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Defender
of our Faith

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

December 9, 2018
Volume 54: Number 49
Schedule of Services and Activities
Week of December 9 - 16, 2018
Celebrating our 91st year of Service to the Lord

Sunday, December 9 – 28th Sunday after Pentecost –Tone 3

8:30 – 9:00 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Panakhyda: +Bill Duffy (2nd Yr. An.) +Leonid Lysenko (19 Yr. An.) –
Svitlana and Mary Duffy

Panakhyda: +Elizabeta Plachuta (37 Yr. An.) ; +Radion Plachuta; +Alexander
Plachuta; +Tamara Honcharenko – John and Valentina Plachuta
and Family

Coffee Hour – Seminar: Technical and Financial Revolution

Monday, December 10

6:30 PM – Moleben for St. Philip’s Fast

7:00 PM – Bible Study

Tuesday, December 11

1:00 PM – Funeral Service +Dorothy Sacco (McCrery-Harra Funeral Home, Kirkwood
Highway)

6:30 PM – Parish Board Meeting

Thursday, December 13 – Feast of Saint Andrew

7:00 AM – Peeling potatoes

8:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

6:00 PM – Making potato balls

7:00 PM – Boy Scouts Court of Honor

Friday, December 14

7:00 AM – Making pyrohy

1:00 – 3:00 PM – pick up

7:00 PM – Boy Scout Lock-in

Saturday, December 15

By 9:00 AM – All Baked cookies delivered to the Hall

Sunday, December 16 – 29th Sunday after Pentecost –Tone 4

8:30 – 9:00 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Panakhya: +Stanley Hambiski (19 Yr. An.); +Helen Hambiski (50 Yr. An.) –
Nancy Hlywiak, Jean Roeth and Family

Coffee Hour – Visit by St. Nicholas – UOL Cookie Sale

SCRIPTURE READINGS

28th Sunday after Pentecost – Matins: Luke 24:36-53; Liturgy: Colossians 1:12-18; Luke 13:10-17

Monday – Hebrews 3:5-11, 17-19; Luke 19:37-44

Tuesday – Hebrews 4:1-13; Luke 19:45-48

Wednesday – Hebrews 5:11-6:8; Luke 20:1-8

Thursday – Feast of Saint Andrew – Matins: Matthew 4:18-23; Liturgy: 1 Corinthians 4:9-16; John 1:35-51; Day: Hebrews 7:1-6; Luke 20:9-18

Friday – Hebrews 7:18-25; Luke 20:19-26

Saturday – Hebrews 2:11-13; Luke 12:32-40

29th Sunday after Pentecost – Matins: John 20:1-10; Liturgy: Timothy 1:15-17; Luke 18:18-27

EPISTLE OF THE CONFERENCE OF UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX BISHOPS BEYOND THE BORDERS OF UKRAINE AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE NATIVITY (“ST. PHILIP”) FAST

To: The Reverend Presbyters, the Honourable Diaconate in Christ, Venerable Monastics, and Pious Faithful of our Ukrainian Orthodox communities beyond the borders of Ukraine

Beloved-in-Christ!

We have begun a forty-day period of anticipation of a great event in the salvific work of our Lord – His coming-in-the-flesh in order that we, through hearing His teaching, through witnessing His healing, and participating in His death and resurrection, may become inhabitants of His Heavenly Kingdom.

The Holy Church prescribes for us, faithful, a period of fasting and prayer to prepare ourselves properly for greeting the great day of the Nativity of Jesus Christ. We are challenged by the Gospel reading on the eve of the Nativity Fast (Luke 14:25-35) to not simply greet Him in the tranquil and humble setting of the Cave, and then return to our previous routine of life, but to follow Him by bearing our cross every day and hating those relationships – with those people and, especially in our day, with those things – that hinder our struggle for the Kingdom of God. Let us use this advent season to break away from dark, destructive temptations keeping us from Christ, who is the Light and Life! Take advantage of this time to renew our dedication to the reading of Scripture, to regular prayer, to good works. Keep the fast, each according to their strength, as the Church prescribes. With determined will and with our gaze to the Heavenly Kingdom, abstain from those distractions which cause the “salt to lose its flavor.”(Luke 14:34) That is, make a decision to turn from those things which prevent us from being the disciples Christ is calling us constantly to be in this world: frivolous parties (that have little or nothing to do with Christ’s birth), excessive time on social media, overspending on unnecessary presents, etc. Recall that we serve a God who dwelt among us to serve. To save ourselves and inspire those around us to follow Christ and be saved, it is for us to learn and imitate this service to the people of God, that we may understand we are to be faithful stewards in this world and not presume to be masters of this world.

