

**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!**  
**December 14, 2025, A. D.**



**Saturday, December 13**  
**6:00 PM**

**TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

†Edmund Pachucki- Jack & Judy Lee

**Sunday, December 14**  
**10:30 AM**

**TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

†Ted Weron- Mark & Arlene Jennings

**Monday, December 15**  
**9:00 AM**

†Ihor & Olympia Pasicznyk -Pasicznyk Family

**Tuesday, December 16**  
**9:00 AM**

†Henry, Helen & Joseph Heylek- Tom & Maryann Potsko

**Thursday, December 18**  
**9:00 AM**

†Chris Farley- Lisa Chokola

**Friday, December 19**  
**9:00 AM**

God's Blessings for America- Tom & MaryAnn Potsko

**Saturday, December 20**  
**6:00 PM**

**TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

God's Blessings for the Duncan Family  
- Bruce & Marie Slota

**Sunday, December 21**  
**10:30 AM**

**TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

†Charles Drazba- Monica Bergin



**Saint Peter & Paul Church (Plymouth)**

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

**SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS**  
**TWENTY SEVENTH AFTER SUNDAY PENTECOST**

**December 14, 2025**

**\*PLEASE REFER TO THE EXTRA SHEET FOR THE ANTIPHONS FOR PHILLIPS'S FAST**

**TROPAR:** When You went down to death, O Life Immortal, You struck Hades dead with the blazing light of Your divinity. When You raised the dead from the nether world, all the powers of heaven cried out: "O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory be to You!"

**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.**

**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. **Now and forever and ever. Amen.**

**KONDAK:** You rose from the tomb, O almighty Savior; and Hades, seeing this wonder, was stricken with fear; and the dead arose. Creation saw and rejoices with You, and Adam exults. And the world, my Savior, sings Your praises forever.

**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 of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Colossians (3:4-11):**



Brethren, when Christ our life appears, then you shall appear with him in glory. Put to death whatever in your nature is rooted in earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desires, and that lust which is idolatry. These are the sins, which provoke God's wrath. Your own conduct was once of this sort, when these sins were your very life. You must put that aside now; all the anger and quick temper, the malice, the insults, the foul language. Stop lying to one another. What you have done is put aside your old self with its past deeds and put on a new man, one who grows in knowledge as he is formed anew in the image of his Creator. There is no Greek or Jew here, circumcised or uncircumcised, foreigner, Scythian, slave or freeman. Rather, Christ is everything in all of you. You are one body and one Spirit, just as you were in one hope of your calling. One Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, Who is above all beings, pervades all things, and lives in all of us.

**ALLELUIA:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Moses and Aaron are among his priests, and Samuel among those who call upon his name. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. They called upon the Lord and he heard them. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Gospel of 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 be 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 taste of my supper. ‘For many are called but few are chosen.’”

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



**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. **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, Leona Kobela, Paulette Parcel, Josh Alberola & all Parishioners who are experiencing health issues.

## CHURCH NEWS ....

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** A Very Happy Birthday to MaryAnn Kelley who celebrates her Birthday on December 1<sup>st</sup>! A Very Happy Birthday to Christine Ferrato who celebrates her Birthday on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Mnohaya Lita! May God Grant them and their Families Many Happy Blessed Years!

**PYROHY SALE:** There are potato pyrohy for sale in the church basement. The cost is \$12.00 per dozen. Contact the church rectory or call Lisa on 570-574-1016.

**CHRISTMAS FLEA MARKET:** Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make our Christmas Flea Market a success! Thank you for your donations, purchases and hard work! Everyone did a tremendous job! Thank you!

**SAINT NICHOLAS TEA:** Thank you to everyone who made Saint Nicholas Tea a success. We are grateful for Saint Nicholas making an appearance!

**THE ENGLot SISTERS CHRISTMAS CD:** You can now listen to the Englot Sisters CD "An American Ukrainian Christmas" on YouTube and Spotify. CDs are still available for purchase- you can find them in the back of the church for free will donation. Just type into YOUTUBE LINE "**THE ENGLot SISTERS**" and it will bring up the account.

**WYOMING VALLEY BAND COINCERT:** The Wyoming Valley Concert Band presents "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year", a concert of Christmas music, on Tuesday, December 16 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Stephen's Episcopal Pro Cathedral, Franklin Street in Wilkes Barre. Admission is free. A non-perishable food item for the food pantry is appreciated. This concert is a gift of the musicians to you to celebrate the holidays. Donations to the band are always welcome.

**CHRISTMAS SING-ALONG:** "YOU ARE INVITED to join Saints Peter & Paul Ukrainian Greek Catholic Parish for their 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Christmas Carol Sing Along in the church at 635 North River Street in Wilkes-Barre, Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025, starting at 2:00p.m. Join in the singing of some very sacred, joyful and inspiring Christmas Carols. Afterwards, please join us in the lower church hall for a Christmas Fellowship Social. Please bring a friend or family member, and share the joy of Christmas with them, as we all welcome the Newborn Son of God into our hearts and homes."



