



SS. PETER & PAUL UKRAINIAN  
ORTHODOX CHURCH

21 Evergreen Road  
Lyndora, PA 16045-1314



УКРАЇНСЬКА ПРАВОСЛАВНА  
ЦЕРКВА СВ. ПЕТРА І ПАВЛА

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**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 your prayers and dedication of time, talents, and donations, this can become a reality in all faith and love.

**JULY 21<sup>ST</sup>**  
**2024**

**Sunday, July 21**

**Ven Simeon, fool-for- Christ**  
Epistle Reading: Rom 6:18-23  
Gospel Reading: Matt 8:5-13  
**Divine Liturgy – 9:00**

**Sunday, July 28**

**Prochorus & Nicanor**  
Epistle Reading: Rom 10:1-10  
Gospel Reading: Matt 8:28-9:1  
**Divine Liturgy – 9:00**

**Saturday, August 3**

**Great Vespers**  
For the Feast of Transfiguration  
**7 pm**

**Sunday, August 4**

**TRANSFIGURATION**  
Epistle Reading: 2 Peter 1:10-19  
Gospel Reading: Matt 17:1-9  
**Divine Liturgy – 9:00**

## CONTACT

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# SAINTS PETER AND PAUL UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX PARISH

**“AS THE LORD PUT ON THE BODY, LEAVING BEHIND ALL PRINCIPALITY AND POWER, SO CHRISTIANS PUT ON THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND ARE AT REST.”  
— ST. MACARIUS THE GREAT**

## GOSPEL AND EPISTLE READING

### The reading is from the 2 Peter 1:10-19

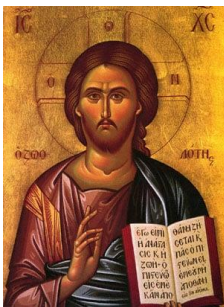


Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you all ways of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth. Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you, knowing that shortly I must put off my tent, just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. Moreover I will be careful to ensure that you always have a reminder of these things after my decease. For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain. And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;

### REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All the citizens and residents of Ukraine, Stanley, Julia Walek, pani Lilia, Jean Markiw, Debbie, Wesly, Cindy, Christine, Denny Zymboly, Ruth Dally, Philip, Eric, Carl, Kayden, Rose, Dorothy Cygan, Helen, Fr. Vasyl, Mary-Ann, Payton, Anthony, Tina, Mykola, Stella, Maksymko, Fr. Yurii, Maria, Fr. Jakiw, Fr. George, Volodymyr, Alexandr, Vincent, John, Frank, Rowena, Carol.

## The Gospel According to Matthew 17:1-9



Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!” And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid. But Jesus came and touched them and said, “Arise, and do not be afraid.” When they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. Now as they came down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, “Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man is risen from the dead.”

### PARISH NEWS AND UPDATES

**July 21<sup>st</sup>** – *coffee hour*, organized by Pani Olha and Hanna.

**July 28<sup>th</sup>** – *coffee hour*, organized by Adrienne Hassler.

**August 4<sup>th</sup>** – *Potluck*, following Divine Liturgy.

*We are grateful to everyone for your generous contributions over the past years towards paying off our Church's principal debt. Your support has been instrumental in helping us reach our goal more quickly.*

*Thanks to your contributions and recent generous support, we have made significant progress, and our remaining balance is now \$20,742! This remarkable achievement has given us a significant boost, and we are now within reach of achieving our goal.*

*We kindly ask for your continued support to help us pay off the remaining amount. Being debt-free is crucial for our financial growth and stability, and we are eager to achieve this goal as soon as possible.*

*Thank you once again for your dedication and generosity. Together, with Christ, we can reach our goal and ensure a prosperous future for our Church.*

We would like to announce that this year we will be transferring and celebrating one of the twelve great feast days of our Holy Orthodox Church - *Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup>*. On Saturday, we are going to have Great Vespers for the feast day of Transfiguration. On Sunday following Divine Liturgy, we are going to have blessing of fruits. Remember to bring your own baskets with fruits for sanctification.

We are excited to announce that on Sunday, *August 18th*, we will have a picnic in Alameda Park, Pavilion 13, together with St. Anthony and St. Andrew Orthodox Parish. The day will begin with *Divine Liturgy at 9:00 am*, followed by a potluck picnic. Please bring a dish to share. Additionally, we will be grilling hot dogs and hamburgers. Pavilion 13 is located in the upper part of Alameda Park. To find it, go straight at the stop sign by the Kids Zone Playground, turn right at the Odd Fellows Gazebo, pass Shelter 1, and Pavilion 13 will be on your left. There will be activities for children and adults, so bring your family and friends for a day of fun and community. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Since the establishment of our new Ss Peter and Paul Christian fellowship, we have achieved much together. From organizing events to aiding those in need, and simply coming together as one family, our efforts have been a testament to our commitment to serving others and glorifying God. We extend a warm invitation to all to become involved in our organization and contribute to our shared mission of serving our neighbors for the greater glory of God.

