



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

March 05, 2023
Volume 59: Number 10
Schedule of Services and Activities
Week of March 5 - 12, 2023
Celebrating our 96th year of Service to the Lord

Sunday, March 5 - 1st Sunday of the Fast – Sunday of Orthodoxy - Tone 5

8:30 AM - Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM - Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Coffee Hour

4:00 PM – Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers – St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church – 237 North 17th Street – Philadelphia, PA

Monday, March 6

7:00 AM – Lenten Matins

8:00 AM – Butter and Onions

Wednesday, March 8

6:00 PM – Community Service (here)

Thursday, March 9

10:00 AM – Akathist and Remembering the Deceased (Holy Trinity - Whaleyville, MD)

6:00 PM – Presanctified Liturgy (St. Nicholas - Dover, DE)

7:00 PM – Boy Scouts

Friday, March 10

7:00 AM - Matins

8:00 AM – Peeling potatoes

10:00 AM – Making the cheese, sauerkraut, potato balls

6:00 PM – Presanctified Liturgy – All Souls

Saturday, March 11 – Memorial Saturday

8:00 AM – Making pyrohy

Sunday, March 12 - 2nd Sunday of the Fast – St. Gregory Palamas - Tone 6

8:30 AM - Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM - Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Coffee Hour

4:00 PM –Vespers – St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral -

6740 N. 5th Street – Philadelphia, PA

SCRIPTURAL READINGS

Sunday of Orthodoxy - Matins: Luke 24:12-35; Liturgy: Hebrews 11: 24-26; 32-12:2; John 1: 43 – 51

Monday - Monday - Isaiah 4:2–5:7 Genesis 3:21–4:7; Proverbs 3:34–4:22

Tuesday - Isaiah 5:7-16 Genesis 4:8-15; Proverbs 5:1-15

Wednesday - Isaiah 1:19–2:3 Genesis 1:14-23; Proverbs 1:20-33

Thursday - : Isaiah 6:1-12 Genesis 5:1-24; Proverbs 6:3-20

Friday - Isaiah 7:1-14 Genesis 5:32–6:8; Proverbs 6:20–7:1

Saturday – Day: Hebrews 3:12-16; Mark 1:35-44; For the deceased: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 John 5:24-30

2nd Sunday of the Fast – Matins: Luke 24:36-53; Liturgy: Hebrews 1:10–2:3; Mark 2:1-12 To St. Gregory: Hebrews 7:26 - 8:2; John 10:9-16

“AS THE PROPHETS BEHELD, AS THE APOSTLES TAUGHT”

For centuries, the First Sunday of Lent has been designated by our Holy Mother Church as the SUDAY OF ORTHODOXY." The term Orthodoxy was first used in connection with this Sunday in a fairly restricted sense, referring to the triumph of the Church over those who wanted to prohibit the use of icons in public or private devotions.

The controversy over sacred images raged from the early years of the eighth century until 843A.D. Despite the decree of the 7th Ecumenical Council in 787 A.D., which stated that it was proper to render HONOR, but not WORSHIP to icons, it was not until the Empress Theodora summoned a Synod to Constantinople on the first Sunday of Lent in 843 A.D. that this issue, was finally resolved. Icons were brought back to churches with great pomp and ceremony, thus inaugurating an annual commemoration of this important event.

In today's Church, the significance of the Sunday of Orthodoxy has been expanded to commemorate the preservation of all her dogmas and doctrines against heretical teachings. The Synodikon for the Sunday of Orthodoxy, a declaration of the 7th Ecumenical Council affirming the truths of the Orthodox

Faith, sums up the spirit of this day in its final verses: THIS IS THE FAITH OF THE APOSTLES. THIS IS THE FAITH OF THE FATHERS. THIS IS THE FAITH OF THE ORTHODOX. THIS IS THE FAITH THAT HAS ESTABLISHED THE UNIVERSE."

