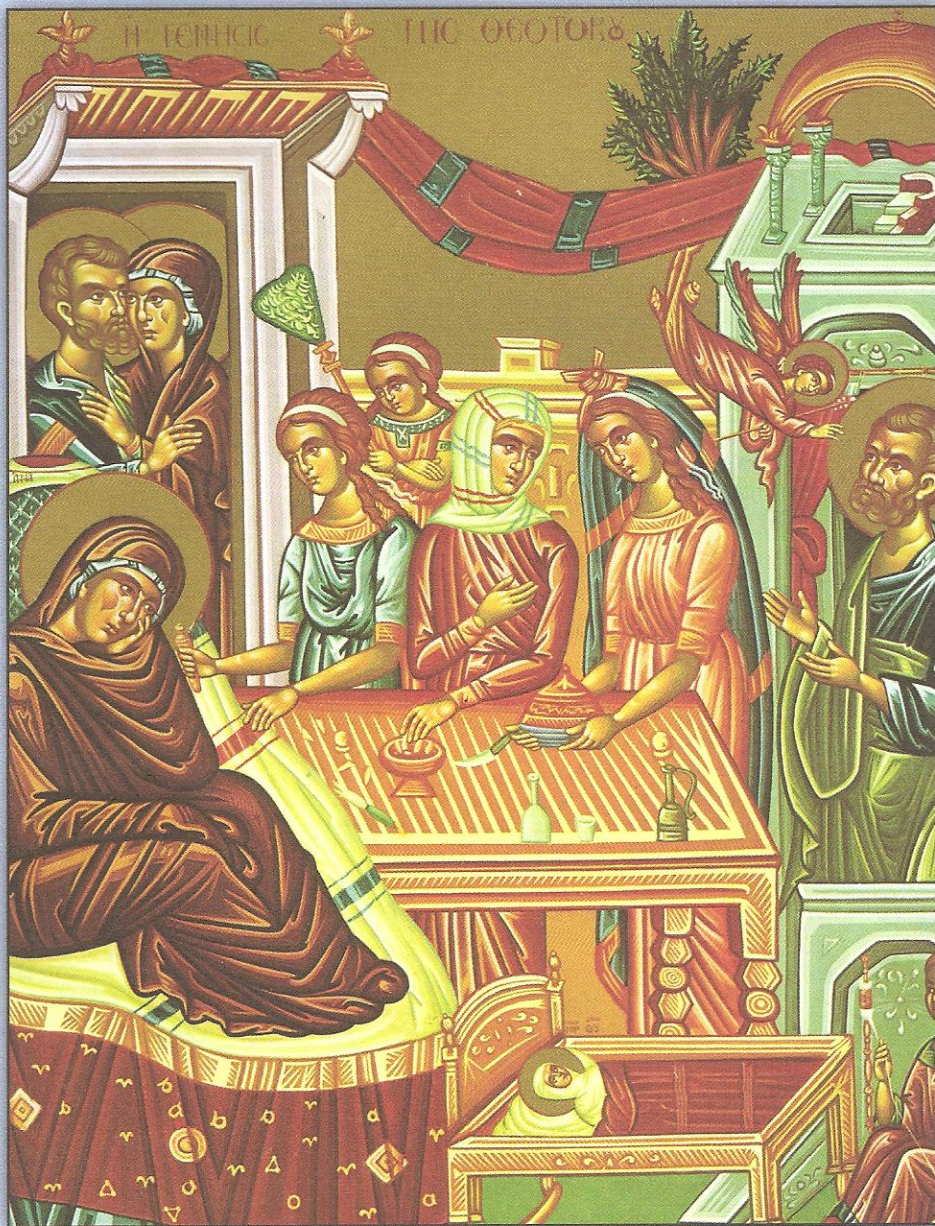


SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS  
FEAST OF THE BIRTH OF THE THEOTOKOS



*Icon of the Nativity of the Theotokos -- September 8th*

### *Hail Theotokos!*

We shall never cease to hymn to you as one should, O Theotokos, and say: Hail, O Bride and Maiden ever-pure!

Hail, O you, through whom Joy will shine forth!  
Hail, O you, through whom the curse will disappear!

Hail, O Restoration of the Fallen Adam!

Hail, O Redemption of the Tears of Eve!

Hail, O Peak above the reach of human thought!

Hail, O Depth even beyond the sight of angels!

Hail, O you who have become a Kingly Throne!

Hail, O you who carry Him Who Carries All!

