



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.

MARCH 22 2026

Sunday, March 22

ST JOHN CLIMACUS

Epistle Reading: *Heb 6:13-20*
Gospel Reading: *Mark 9:17-31*
Divine Liturgy – 9:30

Wednesday, March 25

ANNUNCIATION

Vesperal Divine Liturgy - 6:00pm

Sunday, March 29

St. Mary of Egypt

Epistle Reading: *Heb 9:11-14*,
Gospel Reading: *Mark 10:32-45*
Divine Liturgy –9:30

Wednesday, April 1

Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts - 6 pm

SUNDAY, April 5

Entry in Jerusalem. PALM SUNDAY,

Epistle reading: *Phil 4:4-9*;
Gospel Reading: *John 12:1-18*

Divine Liturgy – 9:30
Blessing of Palms and Pussy Willows
(Potluck)

CONTACT

Father Yurii Bobko, Pastor

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Parish Board President:

Lydia Rudolf

Choir Director:

Lydia Rudolf

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX PARISH

St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 6:13-20



BRETHREN, when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore to himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he interposed with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

The Gospel According to Mark 9:17-31



At that time, a man came to Jesus kneeling and saying: "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All the citizens and residents of Ukraine, Stanley, John, Tim Roxbury, Lovie Tymkiv, Patricia Prokopchak, Patricia Hnatko, Sherry, Rhea Jean Roxbury, pani Lilia, 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, Volodymyr, Alexandr, Vincent, John, Frank, Frank, Carol.

PARISH NEWS AND UPDATES

Bake Sale

We are excited to announce our annual Pascha-Easter Bake Sale, scheduled for baking on **March 23rd and 24th**, with sales continuing on **March 25th**. We invite you to join us and contribute to the success of this event, which serves as a wonderful opportunity for fellowship while supporting the needs of our parish.

Feast of the Annunciation

This coming Wednesday, **March 25th**, we celebrate one of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Orthodox Church—the Annunciation of the Most Holy Theotokos. On this day, we remember the Archangel Gabriel’s joyful proclamation to the Virgin Mary, and the beginning of our salvation through the Incarnation of Christ. The Vesperal Divine Liturgy will be served at 6:00 PM. Please join us for this beautiful and glorious feast as we gather in prayer and thanksgiving.

Pascha/Easter Flower Donation

We are pleased to announce that once again, everyone has the opportunity to contribute to the **Pascha/Easter Flowers Fund**. These beautiful flowers will adorn our Church and the Lord’s Grave, creating a fitting and reverent atmosphere for our Paschal celebration. Your generous donations help make this possible.

To contribute, please use your offering envelopes and indicate **"Pascha/Easter Flowers"** on the envelope or memo line. Donations can be placed in the collection basket or given directly to the church office. Thank you for your support in making our church a place of beauty and devotion during this most sacred season!

As we embark on our journey through Great Lent, it is imperative to prioritize participation in the Holy Mystery of Confession. Confession during Great Lent is not just encouraged, but **mandatory**. It paves the way to the most significant Christian celebration – the Resurrection of Christ. We must approach this occasion with hearts filled with joy, unburdened by any obstacles.

Therefore, we urge you to prepare yourselves for confession, reflecting on your lives and any ways in which you may have drifted from Christ's love.

To assist you in this preparation, Fr. Yurii has provided a brochure titled “Preparation to Confession”, you can request one if you do not have from previous years. Additionally, our prayer books contain a section on Holy Confession, offering guidance for those preparing to confess. Let us embrace this opportunity for spiritual renewal and reconciliation as we journey towards the joyous celebration of Christ's Resurrection.

Christian Fellowship Pascha Fundraiser

The Christian Fellowship is once again holding its annual fundraiser for Pascha.

Anyone interested in purchasing beets with horseradish is asked to please contact Steve or Karen and indicate your preferred jar size:

- ½ Pint
- Pint
- Quart

Prices have not yet been finalized, as ingredients will be purchased fresh. They are expected to be similar to last year.

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 April 3rd, 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!

