

WELCOME AIII 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 areetings are extended to all visitors and quests, 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.

CONTACT

Father Yurii Bobko, Pastor Cell phone: 908-458-2076 Tel: 724-287-4448(Church) Tel: 724-282-6190 (Hall)

Protopresbyter William Diakiw, Attached Parish Board President: http://peterandpauloclyndora.itgo.com Choir Director: Lydia Rudolf

SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

Sunday, September 25

Sunday 15th after Pen, martyr Paphnutius; Epistle Reading: Epistle Reading: 2 Cor 4:6-15, Gospel Reading: Luke 5:1-11 Divine Liturgy -10:00

Sunday, October 2

Martyr Dometuis of Persia Epistle Reading: 2 Cor 6: 1-10 Gospel Reading: Luke 6:31-36 Divine Liturgy - 10:00

Saturday, October 8

Great Vespers – 6:30 pm

Sunday, October 9

Apostel James Alpheus, Venerabke Andronicus Epistle Reading: 2 Cor 6: 16-7:1

Gospel Reading: Luke 7:1-16 Divine Liturgy – 10:00 am

Sunday, October 16

Longinus the Centurion Epistle Reading: 2 Cor 9:6-11 Gospel Reading: Luke 8:5-15 Divine Liturgy -10:00

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX PARISH

""IT IS OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE IF THERE IS A PERSON WHO TRULY PRAYS IN A FAMILY. PRAYER ATTRACTS GOD'S GRACE AND ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY FEEL IT, EVEN THOSE WHOSE HEARTS HAVE GROWN COLD. PRAY ALWAYS.""

- ELDER THADDEUS OF VITOVNICA"

GOSPEL AND EPISTLE READING

The reading is from St. Paul's to the Corinthians 4:6-15



Brethren, it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For while we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.

Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, "I believed, and so I spoke," we too believe, and so we speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All the citizens and residence of Ukraine, Jean Markiw, Patrick, Debbie, Wesly, Cindy, Christine, Denny Zymboly, Ruth Dally, Alex Shott, Philip, Eric, Greg, Carl, Kayden, Rose, Dorothy Cygan, Helen, Fr. William, pani Sonia, Fr. Vasyl, Mary-Ann, Mary-Ann, Payton, Anthony, Tina, Mykola, Stella, Maksymko, Fr. Yurii, Maria, Fr. Jakiw, Fr. George, Volodymyr, Alexandr, Vincent, all the doctors and nurses and everyone who was infected by COVID-19.

The Gospel According to Luke 5:1-11



At that time, as Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to

sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all who were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

PARISH NEWS AND UPDATES

Dear brothers and sisters, please remember if anyone is interested in sponsoring one of the open dates for coffee hour or would like to add a date during the month, please contact Karen Sheptak at <u>smskks4568@gmail.com</u> or 724-290-380.

I would like to express our gratitude and deep appreciation to all of you my dear parishioners of Ss. Peter and Paul for such a blessed and wonderful preparation of our 100th Anniversary Celebration. I would like to thank you for your love to our Lord and His Church, for the tireless sacrifice and work with which you prepared our celebration. We pray at every Divine Liturgy to preserve the fullness of our Church. I am convinced that the fullness of this Holy Church, this parish will be preserved as long as there are such zealous and faithful people here.

We are going to have Ladies Guild Board Meeting(Potluck) on Wednesday, <u>September 28th</u> at 6 pm

Please remember that on Sunday, October 2nd after Divine Liturgy we are going to have ANNUAL PARISH Board Meeting. Also, the same day we are going ot have our Potluck; thus, remember to bring a dish to share with others. We encourage everyone to come and join us for the meeting and take an active part in the life of our parish!

Please remember, that St. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL will be hosting *Ukrainian Relief Dinner & Prayer Service on Sunday, September 25, 4:00 pm*. If you would like to participate, you could find all the information regarding this event on our Information Church Board.

We offer a word of thanks to everyone who came out to help with the Parish Pirohi Sale this past week on Thursday and Friday. Our next Pirohi Sale will be on Friday, October 7th and everyone are again invited to join us as we all work together for the good of our parish in this way!

