



Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Byzantine Catholic Church

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Rev. Myron Badnerosky – Pastor Emeritus

Liturgical Schedule

for the Week of January 29, 2017

Sunday, January 29 ~ Sunday of Zacchaeus

9:00 AM For the Parish Family of OLPH
Advisory Committee Following

Wednesday, February 1 ~ Vigil

Encounter of Our Lord With Simeon

7:00 PM Vespers & Divine Liturgy
+Edward Zapala by wife Mary

Sunday, February 5 ~ Sunday

of The Publican & The Pharisee

9:00 AM For the Parish Family of OLPH
Festal Anointing in Celebration
of the Feast of the Encounter of Our Lord
Blessing of Candles

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

January 29 – Following the Divine Liturgy

ALL SOULS SATURDAY ENVELOPES

Please return your All Souls Envelopes by Sunday, February 12, so that the names of your loved ones may be read on Saturday February 18. The Liturgy for the deceased and the reading of the Hramoty will be at 8:30 AM. (You may drop the envelope in the collection basket or give it to Fr. Ed.)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – The

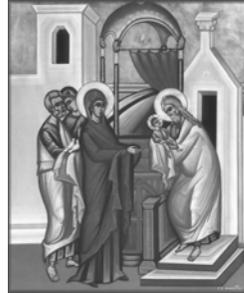
First Day of the Great Fast is Monday, February 27. A FASHENGY – a special event is being planned to follow the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, February 26 with the celebration of Forgiveness Vespers after that. Times and schedule to be announced. Watch this space for more information.



FORGIVENESS VESPERS - The first service of The Great Fast (Lent) will be Forgiveness Vespers on Sunday, February 26. At this service the beautiful ceremony of mutual forgiveness takes place. This is the most appropriate way to begin your observance of Great Lent; please plan to be present together with your family. The service of Forgiveness Vespers is the special way that we as Eastern Catholics should begin the Great Fast

The Encounter of Our Lord with Simeon and Anna

The Feast of the Encounter of our Lord is celebrated forty days after Christmas on February 2. The event which the Church commemorates on this feast is described in the Gospel of St. Luke (2:22-28). From the words of this Gospel and of the Liturgical texts pertaining to the feast, we can identify a threefold character in it; the purification of Mary, the



dedication of Jesus as the first-born son, and the meeting with Simeon and the prophetess, Anna.

According to the Mosaic Law, a mother who had given birth to a boy was considered unclean for seven days, and for thirty three

days was excluded from public worship. When the appointed forty days were past, she was expected to offer a sacrifice for her purification. Here, in the Gospel of St. Luke, is described the sacrifice offered by Mary, two young pigeons. Mary, since she was not bound to this law, being the chaste spouse of the Holy Spirit, was yet still inspired by the Holy Spirit to comply with the law in fulfilling the will of God.

Secondly, the prescription of the Mosaic Law ordained that every first-born son was considered to belong to the Lord. This son was to be brought back to the temple as an offering to God. Jesus was presented in the temple according to the command of God saying, “Every male opening the womb shall be called holy to the Lord” (Luke 2:23). The Mother of God brought our Lord to the temple to fulfill the command of the Word of God, her own child Jesus.

Simeon was an old man who lived in Jerusalem and longed to see the Messiah. He went to the Temple at the time that Mary and Joseph brought Jesus. Mary welcomed him through the guidance of the Holy Spirit who assured Simeon that he would see the Christ. The canticle, “Now you can dismiss your servant, O Lord, according to your word in peace, because my eyes have seen your salvation...” sung at our Vespers service, reechoes the word of Simeon about the truth of life. The prophetess, Anna, was there in the temple to meet our Lord and she was not disappointed.

This feast was celebrated by the Church of Jerusalem in the early years of the Church and spread to the entire Church. Celebrated on different days of the year, finally it was transferred to the second of February, the present date of the feast. On this day candles were carried in procession. Later it became a custom to have the candles blessed on this day beginning in the eleventh century. Candles are significant as a symbol of Christ who is the light of the world. The candle is given to us at our Baptism with the words, “Receive the Light of Faith.” We are to carry that faith throughout our lifetime and shine forth with the light of Christ in us to all People.



WELCOME VISITORS!
**“MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED A HOUSE
OF PRAYER FOR ALL PEOPLES.”** - Isaiah 56: 7

If you are a visitor to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, we want you to know how welcome you are; whether you have come from another part of the country, from across the world, or simply from another parish. We hope you find our worship true and reverent and our people here friendly and cordial. If you are seeking a spiritual home, we would be honored by your presence in our family. For more information about becoming a parishioner, please see Fr. Ed.

Offertory – January 15, 2017 – Attendance - 73

<i>Regular</i>	<i>Initial</i>	<i>Energy</i>	<i>Building Fund</i>	<i>Total</i>
\$2,897.00	\$2.00	\$120.00	\$5.00	\$3,024.00

Offertory – January 22, 2017 – Attendance - 72

<i>Regular</i>	<i>Initial</i>	<i>Energy</i>	<i>Building Fund</i>	<i>Total</i>
\$1,511	\$6.00	\$10.00	\$30.00	\$1,557.00

“God is pleased by sacrifices of that kind.” (Hebrews 13:16)