

Transfiguration of Our Lord Church
240 Center Street – Nanticoke, PA 18634
Nanticoke Rectory: (570)735-2262
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Pastor; Fr. Walter Pasicznyk CELL PHONE NUMBER: (570)-406-5882



Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na Viki!
Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!
December 21, 2025, A. D.



Saturday, December 20 6:00 PM	SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS-OF THE ANCESTORS God's Blessings for the Duncan Family - Bruce & Marie Slota
Sunday, December 21 10:30 AM	SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS-OF THE ANCESTORS †Charles Drazba- Monica Bergin
Monday, December 22 9:00 AM	†Sophie Staronka – Lisa Placek
Wednesday, December 24 8:00 PM	CHRISTMAS EVE-VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS (w/Myrovania) †Susanna Chokola- Lisa Chokola
Thursday, December 25 10:30 AM	CHRISTMAS- BIRTH OF OUR LORD (w/Myrovania) †Ed Schwartz- Helen Lipowski
Friday, December 26 10:30 AM	SYNAXIS OF THE THEOTOKOS (w/Myrovania) †All the deceased Members of the Slota & Wetzel Families- Bruce & Marie Slota
Saturday, December 27 8:00 AM	FEAST OF SAINT STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR (w/Myrovania) God's Blessings for America- Tom & MaryAnn Potsko
6:00 PM	SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS-DAVID, JOSEPH & JAMES †Theodore Weron- Christione Ferrato
Sunday, December 28 10:30 AM	SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS-DAVID, JOSEPH & JAMES †Geraldine Adamchak- Brian & Joanne Kawczenski



Saint Peter & Paul Church (Plymouth)

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





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

Ss. Peter and Paul (Plymouth)

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

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

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



SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS
-OF THE ANCESTORS
December 21, 2025

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

TROPAR: Let the heavens be glad, let the earth rejoice, for the Lord has done a mighty deed with His arm. He trampled death by death. He became the first-born of the dead; He saved us from the abyss of Hades and granted great mercy to the world.

TROPAR: Great are the achievements of faith! In the fountain of flames, the three holy youths rejoiced as by the water of rest, and the prophet Daniel was revealed shepherding lions like sheep. Through their intercession, O Christ God, save our souls.

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 Hebrews (11:9-10,17-23,32-40):

Brethren, by faith Abraham abode in the land, dwelling in tents, with Isaac and Jacob, the co-heirs of the same promise. For he looked for a city that has foundations; whose builder and maker is God. By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered Isaac: and he that had received the promises, offered up his only begotten son; (To whom it was said: In Isaac shall your seed be called.) Accounting that God is able to raise up even from the dead. Whereupon also he received him for a parable. By faith also of things to come, Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau. By faith Jacob dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and adored the top of his rod. By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the going out of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones. By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months by his parents; because they saw he was a comely babe, and they feared not the king's edict. And what shall I yet say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barack, Sampson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets:

Who by faith conquered kingdoms, wrought justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, recovered strength from weakness, became valiant in battle, put to flight the armies of foreigners: women received their dead raised to life again. But others were racked, not accepting deliverance, that they might find a better resurrection. And others had trial of mockeries and stripes, moreover also of bands and prisons. They were stoned, they were cut asunder, they were tempted, they were put to death by the sword, they wandered about in sheepskins, in goatskins, being in want, distressed, afflicted: of whom the world was not worthy; wandering in deserts, in mountains, and in dens, and in caves of the earth. And all these being approved by the testimony of faith, received not the promise; God providing some better thing for us, that they should not be perfected without us.



ALLELUIA: (3). O God, we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have told us the work You did in their days. Alleluia (3). You saved us from our oppressors and put to shame those who hate us. Alleluia (3).

Gospel of St. Matthew 1:1-25



The book of the origin of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, Jacob begot Judas and his brothers. Judas begot Phares and Zara of Thamar, Phares begot Esron, Esron begot Aram. And Aram begot Aminadab, Aminadab begot Naasson, Naasson begot Salmon. Salmon begot Booz of Rahab. Booz begot Obed of Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, Jesse begot David the King. And David the King begot Solomon of the former wife of Uriah. Solomon begot Roboam, Roboam begot Abia, Abia begot Asa. And Asa begot Josaphat, Josaphat begot Joram, Joram begot Oziah. And Oziah begot Joatham, Joatham begot Achaz, Achaz begot Ezechiah. And Ezechiah begot Manasses, Manasses begot Amon, Amon begot Josiah. And Josiah begot Jechoniah and his brothers at the time of the carrying away to Babylon. And after the carrying away to Babylon Jechoniah begot Salathiel. Salathiel begot Zorobabel. And Zorobabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliachim, Eliachim begot Azor. And Azor begot Sadoc, Sadoc begot Achim, Achim begot Eliud. And Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Mattan, Mattan begot Jacob. And Jacob begot Joseph, the husband of Mary, and of her was Jesus who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the carrying away to Babylon fourteen generations; and from the carrying away to Babylon to Christ fourteen generations. Now the origin of Christ was in this wise. When Mary his mother had been

