

SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
SUNDAY OF THE ANCESTORS



Icon of the Holy Ancestors

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND EVENTS

NOTE: *Liturgical Services for Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church, West Easton, are noted in italic print; Liturgical services for St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, Bethlehem, are noted in plain print* **Outside events and services are listed in bold print.** Thank you for your attention!

NOTE: Confessions are heard 1/2 hour before Divine Services or by Appointment. Call Father Paul or Father Yaroslav anytime you need the Sacraments!

[Philip's Fast/Pylypivka/Пилупівка]

Sat, Dec 17th: *The Great-Prophet Daniel*

4:30 pm: Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (West Easton), Intention for God's Blessings on Our Living and Deceased Parishioners.

6:30 pm: Vesperal Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Bethlehem), Intention for Health and God's Blessings for Mary Morykan on Her 100th Birthday, by Carol Seiling.

Sun, Dec 18th: *The Sunday Before Christmas—of the Holy Ancestors (28th Sunday After Pentecost)*

9:00 am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Eng.) (Bethlehem); Intention for +William J. Tighe, by Son, William, on the Occasion of 25th Anniversary.

11:00 am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Ukr.) (West Easton); Intention for +Myroslav Ivan Card. Lubachivsky (Prot. #487/2021).

Mon, Dec 19th: *The Martyr Boniface*

NO DIVINE SERVICES SCHEDULED.

Tue, Dec 20th: *The Hieromartyr Ignatius of Antioch*

9:00 am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Bethlehem); Intention for Health and God's Blessings for Michael Wetherill, by Family.

9:00 am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom; Intention for Peace in Ukraine, by Anonymous (West Easton).

6:30 pm: Moleben to the Mother of God for Peace in Ukraine, St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, Northampton, PA.

Wed, Dec 21st: *The Martyr Juliana*

9:00 am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Bethlehem); Intention for Health and God's Blessings for Michael Wetherill, by Family.

9:00 am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (West Easton).

6:00 pm: Confessions (Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church, West Easton).

Thu, Dec 22nd: *The Great-Martyr Anastasia*

9:00 am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom; Intention for +Christine Kulchycky (3rd/9th Days) (Bethlehem).

9:00 am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (West Easton).

6:00 pm: Confessions (St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, Bethlehem).

Fri, Dec 23rd: *The Ten Holy Martyrs of Crete (The Fast of Christmas Eve is Moved to Today)*

9:00 am: Royal Hours (Bethlehem).

6:00 pm: Confessions (St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, Northampton).

Sat, Dec 24th: *The Vigil-Eve of Christmas; of the Martyr Eugenia*

8:00 pm: Great Compline (abridged with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great (West Easton), Intention for +Margaret, William and Ruth Hutnik, by +William J. Hutnik.

9:00 pm: Great Compline, Caroling and Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great (Bethlehem), Intention for Health and God's Blessings on Our Living and Deceased parishioners.

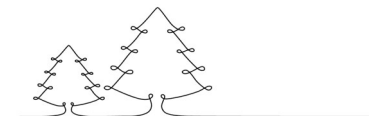
Sun, Dec 25th: *The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ*

9:00 am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Eng.) (Bethlehem); Intention for all of our sick and shut in parishioners, by Anonymous.

11:00 am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Ukr.) (West Easton); Intention for Metropolitan +Joseph (Schmondiuk) (Prot. #487/2021).

Parish Announcements:

