

## FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



*Icon of Saints Moses and Ezekias -- August 28th*



**August 28, 2016**

**15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - TONE 6**

*OUR VENERABLE FATHER MOSES THE THE BLACK (C. 400)*

*OUR HOLY FATHER AUGUSTINE, BISHOP OF HIPPO (430)*

*THE HOLY MARTYR GEBRE MICHAEL, ILLUMINATOR OF ETHIOPIA (1855)*

*THE SYNAXIS OF OUR VENERABLE FATHER OF THE MONASTERY OF THE CAVES AT KYIV*

*WHO REPOSE IN THE FURTHER CAVES;*

*PASSING INTO ETERNAL LIFE (1952) OF SISTER LAVRENTIA (HARASYMIV) OF THE*

*SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH OF KHRIV AND CONFESSOR OF THE TOMS'K REGION.*

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 29 – SEPTEMBER 4**

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be **NO** vespers during the Summer months unless noted in the bulletin.

MONDAY, AUGUST 29 – *BEHEADING OF THE GLORIOUS PROPHET, FORERUNNER AND BAPTIZER JOHN*

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 – *16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; THE HOLY HIEROMARTYR BABYLAS, BISHOP OF GREATER ANTIOCH; THE HOLY PROPHET MOSES THE GOD-SEER*

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy For All Parishioners

---



Compelling Keynote Speaker

**FR. FRANK  
PAVONE**  
Priests for Life

*Pro-Woman - Pro-Child - Pro-Life*

7TH ANNUAL  
PRO-LIFE IS GOOD

*Gala  
&  
Auction*

**SAT, OCTOBER 8 | Rancho Bernardo Inn**

*Connect with other Pro-Lifers, hear exciting new announcements  
from COLFS, meet Staff and Board Members*

**For more information and to RSVP online visit [www.COLFS.org](http://www.COLFS.org)  
or contact Erica Tobin Rossio at 619-564-3307  
([etobin@colfs.org](mailto:etobin@colfs.org)). All proceeds support the lifesaving mission  
of COLFS. Culture of Life Family Services is a 501c3 Non-Profit  
Organization.**

# HAPPY (CHURCH) NEW YEAR!

By Fr. Joseph Huneycutt

*Make Yours Acceptable to the Lord!*

It seems odd saying “Happy New Year” in September, but that’s when the Church marks Her annual beginning. September 1st is, for the Church, the first day of a New Year. A pious tradition of the Church holds that Jesus of Nazareth began preaching the good news of His mission on September 1st. When our Lord entered the Synagogue, He was given the book of the Prophet Isaiah to read, and He opened it and found the place where it is written:

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.*

*And he closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing” (Luke 4:18-21).*

Tradition also holds that it was during the month of September that the Hebrews entered the Promised Land. And, the custom of beginning a new year with autumn was common in Biblical

and Mediterranean lands because the summer harvest was completed, the crops were stored, and it was a time when people began preparing for a new agricultural cycle. It was an appropriate time for a new beginning. This is evident in the services for the New Year as the Church beseeches God for fair weather, seasonable rains, and an abundance of the fruits of the earth.

As we begin this new year it should be noted that the Church Calendar is loaded with important events -- especially the 12 Great Feasts, the Four Fasts, and PASCHA. Also, each day of the Church Year is set aside to honor Saints; many of whom died on that particular date. Similar to our personal calendars where we mark the earthly birthdays of family and friends, the Church remembers the Saints on their “heavenly birthday” -- the day they passed from this life to Paradise.

Liturgically, the Church Year begins and ends with the Mother of God. The first Great Feast of the Year, September 8th, honors her birth; the last Great Feast of the Year, August 15th, remembers her falling asleep. Between these two Great Feasts the Church marks 10 other major Feasts and PASCHA, the Feast of Feasts. Here’s a list of those Feasts, including their dates for the coming year (those using the so-called Old Calendar add 13 days to fixed feasts -- not Pascha, Ascension & Pentecost):



(Special thanks to the webpage of the Greek Archdiocese for the following feast info!)

Birth of the Theotokos, September 8th

Elevation of the Holy Cross,  
September 14th

Entry of the Theotokos in the Temple,  
November 21st

Nativity of Christ (Christmas),  
December 25th

-- preceded by a 40-day fast which begins  
on St Philip's Day, November 15th

Baptism of Christ (Theophany),  
January 6th

Meeting of Christ in the Temple,  
February 2nd

Annunciation of the Theotokos,  
March 25th

Entry into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday)  
April 9, 2017

-- preceded by the Great Fast and followed  
by Passion Week

PASCHA - April 16, 2017

Ascension of our Lord, May 25, 2017

Pentecost Sunday, June 4, 2017

Transfiguration of our Lord, August 6th

Falling Asleep of the Theotokos  
(Dormition), August 15th

-- preceded by a 2-week fast which begins  
on August 1st

The dates for Palm Sunday, PASCHA, Ascension, and Pentecost vary each year. In 2017, Eastern Orthodox Christians will -- yet again -- celebrate PASCHA at the same time the Catholic and Protestant churches celebrate Easter, April 16th. The Apostles' Fast can vary in length. It begins on the Monday after All Saints Sunday (the first Sunday after Pentecost) and ends with the Feast, June 29th.