betrothed to Joseph, she was found, before they came together, to be with child by the Holy Spirit. But Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wishing to expose her to reproach, was minded to put her away privately. But while he thought on these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Do not be afraid, Joseph, son of David, to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is begotten in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she shall bring forth a son, and you shall call his name Jesus; for he shall save his people from their sins." Now all this came to pass that what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet might be fulfilled, "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son; and they shall call his name Emmanuel;" which is interpreted, "God with us". So Joseph, arising from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him, and took unto him his wife. And he did not know her till she brought forth her firstborn son. And he called his name Jesus.



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.



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 **Proscomedia 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.

CHURCH NEWS

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! **Our next AFTER-CHRISTMAS Flea Market will be on Saturday, January 3 and Sunday, January 4, weather permitting. Please plan to come out and help.**

CHRISTMAS CONFESSION: Father Walter will have confession before and after each Liturgy, time permitting- please stand by the confessional. Confessions can also be heard by appointment, which many parishioners have done to accommodate their schedule. Please plan your confession.

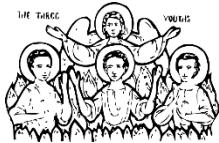
THE ENGLOT SISTERS CHRISTMAS CD: You can now listen to the Englot Sisters CD "An American Ukrainian Christmas "on YouTube and Spotify. CDs are still available for purchase- you can find them in the back of the church for free will donation. Just type into YOUTUBE LINE "THE ENGLOT SISTERS" and it will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

CHRISTMAS SING-ALONG: "YOU ARE INVITED to join Saints Peter & Paul Ukrainian Greek Catholic Parish for their 31st Annual Christmas Carol Sing Along in the church at 635 North River Street in Wilkes-Barre, Sunday, December 28th, 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."

MYASOPUSNA 2026 is February 8, 2026. Please SAVE the date.

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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.

BOOK(S) OF THE MONTH FOR DECEMBER:

ST. EPHREM THE SYRIAN

Hymns on Paradise

ISBN: 978-0881410761

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 off. The Judgement indeed will be according to the Word of the Lord, and not according to our philosophizing.

- St. Theophan the Recluse



ASK FATHER A QUESTION? Father, is Epiphany and Theophany the same Feast Day? Epiphany and Theophany are two different feasts that are celebrated on the same day. One Holy Day and two events are remembered on that day. The Western Church(Roman Catholic) emphasizes the manifestation of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles(Magi or Three Kings) and they do recognize the baptism of Jesus Christ on the same day- the Western Church calls it Epiphany from the Greek{to reveal}. The Eastern Church(Ukrainian Church is one of the Eastern Churches) emphasizes the baptism of the “Adult” Jesus Christ in the Jordan River at the beginning of his ministry and the three kings are remembered –the Eastern Church calls this Feast Day Theophany, from the Greek {to show us God}.

Who are the Fore-Fathers and the Fathers of the church that we are remembering these two Sundays before Christmas? In short, the Holy Fore-Fathers, also called Patriarchs, are the Saints of the first period of the Old Testament prior to the law being given to Moses. These are Saints such as Abel, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph and Melchisedek who served God. The Holy Fathers are those Saints of the Old Testament mostly after the law is given to Moses and who had an earthly relation to the origin of Christ’s birth. These are the great Saints and Prophets who prophesied the coming of the Messiah. Such as Joshua, King David and Isaiah. We remember them because, by honoring them, Holy Church reminds us of their faithfulness to God who is always watching over them, and us, who keep his Law and serve Him.

In the Icon of the Nativity, an old man is shown and tradition tells us that he is representative of the devil tempting Joseph to doubt? Why did God allow the devil to be a part of the Nativity of Christ in any form? The devil is not part of the Nativity of Christ. He is causing all men to doubt God and His good works always- including Joseph, Mary & Jesus. Do not forget, before Jesus begins His mission evangelizing the World, before anyone knows that He is the Son of God, outside of Mary, Joseph and John the Baptist, Jesus went out into the desert to pray AND the devil tempted Him, because the devil did not know He is the Messiah. The devil is the prince of this world, for now. Salvation is the restoration of the whole universe and mankind to the perfect state it was in before mankind sinned. The devil is able to tempt all men by God’s permission not God making it happen (free will choices).

Lord, may we be like the Wise Men... Lord, may we be like the Wise Men who were guided to You by a star. Give us the wisdom to seek You, light to guide us to You, courage to search until we find You, graciousness to worship You and generosity to lay our gifts before You, Who are our King and our God for ever and ever. Amen.