

**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!**  
**Divine Liturgy Schedule**  
**September 13, 2026 A. D.**

**Saturday, September 12**  
**6:00PM**

**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

✙ William Vincent- Marc & Karen Lipowski

**Sunday, September 13**  
**10:30AM**

**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

God's Blessings & Good Health for Bobby Miles- Lisa Placek

**Monday, September 14**  
**10:30AM**

**EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS – Myrovania**

God's Blessings & Good Health for Sandra Fragelli  
-Fragelli & Becker Family

**Tuesday, September 15**  
**9:00AM**

Gods Blessings for America - Tom & MaryAnn Potsko

**Saturday, September 19**  
**6:00PM**

**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

✙ Geraldine Adamchak - Lee Family

**Sunday, September 20**  
**10:30AM**

**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

✙ Michael Sawczuk - Mark & Arlene Jennings



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

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

**EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS, 8:30, Monday, September 13**

**SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS**  
**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**September 13, 2026**



**TROPARION:** By Your cross You destroyed death; You opened Paradise to the thief; You changed the lamentation of the myrrh-bearers to joy, and charged the apostles to proclaim that You are risen, O Christ our God, offering great mercy to the world.

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

**KONDAK:** No longer shall the dominion of death be able to hold mankind, for Christ went down shattering and destroying its powers. Hades is bound. The prophets exalt with one voice. The Savior has come for those with faith, saying: "Come forth, O faithful, to the resurrection!"

**PROKEIMENON:** Save Your people, O Lord, and bless Your inheritance. Unto You I will cry, O Lord, my God, lest You turn from me in silence. Save Your people, O Lord, and bless Your inheritance.

**A reading from the second Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Galatians (6:11-18):**

Brethren, see with what large letters I use as I write to you with my own hand! Those who want to impress people by means of the flesh are trying to compel you to be circumcised. The only reason they do this is to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ. Not even those who are circumcised keep the law, yet they want you to be circumcised that they may boast about your circumcision in the flesh. May I never boast except in the cross of our LORD Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is the new creation. Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule—to the Israel of God. From now on, let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our LORD Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers, Amen. Therefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, whom we acknowledge as our apostle and high priest. He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house. Jesus has been found worthy of greater honor than Moses, just as the builder of a house has greater honor than the house itself. For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything.

**ALLELUIA:** Alleluia (3). I have exalted one chosen from among My people; with My holy oil I have anointed him. Alleluia (3). My hand shall sustain him, and my arm shall make him strong. Alleluia (3).

### **Gospel of John 3:13-17**



The Lord said, “No one has ascended into heaven except him who has descended from heaven: the Son of Man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that those who believe in him may not perish, but have life everlasting.” For God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that those who believe in him may not perish, but may have life everlasting. For God did not send his Son into the world in order to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

**COMMUNION HYMN:** Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

### **PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH**

**We pray to You, O almighty and eternal God! Who through Jesus Christ hast revealed Your glory to all nations, to preserve the works of Your mercy, that Your Church, being spread through the whole world, may continue with unchanging faith in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**Petitions & Prayers for Our Parishioners:** Please pray for our Parishioners **At Home:** Dolores Miller, Rita Kurtz, Diane Petry, Mary Louise Bailey. **Request:** Michelle Miller; Kerri; Ellen Kobela, Fr. George Worschak; Fr. Peter Waslo; Fr. Paul Wolensky, Pavlyk Motychka (baby in Ukraine with SMA); Joyce Kishbaugh, Ken Weber; Marie Slota; Angel Ocasio, Elizabeth Biasci, Dolores Jennings, Mark & Debbie Schwartz, Mary Schwartz, Helen Lipowski, Raquel Camelia, Marie Neimeyer, Leona Kobela, Paulette Parcel, Josh Alberola, Sister Evhenia Prusnay & Mother Maria M.S.M.G. & all Parishioners who are experiencing health issues. Please pray for all clergy both in America and Ukraine. Please keep Ukraine in your prayers.

## SEPTEMBER CANDLES

The **Altar Candles** are given by M/M Brian Kawczenski  
In loving memory of Joseph & Mary Englot.

The **Eternal Light** is given By Marc & Karen Lipowski  
In loving memory of William Vincent.

The **Candle before the Icon of the Theotokos** is given  
Lisa Placek for Special Intention.

The **Candle before Jesus Christ** is given for all  
The victims of the Terror Attacks on 9/11.

