

**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**

## **Divine Liturgy Schedule**

### **February 2, 2025, A. D.**

**Saturday, February 1**

**6:00 PM**

**SUNDAY OF ZACCHEUS**

**ENCOUNTER OF OUR LORD WITH SIMEON**

✠Ted Weron- Ray & Sue Rutkowski

Blessing of Candles/ Myrovania (Anointing of Holy Oil)

**Sunday, February 2**

**10:30 AM**

**SUNDAY OF ZACCHEUS**

**ENCOUNTER OF OUR LORD WITH SIMEON**

Blessing of Candles/ Myrovania (Anointing of Holy Oil)

✠Mary Kowalchek Hoolick- Peggy Hoolick

**Monday, February 3**

**10:00 AM**

**Synaxis of the Holy Prophets Simeon & Anna**

**God's Blessings for Michelle**

**Thursday, February 6**

**10:00 AM**

✠Leo Szumskyj- Ulana Campbell

**Saturday, February 8**

**6:00 PM**

**SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN & THE PHARISEE**

God's Blessings for America- Tom & MaryAnn Potsko

**Sunday, February 9**

**10:30 AM**

**SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN & THE PHARISEE**

✠Dr. Michael Sawczuk- Gayle & Bob Miles



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

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

**SUNDAY OF ZACCHEUS**  
**ENCOUNTER OF OUR LORD WITH SIMEON**  
**February 2, 2025**

**ENTRANCE:** The Lord has made known His salvation; He has revealed His truth before the nations.

**TROPAR:** When the disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the glorious news of the resurrection and cast off the ancestral condemnation, they proudly told the apostles: “Death has been plundered! Christ our God is risen, granting to the world great mercy.”

**TROPAR:** Rejoice, full of grace, Virgin Mother of God! From you there dawned the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, who enlightens those who dwell in darkness. And you, O righteous Elder, be glad! You received in your embrace the Liberator of our souls, who grants us resurrection.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.**

**KONDAK:** By Your birth, You sanctified a virgin womb and fittingly blessed the hands of Simeon. You have come also now and saved us, O Christ our God; give peace to Your community in time of war, and strengthen its rulers, whom You love, for You alone, are the Lover of mankind.

**Now and for ever and ever. Amen.**

**KONDAK:** My Savior and Deliverer from the grave as God raised out of bondage the children of the earth and shattered the gates of Hades; and as Master, He rose on the third day.

**PROKEIMENON:** How great are Your works, O Lord You have made all things in wisdom. Bless the Lord, O my soul: O Lord my God, You are exceedingly great. How great are Your works, O Lord You have made all things in wisdom.

**A Reading from the First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Timothy 4:9-15:/Hebrews 7:7-17**

Timothy my son, you can depend on training in godliness as worthy of complete acceptance. That is why we labor and strive, because we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all people, and especially of those who believe. Command and teach these things. Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers; in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you. Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you. Pray for us. We are sure that we have a clear conscience and desire to live honorably in every way. I particularly urge you to pray so that I may be restored to you soon. Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may He works in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom we give glory for ever and ever. Amen. And without doubt the lesser is blessed by the greater. In the one case, the tenth is collected by people who die; but in the other case, by him who is declared to be living. One might even say that Levi, who collects the tenth, paid the tenth through Abraham, because when Melchizedek met Abraham, Levi was still in the body of his ancestor. If perfection could have been attained through the Levitical priesthood—and indeed the law given to the people established that priesthood—why was there still need for another priest to come, one in the order of Melchizedek, not in the order of Aaron? For when the priesthood is changed, the law must be changed also. He of whom these things are said belonged to a different tribe, and no one from that tribe has ever served at the altar. For it is clear that our Lord descended from Judah, and in regard to that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. And what we have said is even more clear if another priest like Melchizedek appears, one who has become a priest not on the basis of a regulation as to his ancestry but on the basis of the power of an indestructible life. For it is declared:

“You are a priest forever,  
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

**ALLELUIA:** Alleluia (3). Poise yourself and advance in triumph and reign in the cause of truth, meekness, and justice. Alleluia (3). You have loved justice and hated iniquity. Alleluia(3). Now, O Master, You dismiss Your servant in peace according to Your word. Alleluia (3).

