



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 5, 2023

SUNDAY, February 12 **PUBLICAN & PHARISEE.**

Mar. Agatha of Sicily;

Epistle Reading: 2 Timothy 3:10-15,

Gospel Reading: Luke 18:10-14

Confession – 9:15, Hours-9:45

Divine Liturgy –10:00

Sunday, February 12 **PRODIGAL SON;**

St. Meletius of Antioch

Epistle Reading: 1 Cor. 6:12-20;

Gospel Reading: Luke 15:11-32

Confession – 9:15, Hours-9:45

Divine Liturgy – 10:00

Sunday, February 27 **MEATFARE, Last Judgment;** **Apostles Archippus**

Epistle Reading: 1 Cor. 8:8-9:2;

Gospel Reading: Matt 25:31-46

Confession – 9:15, Hours-9:45

Divine Liturgy – 10:00

CONTACT

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Parish Board President:

Maria Corbin

Choir Director:

Lydia Rudolf

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX PARISH

**“WE OUGHT TO REMEMBER GOD EVEN MORE OFTEN THAN WE BREATH”
— ST. GREGORY NAZIANZEN**

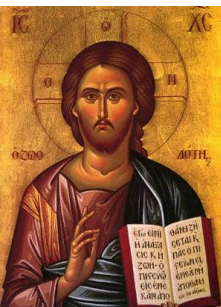
GOSPEL AND EPISTLE READING

The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to 2 Timothy 3:10-15



TIMOTHY, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconion, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

The Gospel According to Luke 18:10-14



The Lord said this parable, “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All the citizens and residence of Ukraine, Stanley Ostwinch, Julia Walek, pani matka Lilia, Jean Markiw, Patrick, Debbie, Wesly, Cindy, Christine, Denny Zymboly, Ruth Dally, Philip, Eric, Greg, 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.

PARISH NEWS AND UPDATES

February 5th – We are going to have **Potluck** to benefit Ss. Peter and Paul. Please bring a dish of food to be shared with others!

This year Sunday, February 12th, our nation celebrates one of our country's favorite pastime; Super Bowl Sunday! As a part of this, we have the opportunity to share with those who are in need by participating in our Super Bowl Sunday special collection to help the ministry of our Diocesan Saint Andrew's Society as they ministry to those who are in need on Ukraine and many other places. For this reason, we are going to have our Super Bowl Sunday, next week at our Hall. **Please, bring your own Soup the same for Potluck, on Sunday, February 12th to share with others and money that we will collect will be sent to St. Andrew Society.**

Please remember, we still continue the practice of the Blessing of Homes as is the blessed tradition associated with the celebration of this Feast. If you still have not blessed your home, please use the Blessing of Homes list found next to our bulletins. Also, you could contact Fr. Yurii for scheduling or an additional information.

We would like to express our gratitude to everyone who came up to help with our Pirohi Sale last week! We would like to invite and encourage everyone to come out to help with the next Parish Pirohi Sale on **February 10th**! Please, come and help as we work together once again for the good of our Parish in this special 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- <https://uocofusa.org>

Hierarchs of the UOC of the USA Participated in the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America in Los Angeles, CA



The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America convened in Los Angeles, California from January 28-31st for its 12th Meeting.

His Eminence Metropolitan Antony and Archbishop Daniel - hierarchs of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA took active part in the proceedings of the Assembly.

On January 28th the Executive Committee met to confirm the meeting agenda and to conduct their regular business, including approving new board members for Orthodox Volunteer Corps and Orthodox Youth Ministries. Later that evening, all the Hierarchs gathered at Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Los Angeles for Great Vespers, presided over by Archbishop Elpidophoros, Chairman of the Assembly. A reception and networking charity event hosted by the parish followed. The participants assembled 200 food and hygiene kits to be distributed by FOCUS North America to those in need.

On Sunday, January 29th, member Hierarchs concelebrated the Divine Liturgy at Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Church in San Gabriel, CA. This historic event was the first time all the members of the Assembly were invited to concelebrate, furthering the bond of love and communion. The sermon was offered by Bishop Maxim, and the Assembly of Bishops' Director of Operations, Nicholas Anton, was ordained to the diaconate during the liturgy. After the liturgy, the Hierarchs celebrated with the faithful during a reception hosted by the parish for the Feast of Saint Sava the Enlightener of the Serbian People.

The meetings officially opened following a liturgy celebrating the Feast of the Three Hierarchs, Saints Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom. In his opening remarks on Monday, January 30th, Archbishop Elpidophoros, Chairman of the Assembly, stated, "first and foremost among lofty intentions for our Assembly and all the Assemblies is the manifestation of our unity as the Orthodox Church in this region, the United States of America. Our light of unity cannot be hidden under the proverbial bushel – it belongs on the lampstand for all to see to help illuminate their own path."

His Eminence continued, "and yet, we know that there are differences, even fault lines, in our worldwide Orthodox Church; perhaps none so bitter and distressing as those that have emerged around the war against Ukraine."



The archbishop paused the proceedings of the meeting in order to formally greet His Eminence Metropolitan Antony with the 10th year of Enthronement as a spiritual father of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA as well as on his Name’s Day and Birthday.

The Assembly reviewed the extensive work its Committees, Working Groups, Task Forces, and Ministries have undertaken over the past year and considered proposals. The Hierarchs resolved to work more closely together to achieve the goals of the Assembly, especially in the areas of Military and Institutional Chaplaincy, a common clergy database, parish engagement, research, and pastoral matters.

