to attend a family pumpkin decorating event hosted by the parish and the Knights of Columbus. Pumpkins and decorating supplies will be provided for the children, as well as snacks. Free, sponsored by our Knights of Columbus Council 7530.

ALL UKRAINIAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES SUNDAY OCTOBER 29 - ONE LITURGY 10:30 A.M.

Visit of the All Ukrainian Council of Churches will take place on October 29. The AUCC represents more than 95% of all religious organizations in Ukraine, including representatives from the Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant and Evangelical churches as well as Jewish and Muslim religious unions. The Delegation will share details of the state of religious freedom in Ukraine, how religious communities across Ukraine have responded to Russia's invasion, and the high toll Putin's aggression has taken on religious life inside Ukraine. Archbishop Borys Gudziak will celebrate the Divine Liturgy and there will be an opportunity to meet the representatives after the Divine Liturgy in the Large Church Hall with a robust coffee hour.

Praver List

Our prayer list of the sick or elderly and friends of our parish: Theresa Aranda, Liana Arnold, Valarie Balthis, Charles Belanger, Barbara Blendy, Bluey Family, Yevhenia Borys, Terry Boyle, Taisia Bullard, Olena Chalupa, Mary Connors, Veronica Cosio, Darlene Dossick, Solomia Dutkewych and Theresa, Ruth Fedack, Bernard F, Lindsey Fedyk, Lilian Garland, Alice Gogniat, Thomas Gutmann, H.H., Josie Hacker, Catherine Hetmansky, Vanessa Hetmansky, Bernadell Rita Higgins, Daniel Horeczko, Fr. Nestor Iwasiw, Nila Iwaskiw, Frank Karasinski, Sarah Kelt, Dorothy Kozmoski, Suzanne Krumpelman, Mr. Marko, Michael Joseph Little, Paul Marynowych, Fr. Roman Mirchuk, Michele Pretka Litvar, Yaroslava L., Mufada and Family, Sallie Miller, John Moeller, Thomas Nagurney, Deborah Pickering, Alexandra Pohorecka, Patricia Pylypec, Ron#119, Michael Joseph Radigan, Roman Rusynko, Lisa Schaible, Christopher Sell, Michael Sharr, Shliakhta Bogdana, Shliakhta Mark, Shliakhta, Andrew, Larry Sosnowich, Lindsey Sydnor, Thomas Sydnor, Stefania Szahaj, Helen Lefcheck Torre, Lisa Pretka Turner, Gloria and Luis Vega, Anne Woroniak, Rose Wilson, Jennifer Wilson, Paul Yarrish. 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

Today we remember the Fathers who defended the Orthodox faith at the Second Council of Nicea (The Seventh Ecumenical Council 787 A.D.). It was in the 8th century that some men who were not Christians gained power and influence at the imperial court in Constantinople and began to say that we should not have icons of Jesus and the saints in the church. These men wanted nothing more than to cause division in the Church of God. Ultimately, the root of the error which they promoted was the denial that the material, created world could be a bearer of divine life. This is so important because it separates the apostolic and orthodox churches from the rest of Christianity today. First, it is important to remember that we do not worship wood but rather we honor the one depicted in the icons. Just as we hang pictures of our loved ones, so we do well to paint images of the saints who are very much present to us today. We do so not because they are dead, but because they lived and continue to live the divine life. The saints are the men and women that are filled with divine life and bear the image and likeness of God himself. And when Divine Life is our life, then our life is no longer mortal life but eternal life.