



“ORTHODOX 9” PARISHES BULLETIN

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH IN CANADA

Monthly Newsletter for the family of Orthodox Churches including:



St. Mary’s (the Nativity of the Holy Virgin) - NISKU

Sts. Peter & Paul - BONNYVILLE

St. John the Baptist - HOREN

Holy Ascension - CALMAR

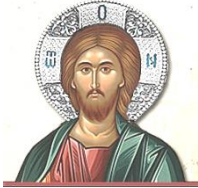
St. Onuphrius - FOAM LAKE (SK)

Whitsuntide (Holy Trinity) - THORSBY

Dormition of Theotokos -MACNUTT (SK)

St. John the Baptist - VEGREVILLE

Sts. Peter & Paul - INSINGER (SK)



Very Rev. Evheniy Protsenko, Parish Priest

10812 - 108 Street NW, Edmonton, Alberta, T5H 3A6

Home Phone: (780) 426-5163 Cell Phone: (780) 818-7343

Facebook.com/St. Mary's Russian Greek Orthodox Church

E-mail: pokrova70@gmail.com; web: <http://www.orthodox-canada.com>



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The Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary



On August the 28th after the two weeks of fasting, we celebrate the last of the twelve feasts – the Dormition of the Mother of God – with the word “dormition” meaning Falling-asleep.

The joint symphony of the Holy Scripture and the Holy Tradition depicts the Holy Event.

After the Ascension of the Lord, the Mother of God remained in the care of the Apostle John the Theologian, and She was a source of consolation and edification for the Apostles and for all the believers. She told

them about miraculous events, that She, according to St. Evangelist Luke had carefully put into Her heart: the Annunciation, the undefiled Conception of Christ born of Her, about His early childhood, and about His earthly life.

The Most Holy Theotokos went often to the Holy Sepulchre of the Lord, and there She offered up fervent prayers. In one such visit to Golgotha, the Archangel Gabriel appeared to Her and announced Her approaching departure from this life to the life with Her Divine Son, his Heavenly Kingdom. Without any bodily suffering, as though in a happy sleep, the Most Holy Virgin Mary gave Her soul into the hands of Her Son and God.

Death could not keep Her immaculate body, which shone during her life with the fire of suffering. And having risen, the Mother of God became the Mother of the Christian world, an ever-reliable Hope of the hopeless, the Seeker of the lost, the Savior of the gone astray. From faith, suffering and love, her divine power and might were woven, and thanks to them She received the power and the right to see, understand, sympathize and love all the infirm, burdened with the hardships of life and the bonds of sin. Being tempted by them herself, she can help those who are tempted now.

Inspired and instructed now by the example of the great life of the Mother of God, in God, let us, dear friends, ask for Her help, like Apostles did.

O Most Pure One, pray fervently to your Son and your God, to save your Son’s flock! Amen.

St. Mary's Church Summer Picnic 2024



On Sunday the 4th after the Pentecost we had a very pleasant Church event at St. Mary's Church at Nisku – our annual Summer Family Picnic.

At the Liturgy we were listening to the marvelous Gospel of the Capernaum centurion's Faith, so much appraised by the Lord Himself, the Faith based on the mercy and meekness, and through those the perfect acknowledgement of the Lord's almightiness, and, thus, such an eager revelation of this for the sake of the suffering servant!



We were happy to have children as the communicants of the Holy Gifts, and the young people, who have either been newly baptized or been preparing for the Holy Baptism (our catechumens)! We also welcomed some people, the relatives of our parishioners, who visited the St. Mary's Church for the first time!

It has always been like our summer mini patronal feast, with the service of Liturgy completed by the friendly communication outside in God created auditorium of the summer nature, sharing our favourite dishes and desserts, in the sun or in the shade of the trees on the creek bank.

The perfect distribution of the Church chores, when there are people who aid in the Liturgy service, and the other people who are catering for the worshipers at the Church Hall, preparing and cooking and laying the tables, and maintaining the gazebos and tent.

