

Transfiguration of Our Lord Church
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Nanticoke Rectory: (570)735-2262



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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
March 9, 2025, A. D.

Saturday, March 8

6:00 PM

Sunday, March 9

10:30 AM

1st SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST

✠Ihor & Olympia Pasicznyk- Pasicznyk Family

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS *****

1st SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST

God's Blessings & Good Health for All Parishioners

Wednesday, March 12

6:30 PM

LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS

Saturday, March 15

8:00 AM

6:00 PM

Sunday, March 16

10:30 AM

2nd SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST

Sorokousty

God's Blessings on Paulette Parcel- Doris Parcel

2nd SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST

✠Robert Miles, Sr.- Bob & Gayle Miles

**Remember, there are no weekday Liturgies during the
Great Fast. Communion is distributed as part of the
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts.**



Saint Peter & Paul Church (Plymouth)

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

LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS Friday 5:00 PM

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY**

March 9, 2025

The Divine Liturgy of our Father among the Saints Basil the Great is celebrated ten times per year: January 1(Feast of Saint Basil); December 24(Christmas Eve); January 5 (Theophany Eve); First thru Fifth Sundays of Lent(not Palm Sunday); and Holy Thursday & the Virgil Liturgy of Easter Sunday.}

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.

GLORY BE: ONLY BEGOTTEN SON:

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: Though the stone was sealed by the Judeans, and soldiers guarded Your most pure body, You arose, O Savior, on the third day, and gave life to the world. And so the heavenly powers cried out to You, O Giver of Life: Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Your kingdom! * Glory to Your saving plan, O only Lover of mankind.

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.

TROPAR: Be swayed by the pains that the saints have suffered, for You, O Lord, and heal all our pains, O Lover of mankind, for this we pray.

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 forever. 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 the human race. 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.

BOOK(S) OF THE MONTH FOR MARCH:
GREAT LENT- Journey to Pascha
Alexander Schmemmann ISBN: 0-913836-04-4
UNFINISHED BUSINESS: On The Road To Pascha
Marianne C. Sailus Eastern Christian Publications www.ecpubs.com

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MARCH CANDLES

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

The **Altar Candles** are given by the Alberola Family
For God's Blessings & Good Health for Brian Kravits.

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 Ihor & Olympia Pasicznyk.

The **Candles Before the Icon of the Theotokos** is given
By the Jane & Charles Wetzel in memory of the deceased
members of the Slota & Wetzel Families.

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

The **Candle Before St. Nicholas** is given by Pasicznyk Family
For Pavlo & Francis Kuczeriawie.

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

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME: Begins Sunday, March 9, 2025 at 2 am.. Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour before retiring Saturday evening.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!: Happy Birthday to MaryAnn Jarolen who celebrates her Birthday on Sunday, March 2. Happy Birthday to Father Walter Pasicznyk who celebrates his Birthday on Friday, March 7! We also celebrate the Birthday of Paul Nicholas Pasicznyk who celebrates his birthday on March 9! Mnohaya Lita!! Mnohaya Lita! God Bless Them & Their Families with Many Happy Years!



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.



PYROHY FOR SALE: We have potato pyrohy for sale in the church basement for \$12.00 a dozen.

THE FIVE SATURDAYS OF THE DECEASED (SOROKUSTY or Сорокоусти): 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 or in back of the church for Sorokousty. Or write a note and put it in the basket.



HOAGIE & SOUP SALE: St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church is holding a Vegetable Soup, Turkey Hoagie, Ham & Cheese Hoagie, Italian Hoagie and Bake Sale on Thursday, March 13th from 11AM to 4PM. The cost of the hoagie and quart of soup is \$8.00. Orders can be placed by calling Debbie at 570-736-6908 by Sunday, March 9th. A Basket Raffle to benefit Ukraine and the Church will be held at the same time.



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.

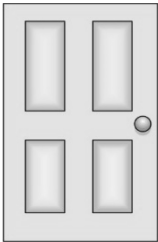
Prayer Request: Michelle Miller; Kerri; Ellen Kobela, Fr. Peter Waslo; Sister Evhenia Prusnay MSMG; Mary Oresick; Fr. Paul Wolensky, Pavlyk Motychka (baby in Ukraine with SMA); Joyce Kishbaugh, Ken Weber; Marie Slota; Fr. Gregory Maslak, Angel Ocasio, Elizabeth Biasci, Dolores Jennings, Mike Oresick, Mark & Debbie Schwartz, Mary Schwartz, Helen Lipowski, Raquel Camelia, Marie Neimeyer & all Parishioners who are experiencing health issues.

Saint Symeon the New Theologian says that our soul is like a votive lamp. In order to burn, it must have oil or wax. It also must have a good wick. These he compares to the virtues which must adorn the life of the Christian. But, above all, he says the lamp must receive fire from somewhere. It must be illuminated. The fire, he says, is the Holy Spirit which descended upon the Apostles at Pentecost in tongues of fire. "God is fire," he says, "and through the Holy Spirit God searches for material to set on fire with divine love." St. Macarius wrote, "... Just as many lamps are lit from one flame, so ... our human nature... is kindled into fire and light."

