Transfiguration of Our Lord Church
240 Center Street – Nanticoke, PA 18634

Nanticoke Rectory: (570)735-2262

Church Email: TransfigurationUCC@comcast.net

WebSite: www.transfigurationucc.org

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

# Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na Viki! Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever! July 13, 2025 A. D.

Saturday, July 12 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE FIRST SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS

**6:00 PM** God's Blessings & Good Health for Michael Vessic

-Becker Family

AFTER LITURGY ADULT DISCUSSION -The Nature of Man

Sunday, July 13 5th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE FIRST SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS

Monday, July 14

9:00 AM God's Blessings for America- Tom & MaryAnn Potsko

Tuesday, July 15

Saturday, July 19 6<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Great Prophet Elijah** 

**Blessing of Cars & Chariots** 

Sunday, July 20 6<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Great Prophet Elijah** 

**Blessing of Cars & Chariots** 

Saint Peter & Paul Church (Plymouth)

Divine Liturgy: Saturday 4:00PM; Sunday 8:30AM

## 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST July 13, 2025 A. D.

**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:** Christ our God, You are glorified above all, You established our fathers as beacons on earth and through them guided all of us to the true faith. Glory to You, most compassionate Lord.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

**KONDAK:** The Son who ineffably shone from the Father was born two-fold of nature from a woman. Beholding Him, we do not reject the image of His form; but depicting it, we revere it faithfully. Therefore, the Church, holing the true faith, kisses the icon of Christ becoming man.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

**KONDAK:** My Savior and Deliverer from the grave as God raised out of bondage the children of the earth and shattered the gates of Hades; and as Master, He rose on the third day.

**PROKIMEN:** Blessed are You, Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your Name forever.

verse: 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 from the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews (13:7-16):

Brethren, remember your prelates who have spoken the word of God to you; whose faith you follow, consider the outcome of their way of life. Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever. Do not be led away with various and strange doctrines. For it is best that the heart be established with grace, not with meats; which have not profited those that walk in them. We have an altar, of which they have no power to eat who serve the tabernacle. For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the holies by the high priest for sin, are burned outside the camp. Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people by his own blood, suffered outside the gate. Let us go forth therefore to him outside the camp, bearing his reproach. For we do not have a lasting city here, but we seek one that is to come. By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise always to God, that is to say, the fruit of lips confessing to his name. And do not forget to do good, and to share with others; for by such sacrifices God's favor is obtained.

**ALLELUIA:** Alleluia (3). The God of gods, the Lord, spoke and summoned the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. Alleluia (3). Gather to Him His devout ones, who with sacrifice make covenant with Him. Alleluia (3).

# Gospel Matthew 8:28-9, Matthew 5: 14-19

At that time, when Jesus arrived at the other side in the region of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men coming from the tombs met him. They were so violent that no one could pass that way. "What do you want with us, Son of God?" they shouted. "Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time?" Some distance from them a large herd of pigs

was feeding. The demons begged Jesus, "If you drive us out, send us into the herd of pigs." He said to them, "Go!" So they came out and went into the pigs, and the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and died in the water. Those tending the pigs ran off, went into the town and reported all this, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men. Then the whole town went out to meet Jesus. And when they saw him, they pleaded with him to leave their region.

**COMMUNION VERSE:** 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.

### PRAYER FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE CHURCH

O glorious St. Michael, guardian and defender of the Church of Jesus Christ, come to the assistance of the Church, against which the powers of hell are unchained, guard with especial care her august Head, and obtain that for Him and for us the hour of triumph may speedily arrive. O glorious Archangel St. Michael, watch over us during life, defend us against the assaults of the devil, assist us especially at the hour of death; obtain for us a favorable judgement, and the happiness of beholding God face to face for endless ages. Amen.



Petitions & Prayers for Our Parishioners: Please pray for our Parishioners Assisted Living: Mary Hoolick. At Home: 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, Mike Oresick, Mark & Debbie Schwartz, Mary Schwartz, Helen Lipowski, Raquel Camelia, Marie Neimeyer, Paulette Parcel & all Parishioners who are experiencing health issues.