1. **IMPORTANT FOR HOLY GHOST PARISHIONERS:** Due to space considerations in consolidating the bulletins between St. Josaphat and Holy Ghost Church since the beginning of November, we are not able to print certain information such as remembrances for the sick/homebound and candle offering intentions. Please rest assured that your intentions are being discharged.
2. **IMPORTANT FOR HOLY GHOST PARISHIONERS:** Church Budget Envelopes has informed us that while our envelopes have been printed, there are still shipping delays. We expect to have the envelopes by the end of December. We apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause.
3. We are starting to schedule home blessings for Theophany/Jordan for both Holy Ghost and St. Josaphat Parishes. You may request a home blessing either by clipping the sign up form on this bulletin or by using the sign up sheet in the back of the church.
4. The Ukrainian Catholic/Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood of the Lehigh Valley will have their next weekly Moleben for Peace in Ukraine on Tuesday, December 20th, 2022, at 6:30 pm, at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, Northampton, PA. All are encouraged to come and pray with us.
5. Many thanks to the St. Josaphat Tryzub Association, and all those who organized and supported our annual St. Nicholas visitation and clothing collection for the children of Ukraine. We are grateful for your donations and support, as will be the children in Ukraine whom we are sending this collection to. May God's blessings be with you all this Christmas!
6. If you are still looking to donate winter clothing for Ukraine, St. Mary's/Pokrova Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Allentown, PA has an active clothing and supply drive for those in need in Ukraine. Please be aware that clothes for donation must be new and in packaging or with tags. Used will be donated to our local area homeless and women's shelters who are also in dire need of help. Please remember the less fortunate in your prayers and in your generosity!
7. We thank all who came to help with Holy Ghost's annual nut roll sale. Orders are ready for pick up; for Bethlehem parishioners who ordered nut rolls, Father Paul has them downstairs in the kitchen and are ready for pick up after the scheduled weekend Divine Liturgies.
8. The Archeparchy of Philadelphia has established a resource portal for Ukrainian refugees as well as sponsors in an effort to provide a centralized online support hub for the myriad of resources available to help our Ukrainian brothers and sisters that are in need. This resource portal is located at <https://sites.google.com/view/archeparchyresourcehub/>. For more questions, contact St. Josaphat Rectory or Holy Ghost Rectory.
9. If you wish to donate to help with the effort in Ukraine, you may do so online via these links: <https://bit.ly/3Dh79UO> (Archeparchy of Philadelphia) or at <https://bit.ly/3CGdI8A> (UUARC) or via check/cash to St. Josaphat or Holy Ghost Church with the notation "Humanitarian Aid for Ukraine."
10. Do not forget your Redner's Receipts for both Holy Ghost and St. Josaphat parishes! Also at Holy Ghost, do not forget that we also have a metal recycling fundraising program as well! For more information on the Redner's Receipts, contact Holy Ghost or St. Josaphat's Rectory.



The Sunday Before Christmas—of the Holy Ancestors (28th Sunday After Pentecost)

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 (2): Great are the deeds performed with faith: three youths rejoiced in the flaming furnace as if they stood in refreshing waters; and Daniel the Prophet faced lions as though they were sheep. Through their prayers, O Christ our God, save our souls.

Kontakion (6): *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and for ever and ever: Amen.* You did not worship a man-made image, O Thrice-blessed Youths, but were glorified in the test of fire, protected by a power beyond description. From the searing flames you cried out to God, saying: Hasten to help us, O merciful Lord, for, in Your greatness, You can do whatever You will.

Prokimenon (4): Blessed are You and praiseworthy, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and glorious forever is Your name.

Verse: In all that You have done Your justice is apparent.

Epistle (Heb 11,9-10;17-23;32-40): Brethren: By faith Abraham sojourned in the promised land as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs of the same promise; for he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and maker is God. By faith Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was ready to offer his only son, of whom it was said, “Through Isaac descendants shall bear your name.” He reasoned that God was able to raise even from the dead, and he received Isaac back as a symbol. By faith regarding things still to come Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau. By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph and “bowed in worship, leaning on the top of his staff.” By faith Joseph, near the end of his life, spoke of the Exodus of the Israelites and gave instructions about his bones. By faith Moses was hidden by his parents for three months

**Неділя Перед Різдом Христовим; Неділя Святих Отців
(27-а Неділя По Зісланні Св. Духа)**

Тропар (3): Нехай веселяться небесні, нехай радуються земляни, бо показав владу рукою Своєю Господь. Він смертю смерть подолав, первістком з поміж мертвих став, визволив нас із глибин аду, і подав світові велику милість.

Тропар (2): Величні діла віри! Три юнаки посеред полум'я раділи, немов на водах відпочинку, а пророк Даниїл, ніби овечкам, появився пастир левам. Їхніми молитвами, Христе Боже, спаси душі наші.

