

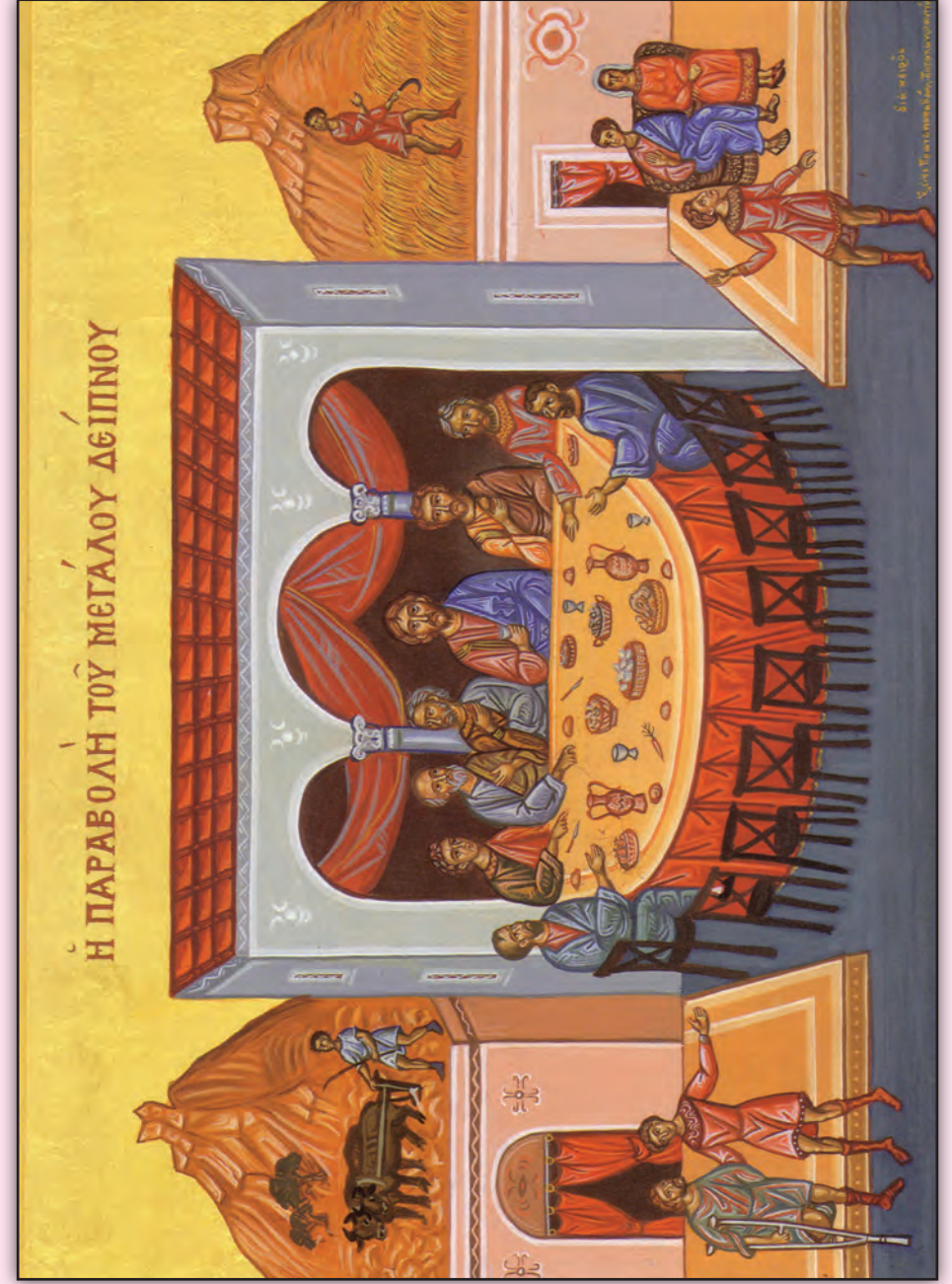
The Great Feast

This familiar parable is read in the Church each year just two Sundays before the feast of our Lord's Nativity. In it we are reminded of the great care with which God prepared the way of His incarnation. All of the Law and the Prophets look forward to this moment, the moment when the God-man Jesus Christ comes into the world. He is, in fact, the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets – the goal towards which they were all aiming. The whole world was prepared by them for this great event. As the parable tells us the King – that is God – has prepared a great feast for us and has invited us to come and enter into the joy that He has prepared for us.

Today we begin in earnest to move toward the

feast of the birth of our Incarnate Savior Jesus Christ. Today we are called to see the great preparation that has gone into this event, to marvel at the great love and care of God for us that He would labor so long and with such great care for us. Today we look back at the whole of the history of the people of God and see that it is the history of God's preparation all leading to the moment when He would take flesh, become incarnate and enter the world as a child. We have been given an invitation to come and join the feast, to abandon the world and enter the Kingdom of God, to leave our own life and receive instead the Life of Christ. We have been invited, chosen by God – will we then accept the invitation and choose Him?

SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS



Icon of the Parable of the Great Feast (Luke 14:16-24)

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE HOLY FAMILY

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IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY PLEASE CALL: 202-262-5040

Pastoral Care entrusted to:

Father Robert Hitchens – Administrator

Father Mykola Dziurakh – Parochial Vicar

Sunday – December 15, 2024

Glory to Jesus Christ – Glory to Him Forever + Слава Ісусу Христу – Слава на віки

Confessions are available before the Divine Liturgies

All Services will be Live Streamed at 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM

Platform: <https://www.facebook.com/holyfamilyshrine/>

Saturday December 14 5:30 p.m.	Great Vespers
Sunday December 15 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Sunday of the Forefathers (+Kateryna, +Mykola, +Mariya from Mariya Lupiy) (For the Parish)
Wednesday December 18 9:00 a.m.	(+Bohdan Kulchyckyj from Family)
Thursday December 19 9:00 a.m.	(+Wasył Bodnaruk from Lesia)
Friday December 20 9:00 a.m.	(+John Fedack from Ruth)
Saturday December 21 5:30 p.m.	Great Vespers
Sunday December 22 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Sunday Before Christmas (For the Parish) (+Janina Mrzygocka from Anna Mac)

CATECHISM CLASSES FOR CHILDREN AGES 3-5 AND 5-7

Catechism classes will be held from 10:15-11:15 am on Sunday. Please mark these dates for the first semester: Dec 22.

FIRST CONFESSION CLASSES TO BEGIN SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025

We will soon start our preparation classes for children intending to make their First Confession in 2025. Classes will be held on Sundays between the English and Ukrainian liturgies (approx. 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM), beginning on January 26. First Confessions will be celebrated on Lazarus Saturday (April 12, 2025). No class will be held on February 16 (President's Day weekend). All children must attend Divine Liturgy with their families on a weekly basis during their preparation for the sacrament. If you have children of First Confession age in your family (age 7+), please contact Olya Mulvey by email at olya.kroytor@gmail.com to register or learn more.

ST. PHILIP'S FAST – PYLYPIVKA 2024 (NOV 15 – DEC 24)

In preparation for Christmas and the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord, our church observes the spiritual journey of the pre-Christmas Fast. Please prepare to worthily celebrate the Birth of the Savior of the World, Our Lord Jesus Christ. This is a voluntary fast period. Please observe it as you are able to best prepare yourself for Christmas – Good Deeds, Volunteering, Confession, Fasting.

ST. PHILIP'S FAST CHARITY PROJECT 2024

Please bring new unwrapped baby items to donate to the Front Royal Pregnancy Center. We invite everyone to purchase and donate **NEW, UNOPENED BABY ITEMS**. The pregnancy center will accept anything that could be used by babies and mothers, Diapers (Sizes: 3, 4, and 5) & Changing Wipes, Baby Formula (8 or 12 oz. cans), Similac Sensitive Powder Formula, Similac Pro-Advance Powdered Formula, Enfamil Neuropro Gentle Infant Formula Powder, Baby Lotion, Diaper Rash Cream, Play Pens, Strollers, Baby Blankets, Sippy Cups & Baby Bottles (8-9 oz.), 3-in-1 Convertible Car Seats, New Infant Carrier Car Seats (for up to 35 lbs.)

PLEASE PLACE YOUR DONATIONS IN THE CHURCH VESTIBULE NO LATER THAN JANUARY 5, 2025.

Prayer List

Our prayer list of the sick or elderly and friends of our parish: Theresa Aranda, Liana Arnold, Valarie Balthis, Charles Belanger, Barbara Blendy, Bluey Family, Yevhenia Borys, Terry Boyle, Taisia Bullard, Mary Connors, Veronica Cosio, Darlene Dossick, Solomia Dutkewych and Theresa, Ruth Fedack, Bernard F, Lindsey Fedyk, Ferne Fisanich, Myroslava Futey, Lilian Garland, Thomas Gutmann, H.H., Josie Hacker, Catherine Hetmansky, Vanessa Hetmansky, Bernadell Rita Higgins, Ellen Hitchens, Janet Hitchens, Daniel Horeczko, Boris Hlynsky, Nila Iwaskiw, Sarah Kelt, LTJG Lydia Kowalskyj USN, Dorothy Kozmoski, Suzanne Krumpelman, Mr. Marko, Michael Joseph Little, Melissa Martin, Paul Marynowych, Michele Pretka Litvak, Yaroslava L., Mufada and Family, Sallie Miller, John Moeller, Deborah Pickering, Alexandra Pohorecka, Patricia Pylypec, Ron#119, Michael Joseph Radigan, Roman Rusynko, Lisa Schaible, Christopher Sell,, Teresa Sherwood, Shliakhta Bogdana, Shliakhta Mark, Shliakhta, Andrew, Larry Sosnowich, Lindsey Sydnor, Thomas Sydnor, Stefania Szahaj, Lisa Pretka Turner, Gloria and Luis Vega, Anne Woroniak, Rose Wilson, Fr. George Worschak, and Paul Yarrish. If you know of someone who should be on this list, please email or call with the name of the individual. Our intercessory prayer for the sick and the aged is truly helpful and comforting. In your Christian Charity, kindly remember our sick parishioners in your prayers and perhaps a card or note.

Christmas – 2024 - Різдво

Christmas Eve Tuesday December 24

4:30 p.m. Children's procession and Divine Liturgy for Christmas

(All are Welcome and Families are encouraged to attend) (Eng.)

10:00 p.m. *Z namy Boh* and Christmas Divine Liturgy (Ukr. and Eng.)

Вікторок 24 грудня Навечір'я Різдва ГНІХ – Святвечір

4:30 пополудні Процесійна хода дітей та Різдвяна Божественна Літургія (анг.)

10:00 вечора – *З нами Бог* та Божественна Літургія – Різдво Господа Нашого Ісуса Христа (укр. та англ.)

Christmas Day Wednesday December 25

10:30 a.m. Christmas Divine Liturgy (Ukr. and Eng.)

Середа 25 грудня Різдво Господа Нашого Ісуса Христа

10:30 ранку – Божественна Літургія – Різдво Господа Нашого Ісуса Христа (укр. та англ.)