



Weekly Bulletin - Sunday, September 1, 2024

Schedule of Services and Events

Date	Time	Service/Event
Saturday, August 31	5:00 p.m.	Great Vespers, Confessions
Sunday, September 1	8:40 a.m.	Hours
Sunday, September 1	9:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy
Sunday, September 1	1:00 p.m.	Vespers - St. Vladimir Chetverin
Monday, September 2	8:40 a.m.	Hours
Monday, September 2	9:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy - St. Vladimir Chetverin
Saturday, September 7	5:00 p.m.	Great Vespers, Confessions
Sunday, September 8	8:40 a.m.	Hours
Sunday, September 8	9:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy
Tuesday, September 10	6:00 p.m.	Great Vespers - Beheading of St. John the Baptist
Saturday, September 14	5:00 p.m.	Great Vespers, Confessions
Sunday, September 15	8:40 a.m.	Hours
Sunday, September 15	9:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy
Sunday, September 15	Following Liturgy	Church picnic at Breneman Park (See below for details)
Wednesday, September 18	6:00 p.m.	Great Vespers - Archangel Michael
Friday, September 20	6:00 p.m.	Vigil - Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary
Saturday, September 21	8:40 a.m.	Hours
Saturday, September 21	9:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy - Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary
Saturday, September 21	5:00 p.m.	Great Vespers, Confessions
Sunday, September 22	8:40 a.m.	Hours
Sunday, September 22	9:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy
Sunday, September 22	Following Liturgy	40th day Panikhida for Theodore Salaneck, Memorial meal
Thursday, September 26	6:00 p.m.	Vigil - The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-giving Cross

Friday, September 27	8:40 a.m.	Hours
Friday, September 27	9:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy - The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-giving Cross
Saturday, September 28	5:00 p.m.	Great Vespers, Confessions
Sunday, September 29	8:40 a.m.	Hours
Sunday, September 29	9:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy

Homily on the Dormition of the Holy Theotokos by St. Theodore the Studite

To do justice to the holy celebrations proclaimed for today, my friends, our words call for the sound of the trumpet, for the voice of the horn sounding out more loudly and echoing to the ends of the earth; yet I fear they must be borne by the weak instrument of our own voices. Still, the queen and mistress of the world cares little for honor, and may well accept our short, poor discourse, offered here in her service, as graciously as the long and splendid works of great orators. For she is moved by the prayers of those who have asked me to speak, since she values true goodness, after all, and looks only at our intentions.

But come, gather around me, everyone under heaven — all you hierarchs and priests, monks and people of the world, kings and rulers, men and women, young men and maidens, of all nations and tongues, of every race and every people — change your clothes for the robes of virtue, wrap yourselves in them as in “bright garments fringed with gold” [Psalm 44.13 LXX], and come with hearts rejoicing to celebrate the festival of the burial and the passing [into glory] of Mary, the Mother of the Lord. For she has gone away from here and draws near the eternal mountains, she who is the true Mount Sion, where God was pleased to dwell, as the Psalmist’s lyre sings [Psalm 131.14 LXX]. Today she who was heaven on earth is wrapped in a cloak of incorruptibility; she has moved to a better, more blessed dwelling-place. Today the spiritual moon, shining with the light of God, has come into heavenly conjunction with the “Sun of righteousness,” eclipsing her temporary home in this present life; rising anew in His home, she is radiant with the dignity of immortality. Today that ark of holiness, wrought with gold and divinely furnished, has been lifted up from her tabernacle on earth and is borne towards the Jerusalem above, to unending rest; and David, the ancestor of God, poet as he is, strikes up a song for us and cries, “Virgins” — meaning souls — “will be led to the King” — to you, O God — “behind her” [Psalm 44.14 LXX].

Now the Mother of God shuts her material eyes, and opens her spiritual eyes towards us like great shining stars that will never set, to watch over us and to intercede before the face of God for the world’s protection. Now those lips, moved by God’s grace to articulate sounds, grow silent, but she opens her [spiritual] mouth to intercede eternally for all of her race. Now she lowers those bodily hands that once bore God, only to raise them, in incorruptible form, in prayer to the Lord on behalf of all creation. At this moment her natural form, radiant as the sun, is hidden; yet her light shines through her painted image, and she offers it to the people for the life-giving kiss of relative veneration, even if the heretics are unwilling. The holy dove has flown to her home above, yet she does not cease to protect those below; departing from her body, she is with us in spirit; gathered up to heaven, she banishes demons by her intercession with the Lord.