There is a story of a person who insisted he saw no reason why he had to attend church every Sunday in order to be a good Christian. His friend said nothing but walked over to the fireplace and removed one log from the fire, separating it from the other logs. In no time the log ceased to burn. The others kept burning brightly. The non-church goer got the point. We must not separate ourselves from the fire. We need to be where God's people are; we need to be where God is; we need to be where the Holy Spirit is; we need to be where the fire is, if we are to receive the Fire.

St. John Climacus considers remembrance of wrongs a dark and hateful passion. He writes, "Remembrance of wrongs is the consummation of anger, the keeper of sins, hatred of righteousness, ruin of virtues, poison of the soul, worm of the mind, shame of prayer, stopping of supplication, estrangement of love, a nail stuck in the soul, pleasureless feeling beloved in the sweetness of bitterness, continuous sin, unsleeping transgression, hourly malice."

...the soul is like a candle that is lit by the Holy Spirit. It burns to provide light and warmth which it communicates to others. Theophan the Recluse wrote, "We all received grace in baptism and chrismation. Therefore, we should burn in our spirit, which is animated by the grace of the Holy Spirit. Why is it, then, that we do not burn in spirit? Because we are occupied largely or even exclusively with our own personal affair, with worlds business... so that the spirit, although it still makes itself felt, is choked. In order to kindle the spirit, we must be aware of the unsatisfactory direction of our activities, especially their orientation toward earthly and worldly things; and we must enter deeply into the contemplation of what is divine, holy, heavenly, and eternal. The most important thing is to begin to act in a manner that is truly spiritual. And then the spirit will start to burn for as a result of all this, the gift of grace which lives within us will begin to grow in warmth."



I am the door; by Me if any man enters in, he shall be saved. (John 10:9)
The Lord says the same in another place; No man comes unto the Father, but by Me (John 14:6). He even more succinctly confirms this when he says: Without Me you can do nothing (John 15:5). A Christian is a person who is wholly in Christ and whose every good quality is from Christ. His justification is by Christ, and his body is also of Christ. He who is being saved is being saved because he is clothed in Christ. The Father is accessible to be him only when he is in this state. We have fallen away from God and are therefore subject to His wrath. Only when we draw near in Christ, for Christ's sake, does God's judgement recede and His mercy reach out to us and accept us as we draw near. The seal of Christ is imprinted on the entire nature of a Christian, and he who carries this seal will walk through the valley of the shadow of death and fear no evil (cf Ps. 22:4). In order to become this way, we have the Sacraments--Baptism, and Communion--for which confession acts as a mediator for those who sin after Baptism. But this is from the Lord. We must do our part to cultivate the spirit of acceptance: faith which confesses, "I am lost and can be saved only by the Lord Jesus Christ"; sparing nothing; hope that does not hope in itself, but only in its assurance that the Lord will not abandon us and will help us in every way, both internally and externally throughout all our life, until our hope takes us to the place where He Himself abides. -- St. Theophan the Recluse

GREAT LENT

There is no Lent without fasting. It seems, however, that many people today either do not take fasting seriously, or, if they do, misunderstand its real spiritual goals. For some people, fasting consists in a symbolic “giving up” of something; for some others, it is a scrupulous observance of dietary regulations. But in both cases, seldom is fasting referred to the total Lenten effort. Here as elsewhere, therefore, we must first try to understand the church’s teaching about fasting and then ask ourselves: How can we apply this teaching to our life?

Fasting or abstinence from food is not exclusively a Christian practice. It existed and still exists in other religions even outside religion, as for example in some specific therapies. Today people fast (or abstain) for all kinds of reasons, including sometimes political reasons. It is important, therefore, to discern the uniquely Christian content of fasting. It is first of all revealed to us in the interdependence between two events which we find in the Bible: One at the beginning of the Old Testament and the other at the beginning of the New Testament. The first event is the breaking of the “Fast” by Adam in Paradise. He ate of the forbidden fruit. This is how man’s original sin is revealed to us. Christ, the New Adam—and this the second event—begins by fasting. Adam was tempted and he succumbed to temptation; Christ was tempted and He overcame that temptation. The results of Adam’s failure are expulsion from Paradise and death. The fruits of Christ’s victory are the destruction of death and our return to Paradise. The lack of space prevents us from giving a detailed explanation of the meaning of this parallelism. It is clear, however, that in this perspective, fasting is revealed to us as something decisive and ultimate in its importance. It is not a mere “obligation,” a custom; it is connected with the very mystery of life and death, of salvation and damnation....

...Sin is not only the transgression of a rule leading to punishment; it is always a mutilation of life given to us by God.... Christ is the new Adam. He comes to repair the damage inflicted on life by Adam, to restore man to true life, and thus He also begins with Fasting. “When He had fasted forty days and forty nights He became hungry.” (Matthew 4:2). Hunger is that state in which we realize our dependence on something else---when we urgently and essentially need food—showing thus that we have no life in ourselves.

- **Excerpt from Great Lent Chapter 5, Lent in Our Life, Taking it Seriously....**

Prayer For Peace in Ukraine

Heavenly Father, Your Son taught us “Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the 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.

Jesus Prayer

Hospodi Isuse Christe, Sine Bozhe, pomiluy mene hreesh-no mu.

Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me a sinner.