As hierarchs serving in the Ukrainian Orthodox Church outside Ukrainian lands, we are also compelled during this time to exhort you all to engage in fervent prayer for our ancestral homeland! Let us pray for the softening of hearts and return to proper discernment of those who seek to prohibit the confirmation of the See of Kyiv to her proper place as a loving sister within the family of local Orthodox churches; who attempt to diminish and discredit the good reputation and status of the Mother Church of Constantinople and, in particular, her Holy and Sacred Synod and of His All-Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew specifically. Let us pray for those who, most tragically, in these past few days have once again shown a preference to act as an enemy rather than a friend to Ukraine by ordering and carrying out deliberate, unjustified aggression against Ukrainian naval personnel on the open seas. Let us pray for the those struggling to establish a law-abiding, free, peace-loving Ukrainian nation. Let us pray especially for those charged with defended her lands, among whom are numerous wounded and captured as a result of discharging their loyal and sacrificial duty. Assuring you of our constant prayers, we beseech your prayers for us, your hierarchs – for our health, wisdom, and strength as we strive to be good and faithful archpastors to you in these complicated and even dangerous times.

May we all walk together in peace and in tranquility to the Holy Cave and the Christ-child therein, Who leads us to salvation, eternal life, and the Heavenly Kingdom!

A blessed fast to you, all!

With love in Jesus Christ, our Lord,

+Yurij,
Metropolitan, UOC of Canada

+Antony,
*Metropolitan UOC of the USA
and Diaspora*

+Jeremiah,
*Archbishop, UO Diocese of Brazil
and Church South America*

+Daniel,
Archbishop, UOC of the USA

+Ilarion,
Bishop, UOC of Canada

+Andriy,
Bishop, UOC of Canada

The Nativity Fast - The year of our Lord 2018



**St. Andrew the Apostle - The First Called
30 November / 13 December**

Saint Andrew, born in Bethsaida, brother of Simon Peter and disciple of St. John the Baptist was the first to be called to apostleship by Jesus. After Pentecost, Andrew preached the Gospel in many lands and according to holy tradition, this included the territory of the Scythians who lived on the southeastern and northeastern shores of the Black Sea. Nestor the Chronologer, points out that Andrew preached the Gospel in the region of present day Ukraine and in particular the area around present day Kyiv. Traditionally, Andrew is said to have erected a Cross on one of the local Kyivan hills and proclaimed to the disciples: "The grace of God will shine on this city, Churches will be erected to Christ, and from here the light of truth will spread over all the land."

The Governor of Petras, Eget, became jealous of Saint Andrew's success in preaching and converting great numbers of people to Christ. He ordered Andrew crucified. Andrew the First-called Apostle was martyred for his faith circa 62 AD in the city of Patras. The instrument of his martyrdom was a cross constructed in the form of an "X". It is said he

choose this type of cross because he felt he was unworthy to be crucified on the same type of cross as Christ.

Among observant Ukrainian Orthodox Christians, Andrew the Apostle is honored as the principle evangelizer of Rus-Ukraine. He is also revered as the first bishop of the Orthodox Christian See of Constantinople.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY - is expressed to the following: Jean Roeth, 12/09 & Charles Kaszytski, Sr. 12/14. May God grant them a very happy birthday and keep them for many, happy and blessed years!

NEED BAKERS FOR THE OUL COOKIE SALE – WE NEED YOU! To bake your favorite cookies for the sale. Please! **NO COCOLATE CHIP COOKIES!** We need 60 cookies of your favorite recipe and we ask that you put the number and what type of cookie it is with your name (so we can return the container) on it. We need you to deliver the cookies no later than 9:00 AM on Saturday, December 15th . For more information, please contact Linda at (302)383-3235. Thank you!!!

HALUSHKI DINNER – will be on Sunday, December 23 for coffee hour. Donation: \$5. Please support this dinner which will help to support our Parish. Thanks!

MEETINGS - MINISTRIES

PARISH BOARD MEETING – Tuesday, December 11 @ 6:30 PM

SEMINAR: TECHNICAL & FINANCIAL REVOLUTION – What a fabulous Seminar! It was so good, John Plachuta will give a repeat of the Seminar during coffee hour for anyone who wants to stay.

MALANKA NEWS – Our Annual Malanka is scheduled for **Saturday, January 12th**. Our Sisterhood has graciously volunteered to subsidize our Parishioner's tickets for the affair. Price for our Parishioners will be \$20.00 for adults and \$15 for youth. Non-Parishioner prices are still \$35 for adults and \$15 for youth. We will also have a contest to find the Parishioner who brings the most people. Their ticket will be free. We are changing the times for the Malanka: Doors open at 4:30, the Malanka will be from 5:00 – 9:00 PM. Let's fill the hall!!!