Кондак (6): *Слава Отцю, і Суну, і Святому Духові, і нині, і повсякчас, і на віки вічні. Амінь.* Рукотворному ідолові не поклонившись, але озброївшись неохопним буттям, прехвальні, Ви подвигом вогненним прославилися. Стоячи посеред полум'я нестерпного, Ви призивали Бога: Поспіши, о Щедрий, поспіши, Милосердний, нам на поміч, бо Ти можеш, якщо схочеш.

Прокімен (4): Благословен еси, Господи, Боже батьків наших, і хвали достойний; ім'я Твоє преславне на всі віки.

Стих: Бо Ти праведний у всьому, що вчинив еси нам.

Апостоль (Євр 11,9-10;17-23;32-40): Браття, вірою Авраам перебував у обіцяній землі, як у чужій, живучи у наметах з Ісааком та Яковом, спадкоємцями, як і він, тієї самої обітничі. Бо чекав міста з непохитними основами, якого Бог будівничий і засновник. Вірою Авраам, поставлений на пробу приніс у жертву Ісаака; і то єдинородного приніс у жертву синові, він, що обітничі одержав, до якого було сказано: “Від Ісаака тобі народиться потомство,” думаючи, що Бог має силу і з мертвих воскресити; тому його й одержав назад як символ. Вірою Ісаак благословив Якова та Ісава на майбутнє і поклонився, спираючись на кінець палиці своєї. Вірою Йосиф, вмираючи, загадав про вихід синів Ізраїля і розпорядився про свої кості. Вірою батьки Мойсея, як він народився, три місяці його ховали, бо бачили красу дитини, і не злякалися царського наказу. І що ще скажу? Часу не вистане мені,

after his birth, because they saw that he was a beautiful child, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. What more shall I say? I have not time to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, who by faith conquered kingdoms, did what was righteous, obtained the promises; they closed the mouths of lions, put out raging fires, escaped the devouring sword; out of weakness they were made powerful, became strong in battle, and turned back foreign invaders. Women received back their dead through resurrection. Some were tortured and would not accept deliverance, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others endured mockery, scourging, even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, sawed in two, put to death at sword's point; they went about in skins of sheep or goats, needy, afflicted, tormented. The world was not worthy of them. They wandered about in deserts and on mountains, in caves and in crevices in the earth. Yet all these, though approved because of their faith, did not receive what had been promised. God had foreseen something better for us, so that without us they should not be made perfect.

Alleluia Verse: We heard with our own ears, O God, and our fathers have told us of the things You did in their time.

Verse: You saved us from our foes; You put our enemies to shame.

Gospel (Mt 1,1-25): The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham became the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers. Judah became the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar. Perez became the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, Ram the father of Aminadab, Aminadab became the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab. Boaz became the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth. Obed became the father of Jesse, Jesse the father of David the king. David became the father of Solomon, whose mother had been the wife of Uriah. Solomon became the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asaph. Asaph became the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, Joram the father of Uzziah. Uzziah became the father of Jotham, Jotham the

коли заходжуся розповідати про Гедеона, про Варака, про Самсона, про Єфту, про Давида й Самуїла та пророків, що вірою підбили царства, чинили справедливість, обітниць досягнули, загородили пащі левам, силу вогню гасили, вістря меча уникали, ставали сильні, будши недолугі, на війні проявили мужність, наскоки чужинців відбивали. Жінки діставали назад своїх померлих, які воскресали. Інші загинули в муках, відкинувши визволення, щоб досягнути ліпше воскресіння. Інші наруг і бичів зазнали та ще й кайданів і в'язниці; їх каменовано, розрізувано пилою, брано на допити; вони вмирали, мечем забиті; тинялися в овечих та козячих шкурах, збудовані, гноблені, кривджені; вони, яких світ був невартий, блукали пустинями, горами, печерами та земнями вертепами. І всі вони, дарма що мали добре засвідчення вірою, не одержали обіцяного, бо Бог зберіг нам щось краще, щоб вони не без нас досягли досконалість.

Алилуя Стих: Боже, на наші вуха ми чули, наші батьки нам розповіли.

Стих: Але Ти врятував нас від наших ворогів і засоромив ненависників наших.