#### CHURCH NEWS ....



HAPPY BELATED ANNIVERSARY!: Congratulations to Tom & Jenn Jones who celebrated their Wedding Anniversary on June 21! Happy Belated Wedding Anniversary to Tom & MaryAnn Potsko who will celebrated their Anniversary on July 3! Mnohaya Lita! May God grant them Many Blessed, Happy & Healthy Years!

ADULT DISCUSSION: IT'S TONIGHT!!!! There will be an Adult Discussion on the book of the month for May - Aquinas, On Human Nature rescheduled for Saturday, July 12th following the Liturgy.

FOOD FESTIVAL MEETING & PYROHY: The Food Festival is planned for Saturday, August 30th. Also, we will be making Pyrohy on Saturday, August 16th for the Festival. Please save the date. These fund-raisers are very important for our Parish.

CHURCH PROJECTS: Just to update the church congregation- the cemetery post project continues. The coordinators of this project are waiting, for drier and cooler weather. Each cemetery post needs to be jack-hammered out and 6 bags of concrete mixed to place in a new hole to hold the fence. We are so blessed that all of the materials for this project have been donated by our parishioners, to whom we are greatly in debt. Thank You. But, as our labor is also donated by hard-working men of the Parish- and to whom we are deeply grateful, we are asking for additional help to support the project. Every bit helps. Can only help one time? No problem! Contact Brian at 570-417-9881, the project is so weather dependent that dates cannot be given in advance. Sometimes weekdays- sometimes Saturdays. The men's group is ALWAYS looking for additional help. You don't have to show up every WEEK, but any assistance is appreciated. Don't know the guys who are in the group-VOLUNTEER- and you will. The other project the group is doing is the plaster in the church (the church is cooler right now). The guys did a fabulous job of repairing the choir window and plaster by the steps. Are you great at stenciling? We someone to repair the stencil! The are also other projects on the agenda if lifting is not in your wheelhouse.

The church rectory back porch has been repaired and repainted (the decking and steps were rotted). Currently, the steps for the porch are under construction and are awaiting treads as the stringers are now put in. The cost of this project was under \$150.00. Thank you to the construction laborers who donated their time and the parishioners who donated materials to the project. The church office was gifted a new desktop computer. Our old computer no longer supported programs effectively and was crashing. Thank you to the donors of the monitor, computer, computer programs and other associated cables and accessories for the computer. Also, thank you to our local computer person who donated their time and talents to set it up. Just keep in mind that these projects continue in the background and do cost money.

## BOOK(S) OF THE MONTH FOR JULY/AUGUST:

<u>HUMILITY RULES:</u> St. Benedict's Guide to Genuine Self-Esteem Ignatius Press, by J. Augustine Wetta, O.S.B., Monk of St. Louis Abbey

ISBN: 978-1-62164-149-0

## HISTORY OF THE CHURCH BY EUSEBIUS

Penguin, Available on Amazon

The only surviving historical record of the Church during its crucial first 300 years.

#### PRAYER TO THE MOTHER OF GOD

Mother of Perpetual Help, you have been blessed and favored by God. You became not only the Mother of the Redeemer, but Mother of the redeemed as well. We come to you today as your loving children. Watch over us and take care of us. As you held the child Jesus in your loving arms, so take us in your arms. Be a mother ready at every moment to help us. For God who is mighty has done great things for you, and God's mercy is from age to age on those who love God. Intercede for us, dear Mother, in obtaining pardon for our sins, love for Jesus, final perseverance, and the grace always to call upon you, O Mother of Perpetual Help.

WHY COOK WEDNESDAY: Saints Peter & Paul Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church will hold a Chicken Dinner as their Why Cook Wednesday Dinner for July. The dinner will be on Wednesday, July 16, 2025 in their school hall on the corner of North River and West Chestnut Streets, near the General Hospital Parkade in Wilkes-Barre. This dinner will be Take-Out Only and Pre-Orders are strongly encouraged. Dinners will be \$15 and will include; a brined and roasted half-chicken, baked potato, corn, macaroni salad, roll and dessert. Place your order by calling the School Hall Kitchen (570) 829-3051. Pick-Ups will be from 4:00 to 7:00pm. Tickets will also be sold for a Basket Raffle. Remember...When Baba Cooks, Everybody's Happy!"



