

The Nativity of our Most Holy Lady the Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary

The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary: The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born at a time when people had reached such a degree of moral decay that it seemed altogether impossible to restore them. People often said that God must come into the world to restore faith and not permit the ruin of mankind.

The Son of God chose to take on human nature for the salvation of mankind, and chose as His Mother the All-Pure Virgin Mary, who alone was worthy to give birth to the Source of purity and holiness.

The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary is celebrated by the Church as a day of universal joy. Within the context of the Old and the New Testaments, the Most Blessed Virgin Mary was born on this radiant day, having been chosen before the ages by Divine Providence to bring about the Mystery of the Incarnation of the Word of God. She is revealed as the Mother of the Savior of the World, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born in the small city of Galilee, Nazareth. Her parents were Righteous Joachim of the tribe of the Prophet-King David, and Anna from the tribe of the First Priest Aaron. The couple was without child, since Saint Anna was barren. Having reached old age, Joachim and Anna did not lose hope in God's mercy. They had strong faith that for God everything is possible, and that He would be able to overcome the barrenness of Anna even in her old age, as He had once overcome the barrenness of Sarah, spouse of the Patriarch Abraham. Saints Joachim and Anna vowed to dedicate the child which the Lord might give them, to the service of God in the Temple.

Childlessness was considered among the Hebrew nation as a Divine punishment for sin, and therefore the righteous Saints Joachim and Anna had to endure abuse from their own countrymen. On one of the feasts at the Temple in Jerusalem the elderly Joachim brought his sacrifice to offer to God, but the High Priest would not accept it, considering him to be unworthy since he was childless.

Saint Joachim in deep grief went into the wilderness, and there he prayed with tears to the Lord for a child. Saint Anna wept bitterly when she learned what had happened at the Jerusalem Temple. Never once did she complain against the Lord, but rather she prayed to ask God's mercy on her family.

The Lord fulfilled her petitions when the pious couple had attained to extreme old age and prepared themselves by virtuous life for a sublime calling: to be the parents of the Most Holy Virgin Mary, the future Mother of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Archangel Gabriel brought Joachim and Anna the joyous message that their prayers were heard by God, and of them would be born a most blessed daughter Mary, through Whom would come the Salvation of all the World.

Saint Andrew Orthodox Church

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September 9, 2018

1st Sunday Church Charities/ 2nd Sunday Building Fund

Times of Services

Sep	9	Sun	10:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
	14	Fri		Elevation of the Cross
			10:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
Sep	15	Sat	5:30 PM	Vespers
	16	Sun	10:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
	22	Sat	5:30 PM	Vespers

	23	Sun	10:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
	29	Sat	5:30 PM	Vespers
	30	Sun	10:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
Oct	06	Sat		No Vespers
	07	Sun	10:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
	13	Sat	5:30 PM	Vespers

Parish Council Meeting, 6:30 PM Thursday, Sep. 13, 2018

Sisterhood of the Altar

The annual Pokrov luncheon will be held on September 30, 2018 at

**Rose Haven Bed & Breakfast,
605 North Main Street, Butler.**



After Divine Liturgy and a brief meeting in the hall so that membership dues are paid, the meeting will adjourn and then proceed to Rose Haven B&B. Car pooling is available.

Please make reservations with Doris Rasch or Eva Jean no later than September 16, 2018.

Prokov

The Russian word Pokrov (Ποκροβ), like the Greek Skepi (Σκέπη), has a complex meaning. First of all, it refers to a cloak or shroud, but it also means protection or intercession. For this reason, the name of the feast is variously translated as the Veil of Our Lady, the Protecting Veil of the Theotokos, the Protection of the Theotokos, or the Intercession of the Theotokos. This feast is celebrated on October 1.

Pan Orthodox Picnic

September 23, 2018

10:00 am Con-Celebrated Divine Liturgy at **McDaniels Boat Launch Pavilion #7", Moraine State Park, North Shore Entrance.**



We encourage everyone to stay after Liturgy to enjoy a Pot-Luck Picnic. Main dishes (meats) will be provided...we're asking attendees to please bring a side dish or dessert of your choosing to share.

Come join us for a great day of fellowship!

NOTE: There will be **NO DIVINE LITURGY AT ST. ANDREW'S THAT SUNDAY.** So, please make the short drive north and join us at beautiful Moraine State Park!!

Halushki, Kielbasa & Sauerkraut Sales

The parish will be selling Halushki, Kielbasa and Sauerkraut at the Butler Farm Market, 901 Evans City Rd. Renfrew, PA (Rt. 68), on Saturday, October 6, 2018 from 9:00 AM till sold out.



Pierogi Making Party

October 17, 18 & 19