Євангелія (Мт 1,1-25): Родовід Ісуса Христа, сина Давида, сина Авраама. Авраам був батьком Ісаака, Ісаак - Якова, Яків - Юди і братів його. Юда був батьком Фареса та Зари від Тамари. Фарес був батьком Есрома, Есром - Арама, Арам - Амінадава, Амінадав - Наасона, Наасон - Салмона, Салмон - Вооза від Рахави, Вооз - Йоведа від Рути, Йовед - Єссей був батьком царя Давида, Давид - Соломона від жінки Урії. Соломон же був батьком Ровоама, Ровоам - Авії, Авія - Асафа, Асаф - Йосафата, Йосафат - Норама, Норам - Озії, Озія - Йоатама, Йоатам - Ахаза, Ахаз - Єзекії, Єзекія - Манасії, Манасія - Амоса, Амос - Йосії, Йосія - Єхонії і братів його за вавилонського переселення. А після вавилонського переселення в Єхонії народився Салатїїл, у Салатїїла - Зоровавел, у Зоровавела - Авїюд, в Авїюда - Еліяким, в Еліякіма - Азор, в Азора - Садок, у Садока - Ахим, в Ахима - Еліюд, в Еліюда - Єлеазар, в Єлеазара - Маттан, у

father of Ahaz, Ahaz the father of Hezekiah. Hezekiah became the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amos, Amos the father of Josiah. Josiah became the father of Jechoniah and his brothers at the time of the Babylonian exile. After the Babylonian exile, Jechoniah became the father of Shealtiel, Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, Zerubbabel the father of Abiud. Abiud became the father of Eliakim, Eliakim the father of Azor, Azor the father of Zadok, Zadok became the father of Achim, Achim the father of Eliud, Eliud the father of Eleazar. Eleazar became the father of Matthan, Matthan the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary. Of her was born Jesus who is called the Messiah. Thus the total number of generations from Abraham to David is fourteen generations; from David to the Babylonian exile, fourteen generations; from the Babylonian exile to the Messiah, fourteen generations. Now this is how the birth of Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. He had no relations with her until she bore a son, and he named him Jesus.

Communion Verse: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest. Exult, you just, in the Lord: praise from the upright is fitting. Alleluia (3x).

Маттана - Яків, у Якова - Йосиф, чоловік Марії, з якої народився Ісус, що зветься Христос. Покоління же всіх було; від Авраама до Давида чотирнадцять, від Давида до вавилонського переселення чотирнадцять і від вавилонського переселення до Христа - покоління чотирнадцять. Народження Ісуса Христа відбулося так: Марія, його мати, була заручена з Йосифом; але, перед тим, як вони зійшлися, виявилось, що вона була вагітна від Святого Духа. Йосиф, її чоловік, буди праведний і не бажавши її ославити, хотів тайкома її відпустити. І от, коли він це задумав, ангел Господній з'явився йому уві сні й мовив: "Йосифе, сину Давида, не бійсь узяти Марію, твою жінку, бо те, що в ній зачалось, походить від Святого Духа. Вона породить сина, і ти даси йому ім'я Ісус, бо він спасе народ свій від гріхів їхніх." А сталося все це, щоб здійснилось Господнє слово, сказане пророком: "Ось, діва матиме в утробі й породить сина, і дадуть йому ім'я Еммануїл, що значить: З нами Бог." Прокинувшись від сну, Йосиф зробив, як звелів йому ангел Господній: прийняв свою жінку; та не спізнав її, аж поки породила сина, і він дав йому ім'я Ісус.

Причасний Стих: Хваліте Господа з небес, хваліте Його на висотах. Радуйтеся праведні, в Господі, правим належить похвала. Алілуя (3р).

Please don't leave this bulletin in the pew or in the trash when you are finished. We encourage you to share this bulletin with your loved ones. Let your family & friends know of the spiritual treasure that God has for all people here at St. Josaphat's, Bethlehem, and at Holy Ghost, West Easton, PA!

The Sunday Before the Nativity of Our Lord
By Very Rev. Fr. David Cochran. Edited for the Bulletin.

Where Is Jesus?

