

240 Center Street – Nanticoke, PA 18634
Nanticoke Rectory: (570)735-2262
Church Email: TransfigurationUCC@comcast.net
WebSite: www.transfigurationucc.org
Fr. Walter Pasicznyk CELL PHONE NUMBER: (570)-406-5882
Email: wpasicznyk@ukrcap.org



Khrystos Razhdayetsia! Slavyte Yeho! Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Divine Liturgy Schedule

January 31, 2021

Saturday, January 30

6:00 PM

Sunday, January 31

10:30 AM

Tuesday, February 2

11:30 AM

Wednesday, February 3

10:00 AM

Thursday, February 4

9:00 AM

Friday, February 5

10:00 AM

Saturday, February 5

6:00 PM

Sunday, February 7

10:30 AM

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

God's Blessings and Good Health on All Parishioners

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

†Ronald Bogucki-M/M Michael Sawczuk

MEETING OF OUR LORD WITH SIMEON & ANNA

†Emily Gresh- Helen Lipowski

†Mary Amber-Davis (24th Anniversary)- Lisa Placek

Prayers for the Unborn-Barbara, Diane & Rita

God's Blessings for America- Tom & MaryAnn Potsko

SUNDAY OF MEATFARE

God's Blessings and Good Health on All Parishioners

SUNDAY OF MEATFARE

†Anna Wrobel- Jennings Family & Peter Wrobel

Petitions & Prayers for Our Parishioners: Please pray for our Parishioners Assisted Living: Olga Yurkowski, Anna Hopyak, Mary Hoolick At Home: Anna Kutsup, Helen Bogdan, Dolores Miller, Arlene Czarnecki, Mary Louise Bailey, Sophie Staronka, Andrew Kobela; MaryAnn Kelly **Away:** Leona Kobela **Prayer Request:** Michelle Miller; Kerri; Ellen Kobela, Sister Martin Rodko; Fr. Uriy Markewych; Fr. Peter Waslo; Bishop John Bura Emeritus; Sister Evhenia Prusnay MSMG; Mark Jennings; Mary Oresick; Fr. Paul Wolensky.

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

January 31, 2021

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!”

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

KONDAK: Foolishly have I fled from Your glory, O Father, wasting the wealth You gave me on vices. Therefore, I offer You the words of the Prodigal: Loving Father, I have sinned before You. Take me, for I repent, and make me as one of Your hired hands.

PROKEIMENON: The Lord is my strength and my song of praise, and He has become my salvation. The Lord has indeed chastised me, but He has not delivered me to death. The Lord is my strength and my song of praise, and He has become my salvation.

A reading of the First Letter of the Hebrews 13:7-16:

Brethren, remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings. It is good for our hearts to be strengthened by grace, not by eating ceremonial foods, which is of no benefit to those who do so. We have an altar from which those who minister at the tabernacle have no right to eat. The high priest carries the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin offering, but the bodies are burned outside the camp. And so, Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood. Let us, then, go to him outside the camp, bearing the disgrace he bore. For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come. Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.



ALLELUIA: Alleluia (3). The Lord will hear you in the day of tribulation; the name of the God of Jacob will shield you. Alleluia (3). Lord, grant victory to the king and hear us in the day that we shall call upon You. Alleluia (3).



A reading from the Holy Gospel of St. Luke 15:11-32:

The Lord told this parable: "A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his means between them. And not many days later, the younger son gathered up all his wealth and took his journey into a far country; and there he squandered his fortune in loose living. And after he had spent all, there came a grievous famine over that country, and he began himself to suffer want. And he went and joined one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his farm to feed swine. And he longed to fill himself with the pods that the swine were eating but no one offered to give them to him: But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many hired men in my father's house have bread in abundance while I am perishing here with hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired men."' And he arose and went to his father. But while he was yet a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with compassion and ran and fell upon his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to the servants, "Fetch quickly the best robe and put it on him and give him a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet; and bring out the fattened calf and kill it and let us eat and make merry; because this my son was dead and has come to life again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And calling one of the servants he inquired what this meant. And he said to him 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has got him back safe.' But he was angered and would not go in. His father, therefore, came out and began to entreat him. But he answered and said to his father, 'Behold, these many years I have been serving you, and have never transgressed one of your commands; and yet you have never given me a kid goat that I might make merry with my friends. But when this your son comes, who has devoured his means with harlots, you have killed for him the fattened calf.' But he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me and all that is mine is yours; but we were bound to make merry and rejoice, for this your brother was dead, and has come to life, he was lost, and is Found."

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

CHURCH NEWS



“O Joyful Light”

O Joyful Light, Holy Glory of the Immortal Father, Heavenly, Holy, Blessed Jesus Christ: Having reached the setting of the sun, having seen the evening light, let us sing of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit of God.

