



SS. PETER & PAUL UKRAINIAN  
ORTHODOX CHURCH

21 Evergreen Road  
Lyndora, PA 16045-1314



УКРАЇНСЬКА ПРАВОСЛАВНА  
ЦЕРКВА СВ. ПЕТРА І ПАВЛА

Tel. (724) 287-4448 Fax (724) 287-4448  
E-mail: fryuriibobko@gmail.com

## MARCH 1 2026

### **SUNDAY, March 1**

#### **Sunday of Orthodoxy.**

Epistle Reading: Heb 11:24-26,32-12:2,

Gospel Reading: Jn 1:43-51

**Divine Liturgy-9:30**

### **Wednesday, March 4**

#### **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**

(St. Andrew) - 6 pm

### **Saturday, March 7**

#### **Soul Saturday**

**Divine Liturgy -9:30**

### **Sunday, March 8**

#### **GREGORY PALAMAS**

Epistle Reading: Heb 1:10-2:3

Gospel Reading: Mark 2:1-12

**Divine Liturgy -9:30**

### **Wednesday, March 11**

#### **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**

(St. Anthony) - 6 pm

### **Sunday, March 15**

#### **CROSS VENERATION**

Epistle Reading: Heb. 4:14-5:6

Gospel Reading: Mark 8:34-9:1

**Divine Liturgy - 9:30**

### **Wednesday, March 11**

#### **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**

(Ss. Peter and Paul) - 6 pm

### **Sunday, March 15**

#### **ST JOHN CLIMACUS**

Epistle Reading: Heb 6:13-20

Gospel Reading: Mark 9:17-31

**Divine Liturgy - 9:30**

**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**

Cell phone: 908-458-2076

Tel: 724-287-4448(Church)

Tel: 724-282-6190 (Hall)

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

Parish Board President:

Lydia Rudolf

Choir Director:

Lydia Rudolf

# SAINTS PETER AND PAUL UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX PARISH

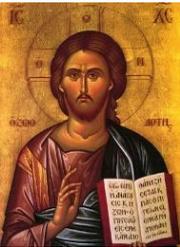
## St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 1:10-14; 2:1-3



IN THE BEGINNING, Thou, Lord, didst found the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of thy hands; they will perish, but thou remainest; they will all grow old like a garment, like a mantle thou wilt roll them up, and they will be changed. But thou art the same, and thy years will never end." But to what angel has he ever said, "Sit at my right hand, till I make thy enemies a stool for thy feet?" Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation?

Therefore we must pay closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For if the message declared by angels was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him.

## The Gospel According to John 1:43-51



At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And he found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and he said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." 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, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All the citizens and residents of Ukraine, Stanley, John, Tim Roxbury, Lovie Tymkiv, Patricia Prokopchak, Patricia Hnatko, Sherry, Rhea Jean Roxbury, pani Lilia, 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, Volodymyr, Alexandr, Vincent, John, Frank, Frank, Carol.

### **Pan-Orthodox Presanctified Liturgies During Great Lent**

This year, it is a special blessing and joy to announce that the Presanctified Liturgy will be celebrated together by three of our Orthodox parishes here in Butler: St. Andrew, St. Anthony, and St. Peter & Paul. During this holy Lenten season, we will gather as one in Christ to pray, to fast, and to prepare our hearts for the Resurrection of our Lord. It is a great spiritual joy to serve alongside our brother clergy and faithful, united in faith and love during this sacred time.

#### **Schedule (All services begin at 6:00 PM):**

March 4 – St. Andrew.

March 11 – St. Anthony.

March 18 – St. Peter & Paul.

Following the Presanctified Liturgy at St. Peter & Paul on March 18, we will return to our regular parish schedules for the remainder of Great Lent. All parishioners are warmly encouraged to attend and participate in these beautiful and prayerful Lenten services as we journey together toward Holy Pascha.

### **Bake Sale**

We are excited to announce our annual Pascha-Easter Bake Sale, scheduled for baking on **March 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>**, with sales continuing on **March 25<sup>th</sup>**. We invite you to join us and contribute to the success of this event, which serves as a wonderful opportunity for fellowship while supporting the needs of our parish.

### **Pascha/Easter Flower Donation**

We are pleased to announce that once again, everyone has the opportunity to contribute to the **Pascha/Easter Flowers Fund**. These beautiful flowers will adorn our Church and the Lord's Grave, creating a fitting and reverent atmosphere for our Paschal celebration. Your generous donations help make this possible.

To contribute, please use your offering envelopes and indicate "**Pascha/Easter Flowers**" on the envelope or memo line. Donations can be placed in the collection basket or given directly to the church office. Thank you for your support in making our church a place of beauty and devotion during this most sacred season!

### **Kitchen Equipment Update**

We will be purchasing a new (refurbished) oven to replace one of the back-room pizza ovens. Funds collected in memory of Jean Markiw will be used to help cover this expense. Jean

was deeply involved in our bake sales and parish kitchen work, and her family has graciously agreed that this is a fitting use of the memorial donations.