At this time of year, preparations are being made in all Christian churches for the celebration of the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It has been a period of anticipation that began with the first day of the Nativity Fast and will end with the welcoming of the new-born Christ-Child into this world. The question that must be in our minds as we near this miraculous event is this question of the Magi... "Where is He (Jesus)?..." The Wise Men ask this question of Herod because they have come to worship this Child Who has been born the King of the Jews. They have traveled a great distance, perhaps endured hardships along the way, but they are determined to find this Child, to offer their gifts to Him Who is to be King, gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. It is interesting to note that in these few verses of the second chapter of the Gospel of Matthew, we see both the Wise Men and Herod trying to determine where the Christ-Child is to be born, albeit for very different reasons. The Wise Men come with pure hearts and honest intentions to see this miraculous event and to offer gifts that are fitting for this miracle. They bring gold as a gift for a King, as gold is the king of metals. The Wise Men recognized that the Baby Jesus was born to be a King. He was to be King not by force, but by love, He was to rule over our hearts not from an ornate throne or court, but from the plain wood of a cross. They bring frankincense as a gift for a Priest. Frankincense was used as incense in the Jewish temple. The sweet smell of burning frankincense was a reminder of the sacrifices made to God in the temple. In that it burns pure with white smoke, it represents the praises and prayers of the faithful going up to God. The function of a priest is to build a bridge between God and man. Without a doubt, the birth of the Christ-Child is this bridge. The God-man Jesus Christ paves the way for man to once again have a relationship with God, his creator. Finally, myrrh is presented to the Christ-Child, the gift for One Who is to die. Myrrh was used to anoint the body at death before burial. "The noble Joseph took His most pure body down from the tree, anointed it with spices and laid it in a new tomb." Jesus was born that He might die for our sins and open the gates of paradise for all of us. Herod had no gifts at all. His only desire in searching for the place of the birth of the Christ-child was for evil and destruction. He feared the birth of the Christ-child, not because of his sinfulness, but because of his greed. He feared having to give up his rule to Him Who is to be King of the Jews. He did not want to come to worship but to destroy. The results of his intentions are that he never finds the Christ-Child. Even after lying to the Wise Men and trying to trick them into telling him where the Child is, he does not succeed. The Wise Men, in their purity, find that cave in Bethlehem and the joy of life. Herod, in his hatred and fear, finds nothing but the loneliness of death. "Where is He..." should be the question on our lips at this time of year. During this season of the Nativity, are we emulating the Wise Men? Are we searching for the new-born Christ with a pure heart and sincere intention? Are we bringing our own gifts, perhaps gifts of love, kindness, and forgiveness to present to Him? Or do we find ourselves like Herod, knowing the Christ-Child is coming but doing nothing to prepare ourselves to accept Him and the miracle He brings? Do we search for Him at the Nativity only to run from Him the rest of the year? The Nativity of Christ calls us to make our own personal trip to that lowly cave in the city of Bethlehem during the Nativity Fast. For many, this trip will end empty, as it did for Herod. Worldly cares and negative motives will obscure the truth of the birth of Christ. But for those of us who make the trip as the Magi did, we will enter that cave and see with our own eyes the miracle of God becoming man, the miracle of the Virgin Birth, the miracle of salvation and eternal life. On this holy night God gave His Son, the heavens gave a star, the earth gave a cave, humanity gave the Virgin Mary, the Wise Men gave gifts, the angels gave a hymn, the shepherds gave adoration, and we... what will we give? Where will Jesus be for us on that glorious day?



Christmas Suggestions



The best thing to give an enemy is
forgiveness;

To an opponent, Tolerance;
To a Friend, your Ear;

To your child, a good Example;
To a Father, Reverence;

To your Mother, Conduct that will
make her proud of you;

To Yourself, Respect;
And to all, Charity.



by Benjamin Franklin



**WHEN YOU FINALLY REALIZE ANGELS GUIDE
& GUARD YOU WITH THEIR ARRAY.**



Welcome.US

**Sponsor a Ukrainian seeking safety
and refuge in the U.S.**

Welcome.US and its partners
have launched a first-of its-kind
platform designed to help Americans
connect with Ukrainians seeking
refuge.

Start the sponsorship
journey together!
connect.welcome.us.