Long ago, death took charge of the world through our ancestor Eve; but now it has engaged in combat with her blessed daughter and been beaten away, conquered by the very source from whom it had received its power. Let the race of women rejoice, then, for it has received glory in place of shame! Let Eve be glad, for she is under a curse no more, having produced in Mary a child of blessing. Let the whole of creation jump for joy, drinking the mystical flood of incorruption from that virgin spring and putting an end to its mortal thirst. These are the things we celebrate today, this is the subject of our solemn song: Mary provides it for us—the root of Jesse who bore the flower Christ; the rod of Aaron with its sacred bud; the spiritual Paradise containing the tree of life; the meadow alive with the fragrance of virginity; the blooming vine, cultivated by God, which became the ripe grape flowing with life, the high, exalted cherubim-throne of the universal king; the home full of the glory of the Lord; the sacred veil of Christ; the bright land of sunrise. She has fallen asleep in peace and righteousness—fallen asleep, I say, but she is not dead! She has passed on from us, yet she does not cease to protect her people.

Picnic

A church picnic will be held following Liturgy on Sunday, September 15, 2024, at Breneman Park pavilion, 2914 Reedy Road, Sinking Spring, PA 19608.

If you would like to bring food or drinks, please sign up [here](#).

Psalter Prayer Group

The Psalter prayer group is currently in need of one more person. If you have not participated in the past, this is how it works. Each person is assigned a different kathisma to start. Each person reads one kathisma each day in sequential order, along with opening and closing prayers and prayers for the living and departed. Between the group, the entire Psalter is read each day. The Psalter prayer group usually takes breaks after Great Lent and the Nativity Fast.

If you are interested in joining the Psalter prayer group, please see [Svitlana Breniser](#). You will need to provide her with your baptismal name and 10 names for the prayer list (living or departed).

Prayer List

Please remember the following in your prayers:

Catechumens

Cipolle, Kate
Rogozin, Daniel
Rogozin, Ryelle
Rogozin, Danielle

Departed

Theodore

To add a name to our prayer list (health, newly departed), please reply to this email or see Fr. Daniel.

September Celebrations

Name Days

- September 30 - Sofia Lutcza

Many Years! Многая Лета!

If you would like to be included in the parish directory of commemoration dates (birthdays, name days, and marriage anniversaries), please submit the information in this [form](#). If you have questions, please see [Anastasia Lutcza](#).

Reminders

Online candle stand: Candles and vigil lights can now be ordered [online](#) to be lit at the next service.

Online donations: One-time or recurring donations to the church can be made [online](#). The recurring option is a convenient way to donate and also helps to better plan our budget.

Benevolent fund: The benevolent fund was established to help those in need. To donate specifically to the benevolent fund, please use the special pink envelopes that are available at the candle stand, select the benevolent fund for [online](#) donations, or otherwise designate your donation accordingly.

Building fund: The building fund was established to save for future building projects. Our next major maintenance project will be the masonry restoration work that is scheduled to

begin in early October 2024. The total cost will be about \$29,000-\$30,000. The building fund currently has a total of about \$18,000 after making the down payment of \$7,000. The balance of \$22,000-\$23,000 will need to be paid after the job is complete. Please consider donating to the building fund to help us reach this goal of \$5,000. To donate specifically to the building fund, please use the special blue envelopes that are available at the candle stand, select the building fund for [online](#) donations, or otherwise designate your donation accordingly.

Rectory fund: The rectory fund was established to save for a future rectory close to the vicinity of the church. To donate specifically to the rectory fund, please use the special yellow envelopes that are available at the candle stand, select the rectory fund for [online](#) donations, or otherwise designate your donation accordingly.

Church cleaning schedule: The church cleaning schedule for the second half of 2024 is available [here](#). A [cleaning list](#) and other helpful information is also available for those volunteering.

Church calendar: You can subscribe to the church calendar (add the church calendar to your mobile device or calendar application) by using these links: [Services](#) and [Events](#).

Boscov's Friends Helping Friends fundraiser: Our parish is participating again in the annual Boscov's Friends Helping Friends fundraiser. The shopping passes are \$5 and are good for 25% off almost all purchases made on Tuesday, October 22, 2024, at all Boscov's locations. Our church keeps 100% of the shopping pass proceeds. If you would like to purchase a discount shopping pass or help sell them, please see Jean Salaneck.

A Parish of the Moscow Patriarchate | Reading, Pennsylvania | Founded in 1905
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