



## **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; 2<sup>nd</sup> Youth Ministry

**February 16, 2020**  
**Volume 56: Number 07**  
**Schedule of Services and Activities**  
**Week of February 16 - 23, 2020**

**Celebrating our 93<sup>rd</sup> year of Service to the Lord**

Sunday, February 16 – Sunday of Prodigal Son – Tone 2

8:30 – 9:00 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Coffee Hour

Monday, February 17

9:00 – 11:00 AM – Pyrohy Orders

7:00 PM – Bible Study

Tuesday, February 18

9:00 – 11:00 AM – Pyrohy Orders

Thursday, February 20

7:00 AM – Peeling potatoes

10:00 AM – Akathist

10:30 AM – Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood Meeting

**2:00 PM – Making sauerkraut pyrohy**

6:00 PM – Making potato balls

7:00 PM – Boy Scouts

Friday, February 21

7:00 PM – Making pyrohy

1:00 – 3:00 PM – pick up

Saturday, February 22

5:00 PM – Pot luck Supper and Board Games\*\* See Announcement

Sunday, February 23 – Sunday of Meatfare – Tone 3

8:30 – 9:00 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Holubtsi Dinner\*\* See Announcement

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday of the Prodigal Son – Mark 16:1-8; Liturgy: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; Luke 15:11-32

Monday – 1 John 2:18-3:10; Mark 11:1-11

Tuesday – 1 John 3:10-20; Mark 14:10-42

Wednesday – 1 John 3:21-4:6; Mark 14:43-15:1

Thursday – 1 John 4:20-5:21; Mark 15:1-15

Friday – 2 John 1:1-13; Mark 15:22-25, 33-41

Memorial Saturday – 1 Corinthians 10:23-28; Luke 21:8-9; Deceased: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17; John 5:24-30

Meatfare Sunday – Matins: Mark 16:9-20; Liturgy: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2; Matthew 25:31-46

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### THE SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

*"Look, O Christ, upon the sorrow of my heart, look upon my conversion and my tears, O Savior, and do not reject me!" (Ode 9 in the Canon of Matins of the Prodigal Son.)*

Scripture Reading: Luke 15, 11-32



In the parable of the Publican and the Pharisee, it was pointed out that the first step to conversion is humility. On this Sunday, the Sunday of the Prodigal Son, the holy Church shows us how one is converted to God. Where there is humility and sorrow of heart, the door to God's mercy is opened.

The parable of the Prodigal Son is known for its deep moral content. The prodigal son is the symbol of every sinful soul. This narration shows that nothing on earth can satisfy our hunger and thirst for happiness. Anyone, who separates himself from God by sin and seeks happiness outside of God, will at some time be forced to say as the Prodigal Son did "I shall rise and go to my father." (Luke

15,18) and with St. Augustine who was a prodigal son for many years, "Our heart is restless, O God, until it rests in you."

The theme of the parable is the life of a wealthy family. The younger of two sons wishes independence and freedom. Taking his inheritance, he journeys to a far-off country. There, he squandered his inheritance and acted irresponsibly. Quickly his quasi friends melted away and he was reduced to poverty at which point he was forced to become a

swineherdsman. This rich young man who wished to live according to the desires of his heart now becomes a lowly swineherdsman.

Miserable and hungry, he decides to return to his father's house. His father is moved with pity when he sees his son in the distance. He restores the son's former dignity as a son, and presents him with a festive robe, ring and sandals.

(In the East, to present a man with a festive robe was a sign of special honor. The ring was the symbol of authority worn by kings and high officials. Sandals were worn by the wealthy while the poor and slaves went barefoot.)

The story of the wayward son is portrayed in beautifully poetic fashion through out the entire service of this Sunday. The melodies of the day express the cry of a soul, contrite and repentant, sorry for its fall, yearning for the love of the heavenly Father. The Prodigal Son experienced a longing for God within his heart and sorrow over his sinful state.

In the first stichera from Solemn Vespers of the Sunday of the Prodigal Son we sing:

"I have journeyed into a land of sin and animals, and have sown sin and reaped its ears with the scythe of laziness; and with my hands I gathered my deeds into sheaves, but did not place them on the threshing floor of repentance. But I beg You, O Divine Husbandman to winnow the chaff of my deeds with the breeze of your compassionate love; and fill my soul with the wheat of forgiveness. Store me in your heavenly garner, and save me."

The troparion of the day express an awareness of one's own misery, sincere sorrow and repentance, as well as a desire to beg God for forgiveness and mercy.

"Hasten to open to me your fatherly arms for waywardly have I loved my life; but since You are infinitely rich in mercy, O Savior, do not despise my impoverished heart, for to You, O Lord, I cry in repentance: I have sinned, O Father, before heaven and before Your."