This year we seemed to have still more of the awesome dishes and treats, so that it was definitely more than a "one-plate" meal, as it would not have enough place to taste all the family treats that people brought and shared!

We were blessed this time by the guests from the other Churches of the Patriarchal Parishes and Orthodox Church in America, from St. Barbara's Cathedral and the Holy Trinity Whitsuntide Church at Thorsby, and St. Herman Cathedral (OCA). Because everyone is always welcome to this our informal quiet gathering!

People could discuss so many things and get to know so much about each other's life, sharing experiences, joys and way to withstand the challenges of this life.

Children could have enough of sunshine and sweats, and joyful commotion around us!



The parishioners and guests are very much thankful for the organization of the event to the President of the Parish David Borys and the treasurer Beverley Borys, the Vice-President Darcy Doblanko and the secretary Tanny Doblanko; Marianne Lecapoy, Daniel and Anita Borys, Matthias and Ryleigh Impey, for bringing the tents, the barbecue and two large boxes with iced drinks; and everyone who contributed their love to the fellowship of this day!

A heartfelt gratitude and many years to our Parish Council and everyone who laboured for the event!

May God keep our parishioner and guests and bless them with good health and peace from Above!

Rules of Happy Family Life



(See the beginning – in July bulletin)

In the cycle of his conversations “The Grammar of family life” Archpriest Paul Gumerov speaks on how marriage is understood in the Orthodox Church, on what foundations it should and could be built, what kinds of problems people will face in family life, and how they can avoid or overcome them.

So, in this bulletin we shall continue considering Part 5 of this cycle, where Father Paul presents his experiences in the form of nine vital components, or principles for building a happy Christian marriage:

1. *Never forget what is most important.*
2. *Your family is you.*
3. *Try to communicate more.*
4. *Discuss vital problems, communicate.*
5. *Respect one another.*
6. *Don't try to remake or re-educate your other half, but be able to see the good, bright side in your beloved and in your family life.*
7. *Give no place to anger and other negative emotions.*
8. *Do more to please your family.*
9. *Give help and mutual assistance.*

Discuss vital problems, communicate

This is, properly speaking, an unfolding of the previous point: spousal communication and dialogue over very serious issues helps to prevent conflicts I would even say. We would manage to avoid many problems if we had discussed them beforehand. For example, a husband bought his wife a trip to a resort, wanting to make her happy. He wants her to be able to go there to relax in some warm country... So he bought this ticket and he goes home quite content ... but it turns out that his wife is allergic to the sun and she can't travel to the south. Or, for example, he wanted to surprise her, having hung new wallpaper in the bedroom while she was at the country house, but it turns out he chose some color which his wife can't tolerate due to some psychological trauma from her childhood. And so there will be conflict and resentment... But really such resentments could be avoided quite elementarily, if these things were thoroughly discussed beforehand. We must discuss stuff—from something small like the color of the wallpaper, to the most important things: how to live—with the wife's or husband's parents or to build your own home, how many kids to have... This communication should already be there before marriage, and in marriage it's very important to consult with one another. The final word, of course, belongs to the husband, but he should understand that if he somehow “goes too far,” always insisting on his way, then he will seriously ruin the relationship with his other half.

Family is always a search for a compromise. To discuss the important issues is a must. Love and concord is the foundation of a family.

Mutual respect is also imperative. A wife came to me once with a difficult family situation, and I advised her: “You should respect your husband if you want him to be the head of the family.” And I heard from her: “But my husband really does not like this word—‘respect.’” Apparently, it seems to him taken from the vocabulary of some

alcoholics, supposedly, “Do you respect me?” Then I said: “But there are other words—‘reverence,’ ‘esteem.’” They are very important words! And by the way, it’s not only the wife who is commanded to reverence her husband, but a husband should tenderly relate to his better half, with reverence and devotion. And children should see this esteem and reverence, because the example of how mama reveres and respects papa is how they themselves will build their relationship with their father.