### **Gospel of Luke 19:1-10/Luke 2:22-40**

At that time, Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through the city. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner." But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the LORD, "Look, LORD! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss<sup>[c]</sup> your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel." The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too." There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and

then was a widow until she was eighty-four.<sup>[d]</sup> She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem. When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

**INSTEAD OF "IT IS TRULY RIGHT...":** O God-bearing Virgin, hope of Christians, protect and guard and save all those who put their trust in you. In the law, the shadow, and the scriptures, we the faithful see a figure: every male child that opens the womb shall be sanctified to God. Therefore, do we magnify the first-born Word and Son of the Father who is without beginning, the first-born Child of a Mother who had not known man.

**COMMUNION HYMN:** Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest. I will take the chalice of salvation; and I will call upon the name of the Lord. Alleluia (3).



### FEBRUARY CANDLES

The Eternal Light is given by MaryAnn Jarolen & Donna Davis  
In loving memory of their father, Michael Hvozda.

The Altar Candles are given by the Lee Family  
in loving memory of Red & Helen Lee.

The Candle **Before the Icon of Jesus Christ** is given by  
by Lisa Placek for God's Blessings on Helen & Marc Lipowski.

The **Candle Before the Icon of the Transfiguration** is  
Given by the Pasicznyk Family in  
loving memory of Anhel Pasicznyk.

The **Candles Before the Icon of the Theotokos** is given  
By the Pasicznyk Family in loving memory of Irene Jaworskyj.

The **Candle Before the Icon of John the Baptist** is given  
By Lisa Placek for God's Blessings & Good Health  
For Nikolas & Benjamin Placek.

**CHURCH NEWS .... Every day is a Holy Day of Opportunity. Pray Always.**



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** A Very Happy Birthday to Stephanie Jennings who is celebrates her birthday February 5th. A Very Happy Birthday to Ellen Alqrainy who celebrates her Birthday on February 7th. A Happy Birthday to Doris Parcel who celebrates her Birthday on February 20th! Mnohaya Lita! May God Grant Them Many Happy Years, Peace, Health and Salvation. In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen!

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:** Happy Anniversary to Mark & Arlene Jennings who are celebrating their Wedding Anniversary on Friday, February 14! Mnohaya Lita! May God Grant Them Many Happy Years, Peace, Health and Salvation.



**UKRAINIAN PYSANKY CLASSES:** Classes are being offered by St. Cyril's Church in Olyphant. March 2<sup>nd</sup> and March 16<sup>th</sup>, with two classes each day: 12:00 noon and 3:00 p.m. Students will learn about this beautiful Ukrainian tradition. The cost is \$25 per person, with supplies included. Class size is limited, and registration is required. Contact: Tammy Budnovitch 570-766-1919 to register for this parish fundraiser held at St. Cyril's Parish Hall, 207 River St., Olyphant.

**CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS:** Thank you to everyone who helped!

**LENT:** Remember, the first day of Lent is a day of fast from Meat and Dairy Products. Lent begins with Forgiveness Vespers, Sunday, March 2nd at 3:00 PM at Transfiguration of Our Lord Church. The first full day of Lent will begin on Monday, March 3rd. The Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts at Ss. Peter & Paul Church will be on Fridays at 5:00pm and at Transfiguration of Our Lord Church on Wednesdays at 6:30pm.

**CHRISTMAS FLEA MARKETS OF THE FUTURE:** If anyone has a gently used Christmas Tree, Nativity, Outdoor Decorations, etc. that they are no longer using and wish to donate to the church for Flea Markets of Christmas Future please contact the rectory 570-735-2262 or Johanna 570-256-7883. You don't need to hold on to that tree to next November!

**BLESSING OF HOMES:** If you would like your home blessed, please call the rectory at 570-735-2262 or put you name and phone number in the collection basket.

**THE FIVE SATURDAYS OF THE DECEASED (SOROKUSTY):** The Church Typikon designates the five Sorokousty/ Saturdays of the Deceased for 2025 as February 22nd; March 15th, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, March 29<sup>th</sup> and June 7th. It is a tradition of our Holy Church to commemorate the memories of our beloved deceased at Matins of the Deceased (Parastas) on these five Saturdays of the year. There is an envelope in your box for Sorokousty. Or write a note and put it in the basket.