**RAFFLE BASKETS:** We need Raflle Baskets for the Food Festival. There are baskets in the church basement if you need one.

Saint Elijah, Great Prophet. The Holy Prophet Elijah is one of the greatest of the prophets and the first dedicated to virginity in the Old Testament. He was born in Tishba of Gilead into the Levite tribe 900 years before the Incarnation of the Word of God. Saint Epiphanius of Cyprus gives the following account about the birth of the Prophet Elijah: "When Elijah was born, his father Sobach saw in a vision angels of God around him. They swaddled him with fire and fed him with flames." The name Elijah (the Lord's strength) given to the infant defined his whole life. From the years of his youth he dedicated himself to the One God, settled in the wilderness and spent his whole life in strict fasting, meditation and prayer. Called to prophetic service, which put him in conflict with the Israelite king Ahab, the prophet became a fiery zealot of true faith and piety. During this time the Israelite nation had fallen away from the faith of their Fathers, they abandoned the One God and worshipped pagan idols, the worship of which was introduced by the impious king Jereboam. Jezebel, the wife of king Ahab, was devoted to idol worship. She persuaded her husband to build a temple to the pagan god Baal, which led many Israelites away from the worship of the true God, and Ahab increased the sins of his father and Israel. Beholding the ruin of his nation, the Prophet Elijah began to denounce King Ahab for impiety, and exhorted him to repent and turn to the God of Israel. The king would not listen. The Prophet Elijah then declared to him, that as punishment there would be neither rain nor dew upon the ground, and the drought would cease only by his prayer. Indeed, the word of Elijah was a torch (Eccles. 48: 1). The heavens were closed for three and a half years, and there was drought and famine throughout all the land. During this time of tribulation, the Lord sent him to a cave beyond the Jordan, where he was miraculously fed by ravens. When the stream Horath dried up, the Lord sent the Prophet Elijah to Sarephta to a poor widow (1 Kings 17), a Sidonian Gentile who suffered together with her children, awaiting death by starvation. At the request of the prophet, she prepared him a bread with the last measure of flour and the remainder of the oil. Through the prayer of the Prophet Elijah, flour and oil were not depleted in the home of the widow for the duration of the famine. By the power of his prayer the prophet also performed another miracle: he raised the dead son of the widow. After the end of three years of drought the Merciful Lord sent the prophet to appear before King Ahab, and promised to send rain upon the earth. The Prophet Elijah told the king to order all of Israel to gather upon Mount Carmel, and also the priests of Baal. When the nation had gathered, the Prophet Elijah proposed that two sacrificial altars be built: one for the priests of Baal, and the other for the Prophet Elijah who served the True God. The Prophet Elijah told them to call on their gods to consume the sacrificial animals with fire, and he would call on his. Whichever was first to send fire on the sacrifice would be acknowledged as the true God. The prophets of Baal called out to their idol from morning till evening, but the heavens were silent. Towards evening the holy Prophet Elijah built his sacrificial altar from twelve stones, the number of the tribes of Israel. He placed the sacrifice upon the wood, gave orders to dig a ditch around the altar and commanded that the sacrifice and the wood be soaked with water three times. When the ditch was overflowing with water, the prophet turned to God in prayer. Through the prayer of the prophet fire came down from heaven and consumed the sacrifice, the wood, and even the water. The people fell down to the ground, crying out: "Truly, the Lord of Elijah is God!" Then the Prophet Elijah had all the pagan-priests of Baal put to death, and he began to pray for rain (1 Kings 18). Through his prayer the heavens opened and an abundant rain fell, soaking the parched earth. King Ahab acknowledged his error and repented of his sins, but his wife Jezebel threatened to kill the prophet of God. The Prophet Elijah fled into the Kingdom of Judea and, grieving over his failure to eradicate idol worship, he asked God to let him die. An angel of the Lord came before him, strengthened him with food and commanded him to go upon a long journey. The Prophet Elijah traveled for forty days and nights and, having arrived at Mount Horeb, he settled in a cave. The Lord told him that the next day Elijah would stand in His presence. There was a strong wind that crushed the rocks of the mountain, then an earthquake, and a fire, but the Lord was not in them. The Lord was in "a gentle breeze" (3 Kings 19: 12). He revealed to the prophet, that He would preserve seven thousand faithful servants who had not worshipped Baal. Later, the Lord commanded Elijah to anoint Elisha into prophetic service. Because of his fiery zeal for the Glory of God the Prophet Elijah was taken up alive into Heaven in a fiery chariot. The Prophet Elisha received Elijah's mantle, and a double portion of his prophetic spirit (2 Kings 2). According to the Tradition of Holy Church, the Prophet Elijah will be the Forerunner of the Dread Second Coming of Christ. He will proclaim the truth of Christ, urge all to repentance, and will be slain by the Antichrist. This will be a sign of the end of the world. The life of the holy Prophet Elijah is recorded in the Old Testament books (1 Kings; 2 Kings; Sirach/Ecclesiasticus 48: 1-15; 1 Maccabees 2: 58). At the time of the Transfiguration, the Prophet Elijah conversed with the Savior upon Mount Tabor (Mt. 17: 3; Mark 9: 4; Luke. 9: 30). Catholics of all times, and in all places, have venerated the Prophet Elijah for centuries. The first church in Kyiv under Prince Igor, was named for the Prophet Elijah. After her Baptism, Saint Olga (July 11) built a temple of the holy Prophet Elijah in her native region, at the village of Vibuta. In iconography the Prophet Elijah is depicted ascending to Heaven in a fiery chariot, surrounded with flames, and harnessed to four winged horses. We pray to him for deliverance from drought, and to ask for seasonable weather.





