



Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church Bulletin

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HOLY MYSTERIES

VISITATIONS OF THE SICK AND INFIRM - If you are going into the hospital for any reason, please inform Father Stephen at the Rectory. Our hospitalization code for Christiana and Wilmington Hospitals is **UKR**.

EMERGENCY CALLS - Please call the Rectory anytime (day or night) in an Emergency!

BAPTISMS - Celebrated by appointment.

CROWNING IN MARRIAGE - Please discuss timing with Father prior to setting a date. At least six months notice is needed. There are three 2-hour courses that must be attended prior to the Wedding.

BULLETIN DEADLINE - The deadline for getting information printed in the Weekly Bulletin is Wednesday.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS - For the Needs of the Parish; 2nd Youth Ministry

February 6, 2022
Volume 58: Number 06
Schedule of Services and Activities
Week of February 6 - 13, 2022

Celebrating our 95th year of Service to the Lord

Sunday, February 6 – Sunday of Zacchaeus - Tone 8

8:30 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Panakhida: +Archimandrite Athanasyj, +Very Rev. John Udics, Very Rev.

John Bohush – F/P Stephen Hutnick and Family

Souper Bowl Sunday - Annual Meeting

Monday, February 7

9:00 – 11:00 AM – Pyrohy Orders

Tuesday, February 8

9:00 – 11:00 AM – Pyrohy Orders

Wednesday, February 9 – Translation Relics of St. John Chrysostom

8:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

Thursday, February 10

7:00 PM – Bible Study

Friday, February 11

7:00 AM – Peeling potatoes

6:00 PM – WE NEED HELP making potato, sauerkraut and cheese balls

Saturday, February 12 – Three Holy Hierarchs

7:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

8:00 AM - Making pyrohy

Sunday, February 13 – Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee - Tone 1

8:30 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Installation of Officers

Boy Scout Sunday

SCRIPTURE READINGS

33rd Sunday after Pentecost – Matins: John 21:15-25; Liturgy: 1 Timothy 4:9-15; Luke 19:1-10

Monday - 1 Peter 2:21-3:9; Mark 12:13-17

Tuesday – 1 Peter 3:10-22; Mark 12:18-27

Wednesday – Translation Relics of St. John Chrysostom – Matins: John 10:1-9; Liturgy: Hebrews 7:26-8:2; John 10:9-16; Day – 1 Peter 4:1-11; Mark 12:28-37

Thursday – 1 Peter 4:12-5:5; Mark 12:38-44

Friday – 2 Peter 1:1-10; Mark 13:1-8

Saturday – Feast of the Three Holy Hierarchs – Matins: John 10:9-16; Liturgy: Hebrews 13:7-16; Matthew 5:14-19

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee – Matins: Matthew 23:16-20; Liturgy: 2 Timothy 3:10-15; Luke 18:10-14

SUNDAY OF ZACCHAEUS

Once again, we are asked by our Church to prepare ourselves to make a journey. The actual trip will begin four weeks from tomorrow. We call this journey "The Great Fast". If we take this expedition of our soul seriously, we shall find that when we reach our destination; the week of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we shall feel closer to Him than we did before Great Lent began. This is the purpose of this adventure: to get to know the Lord a little better and to understand a little more that "God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:14-15).



Most people who have a problem with Great Lent complain that it begins too quickly and that before they are prepared to start it, they have already failed in fasting and prayer. The solution to that problem is quite simple. As with any major undertaking in our life, we have a need to get ready, to prepare for the long haul. And so the Church helps us by giving us a few weeks before the Fast to get our hearts, our minds and our souls focused on where we are to go during the Fast. The first thing that we need to prepare for Lent we learn from Zacchaeus: we must desire to see Christ and become closer to Him in our lives.

Have you ever tried to picture the scene in today's Gospel? Zacchaeus is a rich man who would have held at least the same status of a director of a bank in a small town. Zacchaeus was wealthy in material goods but yet had an empty spot in his soul. He decides that he wants to see Jesus. In spite of living a life against his own religion and a life perhaps even unworthy of him as a man, he still had a yearning to search out that which is true, that which is good.