**Petitions & Prayers for Our Parishioners:** Please pray for our Parishioners  
**Assisted Living:** Mary Hoolick. **At Home:** Geraldine Adamchak; Shirley Kozar, Dolores Miller, Rita Kurtz, Diane Petry, Mary Louise Bailey. **Away:** Leona Kobela. **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 & all Parishioners who are experiencing health issues.

The second stasis 11 I can control neither myself nor the enemy, Help me, O Lord!  
No one can heal my disease except He Who knows the depths of the heart. How many times have I set boundaries for myself and built walls between myself and sin! But my thoughts transgressed the boundaries, and my will tore down the walls, for the boundaries were not secured by fear of God, and the walls were not founded on sincere repentance. And again, I knock at the door, that it may open for me. I do not cease to ask that I may receive what I request; and I know no shame in seeking Thy mercy, O Lord. O Lord, my Savior! Why hast Thou forsaken me? Have mercy on me, O only Lover of mankind. Save me, a sinner, Thou only Sinless One. Wrench me from the mire of my iniquities, that I may not be forever sullied by them. Deliver me from the jaws of the enemy, who roars as a lion and desires to swallow me up. Rouse Thy strength and come, that Thou mightiest save me. Beam Thy lightning and disperse his power, that he may be struck with fear and flee from thy face, for he has not the strength to stand before Thee and before the face of those who love Thee. As soon as he perceives a sign of Thy grace, he is taken with fear of Thee and withdraws from such with shame. And now, O Master, save me, for I flee to Thee! **From A Spiritual Psalter or Reflections on God excerpted by Bishop Theophan the Recluse from the works of our Holy Father Ephraim the Syrian**



## Psalm 103

Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his kindnesses—  
who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,  
who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with kindness and mercy,  
who satisfies your mouth with goodness  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.

He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel:  
The LORD is compassionate and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in love.

He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever;  
he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as  
high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west,  
so far he has removed our transgressions from us.

As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who  
fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust. The life  
of men is like grass, they flourish like a flower of the field; the wind blows over it and it  
is gone, and its place remembers it no more. But from everlasting to everlasting  
the LORD's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's  
children—

with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts.

The LORD has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all. Praise  
the LORD, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word.

Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will.

Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion.

**Praise the LORD, my soul.**



**ASK FATHER A QUESTION? Father, the devil seems so powerful- why does God allows this?** Remember, first of all how loving God is. Out of the abundance of love, God created all the Angels to serve Him and all creation. The word Angel means “messenger.” Angels are messengers of God. One of the Angels, whomever it might be was going to be the highest ranking Angel in heaven. That high ranking Angel that God created happened to be named, Lucifer, meaning “light-bearer.” The lesson to be learned from this is NOT why does he have so much power?- but, if you lack humility and are put in a high rank it is very easy to grow arrogant and believe that you know better than God, and believing that you know better than God –you are going to “fix God’s mistakes.” God did not make Lucifer powerful as a devil – God made him powerful as an Angel for heaven, Lucifer chose to make himself a devil. One of the lessons to learn from this is to struggle to remain humble regardless of your state in life. Humility is the virtue which conquers arrogance and is foundational to most of the virtues. St. John Chrysostom had much to say and teach on this, especially in regard to Lucifer tempting Eve in the garden. (More coming on this topic during Lent.)

**1 Peter 4:12-5:5/ Mark 12:38-44**

The widow placed in the Treasury (the church collection box) two mites (about 2 cents); but the Lord said that she had cast in more than anyone, although the others were casting in dollars and dozens of dollars. What gave extra weight to her mite? It is the disposition with which the offering was made. Do you see the difference between the doing of good without soul, by habit, and the doing of good with soul and heart? It is not the external aspects of the deed which give it value, but the inner disposition. It may happen that a deed which is outstanding in every other regard has no value whatsoever before God, yet a deed which is insignificant in appearance is valued greatly by Him. What follows from this is evident in and of itself. But do not take into your head to be careless about external things, intending to limit yourself only to inner things. That widow would not have received approval if she had said to herself, “I too have the desire to put in money—but what should I do? I have only two mites. If I give them away, I myself will be left with nothing.” She had the desire and acted upon it as well, committing her life into God’s hands. No one would have condemned her if she had put in nothing—neither people, nor God. But then she would not have revealed the disposition which singled her out from the ranks of others and made her renowned through the entire Christian world.