

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
Email: wpasicznyk@ukrcap.org

Divine Liturgy Schedule
February 25, 2023, A. D.
Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na Viki!
Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!



Saturday, February 25

6:00 PM

7:00 PM

Sunday, February 26

10:30 AM

FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT FAST

†Eugene Joseph & Sheila Lewis Marshall-Nancy Marshall

ADULT DISCUSSION GROUP-TOPIC: SOUL AFTER DEATH

FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT FAST

†Josephine Latoszewski- Helen & Lisa Lipowski

Wednesday, March 1

6:30 PM

Liturgy of PreSanctified Gifts (Transfiguration)

Friday, March 3

4:00 PM

Saint Peter & Paul Church (Plymouth)

Liturgy of PreSanctified Gifts

Saturday, March 4

8:00 AM

9:00 AM

6:00 PM

SECOND SUNDAY OF GREAT FAST

SOROKOUSTY

God's Blessings on America - Tom & MaryAnn Potsko

God's Blessings on Father Walter & Nick Pasicznyk

- Olympia Pasicznyk

Sunday, March 5

10:30 AM

2:00 PM

SECOND SUNDAY OF GREAT FAST

†Randy Yanoshak- Yanoshak Family

ADULT DISCUSSION GROUP: ICONS

SS. PETER & PAUL CHURCH (20 Nottingham Street, Plymouth)

Saturday Liturgy 4:00 PM

Sunday Liturgy 8:30 AM

SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT FAST

February 25, 2023

FIRST ANTIPHON:

Bless the Lord, O my soul and let all that is within me bless His Holy Name. Bless the Lord, O my soul and forget not all His benefits. He forgives you all your iniquities, He heals all your diseases. He redeems your life from corruption, He crowns you with mercy and compassion. Compassionate and merciful is the Lord, long-suffering and abounding in mercy. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless His Holy name, Blessed are You, O Lord.

THIRD ANTIPHON:

Remember us, O Lord, in Your Kingdom.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,

For they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure of heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peace-makers, for they will be called sons of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,

For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you, and utter every kind of evil word against you falsely because of Me.

Rejoice and be glad for your reward will be great in heaven.

TROPAR: Let us the faithful acclaim and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, and born of the Virgin for our salvation. For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to suffer death and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

TROPAR: We bow before Your most pure image, O kind Lord, and beg pardon for our sins, O Christ our God. Of Your own will You consented to ascend the Cross in the flesh to free Your handiwork from enslavement to the enemy. In thanksgiving we cry aloud to You: by coming to save the world, our Savior, You filled all things with joy.

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

KONDAK: The uncircumscribed Word of the Father became circumscribed when He took flesh of you, O Mother of God, and when He restored the divine image to its ancient glory, He suffused it with the beauty of God. Therefore, confessing our salvation in deed and word, we portray it in images.

PROKIMEN: Blessed are You, Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your Name for ever. For You are righteous in everything You have done to us. Blessed are You, Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your Name forever.

A Reading of the Epistle from the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews 11:24-26,32-40; 12:1-2:



Brethren, by faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah, about David and Samuel and the prophets, who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. Women received back their dead, raised to life again. There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection. Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were put to death by stoning; they were sawed in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated—the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground. Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.



ALLELUIA: Alleluia(3). Moses and Aaron are among His priests and Samuel among those who call upon His name. Alleluia(3). They called on the Lord, and He heard them. Alleluia(3).

Gospel of John 1:43-51

At that time Jesus desired to set out for Galilee, and he found Philip. And Jesus said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the town of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and the Prophets wrote, Jesus the son of Joseph of Nazareth." And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him and said of him, "Behold a true Israelite in whom there is no guile." Nathanael said to him, "From where do you know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered him and said, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God, you are the King of Israel." Answering, Jesus said to him, "Because I said to you that I saw you under the fig tree, you do believe. Greater things than these shall you see." And he said to him, "Amen, amen, I say to you, you shall see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

INSTEAD IF "IT US TRULY RIGHT...": In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices: the angelic ranks and all mankind. Sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, virgins' pride and boast, from whom God is made flesh and became a little Child; and He who is our God before all ages, He made your womb a throne, and He made it wider than all the heavens. In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices. Glory be to you.

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.



Petitions & Prayers for Our Parishioners: Please pray for our Parishioners **Assisted Living:** Mary Hoolick. **At Home:** Geraldine Adamchak; Helen Bogdan, Dolores Miller, Arlene Czarnecki, Mary Louise Bailey. **Away:** Leona Kobela. **Prayer Request:** Michelle Miller; Kerri; Ellen Kobela, Sister Martin Rodko; Fr. Peter Waslo; Sister Evhenia Prusnay MSMG; Mary Oresick; Fr. Paul Wolensky, Pavlyk Motychka (baby in Ukraine with SMA); Rita Kurtz, Joyce Kishbaugh, Ken Weber; Marie Slota; Ted Weron, Fr. Gregory Maslak, Angel Ocasio, Elizabeth Biasci.