GREETER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

December 9 - Lorraine Neff, Sonya Patronik & Alexander Smith
December 16 - Nancy Tur, Zina Twardus
December 23 - John and Sandy Cramer
December 30 - David & Eve Lazaration

READER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

December 9 - Thomas Kasprzak
December 16 - John Plachta
December 23 - Irene Maskaly
December 30 - Andrew Duncan
January 6 - Jean Roeth
January 13 - Linda Hnatow
January 20 - Pani Elizabeth Hutnick
January 27 - Jean Roeth

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!

SAINT NICHOLAS – May be visiting the youth of our Parish on Sunday, December 16. I am asking that all parents please coordinate with Pani Liz for bringing in the foods for the day. I am asking that presents for the children be reserved for at home distribution. Some of our youth receive more presents than others. Please allow Saint Nicholas to bring his gifts for the children. Thank you.

PYROHY – ORDERS (9-11AM) (302) 798-4588

Monday – Tuesday

January 21 & 22, 2019

February 18 & 19

March 18 & 19

MAKING & PICKUP

Friday

December 14

January 25

February 22

March 22

THE POWER OF PRAYER – Please remember your daily prayer for our country.

Today, we begin Day 24.

TRUSTEES MINISTRY SCHEDULE

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

December 9 - Ann Duncan and Irene Maskaly

December 16 – Linda Hnatow and Lorraine Neff

December 23 - Linda Hnatow and Lorraine Neff

December 30 – Ann Duncan and Irene Maskaly

January 6 - Ann Duncan and Irene Maskaly

January 13 – Linda Hnatow and Lorraine Neff

January 20 – Linda Hnatow and Lorraine Neff

January 27 – Victor Kaliakin and Ann Duncan

CLAYMONT COMMUNITY CENTER – provides holiday food baskets to more than 225 local families. They need frozen turkeys, canned vegetables, boxed stuffing and boxed mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, evaporated milk, macaroni & cheese & other nonperishable holiday food items. We shall be collecting them here at the Parish after the Bazaar & delivering them to the Center before December 23. Please support those in need.

CHRISTMAS AT ST. SOPHIA SEMINARY –Sat., Dec. 15 from 1 – 5 PM. Our UOL will be collecting the following items: Gift Cards (Costco, Shop Rite, Amazon, Target, Home Depot, Restaurant Depot, Visa) Cleaning Products: (Windex, Pinesol, Pledge, Clorox, Mr. Clean, etc), dishwashing liquid, dishwasher detergent, HE laundry detergent, dryer sheets, toilet paper, tissue boxes, disposable paper products (plates, bowls, cups, plastic ware) paper towels, napkins, Ziploc bags (all sizes & freezer bags) trash bags. Shop the Target registry online: tgt.gifts.SaintSophiaSeminary or bring the gifts to Church. Our UOL will make sure they get to the Seminary. Thank you.

CLEANING OF THE CHURCH MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Week of December 10 - Dawn Daniels, David Duncan & Kathy Duncan

Week of December 17 - Mark & Laura Andreas, Paul Andreas

Week of December 24 - John Plachuta and David Lazaration

Week of December 31 - John Cramer, Victor Melnychenko & Joseph Thurstlic

Week of January 7 - John Plachuta and David Lazaration

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

Week of January 21 - Jodi, Michael and Andrew Hamilton

Week of January 28 - Michael Tilson & Linda Hnatow, Irene Maskaly

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.

Tentative 2018 Schedule

Friday, December 14 – Boy Scout Lock-in

Sunday, December 16 – St. Nicholas (UOL Cookie Sale)

Tentative 2019 Schedule

Sunday, January 6 – Holy Supper (Reservations will be taken later)

Saturday, January 12 – Malanka – Millcreek Fire Company

Sunday, February 3 – Parish Annual Meeting – Election of Officers

Sunday, February 3 – UOL Souper Bowl Sunday

Monday, March 11 – First Day of the Fast

Saturday, April 13 – Spring Bazaar

Sunday, April 28 – Pascha

Sunday, May 5 – St. Thomas Sunday – Cemeteries

Sunday, May 12 – Mother's Day Dinner

Sunday, June 16 – Father's Day Dinner

Monday, June 24 – First Day of the Apostle's Fast

Sunday, July 14 – Patronal Feast Dinner

Monday, July 15 – 19 – Summer Camp

Saturday, August 3 – UOL Flea Market

Saturday, November 2 – Fall Bazaar

Tuesday, November 26 – Community Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, December 15 – UOL Cookie Sale