Christmas 2022 Schedule of Services

NOTE FOR ALL: By the Typikon of our Holy Church, since Christmas falls on a Sunday this year, the strict abstinence for Christmas Eve is transferred to Friday, December 23rd. However, if you wish, you may voluntarily abstain from meat and dairy products on Saturday. Don't forget to come to receive Confession if you haven't made a good Confession recently! Also remember, Christmas is a Holy Day of Obligation for all Catholics of the true faith.



Wednesday, December 21st, 2022:

6:00 pm—the Sacrament of Confession, Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church, West Easton.

Thursday, December 22nd, 2022:

6:00 pm—the Sacrament of Confession, St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, Bethlehem.

Friday, December 23rd, 2022:

9:00 am—Royal Hours, St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, Bethlehem.

6:00 pm—The Sacrament of Confession, St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, Northampton.

Saturday, December 24th, 2022 (Vigil-Eve of Christmas):

8:00 pm—Great Compline (Abridged) with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great, Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church, West Easton.

9:00 pm—Great Compline, Caroling, and Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great, St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, Bethlehem.

Sunday, December 25th, 2022 (Christmas Day):

9:00 am—Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, Bethlehem.

11:00 am—Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church, West Easton.

Monday, December 26th, 2022 (The Synaxis of the God-Bearer, the Blessed Virgin Mary):

9:00 am—Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, Bethlehem.

9:00 am—Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church, West Easton.

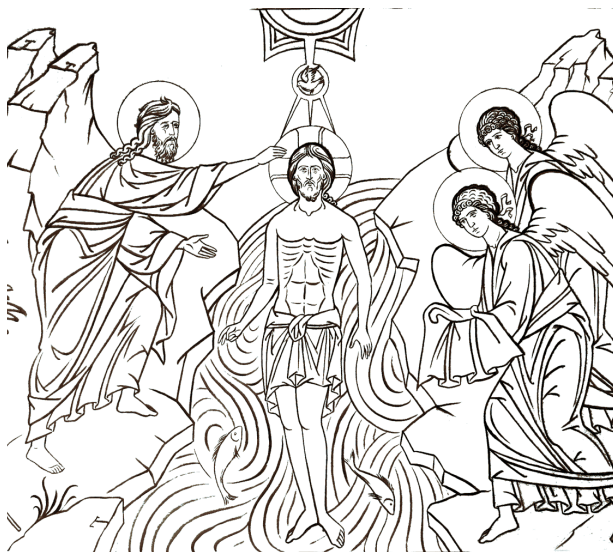
Tuesday, December 27th, 2022 (The Feast of St. Stephen, the Protomartyr and Protodeacon):

9:00 am—Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, Bethlehem.

9:00 am—Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church, West Easton.

2023 Theophany/Jordan Home Blessings

Father Paul and Father Yaroslav will be planning to bless homes for the 2023 New Year for both Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church and for St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church. It is a tradition in our Church to have our homes blessed with the water sanctified at the Feast of Theophany. We will be scheduling home blessings for both parishes on a "first-come, first-served" basis and will try to best accommodate your schedule. When Father comes to bless your home, please be sure to tell him if this is the first time your home is blessed or not; also tell him which rooms you specifically want him to bless. Also have some holy water and a lit candle ready; Father Paul or Father Yaroslav will take care of the rest. If you want your home blessed this year, please fill out the form below and place in the collection basket; you may also email (for St. Josaphat parishioners) pastor@stjosaphatbethlehem.org or (for Holy Ghost parishioners) pastor@holyghostucc.com.



_____ **Clip Here** _____

Father Paul/Father Yaroslav:

I (we) would like you to come and bless my (our) home this new year during the Theophany (Jordan) season.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

EMAIL: _____

Please list best days/times that work for you here:

Either Father Paul or Father Yaroslav will contact you to confirm availability before coming to visit. Thank you and God bless!

