

QUESTION 2. -St. Luke, who wrote an account of the Ascension in his Gospel, also wrote a slightly different account in his Acts of the Apostles. In this account, he describes two angels who speak to the Apostles as they are gazing at Christ going up into the sky:

QUESTION 3. When Christ saw his disciples in the upper room, he told them: "Peace be unto you." This peace is not a worldly peace, but is the gift of God, and the attainment of it is the purpose of our life. The only way to understand this peace is to live the Christian life and be changed. It is freely given, but not freely received – not until a man is purified by intense effort, war against his passions, and desire to fulfill the will of God.

Shortly after this, Christ promised: " And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." (Luke 24:49).

This, of course, is the promise of the gift of the Holy Spirit, to be given only ten days later, on Pentecost. The ministry of the Holy Spirit is so profound, it cannot be described adequately.

ANSWER 4: Christ ascended by the Mount of Olives. "Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a Sabbath day's journey." (Luke 1:12). Holy tradition understands that Christ will come to judge the world at the culmination of all things "from the East" over this very same mountain.

ANSWER 5: It is clear that the scriptures are a dark book, unless God gives illumination. The Jews did not understand the book and Jesus corrected their misunderstandings numerous times. The Holy apostles themselves had to be taught in numerous private sessions with their Lord, an important one which is described in the Ascension story is that sin is not the only cause of sickness

There much that the apostles were taught that was not written in the scriptures, and which has become part of the mind of the church, through the teaching of the apostles, and all their successors. St. John alludes to this hidden wisdom, held so closely to the bosom of the church, when he says: "And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen." (John 21:25)

St. Peter admonishes us and reminds us of our own frailty and the sure reliability of the church when he tells us:

"Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation." (2 Peter 1:20)

ANSWER 6: Ascension is always on a Thursday, exactly forty days after Pascha.

ANSWER 7-The feast of the Ascension lasts until the Friday before Pentecost, when its Apodosis (ending) occurs. This makes perfect sense, as we are waiting for Pentecost, just as the disciples were waiting for the coming of the Holy Spirit, Whom Jesus promised would come to them.

From St Nicholas Orthodox Church, McKinney Texas – www.orthodox.net
This document is at http://www.orthodox.net/questions/ascension_1.doc

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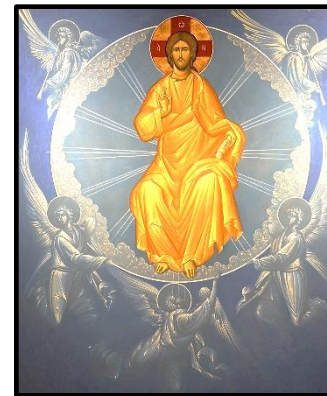
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Choral Directors: Mauri Druash-Gladys, Kira Senedak, and Pani Anne Haluszczak

Sunday June 9, 2024

6th Sunday of Pascha, Sunday of the Blind man



Ascension of Christ. Questions and Answers.

QUESTION 1. What significance does the event of the Ascension of Jesus Christ have for the Christian? Why do we celebrate it, and what is its inner meaning.

QUESTION 2. There is an important account of the Ascension in the scriptures that is not in the Gospels. Where is it? The story involves angels. How? Describe how a cloud was involved.

QUESTION 3. In the gospel reading for liturgy on the Ascension, two gifts are mentioned by Christ. One is given and one is promised. What are they? Comment on their importance and meaning for a Christian.

QUESTION 4. What mountain did Christ ascend from? How will this mountain be involved in another, cataclysmic event?

QUESTION 5. There is a significant occurrence in the Ascension story that can only be understood in the context of the church, and the absolute need for apostolic succession of bishops and priests. This occurrence should cause everyone who trusts his own interpretation of the bible outside of the context of a visible, authoritative and dogmatic church to flee from his individual understanding and seek out the church.

What is this occurrence?

QUESTION 6. When is Ascension celebrated?

QUESTION 7. How long is the feast of the Ascension?

ANSWERS

QUESTION 1-Christ ascended to Heaven as man and as God. Once he became a man, being at the same time, as always, perfect God, he never put off His manhood, but deified it, and made it and us capable of apprehending heavenly things.

