

**WELCOME TO THE GOD-LOVING & GOD-PROTECTED PARISH OF ST.  
MICHAEL'S!**

*A parish of the UOC-USA and the Ecumenical Patriarchate*  
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Borislav Kroner

*“Each one shall give what he has decided in his own mind, not Grudgingly or because he is  
made to - for God loves a cheerful giver.” - II Cor. 9:7*

**August 20, 2017**

**SERVICE SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost / Afterfeast of the Holy  
Transfiguration**

Tone 2

Epistle: 1 Cor. 9:2-12 / Gospel: Mt. 18:23-35

**9:00AM** Divine Liturgy, followed by blessing of fruit

**DORMITION FAST**

**Saturday, Aug. 26<sup>th</sup>**

**6:00 PM** Great Vespers

**DORMITION FAST**

**Sunday, Aug. 27<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost / Forefeast of the Holy  
Dormition**

Tone 2

Epistle: 1 Cor. 9:2-12

Gospel: Mt. 18:23-35

**9:00AM** Divine Liturgy

**DORMITION FAST**

**Monday, Aug. 28<sup>th</sup> Dormition of the Birth-Giver of God**

Epistle: Phil. 2:5-11

Gospel: Lk. 10:38-42; 11:27-28

**10:00 AM** Divine Liturgy, followed by the blessing of flowers;  
the Procession of the Holy Shroud of the Birth-Giver of God and a 2<sup>nd</sup> blessing of flowers  
will take place after the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>.

*Remember: even when you are absent, expenses continue.*

## PARISH NEWS

We extend birthday greetings to: **Justin Abrahamson (Aug. 16<sup>th</sup>)**, may God grant you **Many, Happy Years. Многая літа**

The Ladies Sodality is asking for a donation of a clean, older electric blanket for the kitchen. As well as: Donations of 5# bags of Gold Medal all-purpose flour (bleached or unbleached) and gallon jugs of Wesson vegetable or Mazona corn oil. **Thank you! Дякую!**

***From the Ladies Sodality:*** As you know, the ladies are trying something new this year. We are encouraging parishioners to order their frozen vareneky, holubtsi (frozen in ready to bake disposable pans), and frozen fried Perohe in advance of the picnic. Order forms are available now in the church hall and can be found at the hall kitchen "window". Please help us by ordering early. [**TODAY IS THE FINAL DAY TO PLACE YOUR ORDERS.**] Frozen Food orders can be picked up after liturgy on Sunday, Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> in the church hall. **Thank you! Дякую!**

***From Father Borislav:*** When you fill out the names to be remembered at the Proskomedia, please print the names, instead of writing them. Also, when approaching the chalice for Holy Communion please say your name to Father. **Thank you! Дякую!**

Can you help??? We are in need of some coffee hour volunteers!! Your "turn" would come up 2 to 3 times during the year. Explanation will be given on what is needed and how to set up, etc. Please see Cindy Charest to add your name. (The more volunteers we have, the fewer times we each have to volunteer!) Please give it your consideration! **Thank you Дякую!**

**Have you started your summer cleaning yet?? Save your stuff for us AND OUR CLOTHING DRIVE!** Items and clothing can be brought to the church basement during coffee hour. **Please use white kitchen bags (no boxes, please)** for your clothing as they are easier for us to lift. Also, do not bring electronic devices (tv, computers and similar items). Last day we will be accepting clothing is Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, but we will continue to accept items for the Flea Market until Spring. **Thank you! Дякую!**

Our coffee hours are offered each week for fellowship and sustenance for those who have fasted. While the donations put in the basket are voluntary, they are not nearly meeting the expenses of hosting the coffee hours. Please use a guideline of at least a \$1 donation per person for coffee hour. Your donation benefits our UOL groups. **Thank you! Дякую!**

We now have a church calendar for events on the counter of the kitchen at the "window" area. If you (church school, parish board, kitchen etc) have something coming up, please put it on the calendar and check with a board member to be sure it's ok. We would just like to keep up with all activities and not have conflicts. **Thank you! Дякую!**

If you have any ideas for fund raisers for the church, please let a council member know! And a reminder, please consider our scrip program for gift cards is an excellent way for the church to benefit from your gift card purchases!! See Val Sternadore for more info.

### **KITCHEN SESSIONS:**

**Tuesday, August 22, 7:30 am**, steam cabbage

**Wednesday, August 23, 7:30 am**, make holubtsi

**Tuesday, August 29, 7:30 am**, fried cabbage

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> – Annual Parish Picnic**

**Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> – St. Michael's Parish Feast Day**

**Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Semi-Annual Meeting**

**Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> – Cookie Walk**

**Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> – St. Nicholas Day Celebration**

### ***Venerable Pimen the Much-Ailing of the Kiev Near Caves***

***Commemorated on August 7 / 20***

Saint Pimen the Much-ailing attained the Kingdom of Heaven by enduring grievous illness. This ascetic was both born and grew up sickly, but his illness preserved him from illness of the soul.

For a long time he besought his parents to send him to the Kiev Caves monastery. When they brought their son to the famed monastery, they then began to pray for him to be healthy. But the sufferer himself, conscious of the high value of suffering, instead asked the Lord both for the continuation of his sickness, and also his tonsuring into monasticism.

