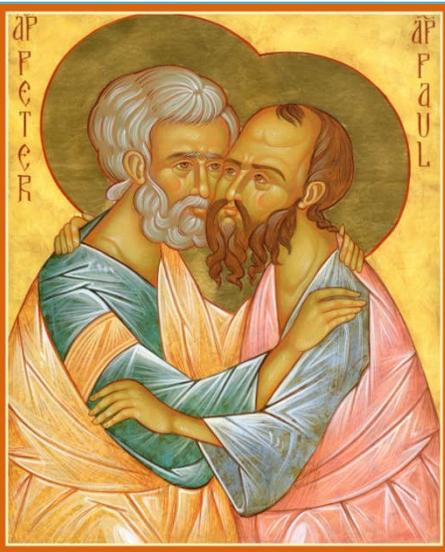


# THE HOLY FOREFATHERS





# St. Peter & St. Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church

220 Mansfield Blvd. (mailing: PO Box 835), Carnegie, PA 15106

**Rev. Fr. John Charest**

847-910-7120 - frjohn.charest@aol.com

**Deacon Evan O'Neil**

**Parish Hall: 412- 276-9718**

**President: Howard West 724-910-9627**

[www.orthodoxcarnegie.org](http://www.orthodoxcarnegie.org)

## 2020 Parish Board of Directors

### President:

Howard West

### Vice President:

Mary Stevens

### Rec. Secretary:

Cynthia Haluszczak

### Treasurer:

John Stasko

### Asst. Treasurer:

Jason Olexa

### Financial Secy.

Victor Onufrey

### Asst. Fin. Secy

Tracey Sally

### Trustees:

Sherri Walewski

Natalie Onufrey

Alice O'Neil

Rachel Losego

Melissa Haluszczak

### Vestrymen:

Steven Sawchuk Jr.

Michael Kapeluck

### Auditors:

Michele Kapeluck

Ron Wachnowsky

Alex Sawchuk

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2022

### SUNDAY, JAN 2<sup>ND</sup>

DIVINE LITURGY 9:30 AM TONE 3

SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY, OF THE FOREFATHERS

HEB. 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40; MAT 1: 1-25

### MONDAY, DEC. 3<sup>RD</sup>

AKATHIST 6:00 PM

### WEDNESDAY, DEC. 5<sup>TH</sup>

AKATHIST 6:00 PM

### THURSDAY, JAN 6<sup>TH</sup>

COMPLINES 8:00 PM, EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

### FRIDAY JAN 7<sup>TH</sup>

DIVINE LITURGY 9:30 AM, NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

### SATURDAY, JAN 8<sup>TH</sup>

DIVINE LITURGY 9:30 AM

SYNAXIS OF THE THEOTOKOS

VESPERS 6:00 PM

### SUNDAY, JAN 9<sup>TH</sup>

DIVINE LITURGY 9:30 AM TONE 4

SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY

PROTOMARTYR & ARCHDEACON STEPHEN

GAL 1: 1-19; MAT 2: 13-23

ALL SERVICE LIVE STREAMED AT:

<https://orthodoxcarnegie.org/livestream>

TODAY'S BULLETIN IS SPONSORED BY

DEACON EVAN AND PANI MATKA AICE O'NEIL IN HONOR OF  
PEARL HOMRYDA'S BIRTHDAY MNOHAYA LITA!

ELIZABETH KRAFTICIAN IN BLESSED MEMORY OF GRANDMOTHER,,  
ANASTASIA SUS. MEMORY ETERNAL

**The Sts. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church Bulletin is published weekly by  
The Senior Chapter of the Ukrainian Orthodox League**

Editor: Michael Kapeluck

Bulletin Submissions are due by 8:00 am Thursday morning. Written submissions can be:

-hand delivered to the editor

-placed in the Bulletin envelope in the church vestibule.

-mailed to: 300 East Main Street, Carnegie, PA 15106

-e-mailed to: kapeluck@verizon.net

# We welcome you today

**We would like to remind our visitors of the following;:**

- ❖ All people are encouraged to participate in the sacred services of our Church. We hope that you will be able to worship as well as have fellowship with us. Should you wish any information about the Orthodox Faith or this parish in particular, please see the rector or any member of the church. We are able to place you on our mailing list.
- ❖ Only Orthodox Christians may receive the Eucharist (Holy Communion) in the Orthodox Church. In like manner, Orthodox Christians may not receive the sacraments in a non-Orthodox Church. While we hope that one day all Christians will find unity and be able to approach the chalice of our Lord together, we observe the teachings of the Church that the Eucharist is a gift of unity and not a means of unity.

