



SS. PETER & PAUL UKRAINIAN
ORTHODOX CHURCH

21 Evergreen Road
Lyndora, PA 16045-1314



УКРАЇНСЬКА ПРАВОСЛАВНА
ЦЕРКВА СВ. ПЕТРА І ПАВЛА

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WELCOME All! Welcome to the God-Loving and God-Protected Parish of Saints Peter and Paul! A Parish of the UOC of the USA and the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Our warmest greetings are extended to all visitors and guests, and to all of our beloved parishioners who are participating in today's Divine Liturgy. We are blessed to have you with us today! If you are with us for the first time, PLEASE introduce yourself to Father Yurii – he is looking forward to meeting you! Also, please feel free to email or call Father Yurii with any questions and let him know what is going on in your life, especially if you need spiritual guidance. We hope that you will find peace and comfort in Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church. You are very welcome to come every Sunday and on feast days, make yourself at home, and to become a part of our parish family. Through your prayers and dedication of time, talents, and donations, this can become a reality in all faith and love.

FEBRUARY 2ND 2025

Sunday, February 2

Meeting XC in Temple

Epistle Reading: Heb 7:7-17

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:22-40

Divine Liturgy – 9:30

Sunday, February 9

PUBLICAN & PHARISEE

Mar Nicephorus of Antioch.

Epistle Reading: 2 Tim 3:10-15

Gospel Reading: Luke 18:1-10

Divine Liturgy – 9:30

Sunday, February 16

PRODIGAL SON

Martyr Pamphilus

Epistle Reading: 1 Cor 6:12-20

Gospel Reading: Luke 15:11-32

Divine Liturgy – 9:30

CONTACT

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Parish Board President:

Maria Corbin

Choir Director:

Lydia Rudolf

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX PARISH

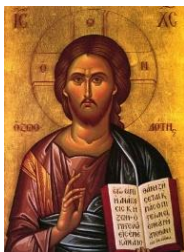
GOSPEL AND EPISTLE READING

St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 7:7-17



BRETHREN, it is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior. Here tithes are received by mortal men; there, by one whom it is testified that he lives. One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him. Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron? For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well. For the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. This becomes even more evident when another priest arises in the likeness of Melchizedek, who has become a priest, not according to a legal requirement concerning bodily descent but by the power of an indestructible life. For it is witnessed of him, "Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek."

The Gospel According to Luke 2:22-40



At that time, the parents brought the child Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtle doves, or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Symeon, and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And inspired by the Spirit he came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

"Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."

And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him; and Symeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in

Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher; she was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years from her virginity, and as a widow till she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she gave thanks to God, and spoke of him to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. And when they had performed everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All the citizens and residents of Ukraine, Sherry, Barbara, Halyna, Patricia, Maria, Stanley, pani Lilia, Jean Markiw, Debbie, Wesly, Cindy, Christine, Denny Zymboly, Ruth Dally, Philip, Eric, Carl, Kayden, Rose, Dorothy Cygan, Helen, Fr. Vasyl, Mary-Ann, Payton, Anthony, Tina, Mykola, Stella, Maksymko, Fr. Yurii, Maria, Fr. Jakiw, Fr. George, Volodymyr, Alexandr, Vincent, John, Frank, Rowena, Carol.

PARISH NEWS AND UPDATES

February 2nd – Potluck Super Bowl Sunday Fundraising Event.

February 4th – Ss. Peter and Paul Fellowship meeting, 6 pm.

Please remember, Sunday, February 2nd, we are going to celebrate one of the 12 great feasts of our Holy Orthodox Church – **Meeting of our Lord and Savior in the Temple**, come and join us for the celebration of Divine Liturgy! After Divine Liturgy, we will have a **blessing of Candles**.

Super Bowl Sunday Potluck & Fundraiser

Join us on Sunday, February 2nd, after Divine Liturgy for a special Potluck Super Bowl Sunday Fundraising Event! This gathering will benefit St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Society, supporting their vital work with the soup kitchen in Ukraine, which provides meals for those in need. Bring your favorite soup to share and enjoy an afternoon of fellowship and giving back. Let's come together to make a difference for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine.

Pirohi Sale

A heartfelt thank you to all who helped with our last Pirohi Sale! Your hard work and dedication made it a great success, and we couldn't have done it without the effort from our volunteers. **We wish to announce that February 14th, we are going to have our next Pirohi Sale!** We look forward to seeing everyone back in the kitchen as we continue this beloved tradition!

Since the establishment of our new Ss Peter and Paul Christian fellowship, we have achieved much together. From organizing events to aiding those in need, and simply coming together as one family, our efforts have been a testament to our commitment to serving others and glorifying God. We extend a warm invitation to all to become involved in our organization and contribute to our shared mission of serving our neighbors for the greater glory of God.