One night, radiant angels appeared in the guise of monks, and tonsured him. They told him that he would receive his health only on the day of his death. Several of the brethren heard the sound of singing, and coming to Saint Pimen, they found him attired in monastic garb. In his hand he held a lit candle, and his tonsured hair could be seen at the crypt of Saint Theodosius. Saint Pimen spent many years in sickness, so that those attending to him could not tolerate it. They often left him without food and water for two or three days at a time, but he endured everything with joy.

Compassionate towards the brethren, Saint Pimen healed a certain crippled brother, who promised to serve him until death if he were healed. But after a while the brother grew lax in his service, and his former ailment overtook him. Saint Pimen again healed him with the advice, that both the sick and those attending the sick receive equal reward.

Saint Pimen spent twenty years in grievous sufferings. One day, as the angels had predicted, he became healthy. In church, the monk took leave of all the brethren and partook of the Holy Mysteries. Then, having bowed down before the grave of Abba Anthony, Saint Pimen indicated the place for his burial, and he himself carried his bed there.

Pointing to those buried there, one after the other of the monks, and he predicted that the brethren would find one buried in the schema to be without it, since this monk had led a life unworthy of it. Another monk, who had been buried without the schema, would be found clothed in it after death, since he had greatly desired it during his life, and he was worthy.

Then Saint Pimen lay down upon his bed and fell asleep in the Lord. The brethren buried him with great honor, glorifying God.

After the death of Saint Pimen, the brethren were persuaded of the truth of his words. On the day of Saint Pimen's repose, three fiery columns appeared over the trapeza, and moved atop the church. A similar event was described in the chronicles under February 11, 1110, therefore the day of demise of Saint Pimen is surmised as also occurring on February 11, 1110.

The relics of Saint Pimen rest in the Antoniev Cave.

<https://oca.org/saints/lives/2017/08/07/102220-venerable-pimen-the-much-ailing-of-the-kiev-near-caves>

### **Venerable Pimen the Faster of the Kiev Caves**

***Commemorated on August 7 / 20***

Saint Pimen, Faster of the Caves, labored in the Far Caves. His abstinence was such that he ate food only once a day, and only in the most necessary quantity. His outward fasting corresponded to an inward abstemiousness from any actions, thoughts or feelings, displeasing to God. Saint Pimen was igumen of the Kiev Caves monastery from 1132 to 1141.

<https://oca.org/saints/lives/2017/08/07/102221-venerable-pimen-the-faster-of-the-kiev-caves>

## St. Mercurius the Bishop of Smolensk, Kiev Near Caves

*Commemorated on August 7 / 20*

Saint Mercurius of Kiev Caves pursued asceticism in the Farther Caves in the fourteenth century, and was strict in fasting. During his lifetime Saint Mercurius had a deep spiritual friendship with Saint Paisius, and when they died, they were buried in the same grave. He is also remembered on the second Sunday of Great Lent, the Synaxis of all the monastic Fathers of the Kiev Caves.

<https://oca.org/saints/lives/2017/08/07/102222-st-mercurius-the-bishop-of-smolensk-kiev-near-caves>

### *The Dormition Fast in the Eastern Churches*

The Eastern churches (both Catholic and Orthodox) traditionally observe a period of fasting prior to the Great Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos - one of the four great fasts that are part of the Church year in the East, the others being the Nativity Fast, the Great Lent Fast and the Apostles Fast. This fast is also called "Our Lady's Fast" or the "Assumption Fast." For those on the new calendar (Gregorian), this fast begins just before the Vespers of the Feast of the Procession of the Holy Cross (1 August) on 31 July evening. This fast ends just before Vespers for the Great Feast of the Dormition of The Theotokos (15 August) on 14 August evening. For those on the old calendar (Julian) , this fast begins on August 14 and ends on August 28.

The Dormition Fast is short, but is stricter than all the other fasting periods except Great Lent. One should fast on all days from the usual non-lenten foods, such as all animal products (meat, poultry, milk, cheese, etc.) and olive oil and wine. In addition, one also traditionally abstains from fish on all days of the fast, including weekends, except for the feast of the Holy Transfiguration of Our Lord, when fasting may be eased by having fish, wine and olive oil. On the two weekends which fall during the fast (Saturday and Sunday), the fast is also relaxed a little bit, and one may have wine and olive oil, but no fish. Please check with your priest or with your eparchial (diocesan) offices for specific information, of course. Actually fasting practice can and does vary between the particular Eastern churches.

The Scriptural foundation for the practice of Fasting is found in the Synoptic Gospels, when the Pharisees criticized the Apostles for not fasting, Jesus said to them, "***Can the wedding guests mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? The days will come, when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast.***" Our Lord, in this passage, was referring to his being taken to be crucified; but in the larger sense these words of the Lord are understood in terms of his Ascension into heaven, and his command to preach the Gospel, which can only be accomplished with prayer and fasting. The New Testament mentions the practice of fasting many times.

According to Eastern Christian teaching, by fasting we observe this time-honored Apostolic practice. We can also unite our lives more closely to the Mother of God through the Dormition Fast. By fasting, we can join in and show our appreciation for the sacrifices of the the Theotokos. The Theotokos sacrificed much to give birth to Holy God the Son within the Holy Trinity - Our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, to raise Him, and to be with Him during His ministry, His crucifixion, and His resurrection.

*<http://www.aquinasandmore.com/catholic-articles/the-dormition-fast-in-the-eastern-churches/article/294>*