

November 19, 2023 / T one 8

25th Sunday After Pentecost

Christ is Among Us! He is and Always Shall Be!



### Annual OLPH Angel Tree is Here!!

Dear Parish Family, in the spirit of St Nicholas let's open up our hearts again this Christmas season and participate in our annual Angel Tree. The display will be set up on November 15. We will then have through St. Nicholas Sunday December 10th to donate before the gifts are presented to St. Nicholas! The Angel Tree display has two boxes—one for the orphanage and one for the seminarians. This year we are excited to collect monetary donations for the Korolevo orphanage in Ukraine. If you wish to donate to the orphanage, please make checks payable to the Mission Society with a note at the bottom.

We are collecting Amazon gift cards for the 10 seminarians at the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS Cyril and Methodius, where our beloved Deacon Thomas is diligently studying. We would like these Amazon gift cards to be in denominations of \$10 and \$25 (\$25 is about what it costs for our seminarians to buy a book). These gift cards can be found at Smith's grocery stores (either in store or on-line), Wal-Mart, Albertsons and anywhere other gift cards are sold. We are also collecting Christmas cards and notes of encouragement for the seminarians. If you want to specifically address a card to Deacon Thomas, simply put his name on the front of the envelope. Please prayerfully consider helping St. Nicholas spread joy this Christmas season.

**Holy Protection of Mary Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix  
Most Reverend Kurt Burnette Apostolic Administrator**

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Byzantine Catholic Church  
1837 Alvarado Dr. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110 Parish office: (505) 256-1539  
www.olphnm.org**

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday—Friday 10:00 am—4:00 pm  
Thursday OFF

**THEOSIS:** 2nd & 4th Thursday  
Bible Study 6:45 pm / Zoom

**Advisory Board**

Fr. Chris Zugger, Dan Riley, Rafael Plut,  
Jeff Brewer, Michael Grega, Alicia Wells

**Finance Council**

Matthew Blain, Maria Alden

**Father Artur Bubnevych, Pastor  
Rectory (505) 268-2877  
abbaolph@gmail.com**

**Father Deacon Thomas Donlin  
donlin.thomas@gmail.com**

**Father Christopher Zugger  
pastor emeritus  
(505) 256-1787**

**Frchris.zugger@gmail.com  
www.frchriszugger.com**

**Father Tyler Strand  
(516) 661-0883  
tylerastrand@yahoo.co.uk**

**Confession (Mystery of  
Reconciliation):**

9:00—10:00 am on Sundays, before or  
after weekday Liturgies, or by appoint-  
ment with Father

**Mysteries of Baptism/Chrismation/  
Eucharist:**

Must be arranged three months in  
advance.  
(Pre-Jordan requirement)

**Mystery of Crowning:**

Must be arranged six months in  
advance  
(Pre-Cana requirement)

**Sick and Shut-Ins:** It is the family's  
responsibility to notify the parish office  
when a parishioner is in the hospital or  
confined to home because of sickness or  
old age. Father will bring the confined  
person the Holy Mysteries on a regular  
basis. It is recommended that one re-  
ceive the Anointing of the Sick before any  
major surgery. Please don't let the priest  
be last to know that someone is ill!

May the Lord Bless your kindness and  
generosity to His House!

**ONLINE GIVING / ONLINE TITHING**

is available on our website:

For those parishioners who can't attend in person or  
traveling or anyone who find this more convenient,  
we just set up a new way to tithe online using your  
credit card or debit card information. You can do a  
one-time donation or setup weekly donations!! You  
will receive a receipt and statement immediately after  
donating. The software takes a very small percent-  
age of the donation, but its worth it for the ease of  
the system. You can donate using your computer /  
smartphone at: [ps://www.olphnm.org/giving](https://www.olphnm.org/giving).

**Welcome to our Church! If you are looking for a spiritual home, contact Father Artur/Fr Chris or the office staff for more information. God bless you!**

***Ephesians 4:1-6; Luke 12:16-21***

**YouTube Live**

**ECF Classes**

8:30 am Rosary 9:00 am Festal Matins & Confessions  
10:00 am Divine Liturgy for Parish Family, Benefactors & Friends  
Eternal Lamp: Holy Protection of the Mother of God over People of Ukraine