CHURCH NEWS

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME: Please keep in mind that Daylight Savings time begins Sunday, March 12. Please set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday, March 11th before you go to bed. Clocks will “spring“ forward.

RAFFLE BASKETS: Thank you to MaryMae Alberola for donating a basket to our basket raffle!

CHURCH ENVELOPES & CALENDARS: The church calendars are available in the church basement. The church envelope supplier is experiencing a delay in printing the envelopes. Please use a utility envelope in the back of the church or a blank envelope in place of them always putting your full name on the envelope. Please remember dues are \$40 for individuals and \$80 for a family.

2023 CANDLES: The new 2023 Candle List is in the back of the Church. There are still a few openings for March.

LENTEN ADULT DISCUSSION GROUP: DO YOU WANT TO DO SOME EXTRA SPIRITUAL WORK FOR LENT? There will be a **Topic Based** Lenten Adult Discussion Group available for **both** parishes. The discussion will be topic based and the group will meet for Lent. Come to one group meeting or all the group meetings, each week will be different! **The first Adult Discussion group is Saturday, February 25th at Holy Transfiguration of Our Lord after Liturgy.** The topic of the first Saturday is the Soul after Death. The 2nd meeting will be on Sunday March 5th at 2:00PM at Transfiguration of Our Lord and the topic will be Icons.

SOROKOUSTY: The next Sorokousty (All Souls Saturday) is Saturday, March 4th at 8:00AM at Transfiguration of Our Lord Church. To remember your loved one at the Service, please use the envelope in your box OR create one to hand in using an envelope and turn in your loved one’s names to the collection. The remaining are on the 11th and 18th of March & the May 27th.

LENTEN LIBRARY: Will be available to Parishioners for reading in the Lenten Season. Please make sure you **sign out** the books and return them in good condition.



PYROHY FOR SALE: We have potato pyrohy for sale in the church basement for \$10.00 a dozen.

CLEANING SERVICES: Do you need someone to help with housekeeping or to clean your house? Call Rita at (484)-651-5551. (Rita is one of our parishioners)



FEBRUARY CANDLES

The **Altar Candles** are given by MaryAnn, Jenn & Tom
In loving memory of Michael Hvozda.

The **Eternal Light** is given by the Yanoshak Family
In loving memory of Ryan Yanoshak.

The **Candle Before the Icon of Christ** is given by the Lee Family
In loving memory of Red & Helen Lee.

The **Candle Before the Icon of John the Baptist** is given by anonymous
For God's blessings on the Potsko Family.

The **St. Nicholas Candle** is given by Lisa Placek
In loving memory of Mary Amber-Davis.

The **Candle Before the Icon table of the Theotokos** is given by
Janice Lee for the repose of the soul of Josephine Latoszewski.

The **Icon table Candle of the Transfiguration of Our Lord** is given by
Mark & Arlene Jennings in loving memory of Peter Wrobel.

MARCH CANDLES

The **Altar Candles** are given by Tom & MaryAnn Potsko
In loving memory of Theodore Kulmatiski.

The **Eternal Light** is given by Lisa Placek
For God's Blessings on Marc Lipowski.

The **St. Nicholas Candle** is given by Lisa Placek
for God's Blessings on Nikolas & Benjamin.

The **Candle Before the Icon of Christ** is given by the Olympia Pasicznyk
In loving memory of Pavlo & Francis Kuczeniawie.



ASK FATHER A QUESTION? Father I have a question.....is Purgatory in the Bible?

No, "Purgatory" is not specifically listed by that name in the Bible. Yes, we have indications in the Scriptures and Jesus' teaching that people who have died benefit from our prayers and are aided with our prayers to get to heaven, hence there is a means of cleansing that can happen for a person even after death. There are many Church Fathers, East and West, who speak of this. St. Paul the Fool For Christ (yes, that St. Paul, writer of the Epistles), St. John Chrysostom, Saint Gregory the Dialogist +604, St. Macarius of Alexandria, St. Athanasius the Great, St. Isaiah the Recluse a 6th Century Church Father of the Philokalia, St. Ephraim the Syrian +373, St. John Damascene (Octoechos), St. John Climacus +649, St. Hesychius, Presbyter of Jerusalem in the 5th century, St. Cyril of Alexandria +444, St. Eustatius the Great Martyr +4th century, St. Niphon of Constantia +4th century, St. Columba of the island monastery on the island of Iona in Scotland +597 and St. Boniface (an Aglo-Saxon) Apostle to the Germans (8th century), are but some of the Church's saints who teach of the cleansing of the soul after death. The teaching of all of these church fathers speak of "cleansing of the soul." All of these church fathers talk of salvation history which involves cleansing of the soul, even after death. Saint Paul writes about Judas Maccabees, the general, and what he did for his soldiers who died in battle and were discovered to have amulets of Jamnian idols on their bodies. (2 Maccabees 12:40) So these soldiers died committing the sin of breaking the first commandment. The amulets were removed from the soldiers and they were given a proper funeral. Many prayers were said in order to help these soldiers get to heaven and cleanse them of sins. This is one of the key Old Testament passages that indicate to us a cleansing of a soul after death. Jesus talks about people being cleansed as gold in the refiner's fire. Jesus even says to the Pharasees and the Sadducees, "You do not understand the scriptures, God says, 'I am the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. He is the God of the living, not the dead.'" Saint Paul reiterates this in "Did you ever hear about what Judas did for his soldiers?"

