



Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Ukrainian Catholic Church
(St. Mary's)
6719 Token Valley Road
Manassas, VA 20112
(703) – 791 – 6635
www.stmarysbyz.com
Reverend Alexander Dumenko Pastor
(301) – 421 – 1739
Sunday & Holy Days Divine Liturgies:
as scheduled in the Bulletin

DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

AUGUST 23, 2020

Sunday August 23 12th Sunday after Pentecost

8:00AM – Confession. 8:30AM – Divine Liturgy For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners & in particular for God's Blessings on the Cain family from Ann Woroniak

Sunday August 30 13th Sunday after Pentecost

8:00AM – Confession. 8:30AM – Divine Liturgy For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners & in particular for God's Blessings and the health of Mary Bergkamp from Ann Woroniak

+++++

The 12th Sunday after Pentecost



Happiness, – what is it, and how to reach it? Happiness is in justification of life. Happiness isn't momentary pleasure, isn't temporary transient satisfaction. Happiness is permanent joyful state of spirit which a person takes with him crossing the border of a new life.

A young man asked Christ about happiness. "What must I do to possess eternal life"? "Keep the commandments", Christ said to him. What does it mean, "keep commandments"? The commandments show us the way of our ascension to God, the way leading to spiritual maturity, getting the power of the Holy Spirit by means of free, voluntary merging of a person's heart and will with God's will. And this way ends by confirmation of a person in love: "Love you neighbour as yourself". This is the way to happiness.

"If you wish to be perfect, go and sell your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me" (Mt. 19, 21). "But when the young man heard these words, he went away

sad, for he was a man of great wealth” (Mt.19,22). Would he had gone away sad if, having got an answer to his question, he had kept hope to inherit eternal life? No, this young man refused not only his perfection, but the eternal life itself because he wasn't able to sell his possessions and didn't show proper resolution. Of course, the Saviour knew how the young man would act, and so He showed what prevented him from inheriting the eternal life – his attachment to possessions. He exposed not possession itself, but the attachment to it.

Possession is great temptation, but it can't be means to Christian deed, perhaps one of the most difficult one. A rich man who was able with God's help to kill in himself the attachment to temporary wealth for the sake of brotherly love and love of God, becomes as if the Lord's steward converting possessions given to him by God for the good of people.

Jesus said to his disciples, “In truth I tell you, it is hard for someone rich to enter the kingdom of Heaven” (Mt. 19,23). This means that a person having attachment to something earthly one, practically can't enter the eternal life. Perfection is when you, having some earthly possessions, don't have any attachment to them – To get rid of attachment to all earthly things, maybe even to something beautiful and kind, but less than love to God, is possible only with God's help.

Who can be saved then? The one who is conscious of his weakness, his incapability to anything kind and sacred; the one who feels that he himself can't be saved, and being conscious of it, asks for God's help, prays to God for having mercy upon him. Consciousness of our weakness and impossibility to be saved mustn't lead us to idleness but to harder resort to the help of God and hope of His boundless mercy. Amen.

By Rev. George Sergeev

////////////////////////////////////

Collection: August 16 - \$700, August 9 - \$465

We sincerely thank our parishioners who mail their donations when they're unable to come to Divine Liturgy. If you are financially able, please continue to support our church. You may mail your donations to: PO Box 2735, Manassas, VA 20108. THANK YOU!

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

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST POSTFEAST DORMITION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

Troparion and Kontakion:

Troparion (3): Let the heavens be glad, let the earth rejoice, for the Lord has done a mighty deed with His arm. He trampled death by death; He became the firstborn of the dead; He saved us from the abyss of Hades and granted great mercy to the world.

Troparion (1): O Mother of God, in giving birth You still preserved virginity; and in your falling-asleep you did not forsake the world. You are the Mother of Life and have been transferred to life and through your prayers have delivered our souls from death.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Kontakion (3): You rose from the tomb, O compassionate Lord, and led us out from the gates of death. Today Adam exults and Eve rejoices, and the prophets together with the patriarchs unceasingly acclaim the divine might of Your power.

Now and for ever and ever: Amen. Kontakion (2): The grave and death did not detain the Mother of God. She prays perpetually and is our unfailing hope of intercession; for He Who dwelt in the womb of the ever-Virgin, transferred to life the Mother of Life.

Prokimenon (3): Sing to our God, sing; sing to our King, sing.

Verse: Clap your hands, all you nations; shout unto God with the voice of joy. **Prokimenon (3):** My soul extols the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. **Verse:** Because He has looked upon His lowly servant; from this day forward all generations shall call me blessed.

Epistle: Reading of the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians.

(1Cor 15,1-11) Brethren: I am reminding you of the gospel I preached to you, which you indeed received and in which you also stand. Through it you are also being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures; that he was buried; that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures; that he appeared to Kephas, then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at once, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. After that he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one born abnormally, he appeared to me. For I am the least of the apostles, not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me has not been ineffective. Indeed, I have toiled harder than all of them; not I, however, but the grace

of God [that is] with me. Therefore, whether it be I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Alleluia Verses: In You, O Lord, have I hoped that I may not be put to shame for ever. **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.** Be a protector unto me, O God, and a house of refuge to save me. **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.** Go up, O Lord, to the place of Your rest, You and the ark of Your strength. **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.** The Lord swore an oath to David; He will not go back on His word. **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Gospel: (Mt 19,16-26) At that time, someone approached Jesus and said, "Teacher, what good must I do to gain eternal life?" He answered him, "Why do you ask me about the good? There is only One who is good. If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments." He asked him, "Which ones?" And Jesus replied, "'You shall not kill; you shall not commit adultery; you shall not steal; you shall not bear false witness; honor your father and your mother'; and 'you shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" The young man said to him, "All these I have observed. What do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to [the] poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." When the young man heard this statement, he went away sad, for he had many possessions. Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Amen, I say to you, it will be hard for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished and said, "Who then can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For human beings this is impossible, but for God all things are possible."

Instead of It is truly right... (Or the Hirmos of the Feast): Seeing the dormition of the most Pure One, the angels were filled with awe at how the Virgin went from earth to heaven.

Hirmos: In you, O Pure Virgin, the laws of nature were overcome: in giving birth you remained a virgin and in your death heralded life. You remained a virgin after giving birth and remained alive after death, always saving your descendants, O Mother of God.

Communion Verse: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest. I will take the chalice of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.