Don’t try to remake or re-educate your other half, be able to see the good, bright side in your beloved and in your family life

You know which marriages are the strongest, the most durable, the most, we can say, truly happy in the greater sense of the word? Not those with some idealistic situation: the spouses having common interests, compatible personalities, and so on. No! Those marriages are the most durable and strongest where the people know how to value and see the good sides of their spouses and the good sides of their family lives, and can rejoice in these gifts which the Lord has given them. This is what happiness is.

Happiness is not some kind of state of earthly prosperity, not a “social package”: country house, car, obedient children, and some other components. Happiness is precisely the ability to see and value that which the Lord gives us. To everyone He gives some kind of such happiness, according to their strength and possibility, and happiness is in our hands. “Look for the keys to happiness in your own hands,” as our familial proverb goes.

To re-educate or remake your other half in some way is a completely empty task, good-for-nothing. We can “influence” another person only if we ourselves change our attitude towards him, if we change our behavior. Marcus Aurelius, the philosopher, said: if you can’t solve a problem, change your attitude towards it, and you will see that some kind of solution to the problem is found.

I strongly advise you wives who want to remake and reeducate their husbands, to read the book *The Charm of Femininity*. It’s a wonderful book! It’s an American Domostroy. An American female psychologist wrote it, but with Protestant Christian views; although it’s written by a non-Orthodox person there are no Protestant heresies in it. I read the whole thing from cover to cover; there are in it, of course, American obsessions and self-promotion, but the book is very good. It’s about how to become the ideal wife, how to overcome all your inadequacies, right down to your external appearance and the preparation of food, to really please your husband and how, having changed your behavior, to influence his behavior, to encourage him to become the head of the family and to learn how to take responsibility to himself.

And this idealization, looking around at other families or our parents’ families or to films or books, never brought anything good. We must remember that nothing ideal exists, that every person has his strengths and weaknesses. You know, sometimes they give those getting married such advice: on one half of a piece of paper write all your spouse’s strengths and on the other all his weaknesses. Then cut the sheet and the half with the weaknesses either tear up or burn, and the half with his strengths—re-read more often, preferably every day.



I repeat: every person has an abyss of good and also many shortcomings, and we all know perfectly well that it’s better to see your own shortcomings.

Nothing ideal exists. If it seems to you that your best friend’s husband is so attentive and nice, think about that he most certainly has his own problems which are either concealed or we just don’t know about them, and your family doesn’t have such problems and your husband doesn’t have such inadequacies.

To make your husband give you flowers every day because your friend’s husband does it is completely wrong. Every person has his strengths which we should discern in him.

(to be continued in September bulletin)

In Memoriam

Recently, two of the outstanding Parish Council members, of Horen and Insinger Churches, having done a good care for their churches, have gone the way from this life to the Life of the Future Age.

The parishioners of Orthodox IX extend our deepest and sincere condolences to the relatives of the newly departed! May God comfort you with His compassion, and may God settle them, where the light of His countenance shall visit! Memory lternal to the departed!



William (Bill) Androschuk

June 11, 1949 - June 28, 2024

William (Bill) Androschuk (of Tomahawk, AB) passed away on June 28, 2024, at the age of 75.

Born June 11, 1949, in the family's original farmhouse, Bill spent his 75 years close to home. Working, farming, and raising his family in the Tomahawk area, he was well known in the community and surrounding area.

Bill had a successful career as a Power Engineer and Farmer, but more importantly, he was a proud husband, father, dido, brother, friend and neighbor. In his final years he enjoyed time spent going for coffee and visiting friends, always sharing a good joke or two. He also enjoyed taking care of his cattle, helping his son, Jeff in the field, touring around on the quad with his faithful dog, attending the occasional auction sale, and going out for a good meal. But by far, his greatest joy in life was his family. He leaves behind his wife of 52 years, Wandy; his son Jeff (Maria) and two precious granddaughters, Sierra and Ashlee; his faithful farm dog Finney; his sister Mary; his brother Eli (Kathi); and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents Karl and Helen, brother Fred, sister Antonia, and brother Alex in the Ukraine, as well as his brother-in-law, Roger and sister-in-law, Eleanor.