Dear brothers and sisters, we are still gathering the contribution for help in Ukraine. If you would like to send your contribution, you could send the check to our parish of Ss. Peter and Paul and made it Payable to the Ss. Peter and Paul UOCOFUSA. Please, write on the check "Help Ukraine". Thank you all so much for your support and help! We encourage everyone to continue to give generously to our Capital Improvement Fund as we continue to work on different projects of maintaining and updating our Parish buildings.

### PARISH CELEBRATION

From the bottom of Ss. Peter and Paul parish family heart we wish **Patty Prokopchak (July 11<sup>th</sup>)**, **Jim Burka**, **Julie Walek (July 16<sup>th</sup>)**, **pani Olha Bobko (July 17<sup>th</sup>)**, **Ron Markiw (July 29<sup>th</sup>)** **Nick Prokopchak (July 29<sup>th</sup>)**. Happy Birthday! May God's awesome blessings be upon you this day and for the Future years ahead for many happy and blessed years!

## Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ



Our Lord had spoken to His disciples many times not only concerning His Passion, Cross, and Death, but also concerning the coming persecutions and afflictions that they themselves would endure. Since all these evils were near at hand, but the enjoyment of good things which they hoped to receive in their stead was yet to come, our Savior desired to give them full assurance, evidently and openly, concerning that glory which is prepared for those who endure to the end. Therefore, fulfilling that which He had promised shortly before, that "there be some standing here which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in His Kingdom" (Matt. 16:28), He took His three foremost disciples and ascended Mount Tabor, where He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became white as the light. Suddenly, together with this dread and marvelous effulgence of light, there appeared those pinnacles of the Prophets, Moses and Elias, who spoke with the Lord Jesus concerning His saving Passion which was about to take place. Standing before Him as reverent servants, they showed that He is the Lord of both the living and the dead, for Moses came forth from Hades, having died many centuries before, and Elias, as it were from heaven, whither he had been taken up while yet alive. After a little while a radiant cloud overshadowed them and out of the cloud they heard that same voice which had been heard at the Jordan at the Baptism of Christ, testifying to the Divinity of Jesus and saying: "This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well-pleased; hear ye Him" (Matt. 17: 5).

Such are the marvels, truly worthy of God, celebrated in this present feast, which is an image and prefiguring of the future state of the righteous, whose splendor the Lord spoke of, saying: "Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun" (Matt. 13:43). It is because of this that the Kontakion of this Feast is said daily (when there is not a great feast) in the Service of the Typica in perpetual commemoration of the glory that will be the lot of the Saints. According to tradition, the Lord's Transfiguration came to pass forty days before His Crucifixion; this is why the Transfiguration is celebrated forty days before the Exaltation of the Cross.

### **Tropar of Holy Transfiguration**

You were transfigured on the Mount, Christ God revealing Your glory to Your disciples, insofar as they could comprehend. Illuminate us sinners also with Your everlasting light, through the intercessions of the Theotokos. Giver of light, glory to You.

### **Kontakion of Holy Transfiguration**

You were transfigured upon the mount, O Christ our God, and Your disciples, in so far as they could bear, beheld Your glory. Thus, when they see You crucified, they may understand Your voluntary passion, and proclaim to the world that You are truly the effulgence of the Father.

### **Icon of the Feast**

In the icon of the Feast of the Transfiguration, Christ is the central figure, appearing in a dominant position within a circular mandorla. He is clearly at the visual and theological center of

the icon. His right hand is raised in blessing, and his left hand contains a scroll. The mandorla with its brilliant colors of white, gold, and blue represent the divine glory and light. The halo around the head of Christ is inscribed with the Greek words  $\text{O}\ \text{O}\ \text{N}$ , meaning "The One Who is".

Christ appears in the center of the icon blessing with His right hand and dressed in bright white robes.



Elijah and Moses stand at the top of separate mountain peaks to the left and right of Christ (Elijah stands on the left side in the icon and Moses, holding the Ten Commandments, stands on the right side). They are bowing toward Christ with their right hands raised in a gesture of intercession towards Him. Saint John Chrysostom explains the presence of these two fathers of the faith from the Old Testament in three ways. He states that they represent the Law and the Prophets (Moses received the Law from God, and Elijah was a great prophet); they both experienced visions of God (Moses on Mount Sinai and Elijah on Mount Carmel); and they represent the living and the dead (Elijah, the living, because he was taken up into heaven by a chariot of fire, and Moses, the dead, because he did experience death).

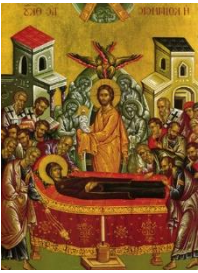


Below Christ are the three Apostles, who by their posture in the icon show their response to the transfiguration of Christ. James (right) has fallen over backward with his hands over his eyes. John in the center has fallen prostrate. Peter (left) is kneeling and raises his right hand toward Christ in a gesture expressing his desire to build the three booths. The garments of the Apostles are in a state of disarray to indicate the dramatic impact the vision has had on them.