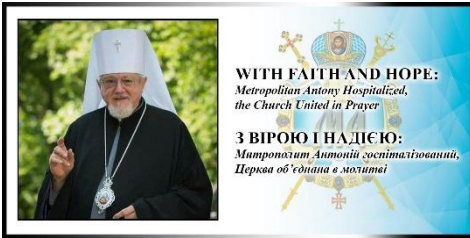
Church Assessment Update

At the recent Sobor, it was voted to increase the annual assessment to our Church Center in South Bound Brook, NJ. The amount will increase from **\$100 to \$150 per person**. This assessment has not been raised in over 12 years. As parishioners and members of our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church, this is part of our responsibility and stewardship. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with Fr. Yurii or Lydia.

PARISH CELEBRATION

From the bottom of Ss. Peter and Paul parish family heart we wish **Jeff Heiger (March 1), Frank Hawryliak Junior (March 7), Dorothy Cygan (March 15), Sherry Burka (March 21), John McCarthy (March 23), Lydia Rudolf (March 28), Rose Raith (March 31st)** Happy Birthday! May God's awesome blessings be upon you this day and for the future years ahead for many happy and blessed years!

With Faith and Hope: Metropolitan Antony Hospitalized, the Church United in Prayer



Christ is Among Us!

Beloved clergy and faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America,

With a spirit of pastoral care and sincere love in Christ, we wish to inform you that our spiritual father, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, has been

hospitalized and has undergone a medical procedure.

By the mercy of God, we are grateful to share that the procedure was successful. However, His Eminence remains in a local hospital in Somerset, New Jersey, where he continues to receive medical treatment under the careful observation of the medical team entrusted with his care. We give thanks to our Lord, the Physician of souls and bodies, for guiding the hands of those entrusted with his care. At this time, we humbly call upon all clergy and faithful to keep Metropolitan Antony in fervent prayer, asking the Lord to grant him strength, healing, and a swift recovery. As Holy Scripture reminds us, *“The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects”* (James 5:16). In the sacred tradition of the Church, we are continually reminded that prayer is the breath of the soul and the source of divine consolation.

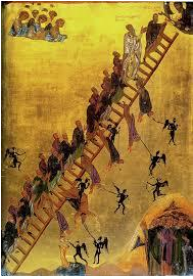
Let us unite our hearts and voices in prayer:

O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, You are the Physician of our souls and bodies. Visit Your servant, Metropolitan Antony, with Your mercy and compassion. Stretch forth Your healing hand and restore him to health and strength. Grant wisdom to his physicians and peace to his heart. Ease his suffering, renew his spirit, and raise him up to continue his sacred ministry in Your Holy Church. For You are the source of life and healing, and to You we give glory, together with Your Eternal Father and Your All-Holy, Good, and Life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

In this moment of concern, we are reminded that the Church is a living body, united in love, where *“if one member suffers, all suffer together”* (1 Corinthians 12:26). Let this be a time when our unity in Christ is expressed through prayer, compassion, and unwavering faith. May the Lord grant His Eminence, Metropolitan Antony, many blessed years, restore him fully to health, and continue to strengthen him in his archpastoral ministry.

Entrusting all to the mercy and love of Christ, we remain united in prayer and hope. *With archpastoral blessings, † Archbishop Daniel*

The Life of St. John Climacus



On the Fourth Sunday of Great Lent, the Church commemorates St. John Climacus, one of the great spiritual teachers of the Orthodox tradition.

St. John was born in the late 6th century, though little is known about his early life. At the age of sixteen, he left the world and entered the monastic life at Mount Sinai, seeking a life of prayer, repentance, and complete dedication to God. There he placed himself under the guidance of an experienced elder, learning obedience, humility, and the inner discipline of the heart.

After many years in the monastery, St. John withdrew into greater solitude, living as a hermit for nearly forty years. During this time, he devoted himself to prayer, fasting, and spiritual struggle. Those who knew him spoke of his deep wisdom, discernment, and inner peace. Though he lived in seclusion, people were drawn to him for guidance, recognizing in him a man who had truly learned how to fight the spiritual battle.

Later in life, he was called back to the monastery and became the abbot of the Monastery of St. Catherine at Mount Sinai. Even as abbot, he remained a humble servant, guiding the brethren not only by his words, but by his life. At the request of another abbot, St. John wrote his most famous work, *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*. In this book, he describes the spiritual life as a ladder of thirty steps, leading the soul from earth to heaven. Each step represents a virtue to be acquired or a passion to be overcome—such as renunciation, humility, repentance, prayer, and love.

