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Pastor; Fr. Walter Pasicznyk CELL PHONE NUMBER: (570)-406-5882

Divine Liturgy Schedule

December 17, 2023, A. D.

Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na Viki!

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!



Saturday, December 16

6:00 PM

SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS

†Theodore Weron- Helen Lipowski & Lisa Placek

Sunday, December 17

10:30 AM

SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS

†Henry M. Heylek Sr.- Tom & MaryAnn Potsko

†Beatitude, Myroslav Ivan Cardinal Lubachivsky

NO ADULT CATECHISM

Wednesday, December 20

10:00 AM

God's Blessings for America-Tom & MaryAnn Potsko

Thursday, December 21

10:00 AM

†Ted Weron-Donna Lee-Hischak

Friday, December 22

3:00 PM

CHRISTMAS EVE FAST (No Meat or Dairy)

ROYAL HOURS for the NATIVITY OF CHRIST

Saturday, December 23

6:00 PM

SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS

†Sophie Staronka- Helen Lipowski & Lisa Placek

Sunday, December 24

10:30 AM

SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS

†Metropolitan Joseph Schmondiuk

God's Blessings for Bruce Becker- Maria Becker

NO CHRISTMAS EVE LITURGY AT TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD CHURCH

SERVICES FOR CHRISTMAS EVE ARE AT SS. PETER & PAUL CHURCH IN PLYMOUTH

3:00 PM

VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS- CHRISTMAS EVE

GREAT COMPLINE/DIVINE LITURGY/Myrovania

NO FAST-CHRISTMAS EVE ON A SUNDAY

Monday, December 25

10:30 AM

NATIVITY OF CHRIST- CHRISTMAS DAY

DIVINE LITURGY (w/MYROVANIA)

God's Blessings and Good Health for All Parishioners

Tuesday, December 26

10:30 AM

SYNAXIS OF THE MOTHER OF GOD(w/Myrovania)

God's Blessings for the Lipowski Family-Lisa Placek



SUNDAY OF OUR FOREFATHERS
TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
December 17, 2023
DIVINE LITURGY for PHILLIPS FAST (11/15-12/24)



ANTIPHON 1

[black book; page 12; blue book page 16/17]

Shout to the Lord, all the earth; sing now to His name, give glory to His praise.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

Say unto God, "How awesome are your works! Because of the greatness of Your strength Your enemies will flatter."

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

Let all the earth worship You and sing to You, let it sing to Your name, O Most High.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

Glory be to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever. Amen.

LITTLE EKTENIA 1

Priest: Again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord have mercy.

Priest: Help and save, have mercy, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

People: Lord have mercy.

Priest: Remembering our most holy and most pure, most blessed, and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and ever-virgin Mary, together with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

People: To you, O Lord.

Priest prays silently: Lord, our God, save Your people and bless Your inheritance; protect the fullness of Your Church; sanctify them in return by Your divine power. Do not forsake us who hope in You.

Priest: Exclamation: For Yours is the might, and Yours are the kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever.

People: Amen.

ANTIPHON 2

God, be generous to us, and bless us, let the light of Your face shine upon us, and have mercy on us.

O Son of God, Who has risen from the dead, save us who sing to You. Alleluia.

May we know Your way on earth, may Your salvation be known to all nations.

O Son of God, Who has risen from the dead, save us who sing to You. Alleluia.

May the people praise You, O God; may all the nations glorify You.

O Son of God, Who has risen from the dead, save us who sing to You. Alleluia.

Glory be to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever. Amen.

Only begotten Son and Word of God, You are immortal, and You willed for our salvation to be made flesh of the holy Mother of God and ever-virgin Mary, and without change You became man. You were crucified, O Christ our God, and trampled death by death. You are one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit, save us.

LITTLE EKTENIA 2

Priest: Again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord have mercy.

Priest: Help and save, have mercy, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

People: Lord have mercy.

Priest: Remembering our most holy and most pure, most blessed, and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and ever-virgin Mary, together with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

People: To you, O Lord.

