

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Byzantine Catholic Church



Rev. Paul Varchola West, MFA, M.Div., Administrator
Rev. Myron M. Badnerosky, Pastor Emeritus

Church

1773 Woodbourne Rd
Levittown, PA 19057

Mailing

PO Box 777
Levittown, PA 19058

Rectory

2 Coral Rock Rd
Levittown, PA 19057
(215) 968-8707

PastorOLPH@gmail.com
www.olphbyz.net
(201) 543-1175 Emergencies Only

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Contributions - Thank You, OLPH!

May 8 & 9, 2021	
Building Fund	\$12.00
Candles	\$30.00
Loose	\$40.00
Memorial	\$395.00
Regular	\$1484.00
Tithe.ly	\$250.00
Total	\$2211.00
Attendance	60

*Do not neglect
good deeds and
generosity, God is
pleased by
sacrifices of that
kind.*

- Hebrews 13:16

Candle Intentions May 2021

Tetrapod- In memory of +Anthony L., +Theresa, + Vincent, and +Anthony J. Churilla requested by daughter and sister Margaret Churilla

Orletsi- In memory of +Andrew and +Anna Wislotsky requested by daughter Nadia Kopcho

Vicna Lampa - In memory of +Romyne Macinsky requested by children Anna Maria and Stephen Macinsky

Liturgy Intentions - Available upon request. Please submit a request form with a suggested donation of \$15 per request.

Candle Intentions - Available by month. Please submit a request form and suggested donation of \$25 per request.

Hospital & Home Visitation - Available upon request.

Liturgical Schedule Week of May 16, 2021

Confession every Saturday from 4:30 to 5:00 or by appointment

Saturday May 15 - Sunday of the Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council

5:00 PM Vigil Divine Liturgy (FESTAL TONE)
Acts 20:16-18 & 28-38; Jn 17:1-13
❖ For the Parish Family of OLPH

Sunday May 16 - Sunday of the Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council

First Solemn Communion of Adelaide West
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy (FESTAL TONE)
Acts 20:16-18 & 28-38; Jn 17:1-13
❖ In memory of +Precious Yvonne Mercier with
Panachida requested by Margaret Churilla

Saturday May 22 - 5th All Souls Saturday

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
1 Thess 4:13-17; Jn 5:24-30

Saturday May 22 - Pentecost Sunday

5:00 PM Vigil Divine Liturgy (FESTAL TONE)
Acts 2:1-11 & 28-38; Jn 7:37-52 & 8:12
❖ For the Parish Family of OLPH

Sunday May 23 - Pentecost Sunday

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy (FESTAL TONE)
Acts 2:1-11 & 28-38; Jn 7:37-52 & 8:12
❖ In memory of +Romyne Macinsky requested by
her children

Pentecost Sunday is May 23rd
Remember to wear your GREEN!

General Information

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Please send submissions for the bulletin to Fr. Paul no later than 12:00PM the Wednesday before you wish for them to appear.

FACEBOOK & VIRTUAL DIVINE LITURGY

Visit www.facebook.com/OLPHLevittownPA to join us live or watch archived recordings. You DO NOT need a Facebook account to view the OLPH facebook page.

ONLINE TITHING - Interested in tithing online? Visit the parish website and click on the donate link to sign up on the tithe.ly.

Save the Date!!

On **Sunday, August 15, 2021** (Feast of the Dormition), St. Mary's in Trenton will be celebrating their 130th Anniversary! Fr. Yuriy has graciously extended an invitation to the parish family of OLPH. There will be a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with Bishop Kurt followed by a picnic luncheon at Liberty Lake Park in Bordentown, NJ. **Details regarding exact times and ticket pricing to follow—stay tuned!**

ERA Food Pantry

In order to facilitate a more stream-lined process regarding food bank donations, here is how we are proceeding moving forward. There will be a properly labeled bin placed on a table by the icon of the Holy Family in the Vestibule in which you may place your food donations. Steven Pustay will regularly drop these items off at ERA. While we will of course accept donations at any time, I will announce when we will be having "parish wide food drives," primarily around the holiday seasons. Please direct any questions to Steven Pustay.