***Please keep in mind that at every Sorokousty Service we pray for **ALL** the soldiers from Ukraine that have died fighting for peace. Additionally, we pray for all deceased Russian soldiers that they might find rest.

Prayer For Peace in Ukraine

Heavenly Father, Your Son taught us "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called sons of God." We fervently pray in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, that you inspire men to become peacemakers. May mankind seek reconciliation and peace as is Your Will in this world. May tranquility be restored to all nations and especially Ukraine. God, Our Father, we beseech You to comfort the suffering, heal the wounded, and accept the souls of the dearly departed into Your heavenly kingdom. May the Most Holy Mother of God extend Her Mantle of Protection over Ukraine and the whole world. May each of us always live our lives as instruments of Your peace, in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Begin your examination with the time of your last confession. Try to recall whether you omitted anything from fear of embarrassment that needs to be confessed. With the help of the self-examination provided, call to mind all the sins you have committed since your last confession.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. Putting God First: I am the Lord your God; you shall not have other gods before me.

Has God been the source, center and hope of my life? Have I put myself, anyone or anything before God? Have I given to anyone or anything the love, honor and worship that belongs to God alone? Have I made an idol of any person, idea, occupation or thing? Have I failed to trust in God, His love and mercy? Have I failed to pray to God and to worship Him faithfully? Have I been thankful for God's blessings? Have I doubted the Christian faith? Have I tried to serve God and keep His Commandments faithfully? Have I murmured or complained against God in adversities? Do I give "respect" to gods of other of other religions?

2. Respect for God: You shall not take the Name of the Lord your God in vain.

Do I have a deep and sincere respect for God and His Holy Name? Have I shown disrespect to God, either in word or deed? Have I dishonored God's Name in any way? Have I sworn a false oath? Have I broken any solemn promise or vow that was done before God? Have I cursed or used foul language? Do I use God's name uselessly to draw attention to myself or derivatives such as Jeez, Jesus, Gee, or Oh my goodness, etc.?

3. Respect for the Lord's Day: Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day.

Have I worshiped God faithfully on Sundays and major holy days? Have I helped others to do the same, or have I discouraged them? Have I worked or shopped unnecessarily on Sundays or major holy days? Have I caused others to do so? Have I spent the Lord's Day in wholesome and edifying ways? Have I made time for family and friends?

4. Respect for Parents and Authority: Honor your father and mother.

Have I loved and respected my parents as I should? Have I neglected them, or failed to help them? Have I disobeyed them, deceived them or caused them pain by my words and deeds? Have I treated my family members with patience and love? Have I respected my teachers, superiors, employers (those who are in authority) as I should? Have I disobeyed or deceived them by my words or deeds? Have I treated fairly all those who have worked for me?

5. Respect for Human Life: You shall not murder. Have I caused the harm, injury or death of anyone? Have I wished my own or anyone's harm or death? Have I caused others to sin? Have I abused my health or the health of others by evil and intemperate living (i.e. drugs, alcohol, over-eating, etc.)? Have I given way to vengeance or hatred? Have I failed to forgive anyone or harbored evil thoughts against them? Have I been cruel to anyone? Have I encouraged someone in procuring an abortion? Have I had an abortion? Have I spread news about someone in order to damage their reputation?

6. & 9. Respect for Marriage: You shall not commit adultery. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife. Have I committed any sin of lust, alone or with others (masturbation, fornication, pornography, adultery)? Have I caused others to commit impure acts? Have I sinned by giving way to impure thoughts, words or conversations? Have I read immoral books or magazines, or delighted in obscenity of any kind? Have I associated with bad company or frequented places of ill-repute? Do I maintain modesty and decency in dress? Have I practiced birth control/contraception? Have I repeated impure jokes?

7. & 10. Respect for Private Property: You shall not steal. You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor. Have I taken or kept anything that was not mine? Have I cheated anyone? Have I caused others to steal or cheat? Have I tried to find the owners of lost things I have found? Have I damaged or destroyed anything that belonged to another? Have I defrauded anyone of their rightful wages? Have I paid my debts? Have I worked honestly and conscientiously for my wages? Did I spend beyond my means? Do I give alms according to my capacity? Have I looked with envy, jealousy or hatred toward the possessions, talents or achievements of others? Have I desired the downfall or loss of others out of evil intent that I might benefit? Have I grieved that God has bestowed greater blessing on others than on me?

8. Respect for Truth: You shall not bear false witness. Have I given false testimony against anyone? Have I spoken evil, told lies, or spread rumors about anyone? Have I unjustly accused someone? Have I disclosed to anyone the sins and faults of another? Have I betrayed the confidence of another? Have I made careless statements or done anything else to harm the good name and reputation of another person? Have I engaged in idle gossip, (discussing that which is doubtful as if it were true), hearsay and backbiting?

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

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