Priest prays silently: You have given us the grace to pray together in harmony and have promised to grant the requests of two or three who join their voices in Your name. Fulfill now for us, Your servants, these petitions for our benefit. Grant us in this present life the knowledge of Your truth, and in the age to come, bestow eternal life.

Priest: Exclamation: For You are a good and loving God, and we give glory to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever.

People: Amen.

ANTIPHON III

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord, let us acclaim God, our Savior.

Son of God, Risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Let us come before His face with praise and acclaim Him in psalms.

Son of God, Risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

For God is the great Lord and the great king over all the earth.

Son of God, Risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE ENTRANCE

Priest prays silently: Lord, God our Master, Who established in heaven the ranks and armies of angels and archangels for the service of Your glory, grant that as we make our entrance, the holy angels may enter too, serving with us and joining in the praise of your goodness. For all glory, honor and worship befit You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen. **Deacon:** Master, bless the holy entrance. **Priest:** Blessed be the entrance of your saints, always, now and forever and ever.

Deacon: Wisdom! Stand aright.

People: Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ.

Son of God, Risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

[in the black book you are on page 17, blue book page 24/25]

TROPAR: When the disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the glorious news of the resurrection and cast off the ancestral condemnation, they proudly told the apostles: "Death has been plundered! Christ our God is risen, granting to the world great mercy."

TROPAR: By faith You justified Your ancestors and through them in advance You betrothed the Church taken from the nations. The saints exult in glory; from their seed comes the blessed fruit, the one who bore You without seed. By their prayers, O Christ our God, have mercy on us.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Now and forever and ever. Amen.

KONDAK: Armed by the Being that defies description, you defied the man-made idol, O thrice blessed youth. In the midst of the unbearable flames, you stood and cried out to God: "In Your mercy, O gracious One, hasten and come to our aid," for You can do whatever You will.

PROKIMEN: Blessed are You, Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your Name forever. For You are righteous in everything that You have done to us. Blessed are You, Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your Name forever.

A Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Colossians (3:4-11):



Brethren, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. Therefore, put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

ALLELUIA: (3). Moses and Aaron are among His priests and Samuel among those who call upon His name. Alleluia (3). They called on the Lord and He heard them. Alleluia (3).

Gospel of St. Luke 14:16-24

The Lord told this parable, "A certain man gave a great supper, and he invited many. And he sent his servant at supper time to tell those invited to come, for everything is now ready. And they all with one accord began to excuse themselves. The first said to him, 'I have bought a farm, and I must go out and see it; I pray you hold me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am on my way to try them; I pray you hold me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' And the servant returned and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house was angry and said to his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor, and the crippled, and the blind, and the lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, your order has been carried out, and still there is room.' Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and make them come in, so that my house may be filled. For I tell you that none of those who were invited shall a taste of my supper. For many are called but few are chosen."

COMMUNION HYMN: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest. Rejoice in the Lord, O you just; praise befits the righteous. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

CHURCH NEWS Every day is a Holy Day of Opportunity. Pray Always. - *Father Daniel Gurovich*



PHILLIP'S FAST: For this **penitential period** from November 15-December 24, we will **include** the Second Antiphon and the First Small Litany as part of the Divine Liturgy. The Second Antiphon is not found in today's liturgy books, by permission of our Synod of Ukrainian Catholic Bishops. This addition will appear in the weekly church bulletin. **n.b. Because Christmas Eve is Sunday, a day without fasting, the strict fast is moved to Friday, Dec. 22nd.**



CHRISTMAS FLEA MARKET: Thank you to EVERYONE who helped make our Christmas Flea/Food Market a HUGE SUCCESS! **The profit from our sale is still going.** There are more items to be sold and there is **STILL bird seed** for sale! **Tell your friends! We will make you and your birds a great deal!!! Wanna to buy some seed give Johanna a call 570-256-7883. It makes a great gift!**

THERE IS A NEED-CAN YOU HELP OUT??? **WYOMING CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIANS FOR HUMAN LIFE: CAN YOU HELP OUT?** Requests Summer/Winter Baby Clothes for girls in Sizes 12 months, 18 months and 24 months. (Gently used or like new clothes will be accepted.) Please leave donations in the church basement they will be picked up by the THIRD week of December, as always diapers and wipes are appreciated. Thank you to the parishioners who have donated already!!