The mercy of God, the Kingdom of Heaven!

Maurice Kostichuk

May 27, 1938 - July 4, 2024

The family of Maurice Kostichuk (of Yorkton, Saskatchewan) sadly announce his passing on July 4, 2024, ending 86 happy years full of family, friends, and farming.

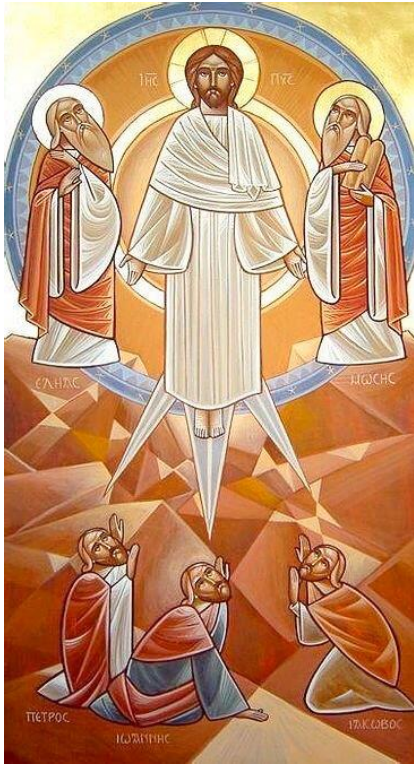


Maurice was born in his family home to John and Polly (Odowichuk) Kostichuk. He had an elder sister – Marie, and a younger sister – Myrna. From the time he was a little boy, Maurice always aspired to farm. He worked alongside his father, eventually taking over the family operation. In 1972, he married Beverly Ryder and together they farmed and raised 3 children (Collin, Tanya, and Tricia). Maurice and Bev retired from farming in 2007, 3 years after receiving a Century Family Farm award. He was a creative and innovative farmer – to try new farming methods or grow new varieties of crops. He was elected as a Saskatchewan Wheat Pool Delegate in 1969 and a Director in 1980, and travelled across North America for agricultural meetings. He was very active in his community serving on committees for the Yorkton Cooperative Ltd, Insinger Community Hall, Whitesand Regional Park Board, Yorkton Threshermen's Club, and Theodore United Church. He was a founding member of the Yellowhead Hog farm and in 2004, received a Saskatchewan Co-operative Merit Award.

Maurice had a passion for sports. He enjoyed camping, golf, hockey, curling, doing puzzles, and cooking fancy breakfasts. He spent many hours restoring tractors, fixing and renovating anything and everything, welding, and woodworking. He also loved to visit friends and spend time with his family. He was patient, kind, hard-working, and always sought a bright side to focus on.

Maurice is survived by his wife Beverly, son Collin (Jen) Kostichuk, daughters Tanya Kostichuk and Tricia (Jason) Keyowski; grandchildren Danica, Jaysa, Audraya, Ryan and Kaylie; and siblings Marie Malinowski and Myrna Sargent; nephew Lorne Malinowski and sister-in-law Brenda (Bud) Ryder. He is predeceased by his parents John and Polly; nephew Lyle Malinowski; and other beloved family members and friends.

The mercy of God, the Kingdom of Heaven!



FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

"_____ took Peter, John, and James and went up a mountain to _____.