THE GREAT FAST: Becoming Living Icons

As we begin the Great Fast, the Church would have us commemorate the victory over Iconoclasm and the restoration of the veneration of Icons in Constantinople in 843. Why? Because Icons are symbols of the purpose and meaning of this earthly existence. We are here, for whatever amount of time allotted to become living "Icons" of our living God.

There are several different ways that Orthodox Christians speak about Icons. First, it is frequently said that Icons are "portals" or "windows" into the fourth dimension - the Kingdom of God. Through them we catch a glimpse of what is to come. Second, many speak about Icons being "mirrors" that reflect the Divine Life within a person. Third, Icons are the roadmaps or blueprints of what we are to become - people that are transformed into "Temples of God".

The unique thing about Icons is that while the personages they represent look human, they don't necessarily look real. This is the way the church indicates the result of "transformation" or when we "Reform your lives!" as we are directed by Jesus: "Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand".

What is repentance all about? What happens when we truly "repent" or reform our lives?

Repentance brings about a change in the way we live and behave. In Greek the word *metanoia* is used to indicate what happens to a person who takes time to work on their spiritual life and to repent.

What happens when we begin to live and behave in a different manner? When we act differently we, believe it or not, even begin to look different. To become living Icons of God means that we live in such a manner that our belief in God as a loving God shows forth for all to see. We experience/see this in several simple ways:

- ❖ We make an honest attempt not to judge others;
- ❖ We are more apt to be mellow and accepting of others.
- ❖ We put more things in God's hands and have less need to control things.
- ❖ We understand that there is not one right but many right ways to do things.

- ❖ It is more important to make others feel accepted and loved than to make them feel wrong.

Actually, this is just the beginning of a long, long list. If we truly *repent* and *change our lives* it means that we begin living, in a real way, the law of Jesus: *Love your neighbor as yourself*.

So our goal in life is to change our natural behavior into Christ-like behavior. This will result in our appearance changing and us becoming "Living Icons", that is, mirrors of God within us.

Lent is a time dedicated to making repentance or "metanoia" a real part of our life. How are you using this period? Is your life any different during this time? If not, why not? Are you making an honest effort to keep Lent?

FASTING

St. John Chrysostom compared prayer and fasting to the two wings of a bird. They are both needed if that bird is to fly. It simply cannot fly on one wing. And so the Christian in his flight through this earthly life cannot go on either prayer or fasting alone. He must make use of both of these means for the purification of his soul.

We call ourselves Christian and so we should imitate Christ. He gave us good example of both prayer and fasting. He fasted for forty days and forty nights in the desert before beginning His public life, and we saw the intensity of His prayer in the Garden of Gethesmane.

Lent is the time to intensify our own prayer and fasting. Attend the special services during Lent and keep the fast.

A MEDITATION ON TODAY'S GOSPEL

Jesus saw Nathanael, and in his seeing, he knew Nathanael. He could see the longings of Nathanael's heart, God's plan for this young man, and the opportunities that lay before him. He even knew Nathanael's sins. And still he called him.

Jesus sees us just as clearly as he saw Nathanael. He knows our past. He knows our possibilities. He knows us right here and now. He even knows us better than we know ourselves. Jesus looks beneath the surface and sees what is in our

hearts. He understands our longings, our dreams, our deepest desires. And yes, he knows all about our sins, too. Nevertheless, he invites us to join him. He calls us to leave our miserable failings behind and set out with him on a new life of freedom and peace.

Have you allowed the Lord to see you-to search you? Have you allowed him to expose your inner drives and desires, both good and bad, so that he can establish his life deep in your heart? Most of us shy away from opening our hearts to the Lord. Yet he knows us anyway, even if we try to hide from him. He knows our longings for love and security. He sees the good we do, often when we don't see it ourselves. Of course, he also sees our sin. Yet he knows that he can set us free from it. He is confident that he can heal every wound and satisfy every longing in our hearts, if only we open ourselves to him.