## ***Liturgy Schedules***

### ***Transfiguration of Our Lord, Nanticoke***

*Wednesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve*  
*8:00 PM Great Compline and Divine Liturgy with Myrovania*

*Thursday, December 25 – Christmas*  
*10:30 AM Liturgy with Myrovania*

*Friday, December 26 – Synaxis of the Holy Mother of God*  
*10:30 AM Liturgy with Myrovania*

*Saturday, December 27 Feast of St. Stephen, Protomartyr*  
*8:00 AM Liturgy with Myrovania*

### ***Ss. Peter and Paul (Plymouth)***

*Wednesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve*  
*4:00 PM Great Compline and Divine Liturgy with Myrovania*

*Thursday, December 25 Christmas*  
*8:30AM Liturgy with Myrovania*

*Friday, December 26 Synaxis of the Holy Mother of God*  
*8:30AM Liturgy with Myrovania*

*Saturday, December 27 Feast of St. Stephen, Protomartyr*  
*8:00 AM At Transfiguration of Our Lord, Nanticoke.*

### **Christ is coming...Are you ready?**

DID YOU GO TO CONFESSION? SET ASIDE TIME TO PRAY.... PLAN TO ATTEND SERVICES?  
TEACH YOUR CHILDREN & GRANDCHILDREN ABOUT CHRIST?? There's still time.

**BOOK(S) OF THE MONTH FOR DECEMBER:**  
**ST. EPHREM THE SYRIAN**  
**Hymns on Paradise**  
**ISBN: 978-0881410761**



**DECEMBER CANDLES**

The **Eternal Light** is given by the Yanoshak Family

In loving memory of Ryan Yanoshak.

The **Altar Candles** are given by Tom & MaryAnn Potsko

In loving memory of Helen Heylek.

The Candle **Before the Icon of Jesus Christ** is given by

Alberola Family for God's Blessings

& Good Health for Joshua Alberola.

The Candle **Before St. Nicholas** is given by Geri Adamchak

In loving memory of Nicholas & Julia Salonski.

The Candle **before the Icon of the Theotokos** is given

by JoAnn Grout in loving memory of Mike & Olga Yurkowski.

The **Proscomedie Table** is given by JoAnn Grout

In loving memory of Bill & Anna Grout.

The **Candle before John the Baptist** is given by the

Pasicznyk Family in loving of Ihor Pasicznyk.

## RAFFLE BASKET WINNERS

<u>BASKET</u>	<u>DONATED</u>	<u>WINNER</u>
WREATH	MARY ORESICK	SALLEY EISENBACH
SKILLET/\$25 WEIS CD	PARISHIONER	JAN KOKINDA
SOUP IT UP	BARNO FAMILY	MARY KALINOWSKI
MK PURSE	PARISHIONER	DEBBIE GROHOWSKI
DOOR WREATH	PARISHIONER	PAULETTE
\$100	POTSKO FAMILY	NANCY BURKLAND
LOTTERY TREE	PARISHIONER	JOE LONG
WREATH	MARY ORESICK	SUE BRENNAN
FROSTY \$50	PARISHIONER	Traci Frisbee
STRESS RELIEF	MARYMAE ALBEROLA	DEBBIE MARTIN
TRASH CAN	PARISHIONER	BRIAN KAWCZENSKI
WREATH	MARY ORESICK	MARY JAROLEN
CHRISTMS FLWR\$50	MARYANN JAROLEN	ANN KLINE

### **A Prayer of St. Basil the Great**

O Master Christ our God, King of the Ages, Creator of all things: I thank Thee for all the good things Thou hast given me, especially for the Communion with Thy Most Pure and Life-Creating Mysteries! I pray Thee, O Gracious Lover of Man: preserve me under Thy protection, beneath the shadow of Thy wings! Enable me, even to my last breath, to partake worthily and with a pure conscience of Thy Holy Things, for the remission of sins and unto life eternal! For Thou art the Bread of Life, the Fountain of Holiness, the Giver of all Good; to Thee we ascribe glory, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

## **Arming Ourselves for Spiritual Combat: Fasting and Almsgiving**

The journey of spiritual combat begins with arming ourselves with the powerful disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. These practices have been observed by Christians since ancient times, serving as transformative tools in our spiritual growth. Prayer and fasting is a way of imitating Christ's forty-day fast in the wilderness, where He faced the devil's temptations and emerged victorious. By partaking in prayer and fasting, we not only follow Christ's example but also attain a deeper purity of heart. Prayer and fasting involves restraining not only our bodies through abstinence from food and drink but also our souls through the suppression of passions and desires and remaining in communion with God.

Almsgiving embodies the essence of love for our neighbor, reflecting the very nature of God's mercy. The act of giving selflessly to those in need shows our humility and reminds us of God's grace in our lives. Saint John Chrysostom profoundly encourages us to extend our fasting beyond food and drinks, prompting us to fast from slander, gossip, and any form of harm toward others. By embracing prayer, fasting and almsgiving, we equip ourselves with the strength to overcome the spiritual battles that come our way.

## **Overcoming Evil Thoughts: The Battle of the Mind**

One of the most significant challenges in spiritual combat is dealing with evil thoughts that constantly influence our minds. These thoughts can be either good or evil, impacting our spiritual lives in diverse ways. The account of Adam and Eve's fall in the book of Genesis serves as a poignant reminder of the power of temptation. The devil deceived our ancestors by suggesting that they could become like God if they rejected His commandment. This temptation resulted in personal responsibility for sin. Likewise, in our lives, we face continuous temptations to sin, but it is our response that defines the outcome.

The stages of dealing with evil thoughts are a progression: suggestion, internal conversation, struggle, assent, and passion. It begins with a suggestion, which can manifest through images, fantasies, or recollections, and if not dismissed, the evil thought proceeds to penetrate our hearts. The internal conversation with the thought presents us with a choice – to succumb or resist. The struggle to dismiss the thought requires effort, relying on the Word of God and prayer and fasting to achieve victory. If we give assent to the evil thought, accepting and intending to act on it, we have already sinned, even if the action is not realized. This sequence culminates in the state of passion, where a person becomes enslaved by their sinful desires if we do not constantly pray and fast.