

# Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

The Nativity of the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary

September 8, 2019

<b>Sat</b>	<b>7-Sep</b>	<b>4pm Vigil Divine Liturgy</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>8-Sep</b>	<b>9:30am Divine Liturgy +Mike Fizer by Tim &amp; Pam Gagen</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>11-Sep</b>	<b>7pm Liturgy for Healing</b>
<b>Fri</b>	<b>13-Sep</b>	<b>7pm Vigil Divine Liturgy Exaltation of the Holy Cross</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>14-Sep</b>	<b>4pm Vigil Divine Liturgy +Helen Benko by Greg Prokopchak</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>15-Sep</b>	<b>9:30am Divine Liturgy +Mitch Habil 40th day by Buddy &amp; Karen Bohin</b>

## No Memorial Candle Donation This Week

Variable Parts	Tone 4 - Pages 141 - 142, Pages - 247 - 248, Pages - 243- 244
Epistle	Galatians 6:11-18, Philippians 2:5-11
Gospel	John 3:13-17, Luke 10:38-42; 11:27,28

Please Pray for: Fr Ronald Borsuk, Abbot Leo, Irene Bobby, Teresa Milkovich, Marie Maxim, Sharon Galida, Margaret Sheptack, Robert Saper, Doloras Halahurich, John Homa, Jerry Tarcha, Anna Habil, Martha Sapar, Marilyn Popik-King, Art Lazar, Helen Meaders, DianeSotak & Pat Kosar.

## Announcements Epistle Readers

**7-Sep Annabelle Bistransin, 8-Sep Michael Dancisin, 14-Sep John Baycura, 15-Sep Kathy Moyta**

Attendance: Sat. 8/31 — 29; Sun. 9/1 — 49; Collection — Aug.21<sup>st</sup> & Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>: \$1,617

G.C.U. Lodge 109 will hold it's 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter meeting on Sunday, Sept. 22 after the morning Liturgy.: Please try to attend....plans for the Oct. 10 Hoagie Sale will be finalized and the calendar of events for fourth quarter discussed. BE THERE OR BE SQUARE.

Our church will again be selling the Boscov discount shopping pass. - For a donation of \$5 you get a coupon for 25% off at Boscov that can be used all day on Wednesday, October 16th. You can also register to win cash prizes. Coupons are available from Fr. Radko in the sacristy or see Elizabeth. Our church gets to keep the \$5.

There are containers and dishes on the stage that need to be claimed. Please stop by to see if one of them might be yours.

Rummage sale items may be brought to the church after the hoagie sale in October.

There will be a Ladies Guild meeting today after the morning Liturgy.

Birth of the Theotokos: A September birth was chosen because the Eastern Church begins its Church year on September and in the Church everything begins with Theotokos. The September 8 date helped determine the date for the feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8.

Scripture does not give an account of Mary's birth. However, the apocryphal Protoevangelium °Dames (written around 145 AD) fills in the gap. This work was so popular that many manuscripts of this Gospel were preserved in different languages. According to this account, Anna and Joachim are infertile but pray for a child. They receive the promise of a child who will advance God's plan of salvation for the world. Such a story, like many biblical counterparts, stresses the special presence of God in Mary's life from the beginning.

Saint Augustine connects Mary's birth with Jesus' saving work. He tells the earth to rejoice and shine forth in the light of her birth. "She is the flower of the field from whom bloomed the precious lily of the valley. Through her birth the nature inherited from our first parents is changed." The opening prayer at Mass speaks of the birth of Mary's Son as the dawn of our salvation, and asks for an increase of peace.

**Reflection.** We can see every human birth as a call for new hope in the world. The love of two human beings has joined with God in his creative work. The loving parents have shown hope in a world filled with travail. The new child has the potential to be a channel of God's love and peace to the world.

Birthday celebrations bring happiness to the celebrant as well as to family and friends. Next to the birth of Jesus, Mary's birth offers the greatest possible happiness to the world. Each time we celebrate her birth, we can confidently hope for an increase of peace in our hearts and in the world at large.

**The birth of Virgin Mary** is narrated even in the Islamic Qur'an with references to her father Imran (Arabic Joachim) as well as her mother Hannah. In Muslim tradition Hannah prayed to God to have a child and vowed that her child would be dedicated to the service of God. She prayed for her child to remain protected from Satan and Muslim tradition records a hadith, which states that the only children born without the "touch of Satan", were Mary and Jesus. "There is a reason Mary is everywhere. There are her images all over the world but I don't think her image is everywhere because she is a reminder to be obedient. Images of Mary remind us of God's favor. Mary is what it looks like to believe that we already are who God says we are." Nadia Bolz-Weber