In his passionate desire to see Jesus, Zacchaeus meets with two obstacles. First, he must catch the eye of Jesus. This will be no easy task since he was a very short man. Surely he would be hidden by the throng of the crowds. Secondly, if he openly seeks Jesus, he will be criticized by his fellow men.

What should he do? He makes the decision. He will climb a sycamore tree. Can you imagine a director of the bank in which you do business climbing a tree in order to see a passing preacher? He was whistled at, laughed at, jeered at, mocked and then it got ugly! Zacchaeus did not care. His mind was made up. He was going to see Jesus. This was the most important thing in his life.

Let us ask ourselves, what would we have done if we were in the position of Zacchaeus? Would our desire to see Jesus, to be with Jesus have been so great that we would have tried to overcome any obstacle that stopped us from doing so, even at the expense of being a laughing-stock to our friends and neighbors?

Being afraid of ridicule is probably what stops most people from building a closer relationship with God. The Fathers of the Church tell us that it is not often the attraction of evil nor the opposition that we encounter that prevents us from starting a new life - it is the fear of being ridiculed - to be laughed at that stops us.

There are only two possible choices for overcoming this vanity to public opinion: pride or humility. There is no third choice. The person who is vain becomes the slave of others. The conscience becomes silent before the voice of the crowd. God's laws are out - the will of the people is "in". The choice to give into peer pressure becomes even more foolish in the respect that the very people whose opinion we hang onto are usually the very people whom we do not even respect. But we are "small men" and would rather not work at trying to lift ourselves up and out of the hole that we dug for ourselves. It's easier to stay with the crowd.

Zacchaeus was different. In all humility he sat in that tree and waited for the coming of the Lord. What happens next is a total reversal of the plot. We saw that it was Zacchaeus who desired to see Jesus. But now, who finds whom? It is the Christ who finds Zacchaeus. As He approaches, Jesus, the Good Shepherd, finds His faithful servant prepared and waiting for Him. "Zacchaeus, come down, for today I must stay in your house," (Luke 19:15) Jesus says. What a beautiful picture! The seeker becomes the one sought after.

There is another reversal as well. Our old adage of being "up a tree", meaning that we are in trouble is now turned on its ear. For here was Zacchaeus, up a tree, but not in trouble: he is saved.

Let us begin our preparation for the Great Fast in all earnestness and seriousness. Let us stop deluding ourselves into thinking that we are the best that we can be and therefore have no room for improvement. Let us imitate Zacchaeus and let us desire to see Jesus with all our heart, all our mind, and all our strength. Let us put all other things aside as we prepare. Let us place God first in our minds, in our hearts and in our souls. Then we shall truly have begun our preparation for the Great Fast.

My Dear Spiritual Children,

Being a part of the Church Board is truly a "vocation" (a calling) given by Christ Himself to help your Spiritual Father in praying and working for the betterment of His Holy Church. Service on the Church Board is an honor, not a chore. It is a privilege, not a "dirty job". Perhaps the problem is that we need to change our manner of thinking to that of Christ rather than have a "politics as usual" attitude. The following article I have found as an excellent explanation of what a Church Board is and its importance in the life of our Church.

LITURGICAL INSIGHTS
by Father Lawrence Barriger
THE ELECTION OF CHURCH OFFICERS

February is traditionally the time of the year when many parishes of our diocese convene for the annual meeting of the congregation. In addition to the annual financial reports in many parishes the election of church officers for the new year takes place.

Although it comes as a shock to many people the Early Apostolic Church did not have Church officers in the modern sense. All Church property, not that there was much of it in those early days, was seen as being entrusted to the Apostles themselves. This is illustrated in the story of Ananias and Sapphira in Chapter 5 of the Book of Acts, who laid their money at the feet of the Apostles. In later centuries, Canon Law recognized that Church properties were to be entrusted to the Bishop of the diocese as the successor to the

apostles. St. Justin the Martyr, in his **FIRST APOLOGY** (circa 150 A.D.), wrote that the collection from the Sunday Liturgy was given directly to the Bishop, who was able to help those in need.