This parable teaches us that God forgives and mercifully receives even the greatest sinners, if they repent and are sorry for their sins. "The mercy of the Lord is from eternity to eternity upon them that fear him." (Psalm 103,17)

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## **THE SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON**

### **The Third Pre-Great Fast Sunday**

#### **Scripture Reading: Luke 15:11-32**

"Brothers and sisters, let us learn the meaning of this mystery. For when the Prodigal Son ran back from sin to his father's house, his loving father came out to meet him and kissed him. He restored to the Prodigal the tokens of his proper glory. . ."

#### **Vespers for the Sunday of the Prodigal Son**

"The tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Him (Jesus), at which the Pharisees and Scribes murmured, 'This man welcomes sinners and eats with them'" (Luke 15:1). This was why Jesus told the parable of the Prodigal Son. Notice that Jesus does not rebuke them for their hypocrisy but gently tells them the parables of mercy in a language they could understand and to which they can relate. The crowning one is the prodigal son. Some commentators call it the Parable of the Loving Father. On this Third Pre-Fast Sunday, the Prodigal Son's sorrow for past sins is presented to us as the third requisite needed for true repentance (The first is the desire [Sunday of Zacchaeus]; and the second is humility [Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee]).

Let's look at the characters of this parable. The younger son grossly insults his father by asking for his share of the inheritance. In effect he was saying, "Father, die so that I can have what is mine." To compound the sin, he goes far away and squanders it all on loose living. How often we think that because we are out of the sight of our guardians or loved ones that we are also out of God's sight as well. How foolish! Only when the son hits rock bottom does he come to himself and realize that he has sinned. We can only be truly ourselves when we are union with God, our Father. To be apart from Him is to be in sin and truly out of our senses. Total and complete unity will only be ours in the Kingdom.

The father waits with love and yearning for his son. "While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him and was deeply moved." He completely forgave and forgot his son's greed. He embodied in himself the words of the Prophet Isaiah: "Can a mother forget her infant. . . Even if she should forget I shall never forget you. See, upon the palms of my hands I have written your name" (Isaiah 49:15).

The elder son was enraged at the love, compassion and forgiveness of the father. He acted just like the Scribes and the Pharisees mentioned above. He really didn't realize how much the father also loved him. He didn't hear: "My son, you are with me always, and everything I have is yours." His heart was too hard to show any compassion or forgiveness or joy for his brother. He could not understand that "We had to celebrate and rejoice! This brother of

yours was dead, and has come back to life. He was lost and is now found." May we ourselves not judge others and may we rejoice with those who are forgiven and repent.

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### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY** - is expressed to the following: Jennifer Robinson, 2/19 & Carl Krauthauser, 2/22. May God grant them a very happy birthday and keep them for many, happy and blessed years!

**FATHER STEPHEN** – will be away from Friday, Feb. 21 – Tuesday, Feb., 25. In case of emergency, please call Father Gus Christo (302) 298-5183 or father Emmanuel Pratsinakis (215)543-2989.

**HOLUBTSI DINNER** – next Sunday, February 23rd in honor of Meatfare Sunday. A donation of \$5.00 is requested

**COFFEE HOUR – IMPORTANT – ALL** coffee hour dates must be cleared by Linda Hnatow, Chairperson, so that food is not wasted. There is no automatic sponsorship for a Sunday. Your donations to coffee hour are greatly appreciated. Please book a date. Thanks

### **MEETINGS – MINISTRIES**

**PARISH BOARD MEETING** – Tuesday, March 10 @ 6:30 PM.

**A SPECIAL PRESENTATION** – will be made at a later date about a new fund raising project in which I believe everyone will be interested. Always remember that each tiny effort builds on the next so that brick by brick magnificent things can be created.

### **TRUSTEES MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

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

February 16 – Victor Kaliakin and Ann Duncan

February 23 – Linda Hnatow and Lorraine Neff

March 1 - Linda Hnatow and Lorraine Neff

March 8 – Victor Kaliakin and Ann Duncan

March 15 – Victor Kaliakin and Ann Duncan

March 22 – Linda Hnatow and Lorraine Neff

**FEEDING THE HUNGRY** – please see Linda Hnatow, Chairperson, if you are interested in continuing this ministry at Emmanuel Dining Room West. Four people are needed. We have been scheduled for the first Saturday of each month.

**THE POWER OF PRAYER** – Today, we begin Day 18.

**UOL LENTEN SOUPS** – will be available for purchase from March 8 – April 5. A list of the soups will be announced. Soups are sold at \$8.00 per quart. Order yours today!

