

Athanasius and Cyril, Champions and Models

Saint Athanasius (Athanasios) is one of the great figures of Christianity. He is called the “champion of orthodoxy” as he resolutely opposed Arianism. Five times Athanasius was exiled for his defense of the doctrine of Christ’s divinity. During one period of his life, he enjoyed 10 years of relative peace – reading, writing and promoting the Christian life along the lines of the monastic ideal to which he was greatly devoted. His dogmatic and historical writings are almost all polemic, directed against every aspect of Arianism. Athanasius suffered many trials while he was bishop of Alexandria. He was given the grace to remain strong against what probably seemed at times to be insurmountable opposition. He defended the true faith for his flock, regardless of the cost to himself. In today’s world we are experiencing this same call to remain true to our faith, no matter what.

Saint Cyril’s importance for theology and Church history lies in his championing the cause of orthodoxy against the heresy of Nestorius. Nestorianism

implied that the humanity of Christ was a mere disguise. At the Council of Ephesus (431), Cyril condemned Nestorianism and proclaimed Mary truly the “God-bearer” – “Theotokos” (the mother of the one Person who is truly God and truly human). In the confusion that followed, Cyril was deposed and imprisoned for three months, after which he was welcomed back to Alexandria as a second Athanasius (the champion against Arianism).

Lives of the saints are valuable not only for the virtue they reveal but also for the less admirable qualities that also appear. Holiness is a gift of God to us as human beings. Life is a process. We respond to God’s gift, but sometimes with a lot of zigzagging. If Cyril had been more patient and diplomatic, the Nestorian Church might not have risen and maintained power so long. But even saints must grow out of immaturity, narrowness and selfishness. It is because they – and we – do grow, that we are truly saints, persons who live the life of God.

SUNDAY OF ZACCHEUS



Icon of the Holy Fathers Athanasius and Cyril -- January 18th

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE HOLY FAMILY

4250 Harewood Road NE

Washington, DC 20017

Phone: 202-526-3737

Fax: 202-526-1327

E-mail: ucnsfamily@gmail.com

Webpage: www.ucns-holyfamily.org

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

Pastoral Care entrusted to:

Father Robert Hitchens – Administrator

Father Andrii Chornopyskyi – Parochial Vicar

Sunday – January 14, 2023

Христос Рождається! Славимо Його! * Christ is born! Glorify Him!

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 January 14 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	(+John and +Theresa Zachuber from the Hetmansky Family) (For the Parish)
Wednesday January 17 9:00 a.m.	(+Bishop John Bura from Friends)
Thursday January 18 9:00 a.m.	(Living of the Nagurney-Medwid Family from Irene)
Friday January 19 9:00 a.m.	(Sanctity of Human Life)
Sunday January 21 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	(+Wolodymyr and +Julia Hetmanskyj from the Hetmansky Family) (For the Parish)

FIRST CONFESSION CLASSES TODAY SUNDAY JANUARY 14

We will soon start our parish catechism classes for those children intending to make First Confession in 2024. Classes will be held on Sunday between the English and Ukrainian liturgies (approx. 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM), beginning on January 14. First Confession will be celebrated on Lazarus Saturday (March 23, 2024). No class will be held on February 18. All children must be attending Divine Liturgy. If you have children of First Confession age in your family, we ask you to please contact Olya Kroytor Mulvey by email at olya.kroytor@gmail.com

ELEVATION OF FR. ROBERT TO THE ECCLESIASTICAL HONOR AND DIGNITY OF ARCHPRIEST

We request the pleasure of your company as we celebrate the conferral of the ecclesiastical honor and dignity of Archpriest upon Father Robert Hitchens during the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom celebrated by Metropolitan Archbishop Borys Gudziak at 10:00 AM on Sunday, February 11, 2024, in the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family 4250 Harewood Road NE, Washington, DC 20017. A celebratory reception will immediately follow the Divine Liturgy in the Church Hall. Kindly RSVP no later than February 1, 2024, to ucnsfamily@gmail.com. Please write “Invitation RSVP” in the subject line.

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR SOROKOUSTY 2024 (LIST OF YOUR DECEASED LOVED ONES)

In the Ukrainian Catholic Church, it is the custom to remember our beloved dead during the time of the Great Fast. These commemorations occur on Saturdays because the Saviour of the world rested in the grave on Great and Holy Saturday, awaiting the Resurrection. Thus, Saturday became for Christians the day for commemorating the deceased, who await the resurrection on the last day. We will be starting our remembrances of the dead on Saturdays, beginning February 17 at 10:00 a.m. Please take the time to remember your deceased family members on the Saturdays of the Great Fast. They hope for our prayers; and in turn, they pray for us. Please submit an envelope with your list of names by email or US Mail. An offering is customarily made for the priests

Prayer 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, Boris Hlynsky, 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.