

# **Schedule for the Week**

**Monday; 20 June - The Holy Martyr Theodotus of Ancyra**

*Romans 2:28-3:18 Matthew 6:31-34;7:9-11*

**Tuesday; 21 June - Translation of the Relics of the Great Martyr Theodore Stratelates**

*Romans 4:4-12 Matthew 7:15-21*

6:30 PM - MOLEBEN TO THE MOTHER OF GOD FOR THE PEACE AND STABILITY OF UKRAINE -

St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church Newport Avenue Northampton  
(Sponsored by the Brotherhood of Ukrainian Clergy)

**Wednesday; 22 June - The Holy Cyril, Archbishop of Alexandria/The Holy Columba of Iona, Apostle to Scotland**

*Romans 4:13-25 Matthew 7:21-23*

**Thursday; 23 June - The Holy Hieromartyr Timothy, Bishop of Prusa**

*Romans 5:10-16 Matthew 8:23-27*

**Friday; 24 June - The Holy Apostles Bartholomew and Barnabas**

*Romans 5:17-6:2 Matthew 9:14-17*

**Saturday; 25 June - The Venerable Onuphrius the Great**

*Romans 3:19-26 Matthew 7:1-8*

**SUNDAY - 26 JUNE - 2nd Sunday after Pentecost - Sunday of All Saints of Ukraine**

*Romans 2:10-16 Matthew 4:18-23*

**9:30 AM - DIVINE LITURGY**

## **Announcements**

- **PRAY FOR UKRAINE!** - Clearly Ukraine is in need of our prayers. The Brotherhood of Ukrainian Clergy in the Lehigh Valley will be sponsoring weekly Moleben services for the peace and well-being of Ukraine. **The next Moleben service will be this Tuesday; 21 June at 6:30 PM at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church Newport Avenue Northampton.** We urge everyone to attend and PRAY FOR UKRAINE!

- **FATHER’S DAY LUNCHEON TODAY!!!!**- Our parish’s newly re-established Sisterhood will host a Father’s Day Luncheon today after Divine Liturgy. This group of hard working ladies have put in much effort into making us men happy today. Let us make them happy and enjoy!
- **THE APOSTLES FAST BEGINS** - This. Please note, that the Apostles Fast period, known in Ukrainian as “**PETRIVKA**,” begins tomorrow. It is the least restrictive among the four fasting periods of the Church, but should be observed by our faithful as much as possible - **MOST ESPECIALLY BY APPROACHING CONFESSION AND COMMUNION**. There is an informational section in today’s bulletin regarding this Fast; please read it.
- **FR. RICHARD AWAY THIS WEEK** - Fr. Richard will be in Washington, DC working on his doctoral degree. In case of a pastoral emergency please call Fr. Oleh Kravchenko on his mobile phone 484-834-7261.
- **BENEFIT CONCERT TO AID UKRAINE**- The Ukrainian Clergy Brotherhood of the Lehigh Valley is happy to sponsor a Benefit Concert for Ukraine featuring the Lehigh Valley Pops Orchestra on Sunday 24 July 2022 at 3PM at St. John Thee Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church Hall 1343 Newport Ave, Northampton. Admission is by free will donation. Come out and support Ukraine!
- **100th/101st ANNIVERSARY** - Our sister parish of Assumption of the Virgin Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Northampton will celebrate their centennial on 24 September 2022. Hierarchical Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by His Eminence Metropolitan Antony and His Eminence Archbishop Daniel at 9:30 AM. Centennial Banquet will be at Northampton Banquet and Event Center (Northampton Community Center) at 2 PM. Tickets are \$50 per person. For tickets and information, please see John Koretski.
- **SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE**- The Scholarship Committee announces that applications are now available for members of our parish attending an institution of higher learning for the academic year beginning September 2022. To obtain an application, simply speak to a member of the Committee: Nik Fartuch or John Onulack.
- **Medical and other supplies are still needed for Ukraine !!! - We wish to thank EVERYONE who has contributed to this effort whether the donations have been items from the list or financial donations. They are all very much needed.** Please check the parish website for an updated list. **UNDERWEAR AND SOCKS IN ALL SIZES - MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN - IS BADLY NEEDED!!!!** *In addition, we need volunteers to help collect and organize these donations. To volunteer, please see Susan Cooke or Tania Smirnova or Barbara Hutzalyuk*
- **Ukrainian American Sport Center Father’s Day Heritage Fest** -Sunday, June 19, at 1 PM County Line and Lower State Roads, Horsham, PA. Stage show will feature Voloshky School of Ukrainian Dance and the Soloveyky Vocal Ensemble, singer musician Ihor Sypen, as well as dance ensembles of other ethnic communities in the area; and. Picnic foods, desserts and cool refreshments will be available. 3:30 PM soccer game. Admission and parking are free. For more information call: 267-664-3857 or visit [www.tryzub.org](http://www.tryzub.org)