This work was not written only for monks. Over the centuries, it has become a guide for all Christians who desire to grow closer to God. It reminds us that the spiritual life is a journey—one that requires effort, patience, and perseverance. St. John reposed in peace around the year 649. His life was quiet, hidden, and without outward glory, yet the depth of his spiritual experience continues to guide the Church to this day.

The Church places his memory before us during Great Lent for a reason. By this point in the fast, we may feel tired or discouraged. His life reminds us that holiness is not achieved in a moment, but through steady and faithful struggle. Step by step, day by day, we are called to move closer to Christ. Even if we feel that our efforts are small, or that we have stumbled along the way, we are encouraged not to give up. St. John teaches us that what matters most is not how quickly we advance, but that we continue to rise again and keep moving forward.

Through his prayers, may we be strengthened in our Lenten journey, and may we continue to ascend—however slowly—toward the life in Christ.

When Mercy Becomes a Light Amid War: The Church Stands Beside Those Who Have Lost Their Homes but Not Their Hope



At a time when war continues to bring suffering and trials to the people of Ukraine, signs of brotherly support and Christian compassion become especially meaningful. One such powerful witness of living faith and unity within the Orthodox Church has been the humanitarian assistance offered by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA to the social ministry of the Donetsk Eparchy of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine.

Across thousands of miles and over the ocean, a hand of brotherly love has been extended - the hand of a Church that does not abandon its people in times of hardship.

With the blessing of Metropolitan Serhiy (Horobtsov) of Donetsk and Mariupol, and through the support of Archbishop Daniel of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, humanitarian aid was delivered to internally displaced persons who have found temporary refuge in Kyiv. On the grounds of Holy Trinity Church in the Desnianskyi District of the capital, the social ministry team of the Donetsk Eparchy distributed large packages of food supplies and hygiene products to those in need.

This assistance was provided to people who were recently forced to leave their homes due to the war - families from frontline regions, elderly individuals, and families raising children with disabilities. Many of them have lost their homes entirely and are now trying to rebuild their lives from the very beginning, often renting small apartments and spending nearly all of their pensions or savings simply to survive.

According to Metropolitan Serhiy, the ministry of the Church today is not only spiritual support but also a tangible manifestation of Christian love for one's neighbor.

“The social ministry of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine stands every day beside those who suffer the most - internally displaced persons and families raising children with disabilities, especially in frontline regions. During wartime, even the simplest things - food, medicine, and hygiene supplies - become essential for survival. Every act of assistance, every gesture of compassion, becomes a witness that the Church lives by the love of Christ,” Metropolitan Serhiy stated.



An important role in supporting this ministry has been played by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, whose clergy and faithful have actively assisted victims of the Russian invasion since the beginning of the full-scale war.



Through their generosity and commitment, the social ministry of the Donetsk Eparchy continues its mission of caring for those who need help the most.

Archbishop Daniel, addressing the faithful and benefactors, emphasized the spiritual dimension of this service: “Today, as Ukraine endures one of the most difficult periods of its history, every act of mercy becomes a powerful testimony of our faith. The Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA continues to stand beside our brothers and sisters in Ukraine. We pray with you, we suffer with you, and we help as much as the Lord grants us strength. Winter is slowly passing, and we believe that with the coming of spring and the approaching radiant feast of the Resurrection of Christ, the Lord will grant our people the blessed peace and the end of this terrible war.”

For the people who receive this assistance, these packages of food and hygiene supplies are more than material support.

They are a sign that they have not been forgotten. That someone remembers them. That the Church stands beside them - praying, supporting, and sharing their suffering.

Today, the charitable ministry of the Donetsk Eparchy continues to grow, reaching more people in cities such as Dnipro, Kharkiv, Kyiv, and many other regions of Ukraine. With each passing day, however, the need for help continues to increase.

Yet despite all difficulties, the Church continues its mission.

For where love for one’s neighbor exists - there Christ Himself is present.

Today thousands of people in Ukraine continue to depend on humanitarian assistance. Every donation, every act of kindness, and every prayer helps sustain those who are enduring the greatest hardships of war.

We invite everyone to take part in this mission of compassion and brotherly care.

May the Lord bless all who open their hearts to help their neighbors, and may the coming of spring and the radiant feast of Pascha bring peace, renewal, and the victory of life over death to Ukraine.