### **PYROHY SCHEDULE**

#### **2020 - Tentative**

Friday, February 21

Friday, March 20

Wednesday, April 1 (for the Spring Bazaar)

Friday, May 15

### **READER MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

February 16 – Jean Roeth

February 23 - Irene Maskaly

March 1 - Andrew Duncan

March 8 - Pani Elizabeth Hutnick

March 15 - Jean Roeth

### **GREETER MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

February 16 - John and Sandy Cramer

February 23 - David & Eve Lazaration

March 1 - Lorraine Neff, Sonya Patronik & Alexander Smith

March 8 - Nancy Tur, Zina Twardus

### **Tentative 2020 Schedule**

Monday, March 2 – Great Lent Begins – Clean Monday

Sunday, March 8 – Orthodox Sunday – tentative Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood here

Wednesday, March 11 – Hosting the Local Church Lenten Service

Saturday, April 4 – Spring Bazaar

Sunday, April 12 – Palm Sunday – Holy Week -

Sunday, April 19 – PASKHA

Sunday, April 26 – St. Thomas Sunday – Cemeteries

Sunday, May 10 – Mother's Day

Sunday, June 21 – Father's Day

Sunday, July 12 – Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul – Parish Appreciation Day

Saturday, August 1 – UOL Flea Market

Saturday, November 7 – Fall Bazaar

Tuesday, November 24 – Community Thanksgiving Service (Ascension Episcopal)

Sunday, December 13 – St. Nicholas (Sts. Peter and Paul) UOL Cookie Sale



**POT LUCK SUPPER AND BOARD GAMES** – this Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, beginning at 5:00 PM. Please see Linda Hnatow or Nancy Hlywiak if you would like to attend. Please bring your favorite board game and a dish!!

**100<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ECUMENICAL LENTEN SERVICES**

**(6:00 PM – Service – Light Lenten Supper to Follow)**

Wednesday, March 4 – Aldersgate Methodist

Wednesday, March 11 – Sts. Peter and Paul (Here)

Wednesday, March 18 – Chester Bethel Methodist

Wednesday, March 25 – St. Joseph on the Brandywine

Wednesday, April 1 – St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church

**ORTHODOX CLERGY BROTHERHOOD LENTEN VESPERS**

**(All Services begin at 4:00 PM)**

**March 8 - 1st Sunday of Great Fast: Sunday of Orthodoxy**

Sts. Peter and Paul, Wilmington

**March 15 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Fast - St. Gregory Palamas**

St Mark Church, Wrightstown 452 Durham Rd, 18940

**March 22 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Fast - the Precious Cross**

Holy Trinity Church, Pottstown 1236 Juniper St, 19464

**March 29 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Fast - St. John of the Ladder**

St George Church, Upper Darby 8210 W. Chester Pike, 19082

**April 5 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Fast - St. Mary of Egypt**

St John Chrysostom, Philadelphia 237 N 17th Street, 19103

**CLEANING OF THE CHURCH MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

Week of February 17 – **WE NEED A TEAM TO FILL THIS SLOT**

Week of February 24 - Nancy Hlywiak, Jean Roeth, Zina Twardus

Week of March 2 - Michael Tilson & Linda Hnatow, Irene Maskaly

Week of March 9 - Mark & Laura Andreas, Paul Andreas

Week of March 16 - Earle and Jennifer Robinson

**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 Ukrainaian (yes it is misspelled and we've tried to correct it). Try it and help our Parish Family benefit from your shopping experience!

## **B A Z A A R N E W S**

### **EXTRA PREPARATION DAYS FOR THE SPRING BAZAAR**

Wednesday, February 26 – 10 AM - making nut rolls

Friday, March 6 – 7:00 AM making sauerkraut and cheese pyrohy for the Bazaar

Tuesday, March 10 – 8:30 AM - Baking paskas

Saturday, March 14 10 AM – Making holubtsi

Tuesday, March 17 – 10 AM – nut rolls

### **BAZAAR WEEK**

Monday, March 30 – 8AM – 250 lbs. butter and onions

2:30 PM – Frying sauerkraut

Tuesday, March 31 7AM - Peeling potatoes

6 PM – Making potato balls

Wednesday, April 1 – 7 AM – making pyrohy (no kidding)

Thursday, April 2 – 10 AM – Making holubtsi; frying cabbage – cutting veggies for soup

Friday, April 3 – 8 AM – Making the mushroom soup; set up;

2 – 4PM – Donations for the bake table (see announcement)

**BAKERS NEEDED** – We need to know in advance as to what will be coming for the bake table so that it will be easier to price and display the items. Please pick up a form at coffee hour and return it by Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Your delicious creations are always appreciated.

