



**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

JULY 04, 2021

Saturday, July 04, 2021 6th Sunday after Pentecost – Independence Day

08:30AM – For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners & in particular

For God's Blessing & the health of Elizabeth Miller from Ann Woroniak

Sunday, July 11, 2021 7th Sunday after Pentecost

08:30AM – For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners

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6th Sunday after Pentecost

Today's Gospel reading talks about the forgiveness of sins and about healing. After being rejected in the land of Gergesenes,



Christ comes to another place, to His city. Evangelist Mathew calls Capernaum 'His city' because the Lord lived there. He was born in Bethlehem, and brought up in Nazareth, but Capernaum was His permanent residence, where He spent much time.

Today, we find ourselves in His house, in which Christ is always found, in His temple, which after a

fresh coat of paint, has again become clean and wonderful. The walls again resemble a person who came to Confession and whom the Lord forgave all his sins. Our soul becomes as clean as our temple is today, after it has repented.

Christ has come into our world, which happens to be 'His city', in order to do good. If He is rejected in one place, He hurries to other people. There are people who do not wish to hear anything about Him, and there are people who very much wish to know something about Him and to touch the edge of His garment. One can come to Christ in different ways. In today's Gospel we heard about one unique and recently more travelled path to Christ. This is the path of the person who is weakened by his sinful past life and illness, and is paralysed by sin. He could not move on his own, yet on his path to Christ he passed many healthy people. Real friends of the paralytic brought him into the house, where the Lord was, lowering him through the roof. What was so unusual about their deed? Not having access to Christ, because of the multitude of people, they broke down the side door of the house and passed through the roof carrying their friend. They used a brave and desperate way to get their friend close to Christ. Their legs became his legs. Their faith became his faith. The friendship of kind people helped the miracle happening! The difficult effort of friends, while sweating from the weight of carrying the paralytic on a stretcher, bore fruit and brought their friend back to normal life.

When a person is unable to come to Christ, on his own, then other people can bring him to Him. The Lord does not reject this kind of conversion to Him. For many contemporary faithful the encounter with Christ often happens on a hospital bed. It is often the faith of relatives or friends who call a priest to the bedside of the person who is ill. Infants also cannot, on their own, come to Christ. The Lord accepts and blesses the parents who bring their children to the temple for them to be in communion with Christ.

Today the Lord mercifully tells each one of us: «Dare, my child, your sins are forgiven on account of your friends faith, whom you befriend in your prayers — The Theotokos and Saints; rise from the bed in which your sins have laid you; take your already not needed bedding and go home to begin a new life!».

Source: orthodox-canada.com

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Troparion and Kontakion:

Troparion (5): Let us the faithful acclaim and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, and born of the Virgin for our salvation. For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to suffer death and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection. **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.**

Kontakion (5): You, my Savior, descended to Hades, and as the Almighty, You shattered its gates. With Yourself You, as Creator, raised the dead and shattered the sting of death, and delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Mankind. And so we cry out: Save us, O Lord.

Now and for ever and ever: Amen. Theotokion (5): Rejoice, O Impassable Door of the Lord! Rejoice, O Rampart and Protection of those who have recourse to you! Rejoice, O Tranquil Haven and Virgin, who gave birth in the flesh to your Maker and God! Fail not to intercede for those who sing and worship the Child you bore.

Prokimenon (5): You, O Lord, will guard us and will keep us from this generation, and for ever.

Verse: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer left a just man. **Prokimenon (5):** You, O Lord, will guard us and will keep us from this generation, and for ever.

Epistle: Reading of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans (Rom 12,6-14) Brethren: Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us exercise them: if prophecy, in proportion to the faith; if ministry, in ministering; if one is a teacher, in teaching; if one exhorts, in exhortation; if one contributes, in generosity; if one is over others, with diligence; if one does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be

sincere; hate what is evil; hold on to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; anticipate one another in showing honor. Do not grow slack in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the holy ones, exercise hospitality. Bless those who persecute you, bless and do not curse them.

Alleluia Verses: Verse (5): Your mercies, O Lord, I will sing for ever; from generation to generation I will announce Your truth with my mouth. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Verse (5): For You have said: Mercy shall be built up for ever; in the heavens Your truth shall be prepared. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel: (Mt 9,1-8) At that time, Jesus entered a boat, made the crossing, and came into his own town. And there people brought to him a paralytic lying on a stretcher. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Courage, child, your sins are forgiven." At that, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." Jesus knew what they were thinking, and said, "Why do you harbor evil thoughts? Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" - he then said to the paralytic, "Rise, pick up your stretcher, and go home." He rose and went home. When the crowds saw this they were struck with awe and glorified God who had given such authority to human beings.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome! Our warmest greetings are extended once again to all visitors and guests who are participating in Divine Liturgy. It is always a joy to have you praying with us. After the service please do not hesitate to introduce yourself to Fr. Alexander and our parishioners and find out more about our faith and our parish.



Happy 4th of July! As we celebrate this week the birth of our nation, I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday with their family and friends. Holidays are special times when we can enjoy one another's company in a relaxing setting. Whether we are home, at the beach or in the mountains, we have an opportunity to slow down. So much goes by us so quickly. Pause. Stop. Look around.

See the presence of God in nature, in the people who are special to you and the gifts that were so freely given to us by the Lord who loves us. Please drive safely and remember to pray and ask God's blessings upon your journey and vacations. God grant you a happy and safe holiday!

Sunday Coffee Hour! Recently, we've resumed our Sunday coffee hour after the Divine Liturgy, which was canceled at the time of the pandemic. We invite everyone to come to the church hall for refreshment after the service, and we encourage you to participate by bringing pastries/sandwiches for coffee hour on Sunday. May God bless us all!

Support your Church In addition to caring for your neighbor and taking care of yourself, one of the most practical ways to help the Church is to continue to do what you have always done: support our parish with your financial resources. Please, continue to contribute to your parish, even during the period you are unable to attend the Liturgy, with your gifts of alms during this Great Fast. Parishioners' weekly contributions are the main source of financial support for our parish, and while some expenses may be a little lower during this time, parishes have many fixed costs that need to be attended to. You may send your donations to PO Box 2735, Manassas VA 20108

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YOUR OFFERINGS Collection:

Sunday, June 27, 2021 - Sincere thanks to all for your kindness and generosity to our Holy Church!