



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

OCTOBER 25, 2020

Sunday October 25 21st Sunday after Pentecost

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

Sunday November 01 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

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

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21th Sunday after Pentecost – the Parable of the Sower

"Take heed then how you hear; for to him who has will more be given, and from him who has not, even what he thinks he has will be taken away." (Luke 8: 18) Saint Luke, like Saint Mark, connects this reading with the parable of the sower. It is this parable that provides an important key to understanding the difficult verse I am highlighting. The parable of the sower reveals God's love for all people. His word - and therefore his eternal Son - is not withheld or hidden from anyone. However, the universality of God's love is not always recognized. In part, this is so because of the way a key passage of the parable is

translated into English. We hear Jesus telling his disciples that they have been given to know the "secrets" of the kingdom of God. As for those outside the circle of disciples, the word of God remains intentionally veiled

in parables (cf. Luke 8:9ff). A more accurate translation of the Lord's response to his disciples would be that they have been given to know the "mysteries" of the kingdom of God. Unlike the term "secrets", mystery is charged with a dynamism that describes the interaction between God's word and the listener. Our Lord uses parables not to hide himself or to veil the saving power of his word. Our Lord uses parables to engage his audience and to challenge the audience to enter in dialog with him. Jesus uses the parable of the sower to show that God's love is not denied anyone. Through his incarnate Son and Word, God calls all to new and transfigured life. Through his incarnate Son and Word, God offers mercy and forgiveness to all who heed the call to repentance. Yet, the parable of the sower teaches the audience - teaches us - that the word of God must be cared for. Indeed, God is generous with the dissemination of his Word. But the recipient is responsible for its care and handling. The incarnate Word is given to both the Jew and the Gentile. But it is up to the Jew and Gentile to properly hear the Word and then to receive it and finally to enter its inexhaustible mystery. To us has been given to know the "mysteries" of the kingdom of God. The word we hear from the Gospel is the Word of God who takes upon himself the sin of the whole world (cf. John 1:29). The Word of God offers himself to us. His word calls us to draw near and to enter new and eternal life. This begins by entering the mystery of his death and resurrection through baptism. Yet, it is precisely at this juncture that we must heed how we hear. For unless the Word of God leads us to repentance and places us in the ascetical arena where mind and heart, soul and body turn from death to life we will not be able to enter the kingdom of God. Unless the mind and heart are opened and willing to change, the words of our Lord will not initiate us into a life of ceaseless renewal and ascent. Without a mind and heart struggling to repent, the Word himself, freely given to us will be taken away. And this will happen not because of God's desire but because we refused to cultivate and nurture the sown Word. The living Word of God speaks to us in our own language. How we hear God's Word determines how we relate to the one who has taken on the form of a servant for us and for our salvation. To hear the proclaimed word is to hear him. To receive his word is to receive him. Making his word our word changes us "into his likeness from one degree of glory to another..."(2Corinthians 3:18). The Word of God has now offered himself to us. He has spoken to us. Through mutual encouragement and exhortation may we hear his voice not allowing the noise of vain cares and ill will to distract us from entering the mysteries of the kingdom of God.

by Father Robert M. Arida

21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Troparion and Kontakion:

Troparion (4): When the disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the glorious news of the resurrection and cast off the ancestral condemnation, they proudly told the apostles: Death has been plundered! Christ our God is risen, granting to the world great mercy. **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Kontakion (4):** My Savior and Deliverer from the grave, as God, has raised out of bondage the children of earth and shattered the gates of Hades; and as Master, He rose on the third day.

Now and for ever and ever: Amen. Theotokion (4): By your birth, O Immaculate One, Joachim and Anna were freed from the reproach of childlessness, and Adam and Eve from the corruption of death. And your people, redeemed from the guilt of their sins, celebrate as they cry out to you: The barren one gives birth to the Mother of God and the nourisher of our life.

Prokimenon (4): How great are Your works, O Lord; You have made all things in wisdom.