"What is collected is deposited with the president and he takes care of orphans and widows. . ." (**First Apology 66**) St. Justin, writing for a pagan audience, refers here to the Bishop as the "president" since he was the one who "presided" over the Eucharistic Liturgy. At a very early time, however, as the Church grew, it became impossible for the Apostles and later the Bishops to administer every detail. Indeed, we read in Chapter 7 of the Book of Acts that the first deacons were elected, not because the Apostles needed them for worship, but because they needed help in administering the resources of the Church because of its growth: "It is not desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables" (Acts 6:2).

The deacons of the Church were the first to share in the tasks that are assigned today to the Church Officers, helping in the administration of the Church resources on a daily basis. As the Church became the "official Church" of the old Roman Empire, then the Byzantine...and the state Church in many Orthodox Countries, governments assumed the role of taking care of the Church properties, paying clergy salaries and funding many of the other apostolates of the Church.

THE AMERICAN WAY

In America, however, churches found again in their organization and funding a need for those to serve, as St. Paul referred to himself and his fellow workers, as "Stewards of the Mysteries of God" (I Cor. 4:1). Stewardship is not ownership. In many instances those parishes which loudly in the past touted that they were the "people's church" have manifested in their loss of membership, decline of spirituality and general loss of interest in them by their own membership, that indeed they were the people's church and not Christ's Church.

Church officers are called, along with the pastors and the bishops to be "stewards" of Christ's Church, realizing that sometime they will be called to give an accounting of their stewardship to Christ. The first question to be asked of any candidate to Church office is the question posed at the time to Baptism: "Do you believe in Christ and do you promise to serve Him?"

A Church whose officers and pastor strive to answer "yes" to this question everyday will find their service, though it have many difficulties to overcome, a source of spiritual joy and personal satisfaction. They and their parish will grow in the things of the spirit which will lead to growth in funds and resources.

MOST IMPORTANT QUESTION

Conversely, a church whose parish council members are seeking to answer the question "Who is the most important person in the Church" with any other name than Jesus Christ will find that they are torn by divisions and internal strife. Their service will consist of a plethora (Ed. note: an overabundance) of confrontational meetings, private conferences, innumerable telephone calls, threats and counter threats. The level of spirituality will drop, funds will become tight and the faithful, especially the younger people, will see the Church not as a living Icon of the Holy Spirit, but as the "People's Church", another failed human institution from which they will have no trouble excusing themselves.

Stewardship implies temporary custody and then turning the mystery of faith and its vessel, the church, over to another generation. At the Gospel of the Baptism service the newly-baptized is charged with the command, "Go and make disciples of all nations!" No successful business ever plans to keep the "status quo". A business is constantly seeking new markets, trying new ideas and new forms of advertising. The Church to be successful and to continue must do the same thing in a spiritual sense. A church that is content with the status quo is one that is dying already.

Like the Apostles and the deacons of the early Church, Church Officers must become evangelistic-minded. Simply put, they must be concerned with not the material growth only but the spiritual growth of their church and the spreading of the message of salvation in Jesus Christ.

Doing this is both simple and difficult. Church growth, as the New Testament and Church History reveals, does not come about as the result of any program or campaign, no matter how well-marketed. It is the direct result of the spiritual growth of the members of the church in question. St. Seraphim of Sarov stated this truth very simply: "Acquire the Spirit of Truth and a thousand souls will be saved around you."

The ultimate task of a Church Officer, centers not just on handling money, but to be along with the Pastor, someone who manifests the life of Christ to the membership of the Church community and to the world at large.

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Reprinted from **The Church Messenger**, January 29, 1995.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY - is expressed to the following: Victor Melnychenko, 2/8. May God grant him a very happy birthday and keep him for many, happy and blessed years!

ANNUAL MEETING – with the Election of Officers will be celebrated on Sunday, February 6. Please plan to attend.

BOY SCOUT SUNDAY – will be celebrated on Sunday, February 13.

CLEANING OF THE CHURCH MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Week of February 7 - Michael Tilson & Linda Hnatow, Irene Maskaly

Week of February 14 - Mark & Laura Andreas

Week of February 21 - Earle and Jennifer Robinson

Week of February 28 – Nancy Hlywiak, Jean Roeth, Irene Maskaly

Week of March 7 - Earle and Jennifer Robinson

Week of March 14 - Nancy Hlywiak, Jean Roeth, Zina Twardus

DONATIONS (CREDIT CARDS) ACCEPTED – for those who are interested, we can accept donations to the Church through credit cards. See Michael Tilson or Lorraine Neff for details.