- **Saturday Evening Vespers Postponed** - Beginning immediately, Saturday evening Vespers will be postponed for the Summer months. This postponement affects ONLY Saturday Evening Vespers. Vespers for the Great Feasts will still be celebrated and will be announced in the bulletin. Saturday evening Vespers will resume in the Fall.
- **Refugees from Ukraine:** Recently, in his trip to Poland, President Biden made a statement that the United States is ready to accept 100,000 refugees from Ukraine. We now have received information on the process. Anyone who might be willing to provide temporary shelter for any Ukrainian individual or families that might need a home. *If you are interested or know someone who is, please sign-up on the bulletin at the office*
- **Fall Ukrainian Language Classes** - These classes will be starting here at our parish soon. The classes will be open to all ages. ***If anyone is interested, please sign-up on the bulletin board at the office.*** Mr. Ihor Mirchuk will be the instructor. The list to sign up is on the office door.
- **Administrator Assistance Needed:** Volunteers are needed to help with the extra office work that we have encountered as a result of the war in Ukraine. We are looking for a number of people who could commit to one or two sessions a week, either a morning or afternoon session. Duties would include answering phone calls, taking donations, etc. Please see Vera Muzychka to sign up.
- **Please pray for the sick and infirm of our Church:**

## Today's Liturgical Propers

**Tone 8      Troparion** *(Resurrection)*

You descended from on high, O Merciful One!  
 You accepted the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//  
 O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!

**Tone 4      Troparion** *(All Saints)*

As with fine porphyry and royal purple,  
 Your Church has been adorned with Your martyrs' blood shed throughout all  
 the world.  
 She cries to You, O Christ God:  
 "Send down Your bounties on Your people,//  
 grant peace to Your habitation and great mercy to our souls!"

**Tone 8      Kontakion** *(All Saints)*

The universe offers You the God-bearing Martyrs

as the first fruits of creation, O Lord and Creator.  
By their prayers keep Your Church, Your habitation, in abiding peace//  
through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One!

**Tone 8      Prokeimenon      *(Resurrection)***

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God! *(Ps. 75:10a)*

*V. In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel. (Ps. 75:1)*

**Epistle**  
Hebrews 11:33-12:2

**Tone 4**  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*V. The righteous cried and the Lord heard them, and delivered them out of all their troubles. (Ps. 33:17)*

*V. Many are the afflictions of the righteous; the Lord will deliver them out of them all. (Ps. 33:19)*

**Gospel**  
Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30

**Communion Hymn**

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

+++++

**Sunday of All Saints**

Commemorated on the first Sunday after Pentecost - this year on [June 19](#)



The Sunday following Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints, both those who are known to us, and those who are known only to God. There have been saints at all times, and they have come from every corner of the earth. They were Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and Righteous, yet all were perfected by the same Holy Spirit.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to rise above our fallen state and to attain sainthood, thereby fulfilling God's directive to "be holy, for I am holy" (Lev. 11:44, 1 Peter 1:16, etc.). Therefore, it is fitting to commemorate All Saints on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

This feast may have originated at an early date, perhaps as a celebration of all martyrs, then it was broadened to include all men and women who had borne witness to Christ by their virtuous lives, even if they did not shed their blood for Him.