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL – Metropolitan Antony, Archimandrite Raphael, Father Vasili Andrejuk, Father Paul Bigelow, Father John Bohush, Father Oleh Hucul, Father Nestor Kowal, Father Andrew Molewski, Father John Nakonechney, Father James Norton, Father Victor Wronskyj, father Volodymyr Wronskyj, Pani Dobrodyka Lisa Weremedic, Mykola, Brennan, Deborah, Charles, Galina, Dolores, Krystyna, Julian, Madison, Mykola, Rita, Ryan, Randy Allen, Carolyn Angelo, Colby Atkinson, Shannon Austin, Stephania Bacha, Joyce Belles, Neil Belles, Mary Berbick, Ethel Bernhard, Yaroslav Bilinsky, Betty Bosland, Angie Brengle, Paul Brengle, Patricia Bringle, Richard Bringle, John Brick, Fedir Bukacz, George Burns, Christine Cain, Mark Cello, Betty Charney, Mildred (Myrophora) Christo, Erik Colazo, Mary Crystal, Patricia Crystal, Alex Czernik, Sharon Dalaski, Stephen Dalecki, Peter DiVirgilio, John Dmytryk, James Dudrick, David Duncan, Rose Eldridge, Thomas Fagan, Stephen Farrell, James Garrett, Peter Glenn, Ivan Golovniiov, Kathleen Gortva, Staci Gray, Charles Gunther, David Hamilton, Mary Eleanor Hamilton, Rick Hastings, Dolores Helms, Victoria Herrschaft, Daniel Holoviak, Caroline Humphrey, Richard Humphrey, Sally Hutnick, Joette Jago, Stephen Johnson, Linda Josepinson, Rosalie Ann Kane, Josephine Kapelus, Sandra Kasch, Thomas Kasprzak, Charles Kaszytski, Julia Kaszytski, Diane Keyser, Barbara Kirylic, Judith Kocinski, Ludmyla Krawchenko, Mykola Krawchenko, Emma Krasnopera, Volodymyr Krasnopera, Marlene Kuhar, Karen Livick, Charles Lontor, Alla Lysenko, Andrew Makolynyk, Paul Markow, Natalia McDonough, Ronald Michel, Lisa Miller, Matthew Miller, Mary Elizabeth Moran, Barry Morris, Elsie Moroz, Michael Moroz, Karen Needham, Julie Neff, Ann Nester, Laurie Newman, Betty Painter, Anastasios Pantelopulos, Linda Phillips, Joseph Pierson, Barry Pinkowicz, Bernice Pinkowicz, Ryan Pinkowicz, Valentina Plachuta, Joseph Porini, Robert Powers, Joanne Procak, Lynn Procak, Joseph Ptak, Carol Purse, Sharon Reigh, Christopher Riehl, Arlene Roginski, Wyatt Roland, Andrea Roman, Fred Royer, Alla Rudawsky, John Ruczhak, Glenn Runyan, Carol Rusk, Maria Russak, Dorothy Sacco, Charles Scully, Doris Scully, Joella Seale, Clay Seman, Larissa Serth, Dawn Sheets, Justin Sheets, Richard Simmons, Emily Smitheman, Georgie Smolyar, Rich Steinman, Joseph Stevens, Charles Joseph Sweeney, Evelyn Synczyszyn, Wasyl Szeremeta, Tatiana Szwec, Pavlo Tabak, Nicholas Taylor, Sue Taylor, Lydia Thomas, Stella Thomas, Mark Tomei, Violetta Tomei, Aria Tonner, Anna Tur, Charles Tyrawsky, Richard Twardus, Martha Vignali, Jack Vognetz, Margaret Vognetz, Marilyn Wagner, John Wardigo, Olena Wasylevska, James Watts, Chris Way, Leah Way, Peter Weremedic, Stephen Wienkowitz, Laura Worley, & James Zook.

* * * **A WITNESS FOR CHRIST** * * *

It has often been said that *"the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the faith."* The infant Christian Church of the first centuries, struggling in an inhospitable and pagan world, was indeed inspired by the acts of martyrdom that occurred at the hands of the Romans. It wasn't long before the faith began to infiltrate the ranks of the imperial army.

ST. MERCURIOS was a Roman soldier, an officer of great courage and skill. His triumphs in battle brought him to the attention of Emperor Decius, who made him a general. But even generals have enemies, those who are envious of their attainments. Mercurios, a secret Christian, had his share of those who watched him carefully for anything that might discredit him.

It was soon noticed that Mercurios did not attend the pagan services to the Roman gods, but that, in fact, he attended Christian worship services. Decius was informed of the breach of Roman law, and he promptly confronted the soldier. Without hesitation, Mercurios expressed his faith in God alone, and in His Son the Saviour, Jesus Christ. The emperor then issued orders for his death, which occurred about the year 251 in Cappadocia. Many sick people have been healed by the wonder-working relics of this ancient saint.

It can be said that the lives that Christians lead today still bear witness to the commitment of the "warriors" of long ago. Let us go forth and live our lives, showing people around us the vitality of our faith in the Lord. May our good works continue to be for the glory of our Father in heaven.