UOC OF USA – STUFFED ANIMALS – Special thanks is offered to all who participated in this worthwhile project. May God reward your kindness a hundred fold!

PYROHY ORDERS

February 7 & 8

February 28 & March 1

We will be Making pyrohy: Saturday, February 12; Saturday, March 5; Saturday, March 26; Saturday, April 2

PICK UP

February 18

March 11

RULES FOR ATENDING SERVICES BY OUR SYNOD OF BISHOPS: Those who have **not been vaccinated** must voluntarily wear masks at liturgy or other parish family events. Those who **have been vaccinated** but have been part of any gathering of people – indoors or outdoors – which includes individuals whose vaccination status is unknown to them should voluntarily wear masks during liturgy or other parish family events.

GREETER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

February 6 - Lorraine Neff, Sonya Patronik & Alexander Smith

February 13 - David and Eve Lazaration

February 20 - Nancy Tur, Zina Twardus

February 27 - John and Sandy Cramer

TENTATIVE CALENDER OF EVENTS

Sunday, February 6 –Annual Parish Meeting

Sunday, February 6 – Souper Bowl Sunday

Sunday, February 13 – Installation of Officers

Sunday, February 13 – Scout Sunday

Sunday, March 6 – Cheesefare Sunday – Forgiveness Sunday

Monday, March 7 – 1st Day of the Great Fast

Saturday, April 9 – Spring Bazaar

Sunday, April 24 – Paskha

Sunday, May 1 – St. Thomas Sunday - Cemeteries

Sunday, July 17 – Patronal Dinner

Saturday, November 5 – Fall Bazaar

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

(Please find a substitute if you cannot make a given week)

January 30 – Ann Duncan and Victor Kaliakin

February 6 – Ann Duncan and Victor Kaliakin

February 13 – Lorraine Neff and Pani Elizabeth Hutnick

SCHEDULING FOR THE PARISH – Please remember that all events, work parties, use of the hall must be cleared through the calendar kept by Father Stephen so that dueling events may not occur.

READER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

February 6 - John Plachuta

February 13 - Andrew Duncan

February 20 - Linda Hnatow

February 27 - Jean Roeth

March 7 - Pani Elizabeth Hutnick

DO YOU SHOP ON AMAZON? – Did you know that if you would get on Smile Amazon and choose our Parish as your beneficiary that Amazon would donate a percentage of your purchase to us? Search on Orthodox Wilmington and choose SS Peter & Paul Ukrainiaan (yes it is misspelled and we've tried to correct it). Try it and help our Parish Family benefit from your shopping experience!

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL – Archimandrite Raphael, Father Vasili Andrejuk, Father George Bazylevsky, Father Vasyl Dovhan, Father George Hnatko, Father Oleh Hucul, Father Andrew Molewski, Father John Nakonechney, Father James Norton, Father Volodymyr Wronskyj, Matushka Andrejuk, Matushka Lisa Weremedic, Alicia, Nerry, Mykola, Brennan, Deborah, Galina, Dolores, Julian, Madison, Matt, Michele, Mykola, Rita, Ryan, Randy Allen, Carolyn Angelo, Colby Atkinson, Shannon Austin, Stephania Bacha, Joyce Belles, Neil Belles, Ethel Bernhard, Yaroslav Bilinsky, Maria Borowski Betty Bosland, Becky Bosley, Angie Brengle, Paul Brengle, Patricia Bringle, Richard Bringle, Thomas Bringle, John Brick, Fedir Bukacz, Christine Cain, Mark Cello, Betty Charney, Mildred (Myrophora) Christo, Erik Colazo, Patricia Crystal, Alex Czernik, Sharon Dalaski, Stephen Dalecki, David Dalldorf, Peter DiVirgilio, John Dmytryk, James Dudrick, Kathleen Dugan, Larry Dugan, Margaret Durell, Mary Eagleton, Rose Eldridge, Thomas Fagan, James Garrett, Peter Glenn, Ivan Golovniou, Kathleen Gortva, Staci Gray, Charles Gunther, David Hamilton, Rick Hastings, Celeste Heiser, Victoria Herrschaft, Carla Hitchings, Greg Hitchings, Michael Hnatow, Daniel Holoviak, Jennifer Huertes, Caroline Humphrey, Richard Humphrey, Sally Hutnick, Joette Jago, Stephen Johnson, Linda Josepinson, Elizabeth Kaliakin, Rosalie Ann Kane, Michael Kapelus, Sandra Kasch, Charles Kaszytski, Julia Kaszytski, Diane Keyser, Wendy Klinedinst, Judith Kocinski, Lorissa Kozakova, Ludmyla Krawchenko, Mykola Krawchenko, Volodymyr Krasnopera, Sue Kreisa-Christian, Marlene Kuhar, Karen Livick, Charles Lontor, Alla Lysenko, Jeremy Madea, Andrew Makolynyk, Jean Marano, Paul Markow, Frederick McCarthy, Victor Melnychenko, Ronald Michel, Lisa Miller, Matthew Miller, Mary Elizabeth Moran, Barry Morris, Elsie Moroz, Michael Moroz, Linda Muldoon, Karen Needham, Julie Neff, Lorraine Neff, Ann Nester, Laurie Newman, Ivan Otamas, Betty Painter, Anastasios Pantelopulos, Anthony Pantelopulos, Linda Phillips, Joseph Pierson, Barry Pinkowicz, Bernice Pinkowicz, Janylyn Pinkowicz, Ryan Pinkowicz, Valentina Plachuta, Daphne Pantelopulos, Joseph Porini, Robert Powers, Joanne Procak, Joseph Ptak, Carol Purse, Sharon Reigh, Christopher Riehl, Arlene Roginski, Wyatt Roland, Andrea Roman, John Ruczhak, Glenn Runyan, Carol Rusk, Isaac Schmidt, Joella Seale, Clay Seman, Larissa Serth, Dawn Sheets, Justin Sheets, Emily Smitheman, Kimberly Smitheman, Georgie Smolyar, Natalia Stanford, Rich Steinman, Joseph Stevens, Noel Strobino, Charles Joseph Sweeney, Evelyn Synczyszyn, Pavlo Tabak, Nicholas Taylor, Sue Taylor, Elenora Thomas, Lydia Thomas, Brysen Tomei, Dominic Tomei, Mark Tomei, Violet Tomei, Aria Tonner, Mariel Trimble, Richard Twardus, Martha Vignali, Jack Vognetz, Margaret Vognetz, Marilyn Wagner, Olena Wasylevska, James Watts, Chris Way, Leah Way, Barbara Weeks, Peter Weremedic, Stephen Wienkowitz, Laura Worley, Sophia Zomcahk & James Zook.

“JOY TO YOU, O CONFESSOR OF THE FAITH!”

When the age of persecution ended for the early Church, the faithful believers had to deal with enemies from within their own ranks that were even more dangerous than the Romans! While defining their doctrines and dogmas, the Holy Fathers of the Church were forced to endure bitter challenges to the Faith by heretics: proponents of false teachings. For centuries, a multitude of debates raged over what a Christian should believe concerning Christ, the Theotokos and the Holy Trinity. One such heresy took hold in the 7th century: Monothelism. Briefly put, Monothelites said Christ had only one nature and therefore, only one will, refusing to accept the Church's position that our Lord was both **HUMAN AND DIVINE**.

Among those who were loyal to the teachings of the “holy, catholic and apostolic Church” was our **HOLY FATHER MAXIMOS**, who spoke out with great conviction. This blessed Abbot boldly “confessed” his belief in the two natures and wills of Christ, even when many Church leaders were being swayed by the Monothelites. Even the Emperor and Patriarch were wavering in their beliefs!

Maximos suffered greatly for his strong desire to preserve what the early councils of the Church had proclaimed to be true. He was imprisoned, tortured, and finally exiled from his homeland. He died in 662 A.D., some twenty years before the Sixth Ecumenical Council formally condemned the Monothelites, putting to rest this unfortunate heresy. For his noble efforts, Maximos will forever be remembered by the Church.