**We are looking for some kitchen help on Friday and Saturday 9/18 and 9/19 at the flea market. There will be potato pancakes, pierogis, etc. Any help you can give will be greatly appreciated.**

**WELCOME:** We welcome everyone to our Church! We are a Ukrainian Catholic Church in communion with Rome. Our Liturgy is in English and we invite you to come and pray with us! Check out our **Website:** [www.Transfigurationucc.org](http://www.Transfigurationucc.org).



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!:** A Very Happy Birthday to Bobby Miles who celebrates his Birthday on Sunday, September 6th! A Very Happy Birthday to Diane Petry who celebrates her Birthday on Tuesday, September 8th! Happy Birthday to MaryLouise Bailey who celebrates her birthday on Saturday, September 12! Mnohaya Lita!! **Happy Birthday to Dolores & John Barno** will celebrate their Birthdays on Sunday, September 27th!!! Mnohaya Lita!! May God Grant Them and Bless Them with Many Happy Years!!

**FLEA MARKET:** We will be having a Flea Market on Friday, September 18 & Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> from 9AM to 2PM at the church hall. We are collecting gently used clothing and items. Please contact Johanna to donate or arrange to drop off items at 570-592-5776.

**FOOD FESTIVAL:** A great big thank you to everyone who helped in their many ways with our Ukrainian Food Festival. Thank you to all who helped with the shopping, setup, food preparation, service at the Food Festival, and clean-up afterwards. A special thank you to all those who baked the delicious items for the bake sale and those who donated baskets for the basket raffle.

We would also like to thank **Jeannie Kravitz from Maureen's Ice Cream** in West Nanticoke for her donation of a dozen delicious homemade apple dumplings. Jeannie wanted to contribute something in honor of her Ukrainian parents and grandparents



**PYROHY:** We are selling Potato Pyrohy (frozen) for \$12.00 a dozen at the Flea Market.



**MOVIE:** As fall looms ahead and the days get shorter & cooler..... WHY not have another movie afternoon? The date is yet to be determined- the movie **A SECRET**. No flying monkeys though!

**LONGBRANCH, NJ:** Father will be on retreat from September 28- October 1.



**SEPTEMBER 11 FACTS:** 19 Muslim men hijacked four fuel-loaded U.S. commercial airlines bound for west coast destinations. This terrorist attack on the United States was orchestrated by al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden. A total of 2,977 people of many nationalities were killed in New York City, Washington, DC, and outside of Shanksville, Pennsylvania, in this terrorist attack. At the World Trade Center site in Lower Manhattan, 2,753 people were killed when hijacked American Airlines Flight 11 and United Airlines Flight 175 were intentionally crashed in the north and south towers. Of those who perished during the initial attacks and the subsequent collapses of the towers, 343 were New York City firefighters, another 23 were New York City police officers and 37 others were officers of the Port Authority, again from many different backgrounds. The victims ranged in age from two to 85 years. Approximately 75-80 percent of the victims were men. At the Pentagon in Washington, 184 people were killed when hijacked American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into the building. Near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, 40 passengers and crew members aboard United Airlines Flight 93 died when the plane crashed into a field. It is known that the hijackers crashed the plane in that location, rather than their unknown target, after the passengers and crew attempted to retake control of the flight deck. As of September 2015 A.D., 1,640 of 2,753 WTC victims' remains have been positively identified.

On October 2001, the United States Congress passed a joint resolution designating that every September 11th be observed as "Patriot Day." The resolution requests that U.S. government entities and interested organizations and individuals display the flag of the United States at half-staff on Patriot Day and that the people of the United States observe a moment of silence in honor of the individuals who lost their lives as a result of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. In 2009, a presidential proclamation declared that Patriot Day is also a "National Day of Service." The proclamation calls on Americans to "participate in community service in honor of those our Nation lost, to observe this day with other ceremonies and activities, including remembrance services ... to honor the innocent victims who perished as a result of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001."



