

Why do we burn candles in church?

In all Eastern churches, candles are lit during the reading of the Gospel not only so as to shed light and dispel the gloom but also to proclaim one's joy." Over the centuries, the candle has burnt gently and humbly and is now, as it was then, imbued with profound meaning, inalienable from our divine services and piety. We must understand that man's immortal soul dwells in man's mortal body. The immortal soul cannot be indifferent to pious deeds committed by the body which is its home. As the body bows, so does the soul bow with it and grows obedient. We are human; we need to see, to feel, to smell and to hear. And in the church, candles burn with the divine light; the ringing of bells sanctifies the air; incense reminds us of the fragrance of prayers; and from each icon the Savior Himself, the Mother of God and all the saints mysteriously look at us and we look at Their holy images as two worlds come face to face: the dwellers of the Kingdom of God and we, the sinners..

But the candle has yet another profound meaning. The burning candle represents the entire life of the faithful, from birth to death. It stands for the inner flame of love for and devotion to God. A Christian should burn like a candle before God, and his whole being should gradually be consumed by this divine flame thus marking the end of his earthly life. Blessed Simeon of Thessalonica (15th century), states that pure wax symbolizes the purity and chastity of those who offer it. It is offered as a sign of our having repented of stubbornness and self-will. The softness and pliability of wax speaks of our readiness to obey God. The burning of the candle represents man's deification, his becoming a new creature through the fire of God's love. Moreover, the candle is a witness to faith, of man's belonging to the Divine light. It expresses the flame of our love for the Lord, for the Mother of God, for the angels, or for the saints. One must not light a candle with a cold heart, merely as a formality. The external action must be supplemented by prayer, if only the simplest one, using one's own words. A lighted candle is present at many church services. It is held by the newly baptized and by those being joined together in the Mystery of Matrimony. The funeral rite is performed amidst a multitude of burning candles. Protecting their burning candles from the wind, the faithful walk in Processions of the Cross. The burning wax candle is pleasing to God, but He prizes the burning of the heart even more. Our spiritual life, our participation in church services, is not limited to the candle. The candle will not free us from sin, will not unite us with God, and will not give us the power to wage the unseen warfare. The candle is filled with symbolic meaning, but we are saved not by symbols, but by the full reality, Divine grace.



Pro-

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Anyone wishing to be a member

Our Weekly Bulletin



Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Ukrainian Catholic Church

95 years of serving our Lord

1926


2021

Welcome to our Parish

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!
Christ is among us! He is and always will be!

Divine Liturgies and Services for the Week

Week of June 13 to 20, 2021

Sunday, June 13	3rd Sunday after Pentecost	✠ George and Anna Rykola
June 14	No Liturgy	
June 15	No Liturgy	
June 16	No Liturgy	
June 17	No Liturgy	
June 18	No Liturgy	
June 19	No Liturgy	
Sunday, June 20	4th Sunday after Pentecost Saint of Rus-Ukraine	

*If you are looking for a closer relationship with Jesus Christ
and are looking for a home, you are welcome to be part
of our kid friendly family in Christ. You have found your way home.*

3rd Sunday After Pentecost

Romans 5:1-10

Matthew 6:22-33

Troparion (Tone 2)

When You went down to death, O Life Immortal, You struck Hades dead with the blazing light of Your divinity. When You raised the dead from the nether world, all the powers of heaven cried out: "O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory be to You!"

Glory be... *Kondakion*

You arose from the tomb, O Almighty Savior; and Hades, seeing this wonder, was stricken with fear; and the dead arose. Creation saw and rejoices with You, and Adam exults. And the world, my Savior, sings Your praises for ever.

Now and forever ...

Theotokion

The tomb and death could not hold the Mother of God, unceasing in her intercession and unfailing hope of patronage, for as the Mother of Life she was transferred to life by Him Who had dwelt in her ever-virgin womb.

Prokeimenon (Tone 2)

The Lord is my strength and my song of praise, and He has become my salvation.

Verse: The Lord has indeed chastised me, but He has not delivered me to death.

The Lord is my strength and my song of praise, and He has become my salvation.

Alleluia

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Verse: The Lord will hear you in the day of tribulation; the name of the God of Jacob will shield you.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Verse: Lord, grant victory to the king, and hear us in the day that we shall call upon You.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Communion Verse

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest. Alleluia (3)

PARISH NEWS

Weekly Collection - June 6, 2021 - \$1,095.00. Thank you for your generosity.

Confessions - Father will hear confessions following Sunday Liturgies.

Safety Precautions - The Eparchy advises the parishes to follow state guidelines.

Saturdays with Jesus - June classes are cancelled.

Vacation Bible School - Vacation Bible School will be held July 26 to 30 from 6:00-7:30PM.

This year's theme: **Christ is Among Us.** The children will explore the Divine Liturgy and learn how to find Jesus and be with Him and worship Him. This is open to any school age child Kindergarten and up. Younger children may need to have parent present if they should need help for any reason during Bible School.

Potato Fest - We will be participating in the 30th Potato Fest on September 25.

More details to follow.

Fathers' Day Luncheon - A light lunch will be served to all parishioners in honor of all the fathers. Please join us for fellowship.

Happy 29th Anniversary to Fr. Deacon Chris and Edna
May God grant them good health, long life and many happy years!
Многая і благая літа!

Prayer List

Parishioners: Michael Lutak, Kathy Ott, Michael Yendzik, Sarah Kelt, Gary Maurer, Michael Lutak Jeremiah Hunt

Friends of the Parish: Jennifer Maurer, Breanna Borlie, Tom and Kris, Mark Prewitt, Richard Shonk, Ryder McDermitt, Fr. Wolodymyr Woloszczuk, Steve Helsel, Patricia Dragani, Kevin Rogers, Darla Tishok, the Sherman family, the Williams family.

To add or remove a name, place your request in the collection basket.

Joke of the Day

One Sunday morning a small boy said to his priest, "When I grow up, I'm going to give you some money."
"Well, thank you," the priest said, "But why?"
"Because my daddy said you're the poorest preacher we ever had."