**Nov 20 Mon**

***Gregory the Decapolite Venerable / 1 Tom 1:1-7; Lk 17:20-25***



6:00 pm Vigil Liturgy / +Lori Medina (40th day commemoration) by Pam Pettit

**Nov 21 Tue**

***Entrance of the Theotokos / Solemn Holy Day***  
***Heb 9:1-7; Lk 10:38-42 & 11:27-28***

9:00 am Pro-Life Liturgy by Svenssons  
6:00 pm CAFÉ at UNM

**Nov 22 Wed**

***Philemon and Others Apostles***  
***1 Tim 1:18-20 & 2:8-15; Lk 18:15-17 & 26-30***



6:00 pm Birthday Blessing on Fr Chris by Svenssons

**Nov 23 Thu**

***Thanksgiving Day / Amphilochius and Gregory Bishops***  
***1 Tim 3:1-13; Lk 18:31-34***

9:00 am Thanksgiving Liturgy /God's Blessing on Bishop Robert Pipta

**Nov 24 Fri**

***Catherine Great Martyr / 1 Tim 4:4-8 & 16; Lk 19:12-28***



NO LITURGY

**Nov 25 Sat**

***Clement and Peter / Pope and Bishop***

9:00 am (masks required) +Melba Chavez

**Nov 26 Sun**

***26th Sunday After Pentecost / Eph 5:9-19; Lk 13:10-17***

4:00 pm Great Vespers / YouTube LIVE  
Hebrew Scriptures for Sunday: Genesis 3:1-19; Isaiah 7:10-17; Isaiah 8:1-4; 9:1-2  
5:00 pm God's Blessing on Sven & Barbara on their  
34th Wedding Anniversary by Svenssons

**YouTube LIVE**

8:30 am Rosary

**ECF classes**

9:00 am Matins & Confessions  
10:00 am Divine Liturgy for Parish Family, Benefactors & Friends  
5:30 PM Ask A Priest

**YOUTUBE LIVE-STREAMING:** OLPH Sunday / Holy Day Liturgies are available on YouTube. The link is <https://youtube.com/c/olphmedia>. Please click the "Subscribe" button to make it easier for you to find the channel in the future. Please, send your feedback about the quality of the live stream / comments / suggestions to Dan Riley: [riley.dan@gmail.com](mailto:riley.dan@gmail.com)

### **Remember Those Who Request Our Prayers:**

Physician and Help of Those in sickness, Redeemer and Savior of the infirm; O Master and Lord of all, grant healing to your servants. Be clement, show mercy to those who have sinned much, and deliver them, O Christ, from their Iniquities, that they may glorify your might divine

Sharif Rabadi	Buster Miscusi	Paola Terlaza
Jenny Ford	Barbara De Lap	Ruth Sousa
Marilyn Fore	Irene Bradley	Linda Granci
Sven & Barbara	Sorilah Chavez	Vicki Frank
Svensson	Abraham Haddad	Christopher Barlow
Laurie Bienz	Marianne Gerace	Jordan Smith
Brent Dodson-	Michael Baron	Janet Worthington
Sands	Gabriel Preisler	Patti Klinkovsky
Lara Davis	Jessica Pieniadz	Matt Williamson
Carol Donlin	Rhonda	James Epstein
Marcie Dark	Glasscock	Katy Ford
Jesse Hebert	Amber Roybal	Alton & Barbara
Fr Chris Zugger	Philip Leahy	Bertschinger
Fr Chris Andrews	Juanita Montoya	
Fr Robert Rankin	Jacob McTernan	
Fr. Steve Washko		

### **Intentions of the Rosary:**

- 1st Decade: Help for persecuted Catholics, especially in communist and Islamic states
- 2nd Decade: Spiritual and physical growth of our parish and the Byzantine Catholic Church
- 3rd Decade: Increase in vocations to priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life to serve the Byzantine Catholic Church
- 4th Decade: Repose of the souls who have no one praying for them
- 5th Decade: Healing of the sick in body, mind and soul

### **Holy Father's Intentions November**

For the Pope

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

"...Tonight your soul is demanded of you." We are not our own, and this is equally true of the blessings in our lives. Jesus speaks sternly of the need to understand this so that we can be "rich toward God". If you are blessed with the richness of a calling from God to be a priest, deacon, subdeacon, monk or nun, will you answer it with the same yes that we see in the saints? To learn more, contact the Vocations Office at 206-329-9219 or email: [vocations@ephx.org](mailto:vocations@ephx.org)



Vocation Icon

Today: Talamante Family  
Next Sunday:  
Talamante Family

## November 26, 2023

Cantor: Andrea Riley  
Reader: Michael Wells  
Altar Server: Michael Grega  
Trojca: Eva Riley  
Counters: Laura Serna &  
Michael Wells

### Propers for 11/26/23

26th Sunday after Pentecost  
Tone 1  
Troparion- 125  
*v. Glory...*  
Kontakion - 126  
*v. Now & Ever...*  
Theotokion - 406  
Prokeimenon & Alleluia - 127  
Our Father - 66

### The OLPH Prayer Warriors

make intercessory prayer a daily commitment. We pray voluntarily and without bias; that is, we take to the Blessed Trinity the requests that come our way.

