



**Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Ukrainian Catholic Church
(St. Mary's)**

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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 22, 2020

Sunday November 22, 2020 25th Sunday after Pentecost

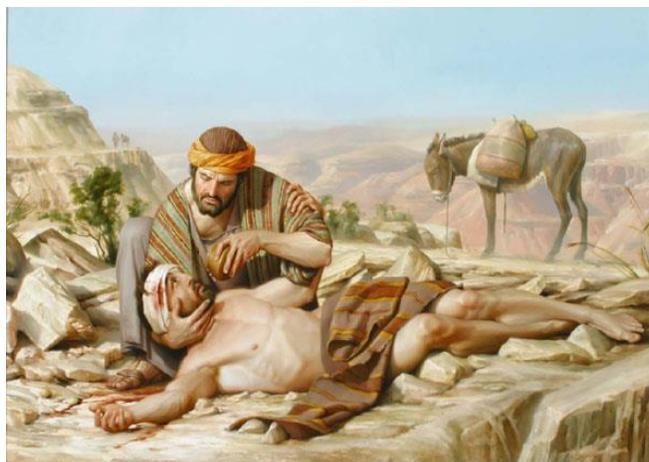
8:00AM – Confession, 8:30AM – For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners & in particular For God's Blessings on Joann Troy from Helen Troy

Sunday, November 29, 2020 26th Sunday after Pentecost

8:00AM – Confession, 8:30AM – For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners & in particular For God's Blessings on Roxolana Armstrong from Ann Woroniak

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The 25th Sunday after Pentecost



“And, behold, a certain lawyer... tempted Him [Christ], saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou? And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself (Lk. 10:25-27). Remember, brothers and sisters,

how the Holy Church brought us to this passage in the Gospel narrative. Remember last Sunday how Jairus, a Jewish prince, came to Christ. His daughter was dying and he could find help nowhere. She was dying. And so he ran to Christ, fell at His feet and asked for help. She was dying — his only daughter. Christ went with him and Jairus walked with Christ. Maybe this was not long, but in the mind of Jairus it was the way of his whole life. He should be close by his dying daughter...but he hoped. He hoped because he believed that Christ could perform something great, could perform a healing which no one else could do. And this is like away of life.

It is the same with us. A certain moment comes and we are made aware that there will be a departure, there will be a grave, a person will die. I will, and after me, you. Each of us has to expect this moment. But if you hope in God and, like Jairus, hold onto the robe of Christ and do not fall away from Him in spite of all the temptations, then you will undoubtedly arrive... arrive where?

Well, today's Gospel tells us where in the question of the lawyer: 'What shall I do to inherit eternal life?' This is where — into Eternal Life.

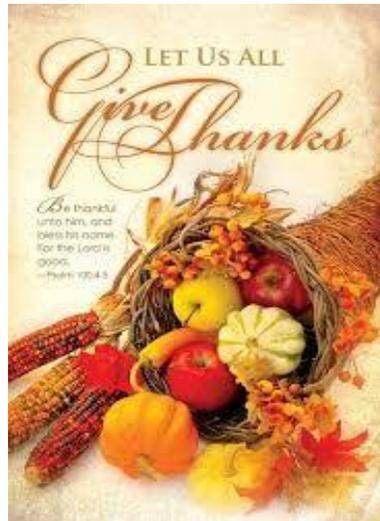
It is this moment which reveals today's Gospel to us. How do we walk? How do we hold onto the robe of Christ? How do we not let go of this robe during the whole way? And this way is long, very long. This is our life. This may mean years, and for some of us many years. Eighty years for some, ninety for others, and still longer. How many dangers there are on this long road that can tear us away from the robe of Christ! The storm of temptation is raging all around. Look at our family life. Influenced by some mental blindness a husband abandons his family. From constant nervous tension in the family, a wife cannot bear it any longer and makes life intolerable, and so on. And in our public life, all the political crises; and in our civic life, the terrible crimes. O God, where can we go? All we have to do is, like Jairus, cling to Christ, hold onto His robe. The main thing is not to let go. We must be steadfast.

And today's Gospel gives us the secret of how to be steadfast. Be a Merciful Samaritan everywhere, always, and to everyone. Let us examine ourselves. Are we really like this? There were children around us — did we teach them good things? Or a man came to us who was on the verge of moral destruction. Did we support him in his fight against sin? Did we help him to get out of this swamp which was sucking him down? Maybe all we had to do was stretch out not even a hand, but just a finger, and he would have been saved. How many there were who needed just one word of encouragement, some attention. And we could have given all this. But did we give it, like the Merciful Samaritan? If to all these questions our conscience answers, no, we did not help — then, yes, we are in danger of being torn away from the robe of Christ. Let us hasten to mend this. Mercy alone can keep us with Christ.