In addition, we are looking to purchase a refurbished dough sheeter (roller machine). While we currently have one, we would like to obtain a second machine as a backup. Anyone wishing to contribute toward this purchase is kindly asked to note this on your donation envelope. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

### **Church Assessment Update**

At the recent Sobor, it was voted to increase the annual assessment to our Church Center in South Bound Brook, NJ. The amount will increase from \$100 to \$150 per person. This assessment has not been raised in over 12 years. As parishioners and members of our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church, this is part of our responsibility and stewardship. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with Fr. Yurii or Lydia.

### **Pirohi Sale**

A heartfelt thank you to all who helped with our last Pirohi Sale! Your hard work and dedication made it a great success, and we couldn't have done it without the effort from our volunteers. **We wish to announce that March 13<sup>th</sup>, we are going to have our next Pirohi Sale!** We look forward to seeing everyone back in the kitchen as we continue this beloved tradition!

### PARISH CELEBRATION

From the bottom of Ss. Peter and Paul parish family heart we wish **Jeff Heiger (March 1), Frank Hawryliak Junior (March 7), Dorothy Cygan (March 15), Sherry Burka (March 21), John McCarthy (March 23), Lydia Rudolf (March 28), Rose Raith (March 31<sup>st</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!

Memory Eternal, **Andrew Kalinik (Karen Sheptak Brother)** . May his soul dwell with the righteous, and may their memory be eternal in the hearts of their loved ones and the Church. **Vichnaya Pamyat!**

## Holy Season of Great Lent



As we prepare to enter the holy season of Great Lent, let us be mindful of the deep significance of this sacred time in our spiritual journey. Next Sunday we observe Meatfare Sunday, the final day before we begin abstaining from meat and the final step in our preparation for Great Lent. This gradual preparation reminds us that Lent is not something we rush into, but something we enter thoughtfully, prayerfully, and intentionally.

Dear brothers and sisters, please remember that Great Lent begins on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. This holy season is our preparation for the radiant Feast of the Resurrection of Christ—Holy Pascha. Great Lent is not simply a period on the Church calendar; it is a living symbol of our entire life. Just as Christ passed through suffering and death into Resurrection, so we are called to die to sin and rise with Him into new life.

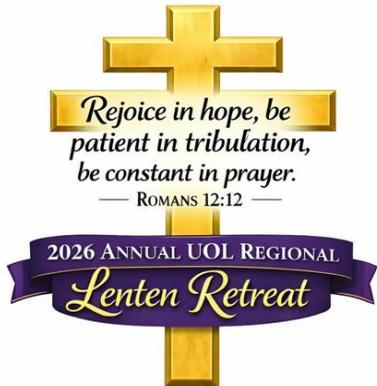
Great Lent is a time of renewed devotion—of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. It is a season of repentance, a true renewal of our minds, hearts, and actions in conformity with Christ and His teachings. It is, above all, a return to the great commandments: to love God with all our heart and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

It is important to remember that God desires our repentance, not mere remorse. We grieve our sins, but we do so in the joy of God's mercy. We discipline our bodies, but we do so in hope and in the joy of the Resurrection. Every effort we make—every prayer, every act of self-denial, every act of kindness—becomes a step toward Pascha, a step toward our own resurrection in Christ.

As Great Lent begins, there will be more services than usual, especially on the weekdays. These beautiful Lenten services were established by our Holy Orthodox Church for the spiritual benefit of the faithful. They help us slow down, reflect, repent, and grow in our union with God. Through these services, we come to better understand our dependence on Him and the true meaning of our life.

For this reason, I warmly encourage everyone to make a sincere effort to attend the Lenten services as often as possible. Participation in these services deepens our understanding of Great Lent, strengthens our faith, and helps us draw closer to our ultimate goal—the Kingdom of God.

May this Great Lent be for each of us a blessed journey of repentance, renewal, and joyful expectation of Christ's glorious Resurrection.



### Guest Speakers

*Rev. Fr Timothy Paproski*  
*St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, Warren, Ohio*

*Rev. Fr. Yuri Bobko*  
*SS. Peter & Paul UOC, Lyndora, PA*

### Youth Program

*Rev. Fr. John Charest*  
*SS. Peter & Paul UOC, Carnegie, PA*

### Host Pastors

*Rev. Fr. John Charest (Western, PA)*  
*Rev. Fr. Mykola Zomchak (Ohio)*



**Saturday, March 21, 2026**

#### Schedule:

8:15 AM Registration & Continental Breakfast  
9:15 AM Morning Prayers/Morning Session  
12:30 PM Lunch  
1:15 PM Afternoon Session,  
followed at 3:30 PM with Vespers & Confessions

#### Children & Youth Program

*(Preschool & Elementary and Middle School & High School Students)*

#### River Valley

#### Community Resource Center

320 Shenango Street  
Pulaski, Pennsylvania 16143 (724) 652-6184

#### Registration

Adults \$30.00 • College Students \$20.00

Registration by March 16, \$35.00

Youth (Ages 10 to 18) Free

For more information or to request a registration form, call Shirley Duffy  
at (412) 518-0912 or send an email to

