



**Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 Ukrainian Catholic Church
 (St. Mary's)
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Reverend Alexander Dumenko — Pastor (301) – 421 – 1739

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Sunday Divine Liturgies: 8:30 a.m. Holy Days as scheduled in the Bulletin

DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER 12-19, 2017

Sunday, November 12 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

EPISTLE EPH.2:4-10; GOSPEL: LK.10:25-37 TONE 6

8:00 a.m. Confession 8:30 a.m. – For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners & in particular for repose of soul of +Lilian Byrd from Martha & John Stine

Sunday, November 19 24th Sunday after Pentecost

EPISTLE EPH.2:14-22; GOSPEL: LK.12:16-21 TONE 7

8:00 a.m. Confession 8:30 a.m. – For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners & in particular for Andrew Stine from Martha & John Stine

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Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost



At that time, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And He said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live."

If you read today's Gospel reading carefully, you will see that the Samaritan was enlightened! While the Priest and Levite were blind to the needs of the other, the Samaritan was able to SEE. He perceived the situation and used his mind to come to a good conclusion. This means that he was not ruled by his mind, but by the deeper reality of his human nature, the image of God within. The Samaritan was awake... The eye of his soul was open. The Samaritan was not so busy thinking that he could not perceive the value of the moment at hand, "There is no place more important to be than here, no one more important than this poor man who is bleeding by the road and nothing more important for me to do than care for this one who is in need." By the Samaritan's gracious response we know what Christ intended to show us. The Good Samaritan had come to be a lover of God. He had learned how to be love. You see, the mind, if not watched, is always trapped in the past or the future, but the awakened eye of the soul perceives each moment and knows it to be the only thing that is real. We "run from silence" by refusing to live in the moment. The Priest and the Levite could not wait to be somewhere else, but the Samaritan knew there was no place else to be, in truth, than where he was. A great theologian, Metropolitan Kallistos tells us that the way to recognize the voice of the devil and the voice of the Lord is this: the devil always says, "Yesterday" or "Tomorrow", but the Lord Jesus always says "TODAY"! He also writes that "the great tragedy of the fall is that we are not able to be fully present in the moment in which we live." To love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind and strength it is necessary to be to fully awake to every moment, to be at peace within and to love silence. It calls to mind the famous words of our venerable father Seraphim of Sarov, "Make peace within and thousands around you will be saved."