Saint Peter of Damascus, in his "Fourth Stage of Contemplation," mentions five categories of saints: Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, and Monastic Saints (*Philokalia* [in English] Vol. 3, p.131). Saint Nikódēmos of the Holy Mountain (July 14) adds the Righteous to Saint Peter's five categories. The list of Saint Nikódēmos is found in his book *The Fourteen Epistles of Saint Paul* (Venice, 1819, p. 384) in his discussion of I Corinthians 12:28.

The hymnology for the feast of All Saints also lists six categories: "Rejoice, assembly of the Apostles, Prophets of the Lord, loyal choirs of the Martyrs, divine Hierarchs, Monastic Fathers, and the Righteous...."

Some of the saints are described as Confessors, a category which does not appear in the above lists. Since they are similar in spirit to the martyrs, they are regarded as belonging to the category of Martyrs. They were not put to death as the Martyrs were, but they boldly confessed Christ and came close to being executed for their faith. In other words, they were tortured incredibly, but were not put to death. Saint Maximus the Confessor (January 21) is such a saint.

The order of these six types of saints seems to be based on their importance to the Church. The Apostles are listed first, because they were the first to spread the Gospel throughout the world.

The Martyrs come next because of their example of courage in professing their faith before the enemies and persecutors of the Church, which encouraged other Christians to remain faithful to Christ even unto death.

Although they come first chronologically, the Prophets are listed after the Apostles and Martyrs. This is because the Old Testament Prophets saw only the shadows of things to come, whereas the Apostles and Martyrs experienced them firsthand. The New Testament also takes precedence over the Old Testament.

The holy Hierarchs comprise the fourth category. They are the leaders of their flocks, teaching them by their word and their example.

The Monastic Saints are those who withdrew from this world to live in monasteries, or in seclusion. They did not do this out of hatred for the world, but in order to devote themselves to unceasing prayer, and to do battle against the power of the demons. Although some people erroneously believe that monks and nuns are useless and unproductive, Saint John Climacus had a high regard for them: "Angels are a light for monks, and the monastic life is a light for all men" (LADDER, Step 26:31).

The last category, the Righteous, are those who attained holiness of life while living "in the world." Examples include Abraham and his wife Sarah, Job, Saints Joachim and Anna, Saint Joseph the Betrothed, Saint Juliana of Lazarevo, and others.

The feast of All Saints achieved great prominence in the ninth century, in the reign of the Byzantine Emperor Leo VI the Wise (886-911). His wife, the Holy Empress Theophano (December 16) lived in the world, but was not attached to worldly things. She was a great benefactor to the poor, and was generous to the monasteries. She was a true mother to her subjects, caring for widows and orphans, and consoling the sorrowful. Even before the death of Saint Theophano in 893 or 894, her husband started to build a church, intending to dedicate it to Theophano, but she forbade him to do so. It was this emperor who decreed that the Sunday after Pentecost be dedicated to All Saints. Believing that his wife was one of the righteous, he knew that she would also be honored whenever the Feast of All Saints was celebrated.

++++

## Fast of the Holy Apostles "Petrivka"

By Archpriest Ayman Kfouf (adapted for our bulletin)

### Origins of the Fast of the Apostles

The Fast of the Holy Apostles is dated back to early years of the church. The first evidence of this fast is found in the writings of St. Athanasius the Great (†373). In his letter to Emperor Constance, he writes: "*During the week following Pentecost, the people who observed the fast went out to the cemetery to pray.*" Some 20 years later, St. Ambrose (†397) writes: "*On the days following his Ascension into heaven, however, we again fast*" (Sermon 61).