The icon of the feast directs our attention toward the event of the Transfiguration and specifically to the glory of God as revealed in Christ. This event came at a critical point in the ministry of our Lord, just as He was setting out on His journey to Jerusalem. He would soon experience the humiliation, suffering, and death of the Cross. However, the glorious light of the Resurrection was revealed to strengthen His disciples for the trials that they would soon experience.

The feast also points to the great and glorious Second Coming of our Lord and the fulfillment of the Kingdom of God when all of creation will be transfigured and filled with light.

## The Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary



Concerning the Dormition of the Theotokos, this is what the Church has received from ancient times from the tradition of the Fathers. When the time drew nigh that our Savior was well-pleased to take His Mother to Himself, He declared unto her through an Angel that three days hence, He would translate her from this temporal life to eternity and bliss. On hearing this, she went up with haste to the Mount of Olives, where she prayed continuously. Giving thanks to God, she returned to her house and prepared whatever was necessary for her burial. While these things were taking place, clouds caught up the Apostles from the ends of the earth, where each one happened to be preaching, and brought them at once to the house of the Mother of God, who informed them of the cause of their sudden gathering. As a mother, she consoled them in their affliction as was meet, and then raised her hands to Heaven and prayed for the peace of the world. She blessed the Apostles, and, reclining upon her bed with seemliness, gave up her all-holy spirit into the hands of her Son and God.

With reverence and many lights, and chanting burial hymns, the Apostles took up that God-receiving body and brought it to the sepulchre, while the Angels from Heaven chanted with them, and sent forth her who is higher than the Cherubim. But one Jew, moved by malice, audaciously stretched forth his hand upon the bed and immediately received from divine judgment the wages of his audacity. Those daring hands were severed by an invisible blow. But when he repented and asked forgiveness, his hands were restored. When they had reached the place called Gethsemane, they buried there with honor the all-immaculate body of the Theotokos, which was the source of Life. But on the third day after the burial, when they were eating together, and raised up the artos (bread) in Jesus' Name, as was their custom, the Theotokos appeared in the air, saying "Rejoice" to them. From this they learned concerning the bodily translation of the Theotokos into the Heavens. These things has the Church received from the traditions of the Fathers, who have composed many hymns out of reverence, to the glory of the Mother of our God (see Oct. 3 and 4).

### **Tropar of Dormition of the Theotokos, First Tone**

In birth, you preserved your virginity; in death, you did not abandon the world, O Theotokos. As mother of life, you departed to the source of life, delivering our souls from death by your intercessions.

### **Kontakion of Dormition of the Theotokos, Second Tone**

Neither the grave nor death could contain the Theotokos, the unshakable hope, ever vigilant in intercession and protection. As Mother of life, He who dwelt in the ever-virginal womb transposed her to life

## The Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA: a Beacon of Hope Amidst War



In the midst of the ongoing war in Ukraine, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA (UOC of the USA) stands as a steadfast pillar of support and compassion. The church's dedication to providing humanitarian aid to those affected by the war is a testament to its mission of love and service.

The UOC of the USA's Charitable Mission in Eastern Ukraine, led by Very Rev. Fr. Konstantyn Kuznetsov and his wife Natalia, has been at the forefront of delivering critical supplies to war-torn regions. They have been tirelessly coordinating the distribution of food, baby formula, water, and other logistical necessities. Despite facing extreme heat and dangerous conditions, Fr. Konstantyn travels over 700 kilometers regularly to ensure these supplies reach those in need.

Every week, truckloads of food items and other essentials are dispatched to various towns, including Pokrovsk, and Kostiantynivka. These efforts provide more than just physical sustenance; they offer hope and a reminder of the global community's support. Fr. Konstantyn underscores their mission with profound dedication: "Our mission is to feed, clothe, support! We continue to work for the sake of people and Ukraine! We form and distribute hundreds of food kits to families trying to survive in war conditions. People receive not just a survival package, but also care, support, a warm and kind word."

In the Dnipro region, the distribution of aid from the UOC of the USA is coordinated by His Eminence Metropolitan Serhiy of the Donetsk Eparchy of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine. His efforts ensure that refugees from Mariupol and other devastated areas receive the necessary support to endure these challenging times.

Metropolitan Serhiy reflects on these critical efforts: "Today, a team of volunteers and I purchased, delivered, unloaded, and inhaled survival kits for people who suffered as a result of Russian aggression. I want to thank Vladyka Daniel and the entire Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA on my own behalf and on behalf of many families of immigrants for systematic financial assistance to our volunteer centers in Donetsk region and the city of Dnipro. Together to victory!"