PYROHY FOR SALE: We have Potato Pyrohy for Sale \$10.00 they are frozen. If you would like to purchase pyrohy, reach out to the rectory 570-735-2262.

CHURCH ENVELOPES, CALENDARS & 2024 CANDLES: The church envelopes and calendars are on the table in the back of the church. 2024 Candles are ready!

CHRISTMAS CONFESSION: Father Walter will have confession before EACH/AFTER Liturgy, time permitting- please stand by the confessional. Confessions can also be heard by appointment.



WYOMING VALLEY CONCERT BAND: IT'S THIS WEDNESDAY! Presents the
“**Magic Of Christmas**” on **Wednesday, December 20th at 7:30 PM** at St.
Stephen’s Episcopal Church, South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA.
Admission is Free.

“A shoot shall sprout from the stump (tree) of Jesse and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him” (Isaiah 11:1-2)



DECEMBER CANDLES

The **Candles on the Tetrapod** are given by Fr. Walter
in loving memory of the Pasicznyk Family.

The **Altar Candles** are given by Tom & MaryAnn Potsko
In loving memory of Helen Heylek.

The **Candle Before the Icon table of the Theotokos** is given by
Geraldine Adamchak In loving memory of Nicholas & Julia Salonski.

The **Candle Before John the Baptist** is given by Fr. Walter
In loving memory of Ihor Pasicznyk.

The **St. Nicholas Candle** is given by Ed & Mary Schwartz
For God’s Blessings & Health for grandson Zachary.

The **Candle Before the Icon of Jesus Christ** is given
By Lipowski/Placek Families for Maria Olympia Pasicznyk.



VISITING THE SICK & HOMEBOUND: Father Walter tries to visit the homebound on the first Friday of every month. If you know someone who would like to be visited and receive Holy Communion and they were not, please contact Father Walter at the rectory at 570-735-2262.



Petitions & Prayers for Our Parishioners: Please pray for our Parishioners
Assisted Living: Mary Hoolick. **At Home:** Geraldine Adamchak; Shirley Kozar, Dolores Miller, Rita Kurtz, Diane Petry, Mary Louise Bailey. **Away:** Leona Kobela. **Prayer Request:** Michelle Miller; Kerri; Ellen Kobela, Fr. Peter Waslo; Sister Evhenia Prusnay MSMG; Mary Oresick; Fr. Paul Wolensky, Pavlyk Motychka (baby in Ukraine with SMA); Joyce Kishbaugh, Ken Weber; Marie Slota; Fr. Gregory Maslak, Angel Ocasio, Elizabeth Biasci, Dolores Jennings, Barnett Kurtz, Mike Oresick, Debbie Schwartz.



FROM THE GREAT COMPLINE (From Christmas Eve Liturgy):
Rozhdestvo Tvoje, Kriste Bozhe nash, vozsiya mirovee svit razuma, vnembo zvizdam sluzhashchiyee, zvizdoyu uchakhusya, Tebee klanyateesya Solnstsu pravdee, ee Tebe viditee vysotee ostoka, Hospodi, slava tebee!

TROPARION OF THE NATIVITY: Your Nativity, O Christ our God, has shed the light of knowledge upon the world. Through it, those who had been star-worshippers learned through a star to worship You, O sun of Justice, and to recognize in You the One who rises and who comes from on high. O Lord, Glory to You!



PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL

Holy Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls.

If you want to know about God, there is only one way to do it; get down on your knees.

– Venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen 1946

ROYAL HOURS



The Hours are four relatively brief prayer services of the Daily Cycle that mark the various hours of the day, corresponding to principal events in the earthly life of the Savior. The liturgical practice of the Catholic Church includes four hours: the ninth, first, third and sixth. Respectively, they signify the Lord's Death on the Cross; the expulsion of Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden, as well as the judgement of the God-man by the council of Caiaphas and His subsequent

Passion; the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles; and the crucifixion of the Lord on the Cross. The numerical names of the hours are taken from the ancient Jewish tradition of dividing the day into four prayer offices. The Old Testament tradition of observing these prayer offices at certain times of day has been adopted by Christianity and acquired a new meaning. Today the ninth hour corresponds to 3PM, the first – to 6AM, the third – to 9AM and the sixth – to 12 noon. In modern practice the hours are joined for convenience to longer daily services. The ninth hour is read at the beginning of Vespers, the first – at the end of Matins. The third and sixth hours are served before the beginning of the Liturgy. The service of the Royal hours is held on the eves of such important Catholic Holy Days as the Nativity of Christ and Theophany, as well as on Holy Friday. This service is also called Great Hours because it is celebrated very solemnly. The priest is vested in a phelonion, and the Holy Doors are open. Censing is performed every hour, during the first and the last of which censing the entire church is performed with a burning candle, as in a *polyeleos* service. Every hour is accompanied by a reading of the *paremias* (specific Old Testament readings, from the Greek – *parable*) and followed by the Apostle and the Gospel. The readings from the Holy Scriptures and almost all the prayers of the great hours (the psalms, *prokimenon*, *troparia* and *kontakia*) are dedicated to the celebrated event (the Nativity of Christ, the Baptism of the Lord, or the Passion of Christ). The name Royal Hours originated from the tradition of Byzantine emperors to attend these solemn services, emphasizing their liturgical, spiritual importance, as well as their social significance. In the *heortological* sense (*Heortology – from the Greek "eorthos", a feast – the study of the history and significance of the feasts and seasons in the ecclesiastical calendar*) the services on Christmas and Epiphany Eves are similar to each other. This is due to the fact that in the ancient Church the Nativity and the Baptism of Christ were celebrated as one feast, called the Holy Epiphany. The tradition of celebrating the Nativity of Christ separately originated in the 4th century. In the modern church practice, the royal hours are served immediately one after another in the following order – 1, 3, 6, 9. Usually, at the beginning of each hour, the bell rings the corresponding number of times.

The Scripture readings and prayers of this service tune a Christian's heart into the spirit of celebrating the Nativity of Christ. Indeed, the Christmas shopping, fancy dinners and receiving friends and relatives, often eclipse the trail to Bethlehem in our hearts. We forget about the first and foremost meaning of Christmas being the Nativity of Christ, the Savior of the world. The Royal hours help us make the first step towards Him. Crossing the threshold of the church, we enter the cave where God is waiting for us. It is Him that we should honor and cling to before we observe the social traditions. In doing so, we become filled with the true Spirit of Christmas, from which everything begins. This spirit can be attained during the church services celebrated on these beautiful, joyful and majestic days, commemorating the events of our salvation by God. On the bright holiday of the Nativity of Christ, I would like to wish all of us to see this gentle shining star leading us through the chaos of the world to the Infant Christ.

Translated by The Catalogue of Good Deeds

James 1:19-27; Mark 10:17-27

Someone turned to the Lord with a question: Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?(Mark 10:17) What necessitated this question? Was there no Scripture? Was the law not read every Saturday for everyone? There was everything—both the Scripture and its interpreters—but differences of opinion went around in society and muddled everyone. The Pharisees said one thing, the Sadducees another, the Essenes had their own opinion, and the Samaritans theirs. In Galilee, perhaps even pagan teachings were heard, and each side put forth its own teachings with a tone of conviction. Anyone who was zealous for salvation naturally came to the question: What should I do? What should I follow, so as to not lose my soul? Our situation now is very similar to that of those times. How many teachings are circulating in our schools, in society, and in literature! For the indifferent it is nothing, but those concerned over which teaching to follow cannot help but seek a resolution; “What should I do?” And so what is the solution? The one which the Savior gave: Believe and live as God commanded, and do not listen to people's talk; let them talk. The talk of scholars too is like rumors and fashion; today one thing, tomorrow another. But you should heed only God's Word, which abides onto the ages. What Lord commanded, no philosophizing can revoke. Everything must done, and cannot be put of. The Judgement indeed will be according to the Word of the Lord, and not according to our philosophizing.

- St. Theophan the Recluse