**OLD COUNTRY KOVBASSA** – If you would like to order the Old Country Kovbassa for Paskha, please see Kathy Duncan (this is not the same kovbassa that we normally order) by Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP** – in donating Coke products, water, paper towels, bathroom tissue, etc. It is always greatly appreciated.

**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 Mark Leisure, 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, Julian, Madison, Michele, Mykola, Rita, Ryan, Randy Allen, Carolyn Angelo, Colby Atkinson, Shannon Austin, Stephania Bacha, Joyce Belles, Neil Belles, Ethel Bernhard, Yaroslav Bilinsky, Betty Bosland, Becky Bosley, Angie Brengle, Paul Brengle, Patricia Bringle, Richard Bringle, Thomas Bringle, John Brick, Fedir Bukacz, George Burns, 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, David Duncan, Rose Eldridge, Thomas Fagan, James Garrett, Peter Glenn, Ivan Golovnirov, Kathleen Gortva, Staci Gray, Charles Gunther, David Hamilton, Rick Hastings, Celeste Heiser, Dolores Helms, Victoria Herrschaft, Carla Hitchings, Greg Hitchings, Anthony Hnatow, Daniel Holoviak, Caroline Humphrey, Richard Humphrey, Sally Hutnick, Joette Jago, Stephen Johnson, Linda Josepinson, Rosalie Ann Kane, Sandra Kasch, Thomas Kasprzak, Charles Kaszytski, Julia Kaszytski, Diane Keyser, Barbara Kirylic, Wendy Klinedinst, Judith Kocinski, Ludmyla Krawchenko, Mykola Krawchenko, Emma Krasnopera, Volodymyr Krasnopera, Sue Kreisa-Christian, Marlene Kuhar, Karen Livick, Charles Lontor, Alla Lysenko, Andrew Makolynyk, Jean Marano, Paul Markow, Frederick McCarthy, Ronald Michel, Lisa Miller, Matthew Miller, Mary Elizabeth Moran, Barry Morris, Elsie Moroz, Michael Moroz, Linda Muldoon, Karen Needham, Julie Neff, Ann Nester, Laurie Newman, Betty Painter, Anastasios Pantelopulos, Linda Phillips, Joseph Pierson, Barry Pinkowicz, Bernice Pinkowicz, Ryan Pinkowicz, Valentina Plachuta, Maria Plumpton, Joseph Porini, Robert Powers, Joanne Procak, Lynn Procak, Joseph Ptak, Carol Purse, Sharon Reigh, Christopher Riehl, Arlene Roginski, Wyatt Roland, Andrea Roman, Alla Rudawsky, John Ruczhak, Glenn Runyan, Carol Rusk, Maria Russak, Anthony Saldutti, Dana Sargent, Doris Scully, Joella Seale, Clay Seman, Larissa Serth, Dawn Sheets, Justin Sheets, Emily Smitheman, Georgie Smolyar, Rich Steinman, Joseph Stevens, Charles Joseph Sweeney, Evelyn Synczyszyn, Wasyl Szeremeta, Tatiana Szewc, Pavlo Tabak, Nicholas Taylor, Sue Taylor, Elenora Thomas, Lydia Thomas, Brysen Tomei, Dominic Tomei, Mark Tomei, Violet Tomei, Aria Tonner, Anna Tur, 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, & James Zook.

**"OUR HEART IS RESTLESS UNTIL IT RESTS IN THE LORD"**

**A**s we continue to prepare for the beginning of Great Lent, our Holy Church places before us today the Parable of the PRODIGAL SON. It is a story that graphically points out the impetuosity of youth through the character of the youngest son, who impatiently demanded his inheritance and consequently lost everything. It is a tale of unconditional mercy, as the father in the parable - symbolizing God Himself - lovingly welcomes home his humbled, repentant offspring.

More importantly, however, the Parable of the Prodigal Son can be likened to each of us looking in a mirror. In effect, this is a story about ALL OF US. At one time or another, everyone of us has given in to the same temptations that clouded the thinking of the Prodigal Son. We have abandoned our Father's house and have strayed from the path that has been set for us. We have all foolishly felt that we can make it through life doing things "our way."

Inevitably, we must all realize that seeking a life of PLEASURE cannot bring us true HAPPINESS, for this can only be found when we are in communion with God. As St. Augustine tells us: "Our heart is restless until it rests in the Lord."

It is never too late to "rise and go to our Father." He waits for all of us to return to Him! He offers us something far more valuable than a robe, ring and sandals when we repent - He promises us a place in His Heavenly Kingdom.

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