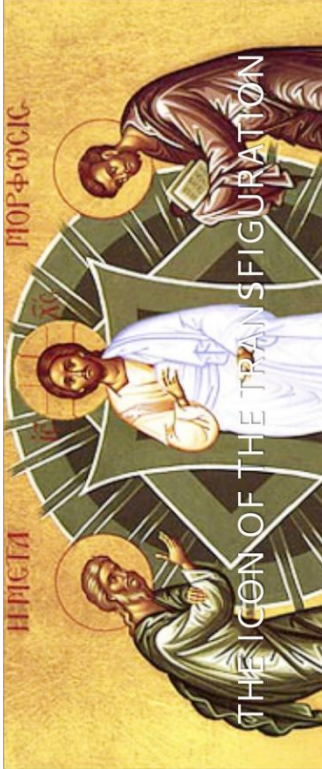
While he was praying his _____ changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling _____. And behold, two men were conversing with him, _____ and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in _____.

Peter and his companions had been overcome by _____,

but becoming fully awake, they saw his _____ and the two men standing with him."

Luke 9:28-32

JERUSALEM FACE WHITE PRAY
 GLORY JESUS MOSES SLEEP



Feast Day Fun

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

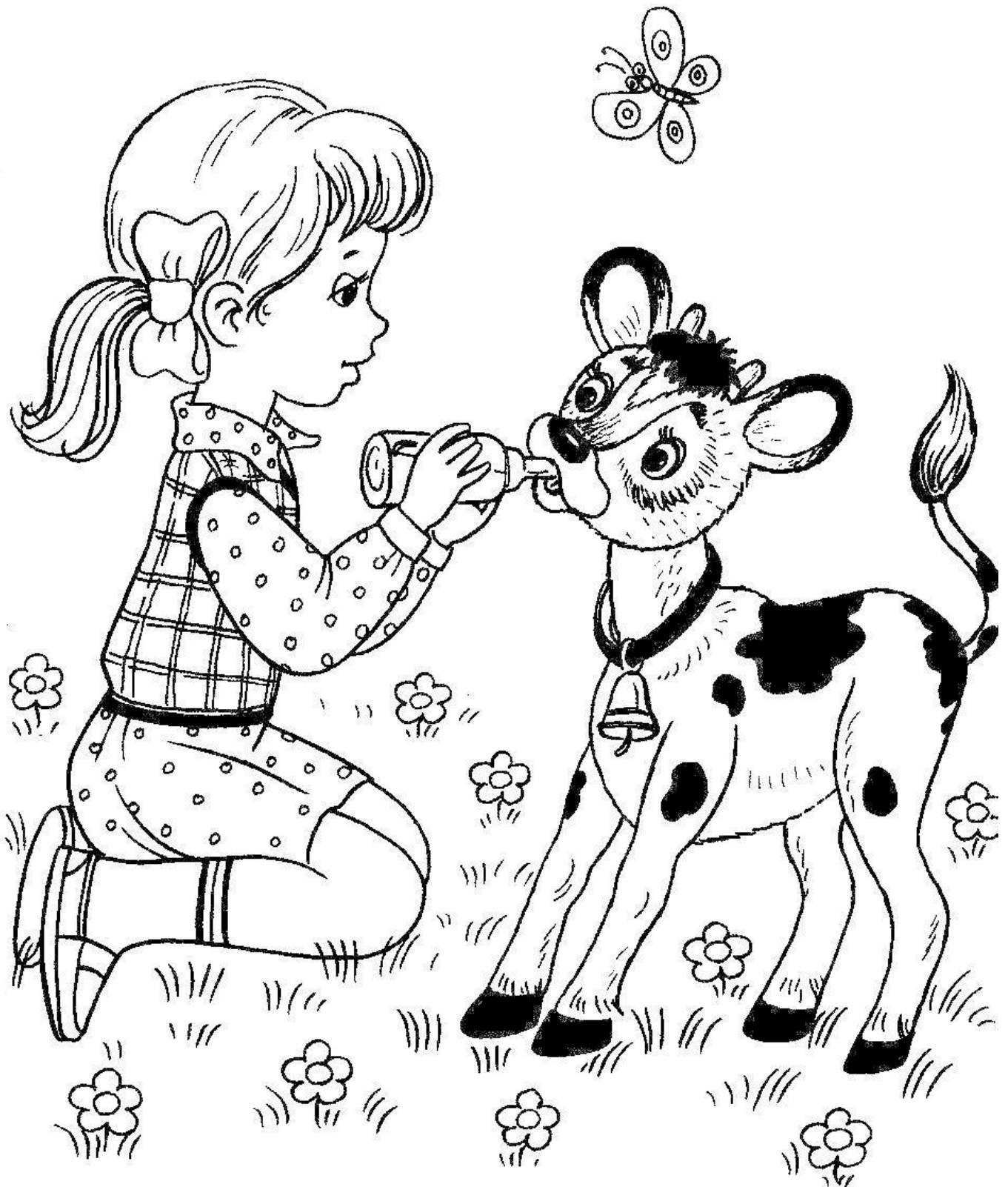
P J F L X Y J G G L O R Y S D F P
 W R F Y I R E P K F A C E R A N T
 N A A P X V R W S K L U L Q J Z C L
 C E A Y P B W G J U F E M L E Z S Q
 I L F W E L K O M S J B Y E L H W
 T I Y W T Z R M H O H Q A K J I R N
 C J L T E I Q B N S C K P M A N D C
 O A P W R O U M M E G K V Y E G Q K
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 W H I T E U B O O O I N A O N G Y N
 C K Q H Q L B H S O B G S P F X N U