**We remind our faithful and visitors of the following guidelines concerning the Holy Sacraments in the Orthodox Church.**

- ❖ Orthodox Christians are urged to receive Holy Communion frequently.
- ❖ Communicants should be at peace with others before approaching the chalice (Mt 5:23-24)
- ❖ Realize the importance of making a thorough examination of sins and transgressions against God, ourselves and others and having prayed for forgiveness before coming to Holy Communion.
- ❖ Frequent communicants should come to Holy Confession at least four times a year (during the four fasting periods of the year) and additionally when an examination of conscience reveals the necessity to do so in order to heal any sinful behavior.
- ❖ Communicants should fast from all foods and liquids from the evening before receiving Holy Communion.
- ❖ Communicants should read prayers in preparation for receiving Holy Communion.
- ❖ All Orthodox Christians must receive the sacraments at least once a year.
- ❖ Those who are late for Divine Liturgy (after the reading of the Epistle and Gospel) should not approach the chalice.
- ❖ Those who are ill or who have special physical needs are exempt from the above guidelines.
- ❖ Infants and children (up to the age of seven) who are Orthodox Christians may receive Holy Communion and are exempt from the above guidelines.

**Thank you for gathering to worship with us today. Together we have glorified the One God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. May we be brought closer to one another and closer to God by following the eternal teachings of our Lord.**

**Нагадуємо нашнім гостям., що:**

ми заохочуємо всіх до участі у Священній Літургії в нашій Церкві; ми сподіваємося, що Ви зможете не лише помолитися тут, але й стати членом нашої громади. Якщо Ви хочете отримати якусь додаткову інформацію про Православну віру, чи, зокрема, про нашу парафію, звертайтеся, будь ласка, до отця настоятеля чи до будь-кого із членів нашої парафії. Ми можемо внести вашу адресу до парафіяльного списку розсилки;

лише православні християни можуть отримати Євхаристію (Святе Причастя) у православної церкви і, відповідно, православні християни не можуть отримувати святого причастя у неправославної церкві. Плекаючи надію на те, що у майбутньому всі християни досягнуть єдності і зможуть разом пити із чаші нашого Господа, ми дотримуємося вчення церкви про те, що Євхаристія - це дар єдності, а не засіб до єдності.

**НАГАДУЄМО НАШИМ ВІРНИМ І ГОСТЯМ ПРО ПРАВИЛА, ЩО СТОСУЮТЬСЯ СВЯТОГО ПРИЧАСТЯ У ПРАВОСЛАВНІЙ ЦЕРКВІ:**

ми спонукаємо православних християн часто ходити до Святого Причастя;

**ті**, хто причащаються, повинні бути у мирі з іншими перш, нас підійти до євхаристичної чаші (Св.Матвій 5:23-24);

**перед** тим, як прийти на Святе Причастя, дуже важливо ретельно осмислити гріхи і порушення, які було вчинено проти Бога, нас самих та інших і помолитися за їх відпущення;

**тим**, хто часто причащається, слід приходити на святу сповідь принаймні чотири рази на рік (під час кожного із чотирьох щорічних постів);

**ті**, хто причащається, повинні з вечора перед прийняттям Святого Причастя, припинити вживання всякої їжі і напоїв;

**ті**, хто причащається, повинні шляхом молитов підготувати себе до прийняття причастя;

**всі** православні християни повинні, принаймні, раз на рік отримати Святе Причастя;

**ті**, хто спізнився на Божественну Літургію (прийшов після того, як було прочитано Апостол і Євангеліє) не можуть підходити до чаші; **хворі**, і **ті**, хто має обмежені фізичні м'якшости, звільняються від вище викладених вимог;

**немовлята** та діти до семи років, які належать до Православної християнської віри, можуть отримувати Святе Причастя і звільняються від вище викладених вимог;

**Дякуємо за те, що Ви прийшли помолитися з нами сьогодні у церкві Ісуса Христа. Разом з вами ми віддали славу Єдиному Господу, Отцеві, і Синові, і Духові Святому. Нехай дотримування вічного вчення нашого Господа наблизить нас один до одного Богу**

## SUNDAY OF THE HOLY ANCESTORS



### TROPARIUM TO THE RESURRECTION TONE 3

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm! He has trampled down death by death! He has become the first born of the dead! He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted the world great mercy!