It is proper at all times to praise You with reverent voice of Son of God, the Giver of Life, the whole world glorifies You.

LENTEN VESPERS: If you would like to do an extra devotional for Lenten on Sunday late afternoon in lieu of Deanery Stations of the Cross, each Sunday of Lent we will have the service of Vespers which is the foundation of the Pre-Sanctified Liturgy. Vespers will not have communion. The first Vespers will be Sunday evening, February 14th with Forgiveness Vespers at 4:00pm.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! A Very Happy Birthday to Mrs. Gerri Adamchak who celebrates her Saturday, January 30. Mnohaya Lita! May God Grant Her Many Happy Years!

PYROHY PROJECT: We are planning to do pyrohy for Lent on **Saturday 02/06/21** starting at 8:30 AM. We would be making 90 dozen. We decided at the last pierogi project on raising the cost to \$8.00. There will be no orders, first come. After the first day, we will only have frozen pierogi.

UNDECORATING: We will be un-decorating the church on Monday 2/1 at 5:30 PM.

PRAYERS: Please pray for our Church in America. Keep our Church in your prayers so that we may have an end to this “pandemic” and may once again be able to all worship together.

LINENS: In preparation for the Great Fast we will be changing the linens in the church on Sunday, February 14th immediately following Divine Liturgy.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME: Begins on the Sunday, March 14, 2021. Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour before retiring Saturday evening.

PIGGIE / HOLUBTSI DINNER: Saints Peter & Paul Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, Wilkes-Barre will hold a take-out Piggie / Holubtsi Dinner on **Sunday, January 31st, 2021**. Dinners may be picked up between 12:00 (noon) and 3:00 pm in Our Parish Parking Lot, corner of North River and West Chestnut Streets, Wilkes-Barre. Dinner includes; Piggies (meat & rice stuffed cabbage), mashed potatoes, vegetable, bread and butter and dessert. Dinners will be \$12.00 for adults and \$7.00 for children (12 and under). Drive-up customers will be welcomed, but reservations are Strongly Encouraged, (570) 829-3051.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME: Begins on the Sunday, March 14, 2021. Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour before retiring Saturday evening.



CHURCH ENVELOPES & CALENDARS: Church envelopes and calendars are in the church basement for pick-up. If you do not see your envelopes there, please contact the rectory so that we can arrange to have envelopes for you. PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME ON EVERY DONATION ENVELOPE AS THE NUMBERS HAVE CHANGED. THANK YOU!

CHARITABLE CARE ACT 2020 CONTRIBUTIONS: Previously, charitable contributions could only be deducted if a taxpayer itemized their deductions. The Cares Act allows taxpayers who do not itemize deductions to take up to \$300 charitable deductions for contributions made in 2020 to a qualifying organization. Your parish, parish schools, St. Josphat Seminary and the Archeparchy qualify for this charitable deduction. Please consider making an additional donation to your parish, parish school, St. Josphat Ukrainian Catholic Seminary or the Archeparchy. Your donation will be deductible up to \$300 even if you do not itemize your deductions for 2020. Your donation must be made by cash, check or credit card. "

LITURGICAL INTENTIONS: If you are offering a Divine Liturgy for a specific day for your beloved or other intentions for 2021, please make sure you turn it into the rectory in order to make sure that you get the exact time that you would like. Please keep in mind that there are no weekday liturgies during Lent. Please note that during Lent if there is a Funeral, there will be no Divine Liturgy with that service. If you want to add a Divine Liturgy, a special Liturgy can be done on Saturday morning.



ASK FATHER A QUESTION? Father, first, I must say I do not go to communion on a regular basis. How often should one go to communion? I feel “incorrect” not going to communion without going to confession. Confession, however, seems to be like “Sin, Confess, Repeat” and seems to lack a depth of repentance.

Can you help me with this? Perhaps I have the wrong perspective on this? Is the forgiveness I hope to receive something I give myself? I understand Absolution, the problem seems to be with me, not the sacrament.

PRIEST: WHAT IS YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF ABSOLUTION?

PARISHIONER: Forgiveness of sins.