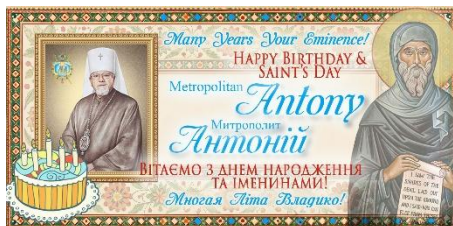
Dear brothers and sisters, we are still gathering the contribution for help in Ukraine. If you would like to send your contribution, you could send the check to our parish of Ss. Peter and Paul and made it Payable to the Ss. Peter and Paul UOCOFUSA. Please, write on the check "Help Ukraine". Thank you all so much for your support and help! We encourage everyone to continue to give generously to our Capital Improvement Fund as we continue to work on different projects of maintaining and updating our Parish buildings.

PARISH CELEBRATION

From the bottom of Ss. Peter and Paul parish family heart we wish **Amil Lesney (February 9th), Lauren Heiger (February 12th), Fr. Yuri Bobko (February 18th) Frank Hawryliak (February 23rd), Mark Rudolf (February 24th)** Happy Birthday! May God's awesome blessings be upon you this day and for the Future years ahead for many happy and blessed years!

A Spiritual Greeting of Honor and Love to His Eminence Metropolitan Antony

Your Eminence Metropolitan Antony,



On this most joyous occasion of your Name's Day and Birthday, we, the clergy, members of the Council of the Metropolia, the faithful, seminarians, and the youth of our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, come together in one spirit to extend our heartfelt greetings and prayerful best wishes to you.

Today, we celebrate not only your personal milestones but also the profound legacy of the Venerable Anthony the Great, the founder and beacon of monastic life and holy asceticism. Like this great Father of the Church, whose life of devotion to God became a guiding light for countless souls, your ministry reflects the same tireless dedication, unwavering faith, and profound love for Christ and His Holy Church.

Through your humble yet powerful witness, dear Vladyka Antony, you have touched the lives of multitudes - not only within the bounds of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA but also far beyond, reaching faithful in South America, Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina, Australia, New Zealand, Western Europe, and across the beloved land of Ukraine. Your spiritual fatherhood has planted seeds of faith and love in the hearts of countless generations, nurturing and guiding Ukrainian Orthodox Christians in the United States and the Diaspora with wisdom, compassion, and truth.

Your ministry embodies the virtues of St. Anthony, calling all of us to a higher life in Christ, and your work serves as an example of selfless devotion to the well-being of the Church and her faithful. On this day of celebration, we lift our prayers to the Lord, asking Him to grant you abundant health, strength, and grace as you continue to shepherd His flock.

On behalf of all who hold you in deep love and respect, we offer our fervent prayers that our Lord may grant you many blessed years of health, strength, and joy in your apostolic labors. May the intercessions of Saint Anthony the Great uphold you, and may the grace of the All-Holy Trinity sustain you in every good work for the glory of God and the edification of His Holy Church.

With love and profound respect in Christ,

Archbishop Daniel President of Consistory of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

Statement of the Council of Bishops Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and

Diaspora: Commemorating the Third Anniversary of the Genocidal Invasion of Ukraine

Beloved in the Lord: Christ is Among us!

With hearts burdened by the suffering of millions, yet steadfast in our faith in the mercy and justice of our Lord Jesus Christ, we, the Council of Bishops of the Ukrainian

Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora, prayerfully mark the third anniversary of the brutal, unjustified and genocidal invasion by the Russian Federation into the peaceful and sovereign nation of Ukraine.



Three years of relentless aggression have brought immeasurable pain and suffering to Ukraine and her people. Millions of innocent men, women, and children have been displaced, forced to leave their ancestral homeland seeking refuge in foreign lands - throughout Europe, the United States, Australia, South America and beyond. Hundreds of thousands of lives have been lost - innocent victims of indiscriminate violence, including children torn from their families, and brave men and women of the Ukrainian Armed Forces who sacrificed their lives in defense of their beloved homeland.

We weep with the Psalmist who cried, “How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?” (Psalm 13:1). Yet, as people of faith, we hold firm to the promise of our Savior: “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted” (Matthew 5:4).

Today, we grieve not only for the lives lost but also for the thousands of children who have been forcibly removed from Ukraine and relocated to Russia, torn from their families and communities. We join the global outcry for justice and fervently pray for their swift reunion with their loved ones. As our Lord commands us to love and protect the innocent, we beseech all nations and organizations to continue their efforts to bring these children home.

We are reminded of Christ’s words: “Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends” (John 15:13). The sacrifice of Ukraine’s defenders reflects this divine love - a selflessness that echoes the call of the Gospel to stand for truth, justice, and peace.