### TROPARIUM TO THE HOLY ANCESTORS TONE 2

Through faith You justified the Forefathers,  
betrothing through them the Church of the gentiles.

These saints exult in glory,  
for from their seed came forth a glorious fruit:  
She who bore You without seed.

So by their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us!

### KONTAKION TO THE HOLY ANCESTORS - TONE 6

You did not worship the graven image,  
O thrice-blessed ones,  
but armed with the immaterial Essence of God,  
you were glorified glorified in a trial by fire.  
From the midst of unbearable flames you called on God, crying:  
Hasten, O compassionate One!  
Speedily come to our aid,  
for You are merciful and able to do as You will.

### KONTAKION TO THE RESURRECTION TONE 3

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One, leading us from the gates of death. On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; with the prophets and patriarchs they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

Prokiemon

Sing to our God, sing to our King, to our King sing.

*Verse:* O clap your hands together, all ye people; O sing unto God with the voice of melody.

### Lesson from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews

c.11, v.9-10; 17-23; 32-40

Brethren, through faith Abraham dwelt in the land of the promise, as in a foreign country. He lived in tents with Isaac and Jacob, who shared the promise with him. For he was looking forward to that city with the firm foundations, whose architect and builder was God himself.

I do not need to say more. For time would fail me, if I told you what Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah David, Samuel and the prophets have achieved through faith. They conquered kingdoms, lived righteously, received new promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, found strength in their time of trial, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

Some returned to their women from certain death as if by resurrection. Some were tortured, but refused to accept their release, because they wanted to inherit a better life after their resurrection. Others endured derision, floggings, chains, and imprisonment.

They were stoned, they were sawed asunder, they were tortured, they were put to death. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, ill-treated by the world, which was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts, in mountains, in caves, and in the holes of the earth.

Yet, all these martyrs, although well attested by their faith, have not obtained the divine promises. Because God had provided something better for all of us. He wanted us all to reach the fulfillment of our hopes together.

## До євреїв 11:9-10, 32-40

Покладаючись на віру, він мешкав у землі, обіцяної Господом, як чужинець у далекій країні. Він жив у наметах, разом з Ісааком та Яковом, такими ж, як і він, спадкоємцями Божої обітниці. Він зробив це, бо дивився вперед і бачив місто, зведене на справжній основі: місто, задумане й збудоване Богом. Чи треба мені продовжувати наводити приклади? Не стане мені часу, щоб розповісти про Гедеона, Варака, Самсона, Єффая, Давида, Самуїла і пророків. Покладаючись на їхню непохитну віру, вони рятували царства, встановлювали справедливість між людьми, і через те дістали Божі обітниці. Вони замикали пащі левам, вгамовували лють вогню, їх не брав меч. Ті, хто були немічними, набували силу, а в битві ставали могутніми й змушували тікати ворожі війська.

Загиблі вставали з мертвих і поверталися до своїх жінок. Інших було віддано на тортури, й вони відмовлялися від полегшення своєї долі. Тож після смерті ті люди могли здобути краще життя. Дехто зазнав збиткування й батога, дехто — кайданів та в'язниць. Їх побивали камінням, розпилювали навіпіл, рубали мечами. Вони носили овечі й козячі шкури, жили в злиднях, та пройшли через переслідування і труднощі. Світ був не гідним їх. Вони блукали в пустелях і горах, мешкали в печерах і провалах земних.

Вони догодили Богу, але не одержали обіцяного Їм. Всевишній приготував для нас дещо краще, бо прагнув нашої досконалості, але тільки разом з нами вони отримують благословення.

### Alleluia

v. In You, O Lord, have I placed my hope; let me not be put to shame.

v. Be a God of protection for me, a house of refuge in order to save me.

### The Gospel According to St. Matthew

c.1, v. 1-25

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, Son of David, Son of Abraham.

