

Transfiguration of Our Lord Church
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Pastor; Fr. Walter Pasicznyk CELL PHONE NUMBER: (570)-406-5882

Divine Liturgy Schedule **February 16, 2025 A. D.**

Saturday, February 15

6:00 PM

Sunday, February 16

10:30 AM

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

†William Vincent & Barbara Sivulich- Lipowski Family

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

†Ed Schwartz- Mark & Arlene Jennings

Wednesday, February 19

8:00 AM

Thursday, February 20

8:00 AM

Friday, February 14

8:00 AM

God's Blessings for America- Tom & MaryAnn Potsko

Deliverance for Michelle

God's Blessings for Steve Havran- Sandra Sydnor

Saturday, February 22

8:00 AM

6:00 PM

Sunday, February 23

10:30 AM

NOON

SUNDAY OF MEATFARE

Sorokousty- 1st All Souls Saturday

†Jerry Meehan- Mike & Jill Gagliardi

SUNDAY OF MEATFARE

†Ted Weron- Joshua Alberola

MYASOPUSNA

****The Daily Liturgies will now be at 8:00 AM, except for Holy Days
or unless otherwise requested.****



Saint Peter & Paul Church (Plymouth)

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

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

February 16, 2025

TROPAR: Angelic powers were upon Your tomb and the guards became like dead men; Mary stood before Your tomb seeking Your most pure body. You captured Hades without being overcome by it. You met the Virgin and granted life. O Lord, risen from the dead, glory be to You!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Now and for ever 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.

PROKIMEN: 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 of the First Letter the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians 6:12-20:

Brethren, "I have the right to do anything," you say - but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything" - but I will not be mastered by anything. You say, "Food for the stomach and the stomach for food, and God will destroy them both." The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the LORD, and the LORD for the body. By his power God raised the LORD from the dead, and he will raise us also. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." But whoever is united with the LORD is one with him in spirit. Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your bodies.

ALLELUIA: (3). He who lives in the aid of the Most High, shall dwell under the protection of the God of heaven. Alleluia (3). He says to the Lord: You are my protector and my refuge, my God, in Whom, I hope. 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.



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.

BOOK(s) OF THE MONTH FOR FEBRUARY - Suggested Reading Material:
HUMILITY RULES St. Benedict's 12-Step Guide to Genuine Self-Esteem
J. Augustine Wetta, O.S.B.
ISBN: 978-1-62164-149-0



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 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.

CHECK OUT THE WAY FOR LIVE-STREAMING LINKS TO MAJOR ARCHBISHOP SVIATOSLAV SCHEVCHUK'S VISIT AT 2/15 AT 7:00PM & 2/16 11:00AM & 4:00PM.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY: 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.

CANDLE NOTE: The donation for the 7 day candles are now \$4 due to rising costs.



MYOSOPUSNA PROJECT 2025: Transfiguration of Our Lord Church is pleased to announce that dinner tickets are now available for our Annual Myasopusna Festival, held at the church's banquet hall, 240 Center Street, Nanticoke, on Sunday, February 23, from noon to 4 pm. The Myasopusna (Meatfare) **Dinner tickets are \$25 and must be purchased in advance.**

Tickets can be purchased by calling Helen (735-4654) and leave a message or Lisa (574-1016).

IT'S NEXT SUNDAY!!!!!! WE NEED YOUR HELP!-----

PYROHY MAKING: We will be making 60 dozen fresh pierogi on Thursday 02/20/2025, 8:30 AM, for serving and sales at Myasopusna dinner. Any help would be greatly appreciated.



RAFFLE BASKETS: We **NEED** Raffle Baskets for the Myasopusna. Baskets may be dropped off in the church basements. If you have already committed a basket, we are grateful. If you have any questions, give Johanna a call 570-256-7883.

MYASOPUSNA DESSERT: Baked goods are needed for desserts. They can be dropped at church basement on Saturday or early on the day of the dinner. They do not need to be cut or packaged. You can call Lisa at 570-574-1016 for drop off or questions.

MYASOPUSNA SERVICE HELP: TICKET SALES HAVE BEEN STEADY. Please come out and help. Most of the help needed is **between noon and 2:00PM** to serve. **We need SERVERS and people to work in the kitchen. If you don't feel comfortable serving, we have a KITCHEN SPOT FOR YOU or another job!**



UKRAINIAN PYSANKY CLASSES: Classes are being offered by St. Cyril's Church in Olyphant. March 2nd and March 16th, 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.

