

**ST. MARY'S  
BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**VERY REV. RICHARD I. LAMBERT**

**356 S. BelleVista Ave.**

**Youngstown, Ohio 44509**

**Rectory 330-799-8163**

**Social Center 330-792-1578**

**Aug. 13, 2023**

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST FINAL DAY TRANSFIGURATION**

**SAT. 4:30 p.m. +Charles Turjanica by Sister, MaryAnn Page130, 346**

**SUN. 10:30 a.m. Health & Blessings of Parishioners**

**MON. PRE-FESTIVE DAY OF THE DORMITION Page 351**

**10:30 a.m. +Nicholas & Mary Zatchok by Grandchildren**

**TUE. DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS (*Obligation*) Page 352**

**10:30 a.m. Health & Blessings of Parishioners *Blessing of flowers***

**WED. 10:30 a.m. No Liturgy ...Final Meeting with GCU**

**THU. 10:30 a.m. No Liturgy .....Final Meeting with GCU**

**FRI. 10:30 am. No Liturgy .....Final Meeting with GCU**

**TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**Aug. 20, 2023**

**SAT. 4 :30 p.m. +Tommy Hritz III by Dane & Laurie Benson & Family**

**SUN. 10:30 a.m. Health & Blessings of Parishioners Page 135, 352**

*O Theotokos in giving birth you preserved virginity; and in your falling asleep you did not forsake the world. You are the Mother of Life and have been transferred to life, and through your prayers you deliver our souls from death.*

*Aug. 7, 2023*  
*Candles \$98.00 Maintenance \$25.00*  
*Monthly Dues \$243.00*  
*Offertory...\$1,975..00*

**CHURCH PICNIC.....PLEASE NOTE**

**CHANGE OF DATE.....Feast of Dormition is Aug. 15th.  
Liturgy will be held on that day AT 10:30 AM. PICNIC WILL BE  
HELD ON WED. AUG. 23 AT 5:00 P.M. \$15.00 PER PERSON.  
PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE 330 792 1578 TO RSVP. By Aug. 16th.**

**SECOND ANNUAL SUPER BINGO**

**will be held in our Center on Sept. 9, 2023 Doors open at 2: 00 p.m.  
Tickets are \$45.00 which includes Pasta/meatball Dinner FROM 2:00 to  
4:30 p.m. Pre-purchase your tickets and choose your seat. Tickets on  
sale at Sun. Bingo or at the Church Hall 9:00 -6:00 p.m. Mon. -  
Fri.....\$6,000.00 in PAY OUTS !**

**89th ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE...UNIONTOWN**

**The Sisters of St. Basil warmly invite you to the Annual Pilgrimage in  
Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help...Sept. 3 & 4 2023. Since 1934,  
Her Shrine at Mt. St. Macrina has been a favored destination for The  
thousands of Pilgrims who come to venerate her Icon. Praying before  
this sacred image, they place all their needs, their hopes, their sorrows  
and their joys into her hands. SCHEDULE... Sunday..7:00 a.m., 9:00  
a.m., 11:00 a.m. Liturgies. 12 NOON Reconciliation, - 5:00 p.m.  
1:00 p.m. Blessing of Youth. 2:00 p.m. Enrichment& Bereavement  
Sessions. 4:00 p.m. Liturgy, & Anointing, 7:00 p.m. Candle light  
Procession. ...MONDAY 9:30 A.M.Liturgy. Plan to join in this  
celebration to honor Our Lady of Perpetual Help.**

***IT IS OUR CUSTOM TO BLESS FLOWERS ON THE FEAST OF  
THE DORMITION. REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR FLOWERS  
ON TUESDAY TO BE BLESSED.***

## DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS



This week we observe the Holy Day of the Falling Asleep of the Mother of God (*Assumption, Dormition*). Our Byzantine Church in honoring the Blessed Mother of God, has determined celebrations in her name to be commemorated at certain times throughout the year. This Holy Day is one of the major Holy Days. Nothing is said in Scripture about her last days. Many stories and legends have come to be told about her departure from this world. As this is one of the oldest Holy Days of the Church, we can learn much from the readings and prayers of the various services of the Day.

We learn that all the Apostles except St. Thomas had been gathered together to be with her at the end of her earthly life.

There as the Tropar puts it: "She was transferred to Life." A solemn procession was formed to carry her to the grave she had chosen in Gethsemane. St. Thomas came too late for the burial, but he wanted to pay his "last respects." He was taken to the tomb but she was not there. The tomb was filled with fragrant flowers and herbs. Because of this many churches follow the tradition of blessing flowers and herbs on this day.

We can see why the proper Byzantine word for this day is either Dormition or Falling Asleep. The Greek word is "koimisis", the Slavonic word is "uspeniye." These words mean sleep, the Christian word often used for the final sleep.

The Eastern Churches stress her repose and not her ascension, a later tradition which the Roman Catholic Church stressed calling the Holy Day the Assumption. Since almost the beginning of the Christian Church the Mother of God was honored by the remembering of her repose. The tropar doesn't mention her assumption but rather her falling asleep. "In giving birth you did keep your virginity: in falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Birthgiver of God, you passed over into Life you who are the Mother of Life, and by your intercession you do deliver our souls from death."

### FRIENDS ARE PRECIOUS

Make all the friends you can. Keep all the friends you make. And when you meet a stranger, give his hand a hearty shake. For of all the countless treasures which in time may come your way, there will be nothing quite as precious as the friends you make today.

### I GO TO CHURCH.....

Not because a sermon is preached, though it can be helpful;  
Not because other people go, though following the crowd is all right when the crowd is going the right way;  
Not because I have the habit, though I consider the custom of church attendance valuable;  
Not because I am afraid God will punish me if I am absent, though neglect of church attendance brings moral and spiritual poverty;  
Not because at church I wear my best clothes, though like most people, I enjoy being well dressed;  
Not because there I am in the best society, though the company of Christian people is very attractive to me;  
Not because I agree with all the religious ideas and lifestyles of everyone who goes. I don't; it's impossible.  
*I go* because Jesus went even when He could not agree with the scribes and Pharisees, nor the congregation.  
*I go* because God is my Creator and friend, the source of all that is worthwhile in my life and in my world.

### OUR POSITION IN THE WORLD

Spiritual maturity begins when we realize that we are God's *guests* in this world. We are not householders, but pilgrims; not landlords, but tenants, not owners, but *guests*.