Abraham begot Isaac; Isaac begot Jacob; Jacob begot Judah and his brothers; Judah begot Pharos and Zara by Thamar; Pharos begot Esrom; Esrom begot Aram; Aram begot Aminadab; Aminadab begot Naasson; Naasson begot Salmon; Salmon begot Boaz by Rachel; Boaz begot Obed by Ruth; Obed begot Jesse; Jesse begot David the King.

David the King begot Solomon by the widow of Uriah; Solomon begot Roboam; Roboam begot Abia; Abia begot Asa; Asa begot Josaphat; Josaphat begot Joram; Joram begot Ozias; Ozias begot Joatham; Joatham begot Achaz; Achaz begot Hezekiah; Hezekiah begot Manasseh; Manasseh begot Amon; Amon begot Josiah; Josiah begot Jechoniah and his brothers at the time of the exile to Babylon.

After the exile to Babylon Jechoniah begot Salathiel; Salathiel begot Zorobabel; Zorobabel begot Abiud; Abiud begot Eliakim; Eliakim begot Azor; Azor begot Sadok; Sadok begot Achim; Achim begot Eliud; Eliud begot Eleazar; Eleazar begot Matthan; Matthan begot Jacob; Jacob begot Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.

So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations; from David to the Babylonian exile fourteen generations; from the Babylonian exile to Christ fourteen generations.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. Mary his mother was engaged to Joseph, but before they were married, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.

Her husband Joseph was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her. So he decided to break off the engagement privately. While he was considering it, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said to him: "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for her child has been conceived from the Holy

Spirit. She will bear a son, and you will call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

Thus the prophecy of the Lord was fulfilled: "Behold, a virgin will conceive and bear a son, and his name will be called Emmanuel!" Which means, God with us.

When Joseph awoke from his sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord had ordered him. He took his wife to his home, but did not know her until she had born her Son, and called His name Jesus.

## Від Матвія 1: 1-25

Ось родовід Ісуса Христа, з роду Давида та Авраама. Авраам був батьком Ісаака. Ісаак був батьком Якова. Яків був батьком Юди та його братів. Юда був батьком Фареса та Зари, а матір'ю їхньою була Тамара. Фарес був батьком Есрома. Есром був батьком Арама. Арам був батьком Аммінадава. Аммінадав був батьком Наасона. Наасон був батьком Салмона. Салмон був батьком Воаза, а матір'ю його була Рахав. Воаз був батьком Йоведа, а матір'ю його була Рут. Йовед був батьком Єссея. Єсей був батьком царя Давида .

Давид був батьком Соломона, а його матір'ю була Урієва жінка. Соломон був батьком Ровоама. Ровоам був батьком Авії. Авія був батьком Аси. Аса був батьком Йосафата. Йосафат був батьком Йорама. Йорам був батьком Осії. Осія був батьком Йоатама. Йоатам був батьком Агаза. Агаз був батьком Езекії. Езекія був батьком Манасії. Манасія був батьком Амоса. Амос був батьком Йосії. Йосія був батьком Єхонії та його братів. Це було за часів переселення ізраїльського народу до Вавилону. Після переселення до Вавилону Єхонія був батьком Салатіїла, та Салатіїл був батьком Зерувавела. Зерувавел був батьком Авіюда. Авіюд був батьком Еліакима.

