

PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER VIRGIN MARY  
(Pokrov)

July 23, 2023

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  
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E-mail: yakubichvasill2020@gmail.com

Divine Liturgy intention is for the Parish  
Family

**Go to church.  
Say your prayers.  
Never forget God!**

**Lord, with your help may I make the  
most of each moment.**

*Eighth Sunday after Pentecost*

Blessed Basil Hopko  
Tone 7

*Menologion*

*SS. Trophimus, Sabbatius, Dorymedont, Martyrs.  
They were tortured and beheaded as Christians,  
most probably at about Antioch A.D 277.*

**Proper**  
Pages 156 - 258

**Fasts & Feasts**

- July 16      Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the  
                    First Six Ecumenical Councils
- July 20      Holy, Glorious Prophet Elijah
- August 1-14      Dormition Fast
- August 6      Transfiguration of Our Lord, God  
                    and Savior, Jesus Christ
- August 15      The Dormition of our Most Holy  
                    Lady, the Mother of God and Ever-

July 25 is the feast of the Dormition of Saint Anne. We commemorate her holy death on this day.

The mother of the Virgin Mary is given the name Ann in Christian writings; her father is named as St. Joachim. St. Anne is the patron of mothers and grandmothers, of women with infertility or pregnant mothers, among many other titles. The legend is that Joachim and Ann were childless, conceiving Mary in their old age as a singular gift from God. Icons depict Anne with the young Mary, or sometimes also with the Infant Jesus.

July 24: SS. Boris and Gleb, Passion-bearers Boris (in baptism David) and Gleb (in baptism Roman) were brothers by the same mother. Their father Vladimir, before his baptism, had numerous wives and many children by them. Following ancient custom, Vladimir divided up the state of Kiev-Rus' among all of his sons before his death. This weakened the kingdom, and opened the door to civil war. The eldest son, Sviatopolk, became Prince of Kiev, wanted

more power, and he planned to kill his brothers in order to gain their territories, in 1015.

Some of Vladimir's former advisers told Boris that he should take the army and establish himself as ruler of Kiev. Saint Boris, however, said that he could never lift his hand against his own brother. Sviatopolk sent assassins to kill Boris, who already knew that his brother wanted him dead. When they arrived, they heard him praying before an icon of Christ. He asked the Lord to strengthen him for the suffering he was about to endure. He also prayed for Sviatopolk, asking God not to count this against him as sin. Then he lay down upon his couch, and the assassins stabbed him with their lances.

After Sviatopolk had killed Boris, he sent Gleb a message but Gleb received word that their father had died and that Sviatopolk had murdered Boris. St. Gleb wept for his father and brother, and was lamenting when the assassins arrived. They seized his boat and drew their weapons, and Gleb's own cook stabbed him with a knife. The martyr's body was thrown onto the shore between two trees. Later, he was buried beside St Boris in the church of St Basil.

Boris and Gleb became immediately popular among the ordinary people, since they died rather than subject the nation to civil war, and were acclaimed as being "Passion bearers", that is, suffering as Jesus Christ did, silently and out of a desire to save others. In addition, there were many miracles of healing at their tomb. As for their murderous brother, he became known as Sviatopolk the Cursed. He was overthrown, and defeated in two wars. Yaroslav the Wise became Grand Prince, and ruled the country in peace; his children married into royal families in England, France, Hungary, and Norway which shows just how interconnected medieval Ukraine was with western Europe

Blessed Basil Hopko, Bishop of Medila, son of Anna Petrenko and Basil Hopko, poor, landless peasants. His father died when the boy was just a year old, and when he was four his mother emigrated to the United States to look for work. Educated in Hungary, he was trained at the Eparchial Seminary, Prešov, Czechoslovakia. He had dreams of joining his mother in the United States, and of pursuing his vocation there, but the cost of recurring health problems left him unable to afford to travel.

When he finally decided to serve in his native land, he was suddenly cured, and realized he was been given a sign about his calling. He was ordained on 3 February 1929., and served as a parish priest in Prague where he was noted for a mission to the poor, the unemployed, and to students. He taught at the Eparchial Seminary in Prešov, and was ordained auxiliary bishop of Prešov on 11 May 1947.

Bishop Basil was arrested on 28 April 1950 as part of the Communist government's suppression of the Greek Catholic Church. He was kept on starvation rations and tortured for weeks, he was eventually given a show trial and sentenced to 15 years for the "subversive activity" of staying loyal to Rome

He was repeatedly transferred from prison to prison, and continually abused. His health, physical and emotional, failed, and in 1964 he was transferred to a home for the aged and kept under guard there. Though he managed to overcome severe depression, and went on to minister to a group of 120 nuns imprisoned at the home, he never recovered his physical health.

On 13 June 1968 his original eparchy was restored, but he died without being able to resume leadership of his flock. His death was a direct result of imprisonment, and he is considered one of the many martyred by Communism.