The famous pilgrim Egeria mentioned the Apostles' Fast also in her fourth-century-writing which records that "*on the day following the feast of Pentecost, a period of fasting began*". In the same period, the fourth century, the Apostolic Constitutions prescribes:

*"After the feast of Pentecost, celebrate one week, then observe a fast, for justice demands rejoicing after the God and fasting after the body*

*reception of the gifts of has been refreshed."*



Until the second half of the 3rd Holy Apostles was linked to only for one week (Apostolic after the martyrdom of the and following the development their death around the year became linked to the feast of June 29. Consequently, it

century, the Fast of the Pentecost and lasted Constitutions). Later on, apostles Peter and Paul of the commemoration of 258, the Apostles' Fast Saints Peter and Paul on became a fasting period

of preparation for the celebration of the feast of the great apostles. St. Symeon of Thessalonica (†1429) explains: *"The Fast of the Apostles is justly established in their honor, for through them we have received numerous benefits and for us they are exemplars and teachers of the fast ... For one week after the descent of the Holy Spirit, in accordance with the Apostolic Constitution composed by Clement, we celebrate, and then during the following week, we fast in honor of the Apostles."*

Subsequently, the duration of the Fast of the Holy Apostles changed from one week to a variable period depending on the date of the Feast of Pascha.

#### *Duration of the Fast of the Apostles*

The fast of the Holy Apostles starts on the second Monday after Pentecost. The duration of this fast varies, depending on the date of Pascha. The rule is that the Fast starts on the second Monday after Pentecost and ends on June 29 (July 12 on the old calendar), on the feast of Saints Peter and Paul. The Apostles' Fast could last as short as 8 days and as long as 30 days for those who follow the new calendar. For those on the old calendar the duration could be as short as 21 days or as long as 43 days.

#### *Fasting Rules of the Fast of the Holy Apostles*

The Fast of the Holy Apostles is not as strict as the Fasts of Pascha and the Nativity of Christ; rather it is more lenient in its duration and rules. The current rules of fasting, during the Apostles' Fast, were established first for the monks of the Monastery of the Kyiiv Caves by Metropolitan George of Kyiv (1069-1072). These rules are still practiced today amongst most Orthodox Christians with minor variations, depending on the jurisdiction. The rules are that the Metropolitan set for the Monastery of the Caves at that time were:

- 1- Red meat, poultry, and dairy products are not allowed during the entire fasting period in all weekdays.

- 2- Fish, wine, and oil are allowed on all days except on Wednesdays and Fridays.

It is important to note that these rules applied to monastics at that time. **Most importantly, the Canons of the Church state that the Apostles' Fast is one of the periods when the faithful should approach the Holy Sacraments of Confession and Communion as a minimal requirement.**

**A good contemporary rule to observe within our parish in our non-monastic state is to follow the example of St. Sophia's Seminary for this period: abstain from**

**meat and dairy products on the first day and all Wednesdays and Fridays for the Apostles Fast.**

**Conclusion**

The Apostles fast has emerged since the very early days of Christianity. It is honored and preserved in the Church as a part of our Holy Tradition. Like all Fasts in the Orthodox Church, the Holy Apostles' Fast aims to help us put on the "armor of light" to against the attacks of the enemy that may befall during our spiritual journey to become united with God through His grace. No better words may express the importance of fasting in our life like the words of St. Abba Isaac the Syrian who says, "*... since fasting is a weapon established by God ...the human race knew no victory before fasting, and the devil was never defeated by our nature as it is: but this weapon has indeed deprived the devil of strength from the outset... As soon as the devil sees someone possessed of this weapon (fasting), fear straightway falls on this adversary and tormentor of ours, who remembers and thinks of his defeat by the Savior in the wilderness; his strength is at once destroyed and the sight of the weapon given us by our Supreme Leader burns him up. A man armed with the weapon of fasting is always afire with zeal. He who remains therein, keeps his mind steadfast and ready to meet and repel all violent passions.*"