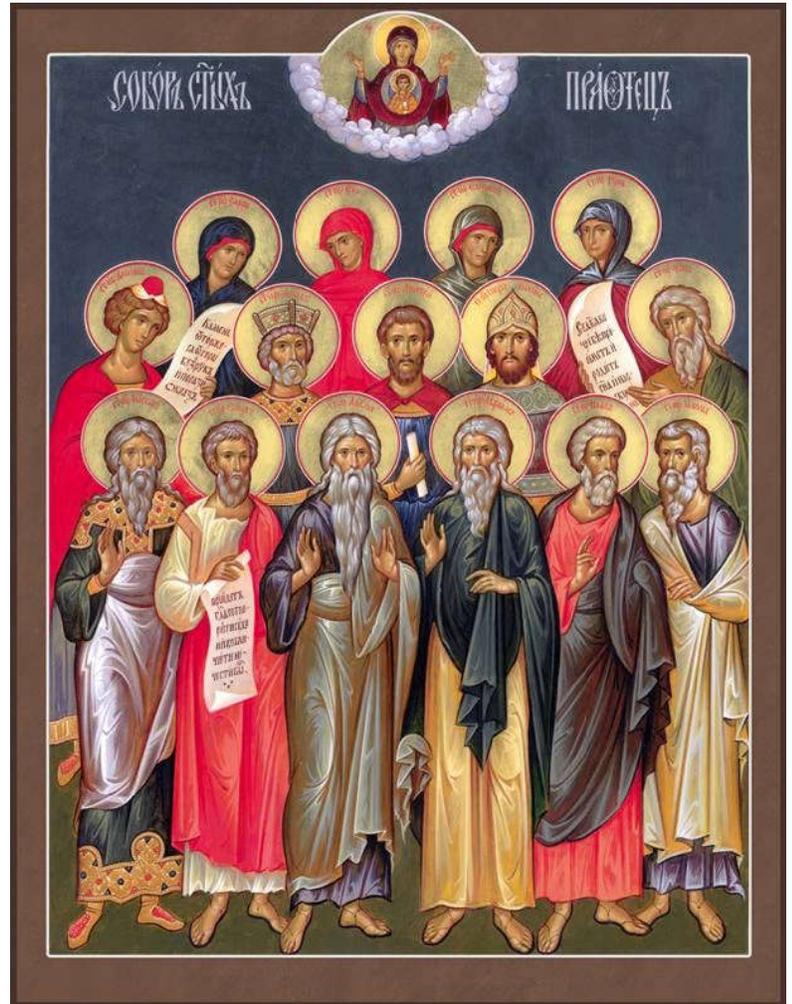
Еліаким був батьком Азора. Азор був батьком Задок. Задок був батьком Ахима. Ахим був батьком Еліуда. Еліуд був батьком Елеазара. Елеазар був батьком Маттана. Маттан був батьком Якова. Яків був батьком Йосипа, чоловіка Марії, у якої народився Ісус, названий Христом.

Отже, всього було чотирнадцять поколінь від Авраама до Давида, чотирнадцять поколінь від Давида до переселення у Вавилон і чотирнадцять поколінь від переселення у Вавилон до народження Христа.

Ось як народився Ісус Христос: Марія, Його мати, була заручена з Йосипом. Ще до їхнього одруження виявилось, що вона вагітна від Святого Духа. Йосип, її чоловік, був людиною порядною й праведною і не хотів її ославити, отже, він вирішив таємно розлучитися з нею. Та коли він про це подумав, з'явився йому вві сні Ангел Господній і мовив: «Йосипе, сину Давидів, не бійся взяти шлюб з Марією, бо Дитина, яка в ній зачата — від Духа Святого. Марія народить Сина, і ти назвеш Його Ісусом, бо Він спасе людей від їхніх гріхів».

Все це сталося так, щоб могли збутися слова Господні, мовлені устами пророка: «Слухайте! Діва незаймана завагітніє і народить Сина, і назвуть Його Еммануїлом» що означає «З нами Бог».

Прокинувшись, Йосип зробив те, що звелів йому Ангел Господній, і взяв Марію собі за жінку, але не знав він її, аж доки не народила вона Сина. І назвав він Його Ісусом



# Prayer List

Heavenly Father, Who sent Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to be the Physician of our souls and bodies, Who came to heal sickness and infirmity, Who healed the paralytic, and brought back to life the daughter of Jairus, Who healed the woman who had been sick for twelve years by the her mere touch of the hem of your robe, visit and heal also your beloved servants:

Steve Sivulich	Jane Allred	Teresa Stacy	Laila Bechtle
Peter Zinski	Ronda Bickel	Steve Sawchuk	<b>Willie Caldwell</b>
Pearl Homyrda	Maria Warholak	Shaun McAdams	Cindy B
Ann Sekelik	Pamela Graham	Rebecca White	<b>Rosemary Berry</b>
Joann Klein	Shelley Cameron	Jocelyn Barner	Deborah Schricker
Michael Klein	James White	Theresa Zatezalo	Jack Schricker
Dan Rosga	Dylan G	Olga Cherniavska	Jeff Mills
<b>Nick Worobny</b>	Michele Roberts	Daniel Sheerin	<b>David Gazella</b>
Dolores Wachnowsky	Sally Sally	Michael Corba	Jackie
<b>Gary Kos</b>			