The Ascension is a prophecy of things to come for those who love God and believe in Him in an Orthodox manner. Those who believe and live according to this belief will be in the heavens, in the flesh, with Him, just as He now abides in the Heavens in the flesh. Our flesh and souls will be saved, because Christ made human flesh capable of deification.

We also call to mind the promise of the Holy Spirit, since Christ mentions this promise He had made before to them, and its advent is tied to His ascension thusly:

Continued on back page

Remember in Prayer

Lyubba, Cecelia, Lotti, Ksenia, Cindy, Wesley, Celia, Carl, Lisa, Peter, Victoria, Theodore, Jamie, Gloria, Maryanne, Marilyn, Chance, Jim, Pauline, Mia, Tatiana, Mary Ann, Wesson, Nicholas, Kateryna, Aleksandra, Kaleena, Amy, Natalia, Stephen, Katherine, Victoria, Peter, Nicole, Jerry, Kathleen, Bohdan, Evalyn, Joseph, Anea Rose, Joshua, Denise, Miriam, Freida, Jaylynn, Collette, Sophia, Theodore, Donna, Lisa, Cathy, Allison, Anna, Stephanie, Mike, Theo, Ann, Chris, Tim, John, Humi, Ivy Natalie, Allysia, Cathleen, Shirley, Lucas Phillip Rogers, Dietrik, Carlos

O Lord, Jesus Christ, the physician of souls & bodies, look down on your suffering servants, relieve them of their pain and suffering in order that they may be able to arise from their sick-bed and glorify your Holy Name. Amen!

IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY Free DISCUSSION with a Ukrainian Interpreter:

1. U4U is a Humanitarian Program

- Applying for a work permit
- Update status after initial 2-year period (reparol)
- Submitting an application for friends/family still in Ukraine

2. Temporary Protective Status TPS

How to apply for TPS, work permit and/or travel permit

3. Non-immigration visas

Student & other work permit visas

4. Immigration Visas Ways to obtain permanent residency:

- Shelter
- Visa of diversity
- Immigration from family foundations
- Immigration based on employment

5. US Refugee Reception Program and other options for people outside the United States

Join us in person or on Zoom that day or watch later:

<https://duq.zoom.us/j/97006752995>

Presented by:



Small Business Development Center
Duquesne University

**Saturday,
June 15,
2024
10 - noon**

**Duquesne
University
Rockwell Hall
600 Forbes Ave
Pgh, PA 15282
Room 505**

**Parking around
the building
but not in
handicapped
spots.
Short walk
from US Steel
T-Stop.**

**MUST
REGISTER for
in person or
on ZOOM:
uchi.us@
gmail.com
Light lunch provided**



St Olga's Sisterhood will
reimburse parents for 1/2 the
registration fee if their children
attend All Saints Church Camp
Please see Kathy Perdziola

BIRTHDAYS

Fr Mark Phillips June 9

Larissa Kocelko and John Minajlo
June 10

Attention! Students and Parents: The Ukrainian Technological Society (UTS) is again offering scholarships for students of Ukrainian descent matriculating, or continuing studies at universities, graduate schools, nursing schools, medical schools, and technical schools. Applications will be accepted until July 7. Please order your high school or college transcripts ASAP to be sure to meet the deadline. (Remember: registrars may go on vacation very soon after you graduate!) All information, and the application itself, is on our website: UTSpgh.org

George Honchar Vice President UTS

Questions: call 412-215-3303



Kobzarska Sich, a Ukrainian youth music organization, invites everyone to participate in an exciting program coming up this summer at All Saints Camp called the **Ukrainian Sacred Music Workshop**. It will take place from July 31 to August 4.

Participants will be able to sing Ukrainian choral compositions they might not otherwise be able to at their home parishes — music by the likes of Vedel, Berezovsky, and Bortniansky. They will also have a chance to network with fellow liturgical singers from around the world. This year's

musical director will be Melita Mudri-Zubacz, who has decades of experience and higher education in Orthodox liturgical conducting.

More information can be found at www.banduracamp.org/ukrainiansacredmusic, or call:

Julian Hayda

Kobzarska Sich Bandura and Vocal Programs | www.banduracamp.org

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