The Prayer Warriors meet on Zoom every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. for themed meetings. If you would like to join the Prayer Warriors, would like additional information, and/or would like for us to pray for your intentions, please contact Patricia at [pcb@unm.edu](mailto:pcb@unm.edu)

### Alicia's Hall Report

Thanks to all who brought beans, chips, toppings and chips for Corn Chip pie and helped set up and clean up! Next Sunday, bring your Thanksgiving leftovers to share. Have a blessed Thanksgiving everyone! We are so blessed to have our beautiful community here at OLPH. Thanks be to God for each and every one of you & God bless us all!

## Coming Events—Mark Your Calendars Now

Wed Dec 6	<b>Nicholas of Myra Archbishop Solemn Holy Day</b> 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy
Fri Dec 8	<b>Maternity of the Holy Anna Solemn Holy Day</b> 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy
Tue Dec 12	<b>Advisory Board Meeting</b> 6:00 pm
Fri & Sat Dec 15 & 16	<b>Women's Day of Reflection</b>
Fri Dec 22 Strict Fast	9:00 am Royal Hours 7:00 pm Great Compline
Mon Dec 25	<b>Christmas-Birth of Our Lord Holy Day of Obligation</b> 9:00 am Matins 10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Tue Dec 26,	<b>Synaxis of the Theotokos Solemn Holy Day</b> 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy
Wed Dec 27	<b>Stephen Protomartyr Simple Holy Day</b> 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy
Mon Jan 1 2024	<b>Circumcision / Solemn Holy Day</b> 10:00 am Divine Liturgy of St Basil / Blessing of Litija / Myrovanije
Fri Jan 5 Day of Strict Fast	<b>Vigil of Theophany</b> Noon— carpool to Rio Grande (parking lot of the National Hispanic Cultural Center on Avenida Chavez) Procession to the River 1:00pm Great Vespers with the Great Blessing of the Rio Grande
Sat Jan 6	<b>Theophany of Our Lord Holy Day of Obligation</b> 9:00 am Divine Liturgy of St. Basil Great Blessing of Water / Myrovanije
Mon Jan 29 Tue Jan 30	<b>Three Holy Hierarchs / Simple Holy Day</b> 6:00 pm Vigil Liturgy 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
Fri Feb 2	<b>Meeting of Our Lord with Simeon and Anna / Solemn Holy Day</b> 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy Blessing of Candles / Myrovanije
Sat Feb 3	<b>1st All Souls Saturday</b> 9:00 am Divine Liturgy / Panachida
Mon Feb 12	<b>First Day of the Great Fast</b>

**Dear ladies of OLPH**, you are cordially invited to join us at the Norbertine Abbey on December 15-16, 2023 for our annual day of reflection. This year our reflection will be led by Susanna Van Vickle, mother of five, a Catholic school teacher, and former lay missionary of Family Missions company from Dallas, Texas. You may opt for an overnight (in a single or double room) or just join us for the day program on Saturday, December 16. Come reflect on the JOY of Jesus as we prepare to celebrate His birth! Registration/Information brochures are available online or in the back of the church. Please see Evie Jilek or Cathy Sullivan for more information.

**The day of reflection is coming soon!**  
**Please turn in your registration no later than November 30th.**

**Byzantine Wall Calendars for 2024 are now available on a greeting table by the Holy Water font**

**Please, sign up TODAY for the Traveling Pilgrim Vocation Icon in 2024.**

Dear Parish Family, the Love of Christ presses us to respond generously to God's call in our lives. We are all called to pray for vocations to Sainly Christian Marriage, to the Priesthood, the Diaconate and the Religious Life. Prayer is an invisible but essential ministry in the Church. This is an important way to be involved in vocation ministry. Sign up to have the Pilgrim Vocation Icon in your home. You will be greatly blessed.

The **MISSION SOCIETY** is pleased to present our beautiful *NEW* 2023 Christmas card with the icon of the **Mother of God of Igor or Igorevskaya**. It takes its name from the Ukrainian prince Igor Olegovich. He was surprised by guards that kidnapped & jailed him. Before facing death, he prayed before the icon. The icon is once again the work of Iconographer Britta Prinzivalli. [brittworks.com](http://brittworks.com) 100% of your card purchases & donations go to "**UKRAINE RELIEF**". The eparchy (diocese) of Mukachevo continues to serve thousands of refugees displaced by the fighting in the south and east who have sought food & shelter in the Transcarpathian Oblast of Ukraine.