[shirleydkuffvesa@gmail.com](mailto:shirleydkuffvesa@gmail.com)

<https://www.uolofusa.org/>



The Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA  
*Dedicated to our Church – Devoted to its Youth*

## + BARTHOLOMEW

*By God's mercy Archbishop of Constantinople-New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch*

*To the Plenitude of the Church*

*May the grace and peace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; and from us, prayer, blessing, and forgiveness.*



Most honorable brother Hierarchs and blessed children in the Lord,

Filled with sacred emotion, we enter once again, by God's goodwill, into Holy and Great Lent, the arena of ascetic struggle, the time of fasting and repentance, of humility and prayer, of spiritual vigilance and love, with the eyes of our heart directed to the life-giving Cross of the

Lord, which guides us all toward Holy Pascha that opens the gates of Paradise to the human race.

This blessed period now opening before us constitutes an opportunity to comprehend once more the truth of asceticism according to Christ and its inseparable association with the Eucharistic realization of the Church, whose every expression and dimension is illumined by the light and joy of the Resurrection. The spirit of asceticism is hardly a foreign element introduced into Christianity, nor is it the result of influence by dualistic ideologies outside the Church. Asceticism is another word for the Christian existence, connecting it with absolute trust in Divine Providence, with the inexhaustible spiritual gladness of a life dedicated to Christ, with self-transcendence and self-offering, with charitable love and respect for all creation.

Asceticism is not a matter of self-willed choices and subjective particularities, but of submission to the rule and the “catholic experience” of the Church. It has been described as an “ecclesiastical” rather than an “individual” event. Life in the Church is indivisible. Repentance, prayer, humility, forgiveness, fasting, and philanthropic deeds are interconnected and interwoven. In the Orthodox tradition, there is no asceticism as an end in itself, for that only leads to an overestimation of individual effort and feeds tendencies of self-justification.

Great Lent is the appropriate time to experience the Church as the place and the manner in which the gifts of divine Grace are revealed, always as a foretaste of the joy of the Lord's Resurrection, the cornerstone of our faith and the all-radiant horizon of “the hope within us.” It is by divine inspiration that the Church honours on Cheesefare Saturday the sacred memory of saintly men and women who have shone brightly in asceticism, for they are the supporters and companions of the faithful in the long course of asceticism. In the arena of spiritual struggle, we have the benevolence of the Triune God with us, the protection of the All-Holy Mother of God and Mother of us all, and the intercessions of the saints and martyrs of the faith.

Healthy Christian asceticism is the participation of the whole human being—as a unity of spirit, soul, and body—in the life in Christ, without undervaluing matter and the body, and without a Manichaean reduction of spirituality. As it has been written, Christian asceticism is ultimately a

struggle “not *against*, but *for* the body”; as the *Gerontikon* affirms: “We have been taught not to destroy the body, but to destroy the passions.”

Unfortunately, and inaccurately, Christian asceticism has been labelled by contemporary thinkers as a denial of the joy of life and as a restriction of human creativity. Nothing could be further from the truth! As release from “having” and from attachment to the possession of things, and especially as liberation from the ego, from “seeking one’s own,” and from the “having of our being,” asceticism is the source and expression of genuine freedom.

What can be more truthful than the exodus from the captivity of “individual right” and the openness and love for our fellow human beings, the inner “good change” and steadfastness in fulfilling God’s commandments? What could be more creative than fasting, when it is a holistic attitude of life and expresses the ascetic and Eucharistic spirit of the Church, when it is a “common struggle” and not an “individual feat”? What could be more existentially striking than repentance and internal conversion, as a vital direction toward the truth and a renewed discovery of the power of divine Grace, of the depth of life in Christ and the hope of eternal life?

It is truly impressive that, when the early Christian character of Holy and Great Lent as a period of preparation for Holy Baptism in the Divine Liturgy of the Resurrection was replaced by the “ethos of repentance,” there nevertheless remained its experience as a “second baptism.” For this reason, the period of fasting and repentance is not sorrowful. Our hymnology speaks of the “spring of fasting,” while theology calls Great Lent a “spiritual spring” and a “period of joy and light.” All of this assumes special timeliness and significance in the face of the anthropological confusion of our time, as well as the new alienations rooted in contemporary civilization.

With these sentiments and thoughts, reminding all the children of the Holy Great Church of Christ throughout the Lord’s dominion, that on the day of the Akathist Hymn, the festivities will culminate, marking the 1400th anniversary of the year 626—when, in expression of gratitude to the Theotokos for the deliverance of the City of Constre from a perilous siege, the Akathist Hymn was chanted standing in the sacred Church of Blachernae—we wish you all a smooth course of the Fast, with asceticism and patience, with thanksgiving and doxology.

May we all, speaking the truth in love and being sanctified in the Lord, travel this way toward the fullness of joy in His radiant Resurrection.

Holy and Great Lent 2026

+ **BARTHOLOMEW of Constantinople**

*Your fervent supplicant for all before God*