Our children have so-called "baby-teeth" which fall out by themselves, and in their place other teeth grow — real ones. In the same way we have a heart. But this is a coarse, carnal heart — a selfish one. With such a heart you cannot enter Eternal Life. And it will not fall out by itself. We have to cast it out and replace it with a new heart — not ours, but Christ's. And any time we help our neighbor and make an effort, we are as if tearing off a piece of our heart and giving it away to our neighbor. And in place of this piece of carnal, sinful heart, the Lord puts in us a similar piece of His heart — Christ's heart.

So during our life we are changing our heart into a new one, a real one, into the heart of Christ. And only then will Eternal Life open for us. Then no one will be able to tear us away from the robe of Christ; and we will receive what the lawyer was asking Christ about — Eternal Life.

Homily From "The One Thing Needful," Sermons of Archbishop Andrei (Rymarenko)



Happy Thanksgiving!

Dear Parishioners & Friends,

As next Thursday we will celebrate Thanksgiving I wanted to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a wonderful Thanksgiving Season.

For many people Thanksgiving is a day to eat too much, watch TV for the entire day and get ready for Christmas shopping. Yet, we as Christians know it goes far deeper than that, even though we may enjoy those things as well. It seems so appropriate that before we get to “the most wonderful time of the year”, that we take a few moments to express our thanks to God. Without a doubt, we could spend much time focusing on the many things going wrong in our Nation and the entire World, but I want to remind us of the tremendous importance and calling we have to be a people of Thankfulness! It is important that we have a thankful spirit! When we begin to thank God for what He has given us, we probably stop complaining about what we lack.

I thank God for you and I also thank you for bringing me closer to God. I wanted to take a moment to thank you for your dedication and support of our parish and for attending our Services. What a joy it is to get together as the family of God to express our Thanks to God. If for some reason you do not attend the church, I would like to extend an invitation to you as well to join us for services every Sunday.

I know that at times, and especially now, during the COVID-19 Pandemic, it can be challenging to go through the Holiday Season without the opportunity to get out to services at the church or to visit family. However, I want you to know that God is always with you and will surely be your source of strength and comfort this year as He has been in years past. Just have faith in Him. His tender mercies and great compassion are new every day!

Be aware that I am thinking about you during this special time of the year and you are in my fervent prayers.

My God's blessing be upon you! Happy Thanksgiving!

Rev. Alexander Dumenko & family.

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

POSTFEAST ENTRANCE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD INTO THE TEMPLE

Troparion (8): 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 (4): Today is the prelude of the benevolence of God and the herald of the salvation of mankind; for the Virgin openly appears in the temple of God and foretells Christ to all. Let us also, with full voice, exclaim to her: Hail, Fulfillment of the Creator's plan.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Kontakion (8): When You rose from the tomb, You also raised the dead and resurrected Adam. Eve exults in Your resurrection, and the ends of the world celebrate Your rising from the dead, O Most Merciful One. **Now and for ever and ever: Amen. Kontakion (4):** The most pure Temple of the Savior, the richest Palace, and the Treasury of the glory of God, today enters into the house of the Lord, bringing grace which is in the Spirit of God. The Angels of God sing to her: This is the Heavenly Tabernacle.

Prokimenon (8): Pray and give praise to the Lord our God.

Verse: In Judea God is known; His name is great in Israel.

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 Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (Eph 4,1-6) Brethren: I, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace: one body and one Spirit, as you were also called to the one hope of your call; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all.

Alleluia Verses: Verse (8): Come, let us rejoice in the Lord; let us acclaim God our Savior: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Verse (8): Let us come before His countenance with praise and acclaim Him with psalms. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Verse: Listen, O Daughter, give ear to my words. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Verse: The richest of people shall seek your favor. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel (Lk 10,25-37) At that time, there was a scholar of the law who stood up to test him and said, "Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read it?" He said in reply, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." He replied to him, "You have answered correctly; do this and you will live." But because he wished to justify himself, he said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man fell victim to robbers as he went down from Jerusalem to Jericho. They stripped and beat him and went off leaving him half-dead. A priest happened to be going down that road, but when he saw him, he passed by to the opposite side. Likewise a Levite came to the place, and when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side. But a Samaritan traveler who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight. He approached the victim, poured oil and wine over his wounds and bandaged them. Then he lifted him up on his own animal, took him to an inn and cared for him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper with the instruction, 'Take care of him. If you spend more than what I have given you, I shall repay you on my way back.' Which of these three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers' victim?" He answered, "The one who treated him with mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Communion Verse: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