As this Lent begins to unfold, open your heart to the Lord more fully. Ask him to search you and know you. He may surprise you with encouraging words. Remember, he is for you, not against you. He laid down his life for you, and he wants you to receive the full benefits of his sacrifice. Certainly, Jesus will also bring your sins to light, but he will do so only to cleanse and heal you. Let him bring you to the full freedom of all the children of God.

"Lord Jesus, search me and know me. Let your gaze fall upon me and penetrate me, so that I may be known and revealed, so that I may be freed and healed. I love you, Lord."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY - is expressed to Mila Coppock, 3/5; Sophia Beaudean, 3/10 & Ella Claire Roch, 3/10. May God grant them a very happy birthday and keep them for many, happy and blessed years!

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

GREETER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

March 5 - Lorraine Neff, Sonya Patronik
March 12 - David and Eve Lazaration
March 19 - Zina Twardus and Nancy Tur
March 26 - Sandy Cramer

ECUMENICAL SERVICE FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE – On Sunday, February 26 a joint Service sponsored by St. David Episcopal Parish and our Parish was celebrated with Father Brad Hinton and Deacon Bruce of ST. David Episcopal Church, CO-Sponsors of the event, Father Kim Capwell, Ascension Episcopal church, Father Volodymyr Klanichka, Pastor of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church and Rabbi Michael Beals of the Congregation of Beth Shalom. Father Volodymyr spoke at the end of the Service reminding people to pray for the people of Ukraine who are suffering so much because of the war. Father Stephen reiterated the figures that Archbishop Daniel had given in South Bound Brook, NJ the past Thursday on the Anniversary of the war in Ukraine: 14 million Ukrainians forced to leave their homes – 8 million refugees to neighboring countries, 5.9 million internally displaced persons within Ukraine; 18,955 civilian casualties; tens of thousands of troops; tens of thousands Ukrainian Children abducted to Russia to be “re-educated”; 5,000 cruise missiles fired at Ukraine; 10,000 drone attacks; 3,500 air strikes on civilian populated areas; 200 direct attacks on civilians – including torture, kidnapping, killing and desecration of dead bodies; 760 hospitals bombed; 3,139 schools destroyed; 1.7 billion people worldwide facing food shortages because of little or no Ukrainian grains being exported; 58,000 war crimes including killings, kidnappings, bombings and assaults – 365 days of war and terror adding up to nothing less than genocide and ethnic cleansing as has been identified by the United Nations conference on this anniversary and that they are probably only a fraction of what the actual numbers really are. Father Stephen also related the talk of Metropolitan Antony on this occasion where he said that 90 years ago Joseph Stalin conducted a man-made famine – the HOLODOMOR – against Ukraine starving to death between 7 and 10 million people there, one of the worst acts of genocide in recorded history and the world reacted in complete silence, in spite of the fact that this genocide was known to world leaders. Today the world has reacted in a different way – with loud voices condemning the Russian Federation and Vladimir Putin for completely unjustified invasion of a neighboring nation in an attempt to eradicate it from the face of the earth. His Eminence spoke of people with whom he had conversations telling him how powerless they felt with the daily news of what was happening in Ukraine. He responded to those feelings of powerlessness by calling to memory the Maidan Revolution of Dignity, when people gathered and their individual powerLESSNESS was transformed into ‘powerFULNESS’ to change the course of Ukraine’s history. Through our prayers, we are POWERFUL in beseeching the Lord to bring an end to this genocide.

At this time, we can report that \$2,070.00 has been raised for the purpose of aid to Ukraine which has been donated for this purpose to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. Please check out our web site (<http://uocofusa.org>) to see how much we have helped in humanitarian aid from this project. Again, thanks to Nancy Hlywiak, Choir Director and our Parish Choir for singing the responses and to President Linda Hnatow and our Parish Ukrainian Orthodox League for providing the refreshments following the Service. Most especially, thanks to all of the Congregations who participated in prayer.