by the power and grace of Your Christ. Grant them the patience that comes from believing that You are always at work in our lives to bring good out of evil. Grant them strength of body, mind and soul. Raise them up from the bed of pain. Grant them full recovery. May they experience the same surge of healing power flow through their bodies ,as did the sick woman who touched your robe. For we, too, are touching your robe today, dear Lord, through this our prayer. We approach you with the same faith she did. Grant them the gift of health. For You alone are the source of healing and to You we offer glory, praise and thanksgiving in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen

## Mnohaya Lita - Many Blessed Years

### Name Days

#### Jan. 3 Virgin-Martyr Juliana

Juliana Leis

#### Jan. 5 Victoria of Rome

Victoria Holovatiuk, Victoria Swindle

#### Sunday of the Ancestors

**Rt. Rachel** -Rachel Losego, Shelley Trondle

**Rt. Rebecca** – Rebecca Mills

**Rt. Noah**- Noah Heisler

#### Jan. 8 Synaxis of the Theotokos

Mary Stevens, Mary Pontus, Maria Stepanovich,  
Maria Warholak, Beverly Kapeluck, Mary Olexa,  
Mary Kukuashvili

### Anniversaries

### Birthdays

Jan 2 John Walewski  
Jan 5 Mary Stevens  
Jan 6 Yevhen Lysak

### Feast Days of:

Jan. 2 Hieromartyr Ignatius of Antioch

Sunday Before Christmas - Adam,Eve, Noah, Abraham,  
Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, Rachel, Leah, Joseph, Jesse,  
David, Solomon, Manesseh, Joseph

Jan. 4 Great Martyr Anastasia

### Pray for our friends and relatives serving in the armed forces.

Patrick Kluyber, Catherine Sheerin, Gregory Markiw,  
Ethan Rock, Michael Hrishenko

### Pray for our Catechumens

Andie Yorita, Eren & Adrienne Saltik

### Pray for the newly departed servants of God



- **CHRISTMAS DECORATING:** Ornaments for our Parish Christmas Tree-We are inviting all of our Parishioners to help decorate our Christmas tree. Please bring an ornament to any service and hang it on the tree. Thank you, Pani Matka Alice and Deacon Evan.
- **SVITE VECHIR:** It is with an abundance of caution that the decision has been made to cancel our Svyat Vechir, (Holy Supper). Grand Compline will begin at 8 O'clock.

\*\*\*\*\*

## *Stewardship*

### THANK YOU FOR THESE RECENT DONATIONS:

General Collection 12/26/2021

- Envelopes/Basket/General \$
- Candles \$

### 2021 Thanksgiving and Christmas Community Meals Final report

This was our 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Thanksgiving dinner and 4<sup>th</sup> Christmas dinner at our Parish. Between the two dinners we provided at least 595 quality meals for the local community. For Thanksgiving we were able to have in house dining this year and like in the past we have a hard time getting an accurate count of the number of people that walked in and had a meal in our Church Hall. So the question is what does it take to make that many meals for that many people?

Our secret Recipe for 595 meals:

- #1) A dedicated core group of Parishioners that give up their time, and energy to make this happen.
- #2) The Generosity of our parishioner's and the local community to support both of these dinners with monetary, product and food donations.
- #3) The number of volunteers from the community who donate their time to help to make these dinners successful, continues to grow each year.
- #4) Our ability to reach out and talk to people about our dinners.
- #5) Our physical infrastructure at our church hall.
- #6) Our outbound communication plan: Website, Facebook, Church Hall phone, old fashioned hand flyers for distribution.
- #7) Prompt follow-up to each of the meal requestors that contacted us concerning how can they obtain one of our meals.
- #8) We have a list of every person who we have either delivered a meal to or a scheduled pickup of a meal since 2015. We reach out and try to contact each of them about 2 weeks before Thanksgiving or Christmas each year.
- #9) We have an open door for anyone to walk in and have plenty of food for them on Thanksgiving.
- #10) We have a historical shopping list for each of the dinners and know how to size each of the dinners.
- #11) Our Parish's resilience to adapt to things like COVID, Flood, Bad Weather and constant price changes of food products.
- #12) The Pastoral leadership that has stressed the importance of our Parish being involved in the local community from the beginning of our first community dinner in 1989 to Dec 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- #13) We are living the basic teachings of our Orthodox faith. Are we feeding the hungry? Are we helping the needy?

