

SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS



Icon of All Saints

From the Fathers

When you perceive that God is chastising you, fly not to his enemies . . . but to his friends, the martyrs, the saints, and those who were pleasing to him, and who have great power . . .

St. John Chrysostom

A Christian people celebrates together in religious solemnity the memorials of the martyrs, both to encourage their being imitated and so that it can share in their merits and be aided by their prayers.

St. Augustine of Hippo

In this way is he [the true Christian] always pure for prayer. He also prays in the society of angels, as being already of angelic rank, and he is never out of their holy keeping; and though he pray alone, he has the choir of the saints standing with him.

St. Clement of Alexandria

In addition to the study and true knowledge of the Scriptures are needed a good life and pure soul and virtue in Christ, so that the mind, journeying in this path, may be able to obtain and apprehend what it desires, in so far as human nature is able to learn about God the Word. For without a pure mind and a life modeled on the saints, no one can apprehend the words of the saints.

St. Athanasius the Great

The divine Scripture likewise says that the souls of the just are in God's hand and death cannot lay hold of them. For death is rather the sleep of the saints than their death. "For they travailed in this life and shall to the end," and "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints." What then, is more precious than to be in the hand of God. For God is Life and Light, and those who are in God's hand are in life and light.

St. John of Damascus



Українська Греко-Католицька Церква Парафія Святих Йоакима і Анни

SAINTS JOACHIM AND ANNA UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

A Mission Parish of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia. All are welcome!

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Fr Robert Hitchens, Administrator Fr Mykola Dziurakh, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Kyle Hayes Deacon David Wallace

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever! Слава Ісусу Христу! Слава на віки!

Divine Liturgy in English, Sundays 10:30am

Holy Mystery of Repentance (Confession): Sundays, 9:45am

MAY 31, 2026 – SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

GIVING REPORT - The in-pew collection for Sunday, May 24 was \$1,173.23. *Thank you for your financial support of the parish!*

APOSTLES FAST - The voluntary fasting period (Ukr. *Petrivka*) begins June 1 and ends on June 28.

WEEKDAY LITURGY - Join us for the Divine Liturgy on Wednesday, June 3, 6:00pm. The Holy Mystery of Confession will be available at 5:30pm.

Congratulations to the newly illumined servant of God, **Madeline Maria DeBenedittis** - newborn daughter of our new parishioners Cole and Sarah DeBenedittis - who received the Holy Mysteries of Initiation - Baptism, Chrismation, and Holy Communion - on Sunday, May 31, the Sunday of All Saints. May the Lord grant to her and her family a long life and many happy, healthy, and blessed years! *Mnohaya i blahaya lita!*



Saints of Christ's Church (Christ Our Pascha, 316-20): Holiness is a gift of the Holy Spirit. Through this gift, as we become Christ-like we become children of our heavenly Father. The Lord, who alone is holy, grants his own holiness to humankind and comes to dwell within: "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them" (Jn 14:23). Christian holiness is the manifestation of

humankind's divinization. "All you saints who rejoice with a splendour that surpasses every spirit, the psalmist calls you gods because you dwell close to God and receive the deifying rays from his light."

In Christianity, holiness is connected with witnessing to the faith, often expressed through martyrdom. The word martyr (from the Greek, *martyr*, meaning witness) emphasizes not so much the fact of suffering as testifying to Christ. "The choirs of saints have shown youthfulness and fortitude in suffering. They have accepted painful wounds for the sake of incorruptible crowns of glory and beauty."

The Church also recognizes as saints the faithful who have chosen the way of ascetical struggle. They are called venerable ones (in Slavonic *prepodobni*, meaning most like) for in their ascetical way of life they have obtained the gift of God's likeness, having made the journey from the "image" to the "likeness" of God: "All you venerable ones, who lived in holiness, you vanquished the demons; and extinguishing torments of conscience, you valiantly endured the burning of the passions."