Verse: Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, You are exceedingly great.

Prokimenon (4): How great are Your works, O Lord; You have made all things in wisdom.

Epistle: Reading of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians.

(Gal 2,16-20) Brethren: We know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law, no one will be justified. But if, in seeking to be justified in Christ, we ourselves are found to be sinners, is Christ then a minister of sin? Of course not! But if I am building up again those things that I tore down, then I show myself to be a transgressor. For through the law I died to the law, that I might live for God. I have been crucified with Christ; yet I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me; insofar as I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God

who has loved me and given himself up for me. **Alleluia Verses:** Verse (4): Poise yourself and advance in triumph and reign in the cause of truth, and meekness, and justice. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Verse (4): You have loved justice and hated iniquity. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel: (Lk 8,5-15) The Lord told this parable: “A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path and was trampled, and the birds of the sky ate it up. Some seed fell on rocky ground, and when it grew, it withered for lack of moisture. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some seed fell on good soil, and when it grew, it produced fruit a hundredfold.” After saying this, he called out, “Whoever has ears to hear ought to hear.” Then his disciples asked him what the meaning of this parable might be. He answered, “Knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of God has been granted to you; but to the rest, they are made known through parables so that ‘they may look but not see, and hear but not understand.’ This is the meaning of the parable. The seed is the word of God. Those on the path are the ones who have heard, but the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts that they may not believe and be saved. Those on rocky ground are the ones who, when they hear, receive the word with joy, but they have no root; they believe only for a time and fall away in time of trial. As for the seed that fell among thorns, they are the ones who have heard, but as they go along, they are choked by the anxieties and riches and pleasures of life, and they fail to produce mature fruit. But as for the seed that fell on rich soil, they are the ones who, when they have heard the word, embrace it with a generous and good heart, and bear fruit through perseverance.”

Communion Verse: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest. Their utterance has gone forth into all the earth, and their word unto the ends of the world. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Archbishop's Visit – Thank You! *My Dear Parishioners and our Friends, I would like to express how grateful I am to all of you for your hard work last Sunday in making the Archbishop's visit to our Parish so special. It was a great experience of joy, festivity and prayerful atmosphere together with the Archbishop and all of you in our church. Your dedication, support and participation to make this event possible, are inspiring and greatly appreciated. A special Thank you is extended to Helen Troy, Christine Nowicki, and Susan Bodnar for organizing the event. We thank Ed Hara for leading faithful in the Divine Liturgy as the parish cantor. Many thanks to all of you who volunteered in different ways to help us make this Parish event possible and successful. Also, Many Thanks to all those who supported our efforts with donations; it was very kind of you. May Our Loving God send upon you many blessings and may He reward you in a very special way.*

With prayers, Fr. Alexander

Dear Parishioners and Friends! We welcome you to our Sunday Liturgy with the indoor service. Please keep in mind that social distancing applies and wearing a mask during the celebration of Liturgy is mandatory to help stop the spread of coronavirus.

Parish/Finance Council meeting next Sunday, November 01, 2020 after the Liturgy, at the church. All members are encouraged to attend the meeting.

Food Pantry Many food banks need donations more than ever during the current COVID-19 crisis. Instead of holding food drives only at Thanksgiving and Christmas, we will be collecting food and non-perishable donations throughout the year and taking donations to a food bank once a month. The collection box will be in front of the confessional/cry room so that donations can be deposited as we enter the church. God bless you for your generosity. Most needed items at this time: Canned fruit, cereal, instant mashed potatoes Other wish list items: Beans, canned meats, canned pasta, canned vegetables, jelly, canned soup, macaroni and cheese, Hamburger Helper, Manwich, chili/stew, miscellaneous dressings, mixes, pasta and sauces, powdered milk, rice, cleaning products, personal care items.



A reminder: on November 1st our clocks will be set backward one hour in observance of daylight saving time.

Collection: October 18, 2020 =

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.

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