Attention Children of OLPH

If you participated in the Pysanky/Easter Egg craft and hung an egg on the tree, your egg is waiting for you to take it home. They are on the table in the vestibule.

Sisters of St Basil House of Prayer - Upcoming Virtual Programs

June 1, 8, 15, & 22, 10-11:30am - Tuesday Morning Reading Series
A Tree Full of Angels: Seeing the Holy in the Ordinary (by Macrina Wiederkehr) With Sr. Barbara Jean, OSBM
Offering: \$5.00 per session or \$15.00 for all 4 sessions

June 11-13, Friday, 7:00 p.m. – Sunday, 11:30 a.m.
Young Adult Weekend Retreat (Men and Women, 18-35)
With Sr. Barbara Jean and Team
Offering: \$50.00 - Registration Due: June 7

July 13, 6:30 p.m. -7:30 p.m.
Tuesday Evening Reflection for Men and Women
Introducing the Desert Fathers With Deacon John Evancho
Offering: \$10.00 - Registration due: July 9

July 15, 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Thursday Evening Reflection for Men and Women
Introducing the Desert Mothers With Helenanne Hochendoner, MAT
Offering: \$10.00 - Registration due: July 12

CALL TO REGISTER: 724-438-7149



Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

Father Paul's ECF Corner

ECF Corner

Then Noah built an altar to the LORD, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. (Gen 8:20)

From the earliest days of man, one has often shown gratitude or supplication to God through the physical sacrifice of animals by ritualistically slaughtering them and burning them in specific manners depending on the type of sacrifice one is offering (c.f. *Leviticus*). We are witness to biblical accounts of such sacrifices from Cain and Abel, Noah, and Abraham, to Moses, all the patriarchs, the prophets, and even throughout the New Testament. As Judaism evolved from a nomadic culture to a temple-centric religion, so did the institution of the sacrifice. Rather than offering one's own animal from their flock, one would purchase an animal at a nominal fee from the temple priests to be offered in the ritual and the money from that purchase would go to the temple treasury. Even after the birth of Christ, we hear in Luke 2:24 that Mary and Joseph journeyed to the temple to "offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.'" Believe it or not, this practice is continued to this very day; only we no longer have to butcher pigeons and set them on fire!

In modern times, the votive candle *IS* the burnt offering—far less messy! We need to remember that, while we are no longer offering animals as a sacrifice, when we light a candle we are making a sacrificial offering nonetheless. This is a sacrifice to God and a sacrifice to help keep God's temple in proper order. Looking into the books, it has occurred to me that the parish has been losing money on votive candles for quite some time now. If we are lucky, we break even on major Holy Days (mainly Christmas and Easter). This is due to the fact that our temple treasury (or, in more modern parlance, the church checking account) only receives roughly \$0.70 per candle lit, assuming that every candle lit is accompanied by the suggested \$2 offering, which is not always the case. This means that the majority of the money you offer to the church for candles does not actually go to the church, but rather to the candle distributor. This is not the intent of a burnt offering. Here is my solution.

Over the coming weeks, you will notice some renovating/revamping of the candle shrine located to the right of the nave of the church. I will be converting it, somewhat, into a shrine dedicated to Our Lady of Perpetual Help and we can treat this area more as a "candle room" where we can offer our intentions in peace and solitude. There will be various sizes of candles, priced differently, to give various offering options. Moving to smaller candle size options, in addition to changing candle distributors while simultaneously adjusting suggested offering amounts to reflect current candle pricing, we will certainly notice a difference.

Furthermore, I have found several very nice votive stands in the church attic that are in need of a little love. While Pan'i and I are refurbishing them I ask for your patience over the next week or so as I put the finishing touches on the candle shrine and await our new candles to arrive—this is a work in progress. These votive stands have glass globes and will permit us to use candles without the disposable plastic covering, saving us additional costs while simultaneously cutting down on a rather wasteful practice.

Ultimately, I am doing this so that the money you work hard for that you lovingly and willingly sacrifice to OLPH actually goes to OLPH and is used toward our worship space! Always remember, "such sacrifices are pleasing to God" (Heb 13:16)!

God be with you!

Fr. Paul