The Church sings the praises of the struggles of the holy hierarchs—the bishops—who by the ministry of the Word and the celebration of the Holy Mysteries strengthened and nurtured the Church of Christ: "Taught by the word of God, the holy hierarchs became divine mouthpieces." The struggle of confessors is the fight for truth and its defence against various heresies, as well as the courageous profession of faith in Christ in times of persecution. Yet another manifestation of holiness recognized by the Church is selfless social service to the disadvantaged and the infirm. Thus the Church also venerates unmercenary wonderworkers, selfless physicians who took no money.

At the head of the choir of saints is the most holy Mother of God: "More honourable than the cherubim and by far more glorious than the seraphim." Together with her the Church venerates the apostles of Christ, the evangelists and preachers—those who have proclaimed the Gospel. The Church also venerates the Old Testament righteous ones—the patriarchs and prophets—as well as the invisible world—angels and archangels. This is because the sanctifying action of the Holy Spirit embraces the entire history of salvation.

Want to learn to sing the Epistle at the Divine Liturgy? Interested in becoming a cantor or learning more about our musical tradition? Talk to Deacon David.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Nancy & Jon Anderson, Julie, Lisa Behnke, Alison Bernhoft, Yevhenia Borys, Robert Matthew, Carrie Chuff, Arthur Dhanagom, Elizabeth Deegan, Clara Anne Duda, Fr Michael Duesterhaus, Robert Dulaine, Pat Fagan, Danylo (Neyko) Fedoryka, Fr Mark Fesniak, Emma Flournoy, Katie Flynn, Lilian Garland, Jerry Gawron, CR Gaush, Samuel Gaush, Josie Hacker, Brigid and Marlena Hess, Ellen Hitchens, Janet Hitchens, Fr Robert Hitchens, Oksana Horszynska, Ihor Hulawjy, Walter Janaro, Sarah Kelt, Dixie Lane, Catherine Luckey, Destiny Makins, Michael Marshner & Family, Bridget McDonald, Laura McMahan, Vince McLaughlin, Thomas Pavick, Phillip Rexrode, Ivanna Richardson & Family, Chris Saboe, Betsy Sayre, Truman L Sayre, Jr, CJ & Theresa Sidrow, Amy Smith, Karena Tapsak, Fr George Worschak, and Éamonn Yockey. *Teresa Fedoryka is our prayer coordinator; please email bulletin prayer requests to ssjoachimandannaucc@gmail.com*

First Sunday after Pentecost – All Saints

Use the Typica Psalm (p. 102) and Beatitudes (p. 111)

Troparion, Tone 8 (p. 576). You came down from on high, O Merciful One,* and accepted three days of burial* to free us from our sufferings.* O Lord, our life and our resurrection,* glory be to You!

Troparion, Tone 4 (p. 576). Clothed as in purple and fine linen* with the blood of Your martyrs throughout the world,* Your Church cries out to You through them, O Christ God:* send down Your loving-kindness on Your people;* grant peace to Your community,* and to our souls great mercy.

(p. 577). Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion, Tone 8 (p. 577). O Lord, Master of nature,* the world offers You the godly martyrs as the first-fruits of nature.* By their supplications, through the Mother of God,* preserve Your Church and Your people in profound peace,* O most merciful One.

Prokeimenon, Tone 8 (p. 578). Pray and give thanks to the Lord our God.
verse: In Judea God is known; His name is great in Israel.

Epistle: Hebrews 11:33–12:2.

Brothers and Sisters, all the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided some-

thing better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Alleluia, Tone 4 (p. 344)

verse: The just cried out and the Lord heard them, and delivered them out of their afflictions.

verse: The afflictions of the just are many, and out of them all will the Lord deliver them. (Psalm 33:18,20)

Gospel: Matthew 10:32–33, 37–38; 19:27–30.

The Lord said to his disciples: “Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Then Peter said in reply, “Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name’s sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.

Communion Verses. Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest. (Psalm 148:1)* Rejoice in the Lord, O you just;* praise befits the righteous. (Psalm 32:1) Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia.