



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.

CONTACT

Father Yurii Bobko, Pastor

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<http://www.orthodoxlyndora.org/>

Parish Board President:

Maria Corbin

Choir Director:

Lydia Rudolf

JUNE 22ND
2025

Thursday, June 22

REGIONAL ALL SAINTS

Epistle Reading: Rom 2:10-16

Gospel Reading: Matt 4:18-23

Divine Liturgy - 9:30

Saturday, June 28

Great Vespers

Feast of Ss Peter and Paul - **6:30 pm**

SUNDAY, June 29

Apostles Peter & Paul

Epistle Reading: 2 Cor 11:21-12:9

Gospel Reading: Matt 16:13-19

Divine Liturgy - 9:30

Sunday, July 6

Ven Sisoës the Great

Epistle Reading: Rom 10:1-10

Gospel Reading: Matt 8:5-13

Divine Liturgy - 9:30

Sunday, July 13

Synaxis Archangel Gabriel

Epistle Reading: Rom 10:1-10

Gospel Reading: Matt 8:28-9:1

Divine Liturgy - 9:30

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX PARISH

FATHERS OF THE 1ST COUNCIL

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 2:10-16

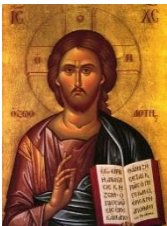
Prokeimenon: Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us.

Verse: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.



Brethren, glory and honor and peace for every one who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. For God shows no partiality. All who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified. When Gentiles who have not the law do by nature what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that what the law requires is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness and their conflicting thoughts accuse or perhaps excuse them on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

The Gospel According to Matthew 4:18-23



At that time, as Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left their boat and their father, and followed him. And he went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All the citizens and residents of Ukraine, Sherry, Halyna, Patricia Prokopchak, Patricia Hnatko, Maria Corbin, Stanley, 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,

PARISH NEWS AND UPDATES

June 29th – Ss. Peter and Paul Feast Day, Potluck after the Divine Liturgy.

Patronal Feast of Saints Peter and Paul – Saturday, June 29

Next week, on **Saturday, June 29th**, we joyfully celebrate the **Patronal Feast of our parish—Saints Peter and Paul**. We invite everyone to join us for the **Divine Liturgy**, followed by a **festive potluck celebration** in honor of our beloved patron saints.

Please consider bringing a dish to share, and stay for fellowship as we rejoice together as a parish family. Your presence will help make this a truly joyful and meaningful occasion for all.

Let us come together in prayer, thanksgiving, and community as we honor the holy apostles Peter and Paul and give thanks for the blessings of our parish

Independence Day Greeting

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we celebrate **Independence Day on July 4th**, let us give thanks to God for the many blessings we enjoy in this country—especially the freedom to worship, to live in peace, and to serve one another in love.

May this day be a time of gratitude, reflection, and unity. Let us remember those who have sacrificed for the sake of freedom and pray for our nation: that it may always uphold truth, justice, and compassion for all people.

Wishing you and your families a safe, joyful, and blessed Fourth of July!

In Christ, **Fr. Yurii**

Parish Announcement

We would like to inform that Fr. Yuri will be out of town from **Monday, June 30th through Sunday, July 6th**. You still can reach fr. Yurii in any emergency. We are grateful to announce that **Fr. Mark Swindle** will be serving the **Divine Liturgy on Sunday, July 6th at 9:30 AM**, following our regular schedule. Please make every effort to attend and warmly welcome Fr. Mark as he leads us in worship. We also ask for your continued prayers for Fr. Yurii with family during his travels.

78th Annual UOL Convention!

The 78th Annual Ukrainian Orthodox League Convention (UOL) will take place from **July 23–27, 2025, in Tampa, Florida**. This event offers a wonderful opportunity for spiritual enrichment, fellowship, and engaging discussions on the future of our Church. A full schedule of sessions, worship services, and enjoyable activities is planned for all delegates and guests. Registration is now open, and hotel accommodations are available at a special rate of \$139 per night for single or double occupancy until June 23, 2025. For more information and to register, please visit the official UOL website: [Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA](#)

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 AND REMEMBRANCE

From the bottom of Ss. Peter and Paul parish family heart we wish **Barb Lesney (June 2nd)**, **Antoinette Kennedy (June 5th)**, **Linda Asche (June 26th)**, **Lovie Tymkiw (June 26th)**, **Sheryl Henricks (June 26th)**. Happy Birthday! May God's awesome blessings be upon you this day and for the Future years ahead for many happy and blessed years!

Saints and Feasts

Peter and Paul, the Holy Apostles



The divinely-blessed Peter was from Bethsaida of Galilee. He was the son of Jonas and the brother of Andrew the First-called. He was a fisherman by trade, unlearned and poor, and was called Simon; later he was renamed Peter by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, Who looked at him and said, "Thou art Simon the son of Jonas; thou shalt be called Cephas (which is by interpretation, Peter)" (John 1:42). On being raised by the Lord to the dignity of an Apostle and becoming inseparable from Him as His zealous disciple, he followed Him from the beginning of His preaching of salvation up until the very Passion, when, in the court of Caiaphas the high priest, he denied Him thrice because of his fear of the Jews and of the danger at hand. But again, after many bitter tears, he received complete forgiveness of his transgression. After the Resurrection of Christ and the descent of the Holy Spirit, he preached in Judea, Antioch, and certain parts of Asia, and finally came to Rome, where he was crucified upside down by Nero, and thus he ascended to the eternal habitations about the year 66 or 68, leaving two Catholic (General) Epistles to the Church of Christ.

Paul, the chosen vessel of Christ, the glory of the Church, the Apostle of the Nations and teacher of the whole world, was a Jew by race, of the tribe of Benjamin, having Tarsus as his homeland. He was a Roman citizen, fluent in the Greek language, an expert in knowledge of the Law, a Pharisee, born of a Pharisee, and a disciple of Gamaliel, a Pharisee and notable teacher of the Law in Jerusalem. For this cause, from the beginning, Paul was a most fervent zealot for the traditions of the Jews and a great persecutor of the Church of Christ; at that time, his name was Saul (Acts 22:3-4). In his great passion of rage and fury against the disciples of the Lord, he went to Damascus bearing letters of introduction from the high priest. His intention was to bring the disciples of Christ back to Jerusalem in bonds. As he was approaching Damascus, about midday there suddenly shone upon him a light from Heaven. Falling on the earth, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me?" And he asked, "Who art Thou, Lord?" And the Lord said, "I am Jesus Whom thou persecutest; it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks." And that heavenly voice and brilliance made him tremble, and he was blinded for a time. He was led by the hand into the city, and on account of a divine revelation to the Apostle Ananias (see Oct. 1), he was baptized by him, and both his bodily and spiritual eyes were opened to the knowledge of the Sun of Righteousness. And straightway- O wondrous transformation! - beyond all expectation, he spoke with boldness in the synagogues, proclaiming that "Christ is the Son of God" (Acts 9:1-21).

As for his zeal in preaching the Gospel after these things had come to pass, as for his unabating labors and afflictions of diverse kinds, the wounds, the prisons, the bonds, the beatings,

the stonings, the shipwrecks, the journeys, the perils on land, on sea, in cities, in wildernesses, the continual vigils, the daily fasting, the hunger, the thirst, the nakedness, and all those other things that he endured for the Name of Christ, and which he underwent before nations and kings and the Israelites, and above all, his care for all the churches, his fiery longing for the salvation of all, whereby he became all things to all men, that he might save them all if possible, and because of which, with his heart aflame, he continuously traveled throughout all parts, visiting them all, and like a bird of heaven flying from Asia and Europe, the West and East, neither staying nor abiding in any one place - all these things are related incident by incident in the Book of the Acts, and as he himself tells them in his Epistles. His Epistles, being fourteen in number, are explained in 250 homilies by the divine Chrysostom and make manifest the loftiness of his thoughts, the abundance of the revelations made to him, the wisdom given to him from God, wherewith he brings together in a wondrous manner the Old with the New Testaments, and expounds the mysteries thereof which had been concealed under types; he confirms the doctrines of the Faith, expounds the ethical teaching of the Gospel, and demonstrates with exactness the duties incumbent upon every rank, age, and order of man. In all these things his teaching proved to be a spiritual trumpet, and his speech was seen to be more radiant than the sun, and by these means he clearly sounded forth the word of truth and illumined the ends of the world. Having completed the work of his ministry, he likewise ended his life in martyrdom when he was beheaded in Rome during the reign of Nero, at the same time, some say, when Peter was crucified.

Troparion of Apostles Peter and Paul, Fourth Tone

First in prominence among the Apostles, and teachers to the Universe, intercede to the Master of all for peace in the world and for our souls great mercy.

Kontakion of Apostles Peter and Paul, Second Tone

O Lord, receive unto the enjoyment of Your good things and Your rest, the steadfast preachers of Godly words, the pinnacle of Your Disciples. Receive their pain and death above every sacrifice, for You alone know the hearts of men.

“Because God is with Us”: The Humanitarian Mission of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA for the Refugees of Eastern Ukraine



support is not only a hand stretched in material aid but a witness of Christ’s boundless love - a balm to wounded hearts, a whisper of hope in the storm of war.

The war in Ukraine has forced millions from their homes. Cities like Avdiivka, Bakhmut, Kostyantynivka, Chasiv Yar, and countless others are names now etched with sorrow and exile. Refugees - fathers and mothers, children and elders - carry with them not only the trauma of bombs and bullets but the ache of leaving behind everything familiar: their homes, schools, churches, graves of their ancestors, and places of memory. In the words of one priest from the region: “They carry more than bags; they carry broken hearts. But what we offer - food, care, a prayer - it helps them carry the cross. And for some, it lifts it.”

Fr. Kostyantyn Kuznetsov, Dean of the Donetsk region, has become a spiritual father not just to parishioners, but to all displaced persons seeking meaning and survival. Under the leadership of His Eminence Metropolitan Serhii of Donetsk of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine, he leads daily outreach into refugee communities. He writes: “Today we went to Petropavlivka. A car full of food and hygiene supplies was unloaded. The faces we met - sunken from hardship - brightened. *People thank God*, they say ‘*thank you for remembering us.*’ They say this Church is not a building but a heart that beats for the people.”

This heartbeat has found powerful resonance in the prayers, actions, and aid delivered by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. With the blessing and leadership of Metropolitan Antony, and the spiritual direction of Archbishop Daniel, the Church has taken a holistic approach to humanitarian care - nourishing the body, tending the spirit, offering the dignity of presence.

“We cannot preach Christ crucified and risen if we ignore the crosses that people are carrying today,” says Archbishop Daniel, “When a child is hungry in Bakhmut, when a grandmother is crying in Kostyantynivka because she lost her home - we must be there. That is the Gospel in motion. We offer food, yes. But we also offer *hope, spiritual presence, and love without condition.* That is our sacred mission.”



From medical aid to logistical transport, from prayerful presence to nutritional assistance, the work of the Church touches every aspect of refugee survival. Thousands of care packages have been assembled by the generous donations of the parishioners of the UOC of the USA - each one a testament to love without borders. In every can of food, every blanket, every prayer card tucked into a parcel, the faithful proclaim: “You are not forgotten.”

And perhaps that is the greatest miracle witnessed in these missions - the unbreakable spirit of the Ukrainian people. Fr. Kostyantyn recalls a moment after a liturgy held in a bomb shelter: “A little girl came to me with a flower made from candy wrappers. She said, *‘I made this for Jesus. Tell Him I still believe.’* That is the resurrection - here and now. The enemy can destroy walls, but not the soul that clings to Christ.”

Indeed, these moments - hidden from the world’s headlines - are the triumph of good over evil, of light over darkness. As Archbishop Daniel often reminds the faithful: “The greatest victory is not on a battlefield but in the human heart that still hopes, still prays, and still chooses love over hatred.”

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, you are part of this mission. The faces you see in photographs from Donetsk and Zaporizhzhia are not strangers - they are your family in Christ. The elderly woman clutching her last icon, the father cradling his infant in a basement shelter, the youth digging through ruins to find his Bible - *they are our responsibility*. They are our sacred trust.

Do not stop. Do not look away. Do not grow weary in doing good.

“Every dollar you give, every prayer you offer, every letter you write - it becomes bread for the hungry, comfort for the grieving, and light in a very dark place,” says Archbishop Daniel. “We may be an ocean away, but in Christ, we are one Body. When one member suffers, all suffer. When one is lifted, we are all raised.”

Let your heart be moved. Let your hands act. Join this sacred effort to sustain life, to preserve dignity, and to reflect the love of the risen Christ in the valleys of sorrow.

To donate, to pray, or to learn more, please visit www.uocofusa.org and become a bearer of hope.

Look into the eyes of the refugees and see Christ Himself. **“For I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was a stranger and you took Me in...”** (Matthew 25:35)

The Love will endure!