MEETINGS

Parish Board – Monday, March 13 @ 6:30 PM

CLEANING OF THE CHURCH MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Week of March 6 - Nancy Hlywiak, Jean Roeth, Zina Twardus

Week of March 13 - Earle and Jennifer Robinson

Week of March 20 - Michael Tilson & Linda Hnatow, Irene Maskaly

Week of March 27 - Mark & Laura Andreas

Week of April 3 - Earle and Jennifer Robinson

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

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

March 5 – Matthew Andreas and Victor Kaliakin

March 12 – Lorraine Neff and John Plachuta

March 19 – Lorraine Neff and John Plachuta

March 26 – Linda Hnatow and Matthew Andreas

April 2 – Linda Hnatow and Mathew Andreas

April 9 – Victor Kaliakin and Lorraine Neff

ORTHODOX CLERGY BROTHERHOOD LENTEN MISSION SCHEDULE

All Services Begin at 4:00 PM

March 5 – Orthodox Sunday – St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
237 North 17th Street – Philadelphia, PA

March 12 – St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral
6740 N. 5th Street – Philadelphia, PA

March 19 – St. Herman of Alaska OCA Parish
1855 Middletown Rd., Glen Mills, PA

March 26 – St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church
8210 West Chester Pike, Upper Darby, PA

April 2 – St. Michael Orthodox Church
2231 Huntington Drive, Wilmington, DE

TENTATIVE CALENDER OF EVENTS

Wednesday, March 8 – Community Lenten Service (Here)
Saturday, April 1 – Spring Bazaar
Sunday, April 16 – Paskha
Sunday, April 23 – St. Thomas Sunday – Cemetery Visitations
Sunday, May 14 – Mother’s Day Dinner
Sunday, June 18 – Father’s Day Dinner
Sunday, July 16 – Patronal Feast Day
Saturday, August 5 – UOL Flea Market
Saturday, October 7 – UOL Sponsored Retreat
Saturday, November 4 – Fall Bazaar
Tuesday, November 21 – Community Thanksgiving Service – Holly Oak Calvary
Methodist Church 7PM
Sunday, December 10 – UOL Cookie Sale

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 vents can be avoided.

READER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

March 5 – Thomas Sulpizi
March 12 - Pani Elizabeth Hutnick
March 19 - Jean Roeth
March 26 - John Plachuta
April 2 – Andrew Duncan
April 9 - Linda Hnatow

PREPARATIONS FOR THE SPRING BAZAAR – MAKING PYROHY

Saturday, March 11; Saturday, March 25

BAZAAR NEWS

CALLING ALL BAKERS – We need your help to fill the Bake Table. Please plan to make your extraordinary confections!!! Thank you!!

DONATIONS NEEDED – of cases of water, Coke products, and paper towels.