Your Christmas card purchases & donations helps refugees with basic needs.

**A packet of 5 cards sells for \$10** including envelopes. Each packet of cards includes a prayer list. Fill out the slip with the names of the recipients and return by mail or drop them by the parish office no later than Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. This gives us time to scan and e-mail them to Ukraine. Bishop Nil will place all these names on the altar at Holy Cross Cathedral in Ukraine & pray for your intentions at the Divine Liturgy on Christmas Day. *In July 2023, Ukraine passed legislation moving its official Christmas holiday to December 25, further distancing itself from the traditions of the Putin-aligned Russian Orthodox Church, which celebrates the holiday on January 7.* Check out our website to see pictures of Bishop Nil praying for you & your loved ones during last Christmas & Easter liturgies!

To donate or learn more visit our **website** at [missionboronyavo.org](http://missionboronyavo.org)

### **Safe Environment:**

The Eparchy, within all its parishes, institutions, and programs, is committed to assuring a Safe Environment in ministry for its children and vulnerable adults that conforms to the USCCB Charter for

the Protection of Children and Young People. For additional information regarding the eparchial Safe Environment Program or to report any concerns, please contact:

**Subdeacon Paul Kilroy, Safe Environment Coordinator**

**Cell:** (480) 745-0316 -- **Office:** (602) 861-9778 ext. 204 -- **Email:** [sbdcnkilroy@ephx.org](mailto:sbdcnkilroy@ephx.org)

**Nativity Fast**, also known as Philip's Fast, is a 40-day period before Christmas dedicated to preparing for the arrival of the Messiah. It starts on November 15th, following St. Philip's feast, and lasts until December 24th. This period involves fasting, prayer, reading Scripture, increased attendance at church liturgical services, and participating in the holy mystery of penance (confession) in order to help us fully comprehend the significance of Christ's coming.

The Church has traditionally emphasized four ways to practice self-denial as Christians, regardless of our life circumstances. These include prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and love. By actively incorporating these disciplines during the fast, we align ourselves more closely with Christ as we celebrate the joy of His Nativity. Here are some suggestions for applying these four forms of self-denial during the Nativity fast.

**Prayer:** Allocate 15 minutes in the morning and evening daily for prayer. Use the Jesus Prayer, "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner." Place a Nativity icon in your designated prayer area and spend 10 minutes each day reflecting on the redemptive aspects of Christ's Birth. Seek the Mystery of Repentance (Confession) at least once during the fast.

**Fasting:** Abstain from meat on Wednesdays and Fridays at the least. Fast from certain foods, such as soda, alcoholic beverages or candy. With each meal, eat only an amount that is sufficient for nutritional needs, without feeling full. Fast from select forms of entertainment (television, movies, radio, internet, novels, etc.). See below for customary fasting options.\*

**Almsgiving:** Contribute to a parish outreach or charity by giving your time, talent, or treasure. Increase your stewardship to the church during this season. Declutter your home and donate excess items to those in need. Buy gifts for homeless or underprivileged children and families.

**Love:** Reflect on the Ten Commandments or Beatitudes and practice one or two each week. Evaluate your actions each night, seeking forgiveness from God and others. Share your faith with others. Commit to a modest fast, abstaining from meat on Wednesdays and Fridays, engaging in devotions, and reading Scripture to prepare for the Nativity of Christ.

\*During this fast it was custom to observe a strict abstinence on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and a lesser abstinence (mitigation for wine and oil) on Tuesday and Thursday. The fast is observed more strictly from December 10 (in some traditions) or from December 20 (in other traditions), with daily strict abstinence, and a mitigated abstinence (wine and oil) on Saturday and Sunday (cf. the Great Fast and the Dormition Fast). The Ruthenian Metropolia has identified this period as a penitential season. This fast may be observed voluntarily, partially or in its entirety (*From the Typicon of the Metropolia of Pittsburgh*)

**What is the difference between fasting and abstinence:** Fasting does not just include abstinence from certain foods. "Fasting" is the length of time we do without eating food while "abstinence" is the type of food(s) we do without eating. Most people say the word "fasting" when they mean to say "abstinence." So "fasting" is an umbrella term to include "abstinence" and/or "fasting". Beyond food, fasting might include abstaining from certain activities in order to make more room for prayer and God. Let's reflect on how we are "preparing the way of the Lord" (Matthew 3:3) for the remainder of this fast which concludes on the Holy Supper December 24.