As we approach the solemn anniversary of February 24, 2025, we direct all parishes of our Church to dedicate Sunday, February 23, 2025, to the well-being of Ukraine. Following the Triple Litany of the Liturgy all clergy are instructed to read the prayer for the living attached hereto. At the conclusion of Divine Liturgy, a Memorial Service (Litia) will be held in every parish to pray for the repose of the souls of those who have perished – military and civilian – giving their lives in defense of Ukraine and all her people.

On February 23, 2025, we call upon every parish under our spiritual authority to ring their church bells – at 8:59p.m. Eastern Time Zone, 7:59pm Central Time Zone, 6:59pm Mountain Time Zone and 5:59pm Pacific Time Zone - in the United States, and at the local times throughout the Diaspora, which correspond to 3:59am on February 24 in Ukraine. This act will mark the exact hour the aggression began three years ago. **On February 24, we ask all faithful, clergy, and people of goodwill to spend the day in prayer, fasting, meditation, and silence, reflecting on the suffering of Ukraine and praying for peace and justice.**

Let us unite in humility before God, praying for peace, for the end of suffering and for the triumph of love over hatred. As Christ’s Body – the Holy Church, we reaffirm our commitment to charitable aid, financial support, and the spiritual well-being of all our brothers and sisters in

Ukraine. We encourage all faithful to continue their generous contributions to the [Ukrainian Relief Fund](http://www.uocofusa.org), accessible through our official website, www.uocofusa.org

Finally, we offer our blessings and prayers for the religious, civil, and military authorities of Ukraine, for all people of goodwill who have selflessly given their lives, resources, and talents in service to Ukraine, and for the faithful of our Church who have supported them fully. May our merciful God strengthen Ukraine and bring peace to her suffering people.

With love in Christ,

+Antony Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora;

+Jeremiah Archbishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Eparchy of South America;

+Daniel, Archbishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora

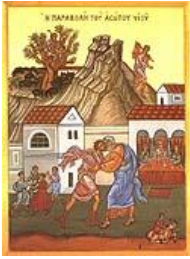
******* Preparation Weeks before the Great Lent*******



The paschal season of the Church is preceded by the season of Great Lent, which is itself preceded by its own liturgical preparation. The first sign of the approach of Great Lent comes five Sundays before its beginning. On this Sunday the Gospel reading is about Zacchaeus the tax-collector. It tells how Christ brought salvation to the sinful man and how his life was greatly changed simply because he “sought to see who Jesus was” (Lk 19.3). The desire and effort to see Jesus begins the entire movement through lent towards Easter. It is the first movement of salvation.



The following Sunday is that of the Publican and the Pharisee. The focus here is on the two men who went to the Temple to pray—one a pharisee who was a very decent and righteous man of religion, the other a publican who was a truly sinful tax-collector who was cheating the people. The first, although genuinely righteous, boasted before God and was condemned, according to Christ. The second, although genuinely sinful, begged for mercy, received it, and was justified by God (Lk. 18:9). The meditation here is that we have neither the religious piety of the pharisee nor the repentance of the publican by which alone we can be saved. We are called to see ourselves as we really are in the light of Christ’s teaching, and to beg for mercy.



The next Sunday in the preparation for Great Lent is the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. Hearing the parable of Christ about God's loving forgiveness, we are called to "come to ourselves" as did the prodigal son, to see ourselves as being "in a far country" far from the Father's house, and to make the movement of return to God. We are given every assurance by the Master that the Father will receive us with joy and gladness. We must only "arise and go," confessing our self-inflicted and sinful separation from that "home" where we truly belong (Lk 15:11–24).



The next Sunday is called Meatfare Sunday since it is officially the last day before Pascha for eating meat. It commemorates Christ's parable of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:31–46). We are reminded this day that it is not enough for us to see Jesus, to see ourselves as we are, and to come home to God as his prodigal sons. We must also be his sons by following Christ, his only-begotten divine Son, and by seeing Christ in every man and by serving Christ through them. Our salvation and final judgment will depend upon our deeds, not merely on our intentions or even on the mercies of God devoid of our own personal cooperation and obedience. . . *for I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you took Me in, I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and in prison and you visited Me. For truly I say to you, if you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to Me* (Mt 25). We are saved not merely by prayer and fasting, not by "religious exercises" alone. We are saved by serving Christ through his people, the goal toward which all piety and prayer is ultimately directed.



Finally, on the eve of Great Lent, the day called Cheesefare Sunday and Forgiveness Sunday, we sing of Adam's exile from paradise. We identify ourselves with Adam, lamenting our loss of the beauty, dignity and delight of our original creation, mourning our corruption in sin. We also hear on this day the Lord's teaching about fasting and forgiveness, and we enter the season of the fast forgiving one another so that God will forgive us.