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.

Holy Confession is available before Liturgy and Great Vespers! For Baptisms, Weddings, Memorial Litiya, or any other services, please arrange with Father Yurii! Pastoral Visitations of the Sick and Infirm: Please inform Father Yurii if you or your family members are going into the hospital for any reason or if they would like to receive Spiritual guidance!

For more information regarding our Church life, please visit the official website of our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church-<u>https://uocofusa.org</u>

PARISH CELEBRATION

From the bottom of Ss. Peter and Paul parish family heart we wish **Karen** Sheptak(October 2nd), Kat Rudolf(October 13th), Barb King (October 19th), Zach Prokopchak(October 27th) Happy Birthday!

Happy Anniversary to **Adriane and Chad Hassler**! May God's awesome blessings be upon you this day and for the Future years ahead for many happy and blessed years!



Memory Eternal: Council of Bishops of the UOC of the USA Expresses Condolences on the Repose of Metropolitan John (former metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada)

Dearly beloved Sisters and Brothers in the Faith,

CHRIST IS AMONGST US! ХРИСТОС ПОСЕРЕД НАС!

We write at the repose of our dear Brother in Christ and Concelebrant in service to our Lord, His Eminence John, Metropolitan Emeritus of your Holy Church. We regret that we are not able to be present for the funeral services, but we deeply share in your grief during this difficult time and assure you that we have His Eminence and all of you in our prayers.

In a personal sense, I have known and been friends with His Eminence for fifty-five years since my second year of seminary studies and his first year -1967 - at St. Andrew College. He was a mature student – ten years older than most of us and we were much appreciative of that maturity when it came to student life. His was a calming voice amidst all the youngsters around him and we appreciated that example for us. I can remember long conversations with him about his teaching experience and was convinced that because of that experience he would become a very good priest who would be able to communicate well with those entrusted to his spiritual care. Then suddenly, we found ourselves, unworthy as we both considered ourselves to be, in the office of Bishop of Christ's Body – our Holy Church.

My brother Archbishop Daniel has heard many stories about Metropolitan John over the past twenty years and has come to feel that he knew him as well as I did. We both comprehend the life of a bishop and we know that Metropolitan John was more than devoted to his service to Christ through the manner in which he could be the compassionate, merciful, loving and enabling Spiritual Father to those God placed under his episcopal authority.

Again, we offer our sincere sympathy to all the clergy and faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada. May our dear brother rest in eternal happiness where the Light of our Lord's Countenance shines upon him and may His memory be eternal in God's Heavenly Kingdom. And finally, when our Lord returns for the great and final judgment, may Metropolitan John hear those words we all hope to hear: "Come my beloved...enter into the place in My Father's Kingdom that has been prepared for you from the foundation of the world". In our Lord's All-Encompassing Love,

+ ANTONY, By the Grace of God, Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora

+ DANIE, By the Grace of God, Archbishop

Sources of Christian Doctrine

The Liturgy



When the Church, which means literally the gathering or assembly of people who are called together to perform a specific task, assembles as God's People to worship, this gathering is called the liturgy of the Church. As a word, liturgy means the *common work* or action of a particular group of people for the sake of all. Thus the divine liturgy of the Christian Church means the common work of God done by the people of God.

The liturgy of the Old Testament people was the official worship in the temple of Jerusalem according to the Mosaic Law, as well as the annual feasts and fasts and the private prayers and services held by the Israelites at home or in the synagogues. Synagogues by definition are

houses of gathering; they are not temples since, according to the Law, there was just the one temple in Jerusalem where the priestly worship was conducted. In the synagogues the Israelites gathered for prayer and scriptural study, preaching, and contemplation of the Word of God.

In the New Testament Church the liturgy is centered in the person of Christ and is primarily a "christening" of the Old Testament liturgical life. The Christian Church retains the liturgical life of the Old Testament in a new and eternal perspective. Thus, the prayers of the Old Testament, the scriptures and the psalms, are read and sung in the light of Christ. The sacrifice of the Body and Blood of Christ replaces the Old Testament sacrifices in the temple. And the Lord's Day, Sunday, replaces the old Jewish sabbath which is Saturday.