REFLECTIONS FROM ST. THEOPHAN THE RECLUSE.....

The Sunday of the Prodigal Son says so much to us! It speaks about our peace and abundance in the house of the Heavenly Father, about our mad departure from the Father's guardianship to unbridled freedom, about the richness of the heritage given us despite our disobedience, about its reckless waste on all sorts of indecencies, and about our utter impoverishment as a result. But then it talks also about how one recovers his senses and, coming to himself, decides to return to his greatly merciful Father. It talks about how he returns, how he is received lovingly and is restored to his first state. Who will not find this lesson profitable? If you abide in your Father's house, do not strive for freedom. You see how a similar experience ended! If you have run away and are squandering all, stop this quickly. If you have already squandered everything and are living in poverty, resolve quickly to return – and then, return. There every lenience and the former love and prosperity await you. This last step is the most necessary one. But there is no point in enlarging upon this. All has been said concisely and clearly. Come to your senses, resolve to return, arise and hasten to the Father. His embrace is open and ready to receive you.

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 is 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.

LITURGICAL INTENTIONS: 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.

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 22nd, March 29th 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.

From the Stichera from Vespers for the Prodigal Son

Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord; O Lord, hear my voice!

O Lord, where can we sinners flee from You, for You are present in all creation? You are present in heaven, for it is Your dwelling place. Your power prevails in Hades where You conquered Death. O Master, Your sustaining hand touches even the depths of the sea. Where, then, can we take refuge except in You? We, therefore, prostrate ourselves before You and pray: O Lord, risen from the dead, have mercy on us.



Ask Father a Question.....Father, in the Communion Prayer we pray, “ I will not tell the mystery to Your enemies, . . .” I’m confused, aren’t we supposed to convert our enemies? The reason you are feeling confused is because you forget, or are not aware, that our prayer life is scriptural, i.e. the liturgy and our whole lives and answers to our problems can all be found in the Holy Scriptures, i.e. the books of the bible. If we are careful, we will live like the saints destined for heaven and if we are dismissive of God’s will, we will live like the evildoers destined for hell. What we are praying with the words “I will not tell the mystery to Your enemies,” is that I will not pretend to be your follower and friend only to stab you in the back the moment you don’t provide me with what I want the way I want it like Judas did, i.e. I will not repeat the sin of Judas. I will not tell devils how to attack you. Of course we are supposed to evangelize (convert) all people. Certain people don’t want to be converted but the “enemy” is not people, even though there are people whom quite literally worship the devils in hell. We need to make a distinction between the devils in hell, people while they are sinners who are working their best to be holy, those whom might not believe or understand God and think within themselves that they are good, and evildoers whom make no attempt, or do not desire to, follow God and His law. To the devils and the willful evildoers, we do not betray Jesus Christ nor do we tell of the Mysteries even though with the people we do try to educate them and convert them. If and AFTER they convert then we teach Jesus’ Mysteries, i.e. the Sacraments for if we tell them of God’s mysteries, they will use them for evil, not for good. Your question brings up an interesting point of answered on page 38 of Fr. Schmemman’s **‘Great Lent,’** “THE HOLY SCRIPTURES” the prayer of the Church is always biblical –i.e. expressed in the language, images, and symbols of the Holy Scriptures. If the Bible contains the Divine Revelation to man, it is also man’s inspired response to that Revelation and thus the pattern and the content of man’s prayer, praise, and adoration. For example, thousands of years have passed since the Psalms were composed; yet when man needs to express repentance, the shock of his entire being at the challenge of divine, mercy, he still finds the only adequate expression the penitential Psalm beginning, “Have mercy on me, O God!” Every imaginable situation of man before God, the world, and other men, from the overwhelming joy of God’s presence to the abysmal despair of man’s exile, sin, and alienation has found its perfect expression in this unique Book which, for this reason has always constituted the daily nourishment of the church, the means of her worship and self-edification. During [The Great Fast] the biblical dimension of worship is given increased emphasis. . . “ One can say the forty days of Lent are, our worldly journey toward heaven.