Perhaps, an adjustment in your perspective would help. Absolution is not merely a forgiveness of sins, but literally means from the Latin, “to untie you from the devil or to unchain you from the devil” which is the result of sin. Perhaps, your feeling incorrect is from a viewpoint on your life and your sins as a sense of not taking serious your behaviors- in other words- to take a sincere approach to your Sacramental Life. If you truly believe in God, and truly try to follow His commandments, and recognize that the devil and his fallen angels (demons) have been watching you intently all your life, and they know your weaknesses and will tempt you to break the commandments even in the most minor way either directly or through the interaction with other people. So yes, you might feel like your life is a revolving door and once you are at peace after having sinned you then recognize your action as a sin- which perhaps in that moment you did not desire or intend to do. So you grasped this when you reflect back on your day, week, or life in examining your conscience and perhaps you feel frustrated or hopeless, but this is truly not the case with the sacraments. The devil will tempt you even with these feelings. The question to ask when you examine your conscience and you live your life and even in the confessional (with the priest), is “Are you truly sorry for these sins?” and “Are you actively trying to NOT repeat these sins?” If the answer is “Yes” then you have truly received forgiveness from God. So, the question is “Do you lack a depth of repentance or is there something else going on?” The answer to this could be that you might need a spiritual director, we all need a spiritual director in our lives, especially the clergy. I am guessing by our discussion so far; you need a spiritual director in your life. I have not heard my entire life and I doubt many others people have as well, that a spiritual director was even an option. Your spiritual director does not have to be a priest or nun, but someone who is further along the path of holiness than you are. In training for a sport, you seek out someone who has mastered that sport, so you too, should we seek a spiritual director who excels in the path of holiness. The point of this is, your spiritual director would assist you with your prayer and devotional life to help you grow in closeness and love of God so that you

don't feel so much that you are in a revolving door of Sin, Confess & Repeat. Your spiritual director will give you "prayer exercises" to help you. Yes, you might commit the same sins again but hopefully less often and with a greater resolve you will remain sin-free. Now about receiving communion, we should receive communion as often as possible and we should do this with a clear conscience. The simple reason is the receiving of Holy Communion is the action that finishes Confession and prepares you for heaven. If you should die today... you would desire a clean conscience for none of us knows the hour of our calling.

"All have sinned. All have fallen short of the glory of God."-Roman 3:23

PARISHIONER: Thank You.

(The above account is true. The question was asked by a parishioner. The names have been changed to protect the sinner. Any resemblance to the Parishioner sitting next to you is a coincidence.)

JANUARY CANDLES

The **Candles on the Tetrapod** are given

By Mark & Arlene Jennings in loving memory of Peter & Anna Wrobel.

The **St. Nicholas Candle** is given by Lisa Placek.

The **Proscomedial Table** is given by MaryAnn & Donna Kelley in loving memory of Joseph Boback.



Candle Intentions Before the Icon for the Month Of January

The **Candle Before Christ** is given by MaryAnn Jarolen for all the deceased members of the **Hvozda & Frankowski Families**.

The Candle before the Theotokos is given by Lisa Placek for the deceased members of the Slota & Skordy Families.

The Icon Table **Candle Before the Theotokos** is given by Ellen Alqrainy For God's Blessings for Mary Oresick.



FEBRUARY CANDLES

The **Eternal Light** is given by Irene Hvozda in loving memory of her husband, Michael Hvozda.

The **Altar Candles** are given by Tom & MaryAnn Potsko
For America-One Nation under God.

The **St. Nicholas Candle** is given by the Lee Family
In loving memory of Helen & Clarence "Red" Lee.

The **Proscomedia Table** is given by Mark & Arlene Jennings in
loving memory of Helen Melnyk.

Candle Intentions Before the Icon for the Month Of February

The **Candle Before the Icon of Christ** is given by Irene Hvozda for all the deceased members of the **Hvozda & Frankowski Families**.

The **Candle before the Theotokos** is given by Lisa Placek for the deceased members of the Slota & Skordy Families.

The **Candle Before John the Baptist** is given by Joan Cominsky in
Loving memory of John Cominsky.



Psalm 40

I waited patiently for the LORD, he turned to me and heard my cry.

He lifted me out of the slimy pit out of the mud and mire;
he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.

He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.

Many will see and fear the LORD and put their trust in him.

Blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD,
who does not look to the proud,
to those who turn aside to false gods.

Many, LORD my God, are the wonders you have done,
the things you planned for us. None can compare with you;
were I to speak and tell of your deeds,
they would be too many to declare.

Sacrifice and offering you did not desire but my ears you have opened
burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not require.

Then I said, "Here I am, I have come—
it is written about me in the scroll.
I desire to do your will, my God; your law is within my heart."
I proclaim your saving acts in the great assembly;
I do not seal my lips, LORD, as you know.
I do not hide your righteousness in my heart;
I speak of your faithfulness and your saving help.
I do not conceal your love and your faithfulness
from the great assembly.
Do not withhold your mercy from me, LORD;
may your love and faithfulness always protect me.
For troubles without number surround me;
my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see.
They are more than the hairs of my head,
and my heart fails within me. Be pleased to save me, LORD;
come quickly, LORD, to help me.
May all who want to take my life be put to shame and confusion;
may all who desire my ruin be turned back in disgrace.
May those who say to me, "Aha! Aha!"
be appalled at their own shame.
But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;
may those who long for your saving help always say,
"The LORD is great!"
But as for me, I am poor and needy; may the Lord think of me.
You are my help and my deliverer; you are my God, do not delay.