### **JULY CANDLES**

The Eternal Light is given by Mark & Arlene Jennings in loving memory of Peter & Anna Wrobel.

The Candle Before the Icon of Jesus Christ is given by Ellen Algrainy for God's blessings for her mother Leona Kobela. The Candle before St. John the Baptist is given by by the Pasicznyk family in loving memory of Olympia Pasicznyk. The Candle Before the Icon of the Theotokos is given by the Bruce & Maria Slota for God's blessings on Helen Lipowski. The Candle Before St. Nicholas is given by Mrs. Mary Schwartz

for God's Blessings on her granddaughter, Elizabeth. The Altar Candles are given by Tom & Mary Ann Potsko

loving memory of Henry & Joseph Heylek.

The Proscomedia Table Candles are given by Mary Ann Jarolen in loving memory of Emil Jarolen.

The Candle before the icon of the Transfiguration is given by the parish in loving memory of Geraldine Adamchak.

# Authority of the Council - Authority of the Church

The authority of the Councils is based also on their ecclesiological grounding. A council is not an independent, autonomous body, additional, coming from outside, acting unilaterally. It is not the product of accidental circumstances in history and imposed afterwards. It is closely, or rather organically, related with the very essence of the Church. This body of Christ is a living organism, destined to grow, to face difficulties during this process, to be implanted in other regions of the world needing inculturalization and a certain adaptation.

Such embodiment and multifaceted ministry creates problems, tensions, even divisions and in spite of the good will of the local bishop and pastors, the convocation of as a major assembly is considered as a natural instrument, salutary and indispensable.

The official voice of the catholicity and the koinonia of all the other sister churches, in harmony and guided by the Spirit, would only provide the new assessments, possible remedies and solutions. The functioning of such a council was such that the opinions and requests at issue found expression from the very womb of the Church. Once the decision was made, the people had a part in receiving it and publicizing it (Acts 15:22) as is seen in the first assembly of Jerusalem.

Metropolitan Emilianos