Following general discussions, the Assembly heard the application from Fellowship of Orthodox Christians United to Serve “FOCUS” North America’s Executive Director, Kenny Kidd, to become a ministry affiliated with the Assembly of Bishops. After considering the development and maturing of the organization, the Hierarchs voted to approve and welcome FOCUS North America as the newest Affiliate Ministry.

The final session of day one included a presentation from the two pilot cities – Atlanta and Akron – for the Assembly’s Inter-Parish Association program. Both pilot regions expressed their gratitude to the Hierarchs for their support and the value of the program. Inter-Parish Associations bring together the clergy and laity from all the local, jurisdictional parishes. Their purpose is to get to know each other better and collaborate on both home and outreach projects which enhance their local communities. In turn, the ultimate goal is growth of the Orthodox Christian Church. The Assembly has resolved to launch the program nationally.

The meetings on day two began by addressing matters of common concern followed by presentations from the six agencies of the Assembly (International Orthodox Christian Charities “IOCC,” Orthodox Christian Mission Center “OCMC,” Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry “OCPM,” Orthodox Christian Fellowship “OCF,” Orthodox Youth Ministries “OYM,” and Orthodox Volunteer Corps “OVC”). The two newest agencies showed great progress over their first year, with OVC launching its first cohort in September 2022 and OYM hiring an Executive Director in January 2023.

The meeting concluded with a productive discussion about the rite of the reception of converts. Following the mandate from the 2021 meeting, the Assembly of Bishops appointed a cross-jurisdictional working group, chaired by Protobishop Dr. Patrick Viscuso, that produced an in-depth white paper on the topic. The Hierarchs discussed the white paper and asked the working group, as a next step, to formulate recommended agreements and rubrics to be presented at the next Assembly meeting.



Finally, an expression of appreciation was extended to Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Church, the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco, and the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of Saint Sophia for their hospitality.

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



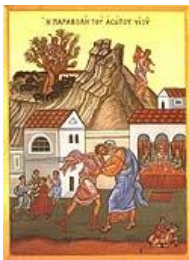
the first movement of salvation.

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



and to beg for mercy.

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,



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.

UOC of the USA Ships 100 Generators to Ukraine



As the unprovoked invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation nears the one-year mark of aggression and terror, the innocent people of Ukraine continue to suffer immeasurable hardship.

The nation is under constant threat. Civilians hide in dark cellars to evade exploding missiles. They have little food, no medicine, no light, and no heat. These innocent people, many being internally displaced, suffer and die not only from explosions, but from the repercussions of the ongoing war. Civilian infrastructure is decimated, making it next to impossible for food and medical supplies to reach them. The power grid was destroyed weeks ago, and many families suffer malnutrition, hypothermia, and face medical emergencies, while sitting alone in the dark.

As they shiver from hunger and cold, it often seems to them that the world has forgotten them and has moved on. However, into this misery shines a bright light of hope as the Church cares for these individuals body and soul.

With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Prime Hierarch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, Ruling Hierarch of the Western Eparchy of the UOC of the USA and President of the Consistory, traveled to Poland in order to help the suffering population of Ukraine.

Thanks to the generous donations of the faithful of the Church, Archbishop Daniel, was able to acquire 100 generators which would be shipped immediately to the war-torn areas of Ukraine which are currently under fire and suffering the greatest hardships.

These generators will provide the suffering and terrorized citizens not only with light and heat, but, with hope, for as light dispels evil, so these generators will work to dispel the darkness

throughout Ukraine. The constant hum of the generators will assure the population that they are not forgotten that there is hope, and that they will survive and prevail.

The Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA continues to ceaselessly pray for the safety of the Ukrainian civilians, the defenders of freedom, and for a return to peace, all while working diligently to provide for the physical needs of the terrorized nation.

Please consider to be a part of this effort

by donating to the UOC of the USA Humanitarian Relief Fund

Let's Prayerfully Honor the Victims of the War in UKRAINE: Commemorative Prayer Vigil - 23 February, 2023



On the morning of February 24, 2022, as dawn broke over Ukraine, Russia declared war in the form of a “special military operation” against Ukraine.

It was at 4 am on that day that the war in Ukraine began with a strike of a rocket. With a 7-hour time difference - it was 9pm on February 23, 2022 on the East coast of the United States of

America.

Millions of innocent children, men and women became refugees overnight in the neighboring Poland, Moldova, Germany and other countries, including the United States of America. Thousands of men and women lost their lives while protecting the peace and life and Ukraine. Thousands of civilians lost their homes and belongings.... Over a thousand children have been wounded and killed. Millions of people worldwide have felt the consequences of the war in Ukraine, due to food shortage, etc. That is the reality of a yearlong unprovoked war of Russian in Ukraine.

Please join us at the Spiritual Center of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA in South Bound Brook/Somerset, NJ for a commemorative Prayer Vigil on February 23, 2023 at 8pm in order to embrace the people and nation of Ukraine with reflections and prayers, as the world marks the first anniversary of this barbaric attack on civilization.

The Prayer Vigil will take place at the Ukrainian Cultural Center (135 Davidson Ave; Somerset, NJ 08873) at 8pm, marking the first moments of the strikes/attacks in Ukraine.

With prayers for the people of Ukraine,

+Daniel, Archbishop of the UOC of the USA