The Jewish feasts also take on new meaning in the Christian Church, with the central feast of Passover, for example, becoming the celebration of Christ's death and resurrection; and the feast of Pentecost becoming the celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit, which fulfills the Old Testamental Law. The Christian liturgical year is also patterned after the Old Testamental prototype.

From the basic foundation of the Old Testament liturgy, the Church developed its own sacramental life with baptism in the name of the Holy Trinity, chrismation, holy communion, marriage, repentance, healing, and the Churchly ministry and priesthood taking on specifically Christian forms and meaning. In addition, a great wealth of specifically Christian prayers, hymns,

and blessings were developed, together with specifically Christian feasts and celebrations in remembrance of New Testament events and saints.

The living experience of the Christian sacramental and liturgical life is a primary source of Christian doctrine. In the liturgy of the Church, the Bible and the Holy Tradition come alive and are given to the living experience of the Christian people. Thus, through prayer and sacramental worship, men are "taught by God" as it was predicted for the messianic age (Jn 6.45).

In addition to the living experience of the liturgy, the texts of the services and sacraments provide a written source of doctrine in that they may be studied and contemplated by one who desires an understanding of Christian teachings. According to the common opinion of the Orthodox Church, the sacramental and liturgical texts—the hymns, blessings, prayers, symbols, and rituals—contain no formal errors or deformations of the Christian faith and can be trusted absolutely to reveal the genuine doctrine of the Orthodox Church. It may well be that some of the historical information contained in church feasts is inaccurate or merely symbolical, but there is no question in the Church that the doctrinal and spiritual meaning of all of the feasts is genuine and authentic and provides true experience and knowledge of God.

The Councils



As the Church progressed through history it was faced with many difficult decisions. The Church always settled difficulties and made decisions by reaching a consensus of opinion among all the believers inspired by God who were led by their appointed leaders, first the apostles and then the bishops.

The first church council in history was held in the apostolic church to decide the conditions under which the gentiles, that is, the non-Jews, could enter the Christian Church (see Acts 15). From that time on, all through history councils were held on every level of church life to make important decisions. Bishops met regularly with their priests, also called presbyters or elders, and

people. It became the practice, and even the law, very early in church history that bishops in given regions should meet in councils held on a regular basis.

Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council

At times in church history, councils of all of the bishops in the church were called. All the bishops were not able to attend these councils, of course, and not all such councils were automatically approved and accepted by the Church in its Holy Tradition. In the Orthodox Church only seven such councils, some of which were actually quite small in terms of the number of bishops attending, have received the universal approval of the entire Church in all times and places. These councils have been termed the Seven Ecumenical Councils (see table below).

The dogmatic definitions (dogma means official teaching) and the canon laws of the ecumenical councils are understood to be inspired by God and to be expressive of His will for men. Thus, they are essential sources of Orthodox Christian doctrine.

Besides the seven ecumenical councils, there are other local church councils whose decisions have also received the approval of all Orthodox Churches in the world, and so are considered to be genuine expressions of the Orthodox faith and life. The decisions of these councils are mostly of a moral or structural character. Nevertheless, they too reveal the teaching of the Orthodox Church.

Nicea 1	325	Formulated the First Part of the Creed, defining the divinity of the Son of God
Constantinople I	381	Formulated the Second Part of the Creed, defining the divinity of the Holy Spirit
Ephesus	431	Defined Christ as the Incarnate Word of God and Mary as Theotokos
Chalcedon	451	Defined Christ as Perfect God and Perfect Man in One Person
Constantinople	553	Reconfirmed the Doctrines of the Trinity and of Christ
II	(90	
Constantinople III	680	Affirmed the True Humanity of Jesus by insisting upon the reality of His human will and action
Nicea II	787	Affirmed the propriety of icons as genuine expressions of the Christian Faith

The Seven Ecumenical Councils