Each parish also celebrates its "altar feast" on the day set aside for its Patron Saint, Feast, or Name.

The wall calendars that most parishes make available each fall include many of the daily Saints and readings for the year. Also, most people have their own Patron Saint -- or "nameday" -- to remember, as well as other favorite and family Saints' days.

Why not start the New Year off right? Mark your personal calendar with the Feasts, Fasts, and Saints days of the Church. Make a resolution to participate in the liturgical cycle of the Church. Unlike mundane New Year's resolutions, marking your calendar, keeping the Feasts and Fasts, and embarking for a new life within the annual life of the Church is a wonderful way to sanctify time. Let's all join together in making this an "acceptable year of the Lord!"

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**Condolence Letter of His Beatitude Sviatoslav  
on occasion of death of Bishop Richard (Seminak)**

To the most reverend Metropolitan Stefan Soroka, priests, consecrated persons and lay faithful in sorrow of Chicago eparchy Glory to Jesus Christ!

Your Excellency!

Dear priests and consecrated persons, lay faithful of Chicago eparchy!

Peace be with you!

With deep sorrow I received news concerning bishop of Chicago Eparchy Richard (Seminak) who passed away after a long and severe illness. The Synod of Bishops of the UGCC and I with all people of a goodwill extend our sympathy and assure in our prayers for a newly departed.

Today priests, consecrated persons and all faithful of Chicago Eparchy say goodbye to their spiritual leader who could show all of us a real image of a merciful Father in accordance with his life and service throughout it. A lot of eparchial priests through the bishop's hands were pleased to receive the greatest gift – holy orders. Bishop Richard tried to be kind, open and attentive to people's needs. He was a real spiritual father to the faithful of the eparchy who undertook many efforts for their strengthening in faith. The late bishop was open to maintaining relationships with Church in Ukraine, helping to restore temples of human's souls as well as temples destroyed after totalitarian regime. He was an active participant of the Synod of Bishops of the UGCC.

Today bishop Richard preaches his last homily citing the words of apostle Paul: "I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me, which the Lord, the just judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but to all who have longed for his appearance", 2 Tim 4, 7-8. With these words he is calling all of us to make efforts in our serving and spiritual life, so to be pleased and be worthy reward in heaven prepared to all of us who believe in Jesus Christ.

The death of bishop Richard filled us with sorrow and brought emptiness into our hearts, for to lots of you he was very close, sharing life's anxieties and joys. But let faith in getting one more benefactor in heaven and intercessor before God's altar console all of us.

We commend the soul of newly departed Bishop to the hands of our God's boundless mercy and say in faith: "O Christ our God, grant Your inexpressible glory to the newly departed where those who rejoice dwell and where the Voice of pure joy is heard".

+ Sviatoslav,  
Father and Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church

## **Лист-співчуття Блаженнішого Святослава з приводу відходу до вічності владыки Річарда (Семінака)**

Високопреосвященному Митрополиту Стефанові (Сороці), всесвітлішим, всечеснішим отцям,  
преподобним сестрам, дорогим у скорботі вірним Чиказької єпархії

Слава Ісусу Христу!  
Ваше Високопреосвященство!  
Всесвітлі, всечесні отці, преподобні сестри!  
Дорогі вірні Чиказької єпархії!  
Мир Вам у Господі!

Із великим сумом сприйняв я звістку про те, що після важкої довготривалої хвороби відійшов по вічну нагороду до нашого Господа Ісуса Христа єпископ Чиказької єпархії Річард (Семінак). Від свого імені, від імені Синоду Єпископів УГКЦ і всіх людей доброї волі хочу висловити співчуття та запевнення наших молитов у наміренні новопреставленого.

Сьогодні із сумом духовенство, монашество та вірні Чиказької єпархії молитовно прощаються зі своїм духовним пастирем, який зумів прикладом свого життя і служіння показати кожному із вас правдивий образ милосердного Отця. Багато отців єпархії через святительські руки владыки сподобились одержати найбільший дар – священство. Для духовенства єпархії владыка Річард старався бути добрим, відкритим та уважним до його потреб. Для вірних єпархії він був справжнім духовним батьком, який докладав зусиль для їхнього утвердження у вірі. Покійний завжди був відкритий на зв'язок із матірною Церквою в Україні, допомагаючи відроджувати зруйновані після правління тоталітарної системи як храми людських душ, так і храми як місця зустрічі боголюбивого люду. Був постійним й активним учасником Синоду Єпископів нашої Церкви.

Сьогодні владыка Річард промовляє до нас свою останню проповідь словами апостола Павла: «Я боровся доброю борнею, скінчив біг – віру зберіг. Тепер же приготований мені вінок справедливості, що його дасть мені того дня Господь, справедливий Суддя; та не лише мені, але всім тим, що з любов'ю чекали на його появу» (2 Тим. 4, 7). Цими словами він закликає кожного з нас докласти зусиль у своєму служінні й духовному житті, щоб удостоїтись і бути гідним небесної нагороди, приготовленої для кожного, хто вірить в Ісуса Христа.