TRANSFIGURATION PETER DAZZLING
 JESUS JAMES WHITE
 MOSES JOHN PRAY
 ELIJAH FACE GLORY

Children's Corner: Drop in with your children and great & grand children!

Let all that you do be done in love (1 Corinthians 16:14)

Add Colours To This Good Works Picture And Try To Do Likewise!



August 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p><u>4</u> 10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy at St. Tikhon's Children Bible Camp 10:00 am – Divine Liturgy at St. Barbara's Cathedral</p>	<p><u>5</u> Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos "Pochaev" (1675)</p> 	<p><u>6</u></p>	<p><u>7</u> Righteous Anna, Mother of the Most Holy Theotokos</p> 	<p><u>8</u></p>	<p><u>9</u> St. Herman of Alaska (1970)</p> 	<p><u>10</u></p>
<p><u>11</u> Nativity of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker , archbishop of Myra in Lycia (3rd. c.)</p> 	<p><u>12</u></p>	<p><u>13</u> New Hieromartyrs Benjamin (Kazansky), metropolitan of Petrograd</p> 	<p><u>14</u> <i>Procession of the Precious Wood of the Life-giving Cross of the Lord</i> Holy Dormition Fast Starts</p>	<p><u>15</u></p>	<p><u>16</u></p>	<p><u>17</u> Martyr Eleutherius of Byzantium (beg. of 4th c.)</p> 
<p><u>18</u> 10:00 am – Liturgy – St. Mary's Church at NISKU – Blessing of fruit</p>	<p><u>19</u> <i>Transfiguration of the Lord</i> 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy – St. Barbara's</p> 	<p><u>20</u></p>	<p><u>21</u> Sts. Zosimas and Sabbatius, of Solovki (1992)</p> 	<p><u>22</u></p>	<p><u>23</u> Blessed Lawrence, fool-for- Christ, of Kaluga (1515)</p> 	<p><u>24</u></p>
<p><u>25</u> 10:00 am – Liturgy – St. Barbara's Cathedral <i>Afterfeast of the Transfiguration</i></p>	<p><u>26</u></p>	<p><u>27</u> St. Theodosius of the Kiev Caves (1091)</p> 	<p><u>28</u> <i>Dormition of the Mother of God</i> 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy – St. Barbara's</p> 	<p><u>29</u> Translation of the Image Not-Made- by-Hands of Our Lord Jesus Christ from Edessa to Constanti- nople (944).</p>	<p><u>30</u></p>	<p><u>31</u> St. John, founder of Rila Monastery (Bulgaria) (946)</p> 