### **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. Amen.

**The angels come at the time of the Divine Liturgy to fill the Cathedral to celebrate with the priest. The Angels actually perform the Liturgy with him. In the procession the Gospel is preceded by altar servers carrying candles representing the angels. John Chrysostom reports an incident with a priest who witnessed a large number of angels clothed in bright robes luminous like the sun. He said he was carried up to the altar offering their help, bowing their head in great respect, and then surrounded the Holy Table. At times they stood in silence and others chanted liturgical hymns along with the chanters uplifting their melody. (Gregory Hiermonk, The Divine Liturgy Commentary, p178)**



**ASK FATHER A QUESTION? Father, why do we exalt the Holy Cross on September 14? Don't we have Exaltation of the Cross on Easter? Why do we put roses on the cross and what do they symbolize?**

All the Saints and Instruments of God's Creation are remembered in the martyrs. The church venerates the cross in honor sacrifice on the cross, conquering sin and death salvation to all men. If you are curious why THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE was September 13, 335AD. This church was built on Christ was crucified on the cross. The Synaxis of of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was September 14 and the tradition of the Church followed in venerating the Holy Cross on this date.



Salvation and calendar of the of Christ's and offering September 14, consecrated on the place where the Consecration

Roses are generally used, but it can be any red flower, because Christ poured out his blood to atone for our sins. Roses are preferred if feasible, because it is viewed as the most pure and pleasant fragrant flower. Nearly every miracle testified by the Church and Saints, the people tell of smelling roses. The flowers around the Cross represent the apostles who died witnessing Jesus, this is why you will find eleven flowers around the cross to represent the faithful apostles and that none were lost except the one destined to be lost.

**NOTABLE DATES:** Daylight Savings Time Ends(Sunday, November 1); Thanksgiving(Thursday, November 26); Myasopusna(January 31);Lent Begins(February 14), Good Friday (March 26), Easter (March 28).

*"As they were looking on, so we too gaze on his wounds as he hangs. We see his blood as he dies. We see the price offered by the redeemer, touch the scars of his resurrection. He bows his head, as if to kiss you. His heart is made bare open, as it were, in love to you. His arms are extended that he may embrace you. His whole body is displayed for your redemption. Ponder how great these things are. Let all this be rightly weighed in your mind: as he was once fixed to the cross in every part of his body for you, so he may now be fixed in every part of your soul." – St. Augustine*

## The Sign of the Cross

In exploring why we make the sign of the cross in the Church, it's crucial to dive into the rich layers of its meaning. The gesture is not merely a religious routine but a silent proclamation of faith deeply embedded with meaning.

For starters, **the cross itself** is paramount in Christian belief, representing the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus Christ for the salvation of mankind. By marking ourselves with the cross, we are aligning with Christ's suffering and resurrection. It's a physical manifestation of our acceptance of His gift of eternal life.

The motion of the sign is significant too. When I touch my forehead, then my chest, followed by my shoulders, it's a reminder of the [Holy Trinity](#): the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. This act reinforces the core Christian doctrine every time it's performed.

Additionally, the **four points** touched during the sign symbolize the universal love of God:

- Forehead: I call to mind God's blessing
- Chest: I invite the truth of Christ into my heart
- Right shoulder: I acknowledge His strength and justice
- Left shoulder: I embrace His mercy and compassion

I also can't ignore the protective aspect of the sign. For centuries, the Church have been marking themselves with the cross to ward off evil and to seek divine protection in their daily lives. It serves as a shield, an ever-present reminder that God is with us.

Furthermore, the **physical act of bowing** as we make the sign serves as a gesture of humility and worship. It's acknowledging our smallness in the face of the divine. By physically lowering ourselves, we elevate God's status in our lives.

The sign of the cross in the Church is indeed a silent yet profound declaration of what we stand for. It's an embodiment of doctrine, worship, and supplication that unites us in a common identity. Every time I make the sign, it's a reaffirmation of my commitment to follow Christ's teachings and to lead a life reflective of His love and sacrifice.

## The Gesture of the Sign of the Cross

When delving into the depths of the Church, there is a profound significance behind the routine gestures, particularly the sign of the cross. It's more than just a physical movement; it's a powerful prayer, a consecration of the body and spirit.

**To create the sign**, place your thumb, index, and middle fingers together, reminding you of the [Holy Trinity](#) - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Place your remaining two fingers down to the palm, representing the dual nature of Christ as both God and man. This configuration teaches volumes without speaking a word.

**Then**, touch your forehead and move to the abdomen, the right shoulder followed by the left shoulder. This motion not only conveys reverence but also engraves the Truth onto

yourself. Each point touched during the sign echoes a pillar of faith - the head for belief, the stomach for spiritual nourishment, and the shoulders for strength to bear the yoke of Christ. The priest offers you the cross, and following his hand, we willfully take the cross upon ourselves.