Відхід владыки Річарда приніс сум і пустку у ваші серця, бо для багатьох із вас він був дуже близьким у життєвих турботах та радостях. Але хай віра в те, що ви одержали ще одного небесного покровителя й заступника перед Престолом Господнім, потішить кожного із вас.

Віддаємо душу новопреставленого Владыки в руки безмежного Божого милосердя та з вірою промовляємо: «Несказанної слави Твоїї сподоби, Христе, того, що до Тебе переставився, де є житло тих, які веселяться, і Голос чистої радості».

З молитвою,

+ СВЯТОСЛАВ  
Отець і Глава Української Греко-Католицької Церкви

## EPARCHIAL SOBOR

On September 24, there will be an Eparchial Sobor (gathering) held in Chicago at the Cenacle Retreat House. Bishop Bohdan Danylo from Parma will be presiding. The subject will be the "Vibrant Parish" program established by Patriarch Sviatoslav for the entire Church. Each parish must send at least 2 lay representatives along with the pastor. Cost includes airfare and a 1 night stay (\$105.00/person) at the Cenacle

Between now and Mid-September there will be a special collection taken at each Sunday Liturgy to raise funds for this very important event. Please be generous!

### Sunday offering for August 21

Amount	Number
\$12.00	1 (loose)
\$15.00	2
\$20.00	3
\$30.00	1
\$40.00	2
\$50.00	1
\$100.00	1
\$150.00	1
\$400.00	1
<hr/>	
\$912.00	

Parishioner Total: \$892.00

Visitor Total: \$20.00

Average / parish household (42): \$11.44

Weekly Stewardship Goal: \$2200.00

**Deficit: (\$1308.00)**

**Year-to-date deficit: (\$35,099.00)**

**Special Collection for Sobor Total to date: \$513.00**

### PARISHIONERS THAT ARE HOME BOUND



If you or a loved one cannot make it to Church, Fr. James would be more than pleased visit at your home, in the hospital, at a nursing home, or any other place. It is no inconvenience at all.

Please be sure to schedule a visit.

## PARISH COMMITTEES

### FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Myra Heltsley  
Stephen Hojsan  
Maria Hughes  
Bohdan Kniahynyckyj

### PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Vladimir Bachynsky  
Olena Bankston  
Gabriel Espedal  
Mark Hartman  
Luke Miller

### STEWARDSHIP (FUNDRAISING) COMMITTEE:

Bohdan Knianynyckyj  
Susan Avant  
John Heltsley (*fundraising consultant*)

### SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Olena Bankston  
Olga Fedunyak  
Michael Miller  
Olga Miller  
Lubomyra Yoldas





**Українська Греко-Католицька Церква  
Святого Йоана Хрестителя  
St. John the Baptizer  
Ukrainian Greco-Catholic Church**

4400 Palm Avenue  
La Mesa, CA 91941  
Parish Office: (619) 697-5085

**Website:** [stjohnthebaptizer.org](http://stjohnthebaptizer.org)

**Pastor:** Fr. James Bankston  
[frjames@mac.com](mailto:frjames@mac.com)  
Fr. James' cell phone: (619) 905-5278

***My Yoke is Easy, My Burden Light***

God's will is to save us, and nothing pleases Him more than our coming back to Him with true repentance. ... It was precisely in order to show that there is nothing closer to God's heart than the divine Word of God lived among us in the flesh, and did, suffered, and said all that was necessary to reconcile us to God the Father, when we were at enmity with Him. He also taught us in many different ways that we should wish to imitate Him by our own kindness and genuine love for one another.

So it was that Christ proclaimed that He had come to call sinners to repentance, not the righteous, and that it was not the healthy who required a doctor, but the sick. To give the same lesson – he revived the man who, having fallen into the hands of the brigands, had been left stripped and half-dead from his wounds; he poured wine and oil on the wounds, bandaged them, placed the man on his own mule and brought him to an inn, where he left sufficient money to have him cared for, and promised to repay any further expense on his return.

Again, He told of how that Father, who is good-

ness itself, was moved with pity for his profligate son who returned and made amends by repentance; how he embraced him, dressed him once more in the fine garments that befitted his own dignity, and did not reproach him for any of his sins.

So too, when he found wandering in the mountains and hills the one sheep that had strayed from God's flock of a hundred, he brought it back to the fold, but he did not exhaust it by driving it ahead of him. Instead, he placed it on his own shoulders and so, compassionately, he restored it safely to the flock.

So also He cried out: Come to me, all you that toil and are heavy of heart. Accept my yoke, He said, by which He meant His commands, or rather, the whole way of life that He taught us in the Gospel. He then speaks of a burden, but that is only because repentance seems difficult. In fact, however, my yoke is easy, He assures us, and my burden is light.

*St. Maximus the Confessor*

**For more information on Eastern spirituality, visit  
[www.ecpubs.com](http://www.ecpubs.com)**