2023 Envelopes

Every married couple or single person 18 years old and over are to be registered in the parish roster and receive envelopes. Your sacrifices to support your parish indicate your willingness to be continued as a member of your church at St. Josaphat's, Bethlehem, or at Holy Ghost, West Easton, and is also demonstrative of your faith and witness to be part of the Body of Christ that comprises our local churches. The neglect of regular church attendance and regular use of envelopes can lead to serious difficulties with regard to Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, etc. (not to mention Judgment Day when we appear before our Lord to account for our lives!). In other words, to be considered a full participating member and to have a say in the governance of your parish, whether St. Josaphat's or Holy Ghost, REGULAR CHURCH ATTENDANCE AND USE OF THE 2023 ENVELOPES IS REQUIRED. If you are ill, aged, or homebound, and cannot come to church, please let Father Paul or Father Yaroslav know right away and arrangements will be made to accommodate you (NOTE: if you are on our sick call roster or are on our bulletin mailing/visitation list, please disregard this notice as you are already a member and are in our care and prayers).

If you have not received envelopes last year in 2022, or are not a member but would like to become a member at St. Josaphat's, Bethlehem, or at Holy Ghost, West Easton, kindly fill out the following below, and drop in the collection basket at your convenience:

_____ **Clip Here** _____

Check one:

_____ I did not receive envelopes in 2022. Please include me in the membership list for 2023.

_____ I did receive envelopes for 2019 but failed to use them; please issue envelopes and include me on the membership roster for 2023.

Please enroll me and issue envelopes for (Check one):

_____ St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, Bethlehem, PA

_____ Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church, West Easton, PA

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

EMAIL: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church
"Where Faith and Tradition Meet"

1826 Kenmore Avenue
Bethlehem, PA 18018

Main (normal business): (610) 865-2521
For emergencies, call: (215) 300-9147
E-Mail: pastor@stjosaphatbethlehem.org
Website: www.stjosaphatbethlehem.org

Rev. Paul J. Makar, Pastor
Mrs. Carol Hanych, Cantor
Ms. Kimberly McGowan, Parish Secretary

Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church

315 Fourth Street
West Easton, PA 18042
Main (normal business): (610) 252-4266
For emergencies, call: (267) 597-5770
E-Mail: pastor@holyghostucc.com
Website: www.holyghostucc.com

Rev. Paul J. Makar, Administrator
Rev. Yaroslav Lukavenko, Parochial Vicar
Mr. Ted Veresink, Cantor/Cemetery Administrator
Mr. Ihor Mirchuk, Cantor
Mrs. Ann Bogari, Parish Secretary

For Food Sales/Info.: foodsales@holyghostucc.com

Glory to Jesus Christ! Слава Ісусу Христу!

We welcome you to our parish family and invite you to worship with us in a most ancient Church of the Christian East. We are happy to have you with us, and we are honored to share our Ukrainian Catholic tradition of prayer and spirituality with you, your family, and your friends. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to bring them to Father Paul or one of our parishioners. Our doors and our hearts are open to you. May God's blessings be with you always!

The Story of the Origin of Jesus Christ, Son of David, and the Rest of the Names

Matthew's genealogy is extraordinarily comprehensive in his theology of the roots of Jesus' story in the Old Testament. But that is only one part of the story of Jesus Christ. The story has a sequence as well; and the continuing sequence is what makes the genealogy "good news" for Matthew's audience and for us. Human being have been empowered to preserve, proclaim, and convey the salvation brought by Jesus Christ throughout history. The God who wrote the beginnings with crooked lines also writes the sequence with crooked lines, and some of those lines are our own lives and witness.

A God who did not hesitate to use the scheming as well as the noble, the impure as well as the pure, men to whom the world hearkened and women upon whom the world frowned – this God continues to work through the same melange. If it was a challenge to recognize in the last part of

Matthew's genealogy that totally unknown people were part of the story of Jesus Christ, it may be a greater challenge to recognize that the unknown characters of today are an essential part of the sequence. The proclamation of that genealogy in the Advent liturgy is designed to give us hope about our destiny and our importance.

By stressing the all-powerful grace of God, the genealogy presents its greatest challenge to those who will accept only an idealized Jesus Christ whose story they would write only with straight lines and whose portrait they would paint only in pastel colors. If we look at the whole story and the total picture, the Gospels teach us that Jesus' ministry was not thus; the history of the church teaches us that the sequence as not thus. God's grace can work even with people like us.

Father Raymond E. Brown, S.S.