



**Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Ukrainian Catholic Church
(St. Mary's)
6719 Token Valley Road
Manassas, VA 20112
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**Reverend Alexander Dumenko — Pastor (301) – 421 – 1739
Sunday Divine Liturgies: 8:30 a.m. Holy Days as scheduled in the Bulletin**

DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER 24, 2019 – DECEMBER 01, 2019

Sunday November 24 24th Sunday after Pentecost

EPISTLE EPH.2:14-22; GOSPEL: LK.13:10-17 TONE 8

8:00AM – Matins/Confession, 8:30AM – For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners & in particular

For +Martin Boyce from Lydia Bargiuk

Sunday, December 01 25th Sunday after Pentecost

EPISTLE EPH.4:1-6; GOSPEL: LK.18;18-27 TONE 1

8:00AM – Matins/Confession, 8:30AM – For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners & in particular

For the health of Bob & Mary Jo Bergkamp from Ann Woroniak

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24th Sunday after Pentecost



In today's Gospel Reading we have heard the story about a sick woman who was healed by Our Lord Jesus Christ on the Sabbath Day. We may ask ourselves a question: what was the fault of "a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years?" (Luke, 13. 10-17) Our Church offers us to put it in another, more soul-saving way and instead of asking: "For which fault?" and "Why?" – inquire ourselves: "For what purpose?" Being still in Eden, the humans turned around from God, from His Divine Joy and eternal Life, and, consequently, as a result, had to face sufferings and death. In this sense, of cause, every infirmity, every suffering comes from satan, who deceived people. "Man is born unto trouble, as the sparks fly upward," – says Saint Iov, the Long-Suffering (Iov 5.7).

Jesus Christ calls us to repent in order to save our souls and not to perish...

He calls us to "change our mind", to make an effort and choose Life and not death! But how hard it is for us, who "have been snared by satan for many years", to start this struggle! Our Lord cures the suffering woman and He forgives our sins not because we deserve this forgiveness, but because He is Love and His love embraces all of us! It is very hard for a man, who is experiencing misery from his own sins, to perceive this ultimate goodness of God. The ruler of the synagogue from today's reading, for example, is trying to defend and endorse the literal execution of the law. He does not even realize that by doing that he calls to obey not the God's law, but his own personal understanding of this law... Being so deeply mistaken, the head of the synagogue in reality demands everyone to comply and adhere to the law of his own... The meaning of one of the Commandments of the Old Testament is in the fact, that it is essential to give people one Day as the Day of God's Remembrance. People need to have the ability to live at least one day a week not for themselves, but for God, and in the long run – for other people, for God's love towards others... Jesus Christ came to this world not to trespass the law, but to fulfill it (Mat.5.17). He calls us to repentance and to the change of our way of thinking. He wants us to see the true meaning of the Commandment about the Sabbath, answering thus to the reproaches for healing on the Consecrate Day: "Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you on the sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" (Luke 13.15-16) The woman, who was cured from her infirmity, received from Jesus Christ not only alleviation of the sufferings of her body, but also, as the gift of Faith, redemption from the sufferings of her soul. "He laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God" (Luke 13.13). Let us, brothers and sisters in Christ, always remember that only Jesus Christ is able to free our souls from the burden of sins and from the devil's ensnarement; only God possesses power to liberate and make us strait! Amen. *St. Mary's Dormition Orthodox Church, Shiskovtzi.*

Announcements

• **Church Decorating - Sunday, November 24** - We will decorate the church for Christmas this Sunday after Liturgy. The children like decorating the tree and the creche. Please sign up for the pot-luck brunch after Saint Nicholas' visit (December 8) before you leave - the sign-up sheet will be in the back room.

• **Saint Nicholas Visit - Sunday, December 8** - Saint Nicholas will visit after Liturgy on December 8. If you will be bringing any children (other than your own - we have those covered) to visit with Saint Nicholas, please tell Susan Bodnar the age of the child on November 24 so that she can have a stocking ready for the child. Remember the brunch afterwards in the back room.

• **The Archeparchy of Philadelphia** is holding a raffle, the proceeds of which will provide three scholarships for students attending the three remaining Ukrainian Catholic Schools of our Archeparchy. Tickets are \$10 and must be purchased by the beginning of December. To purchase tickets, please see Helen Troy.

• **2020 Envelopes** - Envelopes & Calendars for 2020 are available in the back room. Please stop in & pick up them for your family after Liturgy.



Let us pray for the sick, for the outcasts of society, for the poor, for refugees, for soldiers, for the hungry, for those who are incarcerated and for all who are suffering in any way Let us pray for those who need our prayers and for those who do not expect it from us. Please remember to pray for vocations to the Holy Priesthood and religious life.!

YOUR OFFERINGS: **Collection:** – 11/17-

Sincere thanks to all for your kindness and generosity to our Holy Church!



TEACHER

A TEACHER Every person who appears in our life is a teacher: someone teaches us to be stronger, someone teaches us to be braver, someone teaches us to be wiser, someone teaches us to be cautious, someone teaches us to be kind and gentle, someone teaches us to be patient, someone teaches us to be generous, someone teaches us to be at peace, someone teaches us to forgive, someone teaches us to be happy and to appreciate every day. Others seem to not be teaching us anything, but rather break all of our

stereotypes through their example, providing us a valuable lesson in the process. Stop and think about your teachers; the most significant ones come to mind immediately. Yet how many people go unnoticed as they help us become the people that we are? Let us keep in mind that people have the ability to learn from others, and that we are fortunate if we learn things that are good. But let us also remember that those who teach us by bad examples are teachers, as well. They show us what not to do, how not to do it, when not to do it, and why not to do it. Let us learn from them as well!