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL – Metropolitan Antony, Archimandrite Raphael, Father Vasili Andrejuk, Father George Bazylevsky, father Constantine Christo, Father Vasyl Dovhan, Father Oleh Hucul, Father Andrew Molewski, Father John Nakonechney, Father James Norton, Father Volodymyr Wronskyj, Matushka Andrejuk, Matushka Laura Odell, Matushka Lisa Weremedic, Alicia, Nerry, Mykola, Brennan, Deborah, Galina, Dolores, Julian, Madison, Maria, Matt, Michele, Mykola, Penelope, Rita, Ryan, Randy Allen, Carolyn Angelo, Colby Atkinson, Shannon Austin, Stephania Bacha, Joyce Belles, Neil Belles, Ethel Bernhard, Yaroslav Bilinsky, Irene Billon, Maria Borowenski Betty Bosland, Becky Bosley, Angie Brengle, Paul Brengle, Patricia Bringle, Richard Bringle, Thomas Bringle, John Brick, Fedir Bukacz, Christine Cain, Mark Cello, Mildred (Myrophora) Christo, Erik Colazo, Alex Czernik, Sharon Dalaski, Stephen Dalecki, David Dalldorf, Peter DiVirgilio, James Dudrick, Kathleen Dugan, Margaret Durell, Mary Eagleton, Rose Eldridge, Thomas Fagan, Archantula Fanjoy, James Garrett, Lisa Gee, Peter Glenn, Ivan Golovnirov, Kathleen Gortva, Staci Gray, Charles Gunther, David Hamilton, Richard Haslam, Rick Hastings, Celeste Heiser, Victoria Herrschaft, Carla Hitchings, Greg Hitchings, Alicia Hlywak, John Hlywak, John Hnatow, Michael Hnatow, Daniel Holoviak, Jennifer Huertes, Sally Hutnick, Joette Jago, Stephen Johnson, Linda Josepinson, Rosalie Ann Kane, Michael Kapelus, Charles Kaszytski, Julia Kaszytski, Walter Katolik, 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, Frederick McCarthy, Beth McKirachan, Fred McKirachan, Stephen McNulty, Ronald Michel, Mary Ann Michalcewicz, Michelle Michalcewiz, Lisa Miller, Matthew Miller, Mary Elizabeth Moran, Barry Morris, Elsie Moroz, Karen Needham, Julie Neff, Lorraine Neff, Ann Nester, Laurie Newman, Betty Painter, Anastasios Pantelopulos, Anthony Pantelopulos, Linda Phillips, Joseph Pierson, Barry Pinkowicz, Bernice Pinkowicz, Ryan Pinkowicz, Daphne Pantelopulos, Joseph Porini, Robert Powers, Joanne Procak, Joseph Ptak, Carol Purse, Sharon Reigh, Christopher Riehl, Arlene Roginski, Wyatt Roland, Andrea Roman, Jeff Rozwadowski, John Ruczhak, Glenn Runyan, Carol Rusk, Isaac Schmidt, Joella Seale, Clay Seman, John Serth, 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, Michael Synczyszyn, Pavlo Tabak, Nicholas Taylor, Sue Taylor, Elenora Thomas, Alexandra Sparco, Lydia Thomas, Brysen Tomei, Dominic Tomei, Mark Tomei, Violet Tomei, Aria Tonner, Mariel Trimble, Martha Vignali, Jack Vognetz, Margaret Vognetz, Marilyn Wagner, Olena Wasylevska, James Watts, Chris Way, Leah Way, Barbara Weeks, Peter Weremedic, Laura Worley, Jack Ziegler & James Zook.

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OUR CHANGELESS FAITH

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We live in a time of tremendous change and that will certainly continue. Technological, social, political and economic change has been the hallmark of our age.

But in all this world of change, today we are reminded of something that does not change. Our faith in Christ, the Son of the Living God, has not changed; our Orthodox Faith is substantially the same as it was a hundred and a thousand years ago. On this First Sunday of Lent, called the "**Sunday of Orthodoxy**," we proclaim to this world of change the changeless Christian faith of our Church.

This is one of our main tasks as inheritors of this priceless heritage – to witness to the world our faith in the Lord. Jesus Himself said: "**Men do not light a candle and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.**" So we set forth our Faith this day for all to see.

America is a land of religious pluralism, a land of many religions and faiths. Obviously, we have a tremendous impact to make on the religious life of our land. This is especially true in our times, when the winds of the ecumenical spirit blow over the country, altering old antagonisms and fears, bringing fresh opportunities to reach out to brothers and let the Light of this ancient Lamp disperse the darkness of our age.

As we bring forth our icons this day, testifying to the triumph of the Church over those who would destroy these elements that portray the truth of the Incarnation, let us rededicate ourselves to Christ. Let us be careful not only to glory in the past, but to look forward to the challenge of our times and to make certain that the generations to come will confess the Faith of our Fathers.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.