Hail, O Star who manifest the Sun!

Hail, O Womb of the Divine Incarnation!

Hail, O you through whom creation is renewed!

Hail, O you through whom the Creator becomes a Babe!

Hail, O Bride and Maiden ever-pure!

And why do we cry, "Alleluia?"

Hail, O hidden Sense of the Ineffable Plan!

Hail, O Belief in Silence That Must Be!

Hail, O Forecast of the Marvels of Christ!

Hail, O Fountainhead of truths concerning Him!

Hail, Celestial Ladder, by whom God came down!

Hail, O Bridge leading earthly ones to heaven!

Hail, O Wonder, ever-thrilling to the angels!

Hail, O Wound, ever-hurting to the demons!

Hail, O you who gave birth to Light ineffably!

Hail, O you who told no one how it was done!

Hail, O you who surpass the wisdom of the wise!

Hail, O you who enlighten faithful minds!

Hail, O Bride and Maiden ever-pure!

*From the Akathist to the Theotokos*

Rev. Dr. Ronald Popivchak  
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"Glory to Jesus Christ!"  
"Slava Isusoo Khristoo!"

Sep. 8, 2013  
Mary's Nativity

WE CELEBRATE TODAY the Birth or Nativity of Mary, the Mother of God (Theotokos) as a major holyday in our Church. This Feastday marks the start of Salvation History, as Mary's Birth begins the cycle of her life leading up to the birth of Jesus Christ and His salvific life, death and resurrection. So today is a glorious feastday, as we sing out our hymns of praise to Mary and anoint all the Faithful.

THE PARISH AUXILIARY will serve a catered wedding reception next Saturday, Sep. 14 from 4-9 pm. We will need a lot of help next Friday morning and Saturday afternoon for this large gathering, so please come and help us serve our neighbors and friends. PLEASE!

ONE OF THE SHINING JEWELS of our Parish is our Sunday School. Our parish policy is that every child, from Preschool through highschool, must attend this program on Sunday at 10 am. Registration of all students is set for Sunday, Sep. 22 at 10 am. First formal classes will begin Sunday, Sep. 29 at 10 am. All the School Catechists and Staff will meet at the Rectory on Wednesday, Sep. 11 at 6:30 pm to prepare for the New School Year.

OUR ANNUAL HOMECOMING and Family Week is all set for Saturday evening and Sunday morning, Sep. 21-22, when we will welcome back all our dear Faithful from the long summer vacation at the shore or mountains. We will have a mini-picnic after the Divine Liturgy with food and drinks for all to enjoy. We ask the good men of St. John Society to attend the 9 am Liturgy on Sunday, the 22, in good numbers to sing the liturgical responses. Be with us on Homecoming to come home to the Lord!

THE FEASTDAY of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Sep. 14) will be celebrated next weekend in our parish. This holyday marks the discovery of the True Cross of Christ by St. Helen, the mother of Emperor Constantine the Great, in Jerusalem in the early 4th century. We will all bow down in veneration next weekend after the Liturgy.

WE SANG THE FUNERAL PRAYERS on Wednesday for +Ingrid Cook, 81, the wife of Bill Cook, Plymouth Meeting, PA; on Friday for +Michael Popowicz, husband of the late Carol and son of the late Mike and Mary Popowicz. May our Lord now take +Ingrid and Michael home to Heaven!

DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, 6 pm For all the Faithful  
Sunday, 9 am +Olenka (Mother Irena and Brother Yurij)  
Thursday, 7 am +Wasył Maruszczak (Son William)  
Friday, 7 am +Ann Snyder (Luke Kusek Jr.)  
Saturday, 8 am +Lubomyr Trycieckyj (The Kondrat Family)  
Saturday, 6 pm For all the Faithful  
Sunday, 9 am +Alexander Cheipesh (Anna and Luba Haney)

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NATIVITY TROPAR: O Virgin Mother of God, your nativity announced joy to all the world, for from you has shone forth the Sun of Justice, Christ our God. He abolished the curse and blessed us all. He destroyed death and gave us all life eternal.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER AND THE...

NATIVITY KONTAK: O Most Pure One Mary, your parents Joachim and Anna were freed from childlessness. Adam and Eve were freed from death by your holy birth. All the Faithful cry out to you: "The sterile one gives birth to the Mother of God, who will bear the Son of God, Jesus Christ Our Lord."

NATIVITY PROKIMEN: My soul glorifies the Lord, as my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, Amen.

*R. Donald*