

5 2nd Street  
Herminie, PA 15637  
<http://pokrov.iksnazul.com/>

Cantor  
Joseph Luzanski

Liturgical Schedule

Divine Liturgy  
Sunday: 8:30 am  
Holyday: 9:00 am

Confessions

One half hour before  
the divine liturgy or  
by appointment

Served By

Father Vasyl Yakubych  
Cell: 412-627-1678  
E-mail: yakubichvasill2020@gmail.com

Father will be purchasing new blue vestments from Ukraine. George Krolic is handling the money for the purchase of these vestments. Make your donation for these vestments directly to George.

Father Vasyl has informed us that conditions for our priests and their families in western Ukraine have worsened. Winter is coming and times will be especially hard for these people.

He knows a priest who has taken five families into his home. A priest's income is \$200 a month and he is taking care of all of these people on his meager income.

If you want to help these people in their time of need either give your donation directly to father or put an envelope into the collection basket indicating that it is for our people in Ukraine.

If you have a Divine Liturgy intention please let me know in order that I can put an announcement into the Sunday bulletin.

*JOE*

22nd Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 5

**Menologion**

St. Paul the Confessor

Our holy father, Paul, Archbishop of Constantinople, Confessor, strenuously upheld Catholicism against the Arians, but fell victim to the bigotry of the Emperor Constantius. In banishment he was left without food and was strangled by the Arians with his own Omophorion A.D. 350.

Fasts & Feasts

November

08 The Synaxis Of The Holy Archangel Michael And All Angelic Powers.

15 Philipian fast Christmas Fast begins.

21 The entrance of the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary into the temple. The entrance of the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary into the temple.

**Ask a priest anything question:**

What's the best way to respond to a Protestant who asks, "Are you saved?"

Quote Saint Paul: I am working out my salvation in fear and trembling (Philippians 2). Salvation is not a one-time decision; in fact, some Evangelicals have even taken the deplorable attitude that "Because 'I am saved' I can therefore do whatever I want and still get to heaven." That is most definitely not a Christian belief and certainly is unbiblical.

A Catholic was saved (baptism), is being saved (working with the Holy Spirit for the transformation of my soul), and hopes to be saved by persevering to the end. The comment may then be made to us that no sin can separate us from

Christ, so why do we think we have to still work at it?

But Saint John himself pointed out the dangers of mortal sin (1 John 5:16-17). Jesus willingly ascended the Cross, yes, but He does not spare us from suffering and struggle. The Holy Spirit comes to us to help us conquer sin and so get to heaven, as we embrace our cross here on earth. Paul himself was still working at his spiritual life. So too should we, until the last moment of our lives on earth.

Blessed Theodore Romzha, Bishop and Proto-martyr of the Byzantine-Ruthenian Catholic Church by Fr. Chris Zegger

Why was the day of Bishop Romzha's feast moved from November 1 to October 31?

The Eparchy of Mukachevo requested this change, because when Soviet rule was introduced in 1945, the territory of Transcarpathia, which was on Central European Time, was forced to follow the Moscow time zone, a two-hour difference. Part of the Soviet expansion into Europe included forcing all the territories annexed in 1945 to follow Moscow time, even though it was incredibly inconvenient for the farmers and workers alike, so as to emphasize Moscow's political control.

The murder took place at 10:30 pm on Central European time, on October 31st. The Mukachevo eparchy asked the Holy See to transfer the feast to October 31 in order to accurately reflect the history of the martyrdom. So, now you know!

Blessed Theodore was born April 14, 1911, in Velykyj Byčків, in Transcarpathia, in the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the youngest of nine children. Born in Austria-Hungary, he became a Czechoslovak citizen in 1919 and died under the Soviet regime, all within the same homeland. His father was a railway worker. In school he learned Czech, French, Hungarian, Latin, and Rusyn.

He was sent to Rome for further studies, and completed those at the Russicum. There he

learned both Russian and all about Communism. At Christmas of 1936 Romzha was ordained as a priest in the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore. In 1937 he returned to his homeland to perform military service. In 1938, he was appointed spiritual director of the Seminary. In 1944 Romzha was named the youngest bishop in the Catholic world, only 33 years old, and he was consecrated in the cathedral at Uzhhorod during a Soviet air raid.

He withstood constant Soviet pressure, after the territory of the eparchy was annexed to the USSR in 1945, to break with Rome and join the Russian Orthodox Church. By 1946, he was the only Greek Catholic bishop in freedom in the USSR. The Soviets could not crush the Ruthenian Greek Catholic Church and finally the decision was made by Stalin to kill the young bishop and force the priests to join Orthodoxy, which was collaborating with Stalin.

On October 27, 1947, an "accident" was staged in which a Red Army truck plowed into a carriage carrying the bishop and three companions. Soldiers then jumped out to finish the job, beating the victims with iron rods, until they were suddenly interrupted by the local farmers and a mail truck.

Since the bishop survived both the attack and surgery, a secret police agent was sent into the hospital to murder him on the night of October 31. In 1949 the eparchy of Mukachevo was shut down by the state, and hundreds of priests, monks, and laypeople were arrested. The Church went underground, led by bishops secretly consecrated by Romzha, to emerge again in 1989.

Blessed Theodore was beatified by Saint John Paul II in 2001.

All of the surviving priests ordained by him told Fr. Chris in the early 2000s that "to know Romzha was to know Jesus Christ." What a great epitaph to have!