

Knowledge of the True God Nurtures Us to Eternal Life

Are we saying that knowledge is eternal life? Are we saying that to know the one true and living God will suffice to give us complete security for the future without need of anything else? Then how is “faith apart from works dead?” When we speak of faith, we mean the true knowledge of God and nothing else, since knowledge comes by faith. The prophet Isaiah tells us this: “If you do not believe, neither shall you understand.” But he is not talking about a knowledge that consists in barren speculations, which is entirely worthless. For one of the holy disciples said, “You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe and shudder.” What then shall we say to this? How is it that Christ speaks the truth when He says that eternal life is the knowledge of God the Father, the one true God, and with Him of the Son? I think, indeed, we must answer that the saying of the Savior is completely true. For this knowledge is life, laboring as it were in birth of the whole meaning of the mystery and

granting to us participation in the mystery of the Eucharist, whereby we are joined to the living and life-giving Word. And for this reason, I think, Paul says that the Gentiles are made fellow members of the body and fellow partakers of Christ, inasmuch as they partake in His Blessed Body and Blood. And our members may in this sense be conceived of as being members of Christ. This knowledge, then, which also brings to us the Eucharist by the Spirit, is life. For it dwells in our hearts, reshaping those who receive it into son-ship with Him and molding them into incorruption and piety toward God through life, according to the Gospel. Our Lord Jesus Christ, then, knowing that the knowledge of the one true God brings to us and promotes our union with the blessings of which we have spoken, says that it is eternal life. It is the mother and nurse of eternal life, being in its power and nature pregnant with those things that cause life and lead to life.

St. Cyril of Alexandria

SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE FIRST COUNCIL



Icon of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicea

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Pastoral Care entrusted to:

Father Robert Hitchens – Administrator

Father Mykola Dziurakh – Parochial Vicar

Sunday – May 17, 2026

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/>

Saturday May 16 5:30 p.m.	Moleben to the Mother of God
Sunday May 17 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	(Blessings for Sofia and Maria from the Polishchuk Family) (For the Parish)
Thursday May 21 9:00 a.m.	(+Maria Popadiuk from Roman and Judy)
Friday May 22 9:00 a.m.	(+Maria, +Joseph, and +Bohdan from a friend)
Saturday May 23 5:30 p.m.	Moleben to the Mother of God
Sunday May 24 **10:00 a.m.**	Pentecost (+Alexandra and +Roman Lucyk from Family)

The Sunday Parish Liturgy requirement will be offered in SS. Joachim and Anna during the summer

Summer Liturgy Schedule Beginning Sunday May 24

One Bilingual Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

Розклад Літургій на літній період Починаючи з неділі, 24 травня

одна Божественна Літургія двома мовами о 10:00 ранку

LOWER CHURCH BATHROOMS RENOVATION PROJECT 2026 – STARTING IN JUNE!

At long last, we will commence with the renovation of our Lower Church Bathrooms in June. We will have a little inconvenience, but then be able to use modern, hygienic, ADA compliant, and efficient facilities. The cost of the project will amount to just under \$310,000.00. We are very hopeful that our faithful parishioners will be able to make some special donations to cover the cost of this much needed and overdue updating to our facilities. God Bless you in advance for your generosity.

2026 PROPERTY AND LIABILITY INSURANCE PREMIUM

The 2026 Property and Liability Insurance Premium for our shrine has arrived. All of the parishes and institutions of the Archeparchy are insured through the Archeparchy's insurance program. We are assessed \$33,117.00 for the year. Please keep this in consideration when making your tithe and contribution to support our shrine and our priests. God Bless you in advance for your generosity.

MOLEBEN TO THE MOTHER OF GOD FOR PEACE SATURDAYS IN MAY AT 5:30 P.M.

During the Month of May we will celebrate Moleben on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. in lieu of vespers, as we pray for peace in our world, especially Ukraine and throughout the Holy Land and Middle East.

SUMMER LITURGY SCHEDULE BEGINNING SUNDAY MAY 24 UNTIL SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 6 - ONE BILINGUAL DIVINE LITURGY AT 10:00 A.M.

РОЗКЛАД ЛІТУРГІЙ НА ЛІТНІЙ ПЕРІОД ПОЧИНАЮЧИ З НЕДІЛІ, 24 ТРАВНЯ, ДО НЕДІЛІ, 6 ВЕРЕСНЯ — ОДНА БОЖЕСТВЕННА ЛІТУРГІЯ ДВОМА МОВАМИ О 10:00 РАНКУ

As we have now entered the summer season, our parish will begin a special schedule of one Bilingual Divine Liturgy on Sunday at 10:00 a.m. beginning Sunday May 24, the Feast of Pentecost. We also hope that this will allow our entire parish family to enjoy more fully the Sunday Sabbath with prayer, recreation, and relaxation. We thank you for your understanding and hope to see you with us for the Liturgy during the summer time.

Оскільки ми вже вступили в літній період, у нашій парафії будемо мати літній розпорядок Богослужінь: одну Божественну Літургію двома мовами щонеділі о 10:00 ранку, починаючи з неділі, 24 травня — Неділі П'ятидесятниці. Це дасть нам змогу молитовно і духовно переживати Літургію, зважаючи на те, що в літній час ми маємо менше співців, які можуть провадити спів і молитву. Також ми сподіваємося, що це допоможе всій нашій парафіяльній родині повніше переживати неділю як день Господній — у молитві, відпочинку та духовному оновленні.

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND BLESSING OF GRAVES AT CEDAR HILL CEMETERY SUNDAY MAY 24

We will gather at the Main Cross on Sunday May 24 at 2:00 p.m. for the celebration of Panakhya. This will be followed by the blessing of the individual family graves of those attending the ceremony at Cedar Hill Cemetery 4111 Pennsylvania Avenue Suitland, MD 20746. Rain or Shine.

PRAYER LIST

Our prayer list of the sick or elderly and friends of our parish: Theresa Aranda, Liana Arnold, Valarie Balthis, Barbara Blendy, Bluey Family, Yevhenia Borys, Terry Boyle, Taisia Bullard, Mary Connors, Veronica Cosio, Darlene Dossick, Robert Dulaine, Solomia Dutkewych and Theresa, Ruth Fedack, Bernard F, Myroslava Futey, Lilian Garland, Thomas Gutmann, H.H., Josie Hacker, Robert Harnest, Catherine Hetmansky, Vanessa Hetmansky, Bernadell Rita Higgins, Ellen Hitchens, Janet Hitchens, Fr. Robert Hitchens, Boris Hlynsky, Daniel Horeczko, Oksana Horszynska, Ihor Hulawuj, Nila Iwaskiw, Sarah Kelt, LTJG Lydia Kowalskyj USN, Dorothy Kozmoski, Suzanne Krumpelman, Mr. Marko, Melissa Martin, Paul Marynowych, Irene Nagurney, Myron Nagurney Jr, Michele Pretka Litvak, Yaroslava L., Mufada and Family, Sallie Miller, John Moeller, Deborah Pickering, Alexandra Pohorecka, Patricia Pylypec, Ron#119, Michael Joseph Radigan, Ivanna Richardson, Roman Rusynko, Chris Saboe, Lisa Schaible, Christopher Sell, Teresa Sherwood, Shliakhta Bogdana, Shliakhta Mark, Shliakhta, Andrew, Larry Sosnowich, Lindsey Sydnor, Thomas Sydnor, Lisa Pretka Turner, Gloria and Luis Vega, Fr. George Worschak, and 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.

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