



SAINTS PETER AND PAUL UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

21 EVERGREEN RD. LYNDORA, PA. 16045

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SEPTEMBER 2 – SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

Date	Feast	Service	Time
September 6 Sun.	13 th Sunday after PENTECOST - Tone 4. Commemoration of the Miracle of the Archangel Michael at Colossae	Liturgy of St. John: 1 Cor. 16:13-24; Matt. 21:33-42	10:00 am
September 7 Mon.	THE NATIVITY OF OUR MOST HOLY LADY THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARRY	Great Vespers	6:00 pm
September 8 Tue.		Liturgy of St. John: Phil. 2:5-11; Luke 10:38-42	10:00 am
September 12 Sat.	14 th Sunday after Pentecost- Tone 5. Forefeast of the Exaltation of the Cross	Great Vespers	6:00 pm
September 13 Sun.		Liturgy of St. John: 1 Gal. 6:11-18; John 3:13-17	10:00 am
September 14 Mon.	THE UNIVERSAL EXALTATION OF THE PRECIOUS AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS	Liturgy of St. John: 1 Cor. 1:18-24; John 19:6-11,13-20,25-28,30-35	10:00 am
September 20 Sun.	15 th Sunday after Pentecost- Tone 6. Greatmartyr Eustathius	Liturgy of St. John: Gal. 2:16-20; Mark 8:34-9:1	10:00 am
September 26 Sat.	16 th Sunday after Pentecost- Tone 7. Martyr Callistratus	Great Vespers	6:00 pm
September 27, Sun.		Liturgy of St. John: 2 Cor. 6:1-10; Luke 5:1-11	10:00 am

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21 Evergreen Rd. Lyndora, PA. 16045
724-287-4448(Church)
724-282-6190 (Hall)
<http://peterandpaulclyndora.itgo.com>
September 6th, 2020

Father Yurii Bobko, Pastor
908-458-2076(Cell Phone Number)
Protopresbyter William Diakiw, Attached
Parish Board President: Robert Prokopchak
Choir Director: Lydia Rudolf

******* PARISH NEWS AND UPDATES *******

WELCOME All! Welcome to the God-Loving and God-Protected Parish of Saints Peter and Paul! A Parish of the UOC of the USA and the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Our warmest greetings are extended to all visitors and guests, and to all of our beloved parishioners who are participating in today's Divine Liturgy. We are blessed to have you with us today! If you are with us for the first time, PLEASE introduce yourself to Father Yurii – he is looking forward to meeting you! Also, please feel free to email or call Father Yurii with any questions and let him know what is going on in your life, especially if you need spiritual guidance. We hope that you will find peace and comfort in Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church. You are very welcome to come every Sunday and on feast days, make yourself at home, and to become a part of our parish family. Through the intercession of Saints Peter and Paul we hope and pray that our community might grow into a full-fledged Parish in the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. Through your prayers and dedication of time, talents, and donations, this can become a reality in all faith and love.

Dear brothers and sisters! We would like to remind you that we all still under the Coronavirus restrictions; please, before going to the church make sure you have read all the responsibilities and rules that applied for the church visit during these days!

We wish to announce our parish annual meeting. It will be held on September 13 at 12 PM at the hall. The executive board positions up for election are: vice president, treasurer, and director. There is also a need for two volunteers from the parish to conduct our annual financial audit prior to the meeting. Please contact a board member if you are interested. Participation in the annual meeting will be possible via Zoom teleconference; please let Rob Prokopchak know if you would like to join the meeting this way.

We are going to continue doing the Prayer Corner during the Liturgy. If you have and know anybody from you Family, relatives, or friends who you would like Fr. Yurii to remember and pray during liturgy, please submit the names on the card to Fr. Yurii before Liturgy.

PLEASE NOTE, if there is a need for confession, memorial service at the cemetery or home visit, you will need to inform Fr. Yurii and after this the time and day will be appointed for home visit or for confession at the parish Church of Ss. Peter and Paul!

******* REFLECTION FOR THESE WEEKS *******

Why do we need to go to Church? One often hears bewilderment and protest against the rules that an unchurched person encounters when he comes to the Church. These people want to prove (first of all to themselves) that it is possible not to go to church, and find a lot of reasons and arguments for this.

This attitude to the Church is caused by the fact that many do not understand its nature, the meaning of its existence. We can treat various diseases at home, by yourself or by inviting doctors to your home. During the war, complex operations were sometimes performed in field hospitals, practically in the open air. Why can't we pray only at home, is it really necessary to go to church?

In order to answer the question posed, we need to figure out why a person comes to church. If you just pray, light a candle, venerate the icons, then you don't have to go to church for this. Candles and lamps can be lighted at home, there are also house icons.

Then why do people go to the temple? When, I repeat, there is no genuine understanding of the nature of the Church, then smart but deeply erroneous in meaning, clichés are born: "God must be in the soul," "I believe in God, but without fanaticism," and the like. Why do people come to the Church?

An unbelieving person who denies the existence of God need not read further. But for the one who was baptized himself and brought his children to Baptism, who is trying to communicate with his Creator, all of the following is the most important for understanding.

Let's go back to basics. Man - the highest creation of God - was created in a special way in comparison with the rest of the material world. God revives a person with His breath, which a person assimilates, which means he can accumulate. The acquisition (accumulation) of the grace of the Holy Spirit for the purpose of one's deification is the main goal of human life. And man was created hierarchically: spirit - soul - body.

As you can see, the main thing was the spirit, which allowed the primordial man to be in direct union with God. After the fall, human nature is distorted: the body comes to the fore, which crushes the soul and fetters the spirit. That's it! The graceful connection with God is severed. And thousands of years pass until humanity, in a battle with its disfigured nature, when carnal pleasures become the highest goal, gives birth to Virgin Mary, Who could accommodate the Creator of the Universe.

God descends to earth enlightening humanity with a new spiritual teaching. The law of retribution "eye for an eye" is replaced by the commandment to love one's neighbor. But in order for the soul to have the strength to love, Christ leaves us the Sacraments, and the most important of them is the Sacrament of the Eucharist (Communion).

If our disfigured nature has made its flesh the main thing (a high temperature or an aching tooth will not allow us to pray with concentration, solve a problem, or listen to music), then the grace of God comes to us through matter. The Upper Room of Zion, the Last Supper, the Lord blesses the bread and speaks to His disciples the secret words: "This is my body, which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me. " He blesses the Cup and says: "This is My Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

The word "covenant" means a contract. Agreement with God: You are for me, I am for You. I partake of Your Body and Blood, You give me Your grace that heals my nature. As St. Gregory the Theologian wrote: "God becomes a man so that man becomes a god." In other words, the grace of God (in secular language, Divine energy) is given to man only in the Sacraments of the Church, which take place only in the temple. And the Church is not a mediator, but a bridge that connects a person with Christ.

The grace of God nourishes, purifies and transforms the human soul. That is why he goes to the Church, even if there is sorrow, injustice or rudeness within the soul. Yes, unfortunately, this happens. To be continued...