### **The Jesse Tree - A Family Guide through the season of Advent and Philipovka" available in the Gift Shop !!!**

With daily Scripture readings, prayers and crafts lovingly compiled over a decade and a half, Lynne Wardach has put together an amazing spiritual and fun way for busy Byzantine Catholic families to commemorate Advent and prepare for the holy feast of Christmas. The Jesse Tree draws from the rich Byzantine tradition and unfolds over the season of Philipovka or Philip's fast that begins on November 15th. This mini tour of salvation history is easily adaptable to any calendar or hectic family schedule. With 40 themes and symbols to choose from—about twice the number of most Jesse tree guides—this book is not only a complete devotion in itself but also an excellent template for starting your own family Advent traditions right away. Each theme features representative icons and the ornaments that Lynne's children made during what she calls "the busiest, craziest, messiest, and most emotional" but happiest time of life.

A complete craft supply list is also provided in the appendix.

**The Presentation of the Theotokos into the Temple**, also called *The Entrance of Our Lady into the Temple*, is one of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Byzantine Rite, celebrated on November 21.

The earliest source of this feast is the non-canonical Protoevangelium of James, also called the *Infancy Gospel of James*, composed in Syria around 150 AD. This “gospel” is a mix of some facts from Matthew and Luke, but includes fanciful stories, in which the author basically writes what he thought should have happened. The point of the stories is to emphasize Jesus’ divinity, the celibacy of Joseph and Mary, and Mary’s perpetual virginity against various heretical movements that denied all of these.

In this legendary story, Mary was solemnly received in the Temple by the priest Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist. She was supposedly led inside, accompanied by virgins, to live inside the Holy of Holies, to prepare her to become the living sanctuary of God when she would conceive the Divine Child. She was fed only with bread by the angels, until the age of twelve when she was betrothed to Joseph, who was an old man.

This so-called gospel was written with scant knowledge of Judaism and its practices, as a little girl would never have been admitted into the Holy of Holies. Only the High Priest went in, and only once a year. So why commemorate liturgically something which we know, through biblical archaeology and Jewish studies, to have never taken place? Here is the primary meaning: the symbolism of today links the Holy-of-Holies in the Temple with the womb of Mary which will become the living chamber of the Most High God. Also, it emphasizes the specialness of Mary as a person: she is indeed an all-pure and all-holy virgin. Finally, living on bread brought by angels obviously prefigures the Holy Eucharist, the Angelic Bread, the *Panis Angelicus*. There were some women associated with the Temple, like Anna the prophetess, but they were not virgins, and certainly not little children.

Greek Catholic priests in Slovakia give children a special blessing at the church on this feast day. The prayer used is from the Book of Numbers, chapter 6, vv. 24-26, the blessing which God tells Aaron and his successor priests to use on children. Thus, this is one of the most ancient rituals done from the Bible, and it finds a comfortable home in our Byzantine Catholic Church which is filled with Scripture and rites which are often rooted in Judaism. The fact that the giving of this blessing is restricted to only priests – and not parents - continues the Jewish tradition of it being a part of the Temple ritual celebrated by the priests. At the Ambon Prayer of the Liturgy, the priest reads this biblical blessing from the Book of Numbers, chapter 6, vv. 24-26, and blesses the children with holy water.

**When was the first Thanksgiving in the United States?** The very first one was in Saint Augustine, Florida, in 1565, when the colonists held a Mass of Thanksgiving and meal after their arrival. The second one was held by Spanish explorer Juan de Oñate, who had a solemn service of thanksgiving with a Sung Mass and huge feast for the 500 colonists headed to New Mexico. This was held on April 30, 1598, on the banks of the Rio Grande in Texas. This is reenacted annually in El Paso. The Catholic Spanish colonists made a point of beginning their expeditions “in the Name of the heavenly Lord, God Almighty” and to “defend and propagate the Holy Catholic Faith.” They always marked the founding of a new settlement with the offering of the Holy Mass, as every colonial expedition was accompanied by Franciscan priests, who were supported by the royal family.

The English colonists in Jamestown held services of thanksgiving in 1607 in their Anglican chapel. Annual observance of Thanksgiving began in Connecticut in 1639 and Massachusetts in 1660. The entire United States began a national observance in November in 1863, by President Abraham Lincoln. It was settled on the fourth Thursday in 1941.