If you have any questions concerning our two community dinners please reach out to me. Thanks Howard West

Below is a text message that we received this week from one of the people that we provided meals for a family. Her words can say it so much better than I could ever say it on why we do these community dinners.

Thank u again i didnt want to cry in front of the kids i wasnt able to do anything for Christmas for the kids i am disabled was blessed with a wheelchair after almost a year without 1 to have it not work so there was no gifts no dinner and we couldnt get to the salvation army dinner we always go to this is such a huge blessing in so many ways God bless everyone who took part in what you are doing

# Preparing for Christmas Requires the Right Kind of Hope: Homily for the Sunday Before the Nativity of Christ (The Genealogy) in the Orthodox Church

[Fr. Philip LeMasters](#)

As we enter into our last days of preparation for celebrating our Lord's Nativity this week, we need to consider what we are hoping for. No, that does not mean focusing on what presents we want to receive or what fine foods we anticipate enjoying for Christmas dinner. It means attending to the long-awaited Savior as we entrust ourselves to Him. In order to do that, we must allow our hopes for whatever we want in this life to be called into question by the God-Man, Who was not born to acquire or give earthly power or success in any conventional sense, but to fulfill a kingdom not of this world that stands in prophetic judgment over even our best attempts to set things right according to our own agendas and desires.



Christ is born to fulfill the ancient promises to Abraham, who “looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.” The many generations of preparation for the Savior’s birth did not occur through the unbroken progress of any earthly city, kingdom, or culture, but through periods characterized by slavery, exile, injustice, and apostasy. The prophet Samuel was the last of the judges of Israel over a thousand years before Christ was born. When his sons ruled unjustly, the people asked for a king so that they could be like the other nations. God told Samuel, “Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them.” (1 Sam. 8:7) We do not have to know much about the Old Testament to know that wanting to be like the others nations is the exact opposite of what God intended for His people. Their kings were not unlike the powerful of any time and place with David, the greatest of them, known for his repentance from the sins of murder and adultery. Even his son the wise Solomon fell into the worship of false gods. Because of Israel’s ongoing unfaithfulness, the kingdom divided into two, with both eventually going into exile after being defeated at the hands of their enemies.

These events were so important that Matthew describes the Lord’s genealogy accordingly: “So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ were fourteen generations.” The prophet Daniel and the three holy youths Ananias, Azarias and Misael all went into captivity in Babylon, where they refused to worship other gods and were miraculously delivered from death, respectively, in the lions’ den and the fiery furnace. Christ, before His Incarnation, was with the youths in the flames. Being unconsumed by the fire, they also provided an image of the Theotokos, who contained the Son of God within her womb without being consumed by the divine glory.

It was not by entrusting themselves to some scheme for acquiring earthly power that these and other prophets foreshadowed and foretold the coming of Christ. Far from it, for they refused to abandon their hope in God and to worship idols, even when it seemed certain to lead to their deaths. Consequently, they are among those who “suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.” They did so because they lived in expectation of the fulfillment of a promise that would not come in their lifetimes, “since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.”

Though no one forces us to choose today between idolatry and faithfulness, we often freely worship idols when we ground the meaning and purpose of our lives in some vision of success in the world, regardless of how noble it may seem. Even without being forced into exile, we easily become accustomed to hoping for nothing more than a better life in Babylon, however we may define that. We face the temptations that our Lord’s ancestors did, and we regularly fall into some version of the same sins they committed. On the one hand, it should be reassuring that the Savior’s genealogy included people guilty of murder and adultery and involved in other scandalous situations, as well as Gentiles. They remind us that He came to call not the righteous of one nation, but all the world’s sinners to repentance. On the other hand, the checkered past of His ancestors should also remind us of how easy it is to entrust ourselves to false hopes that extend no further than the grave. Our responsibility is even greater than that of those who came before us, for we have received the fullness of the promise. Time and again, however, we live as though the promise had not been fulfilled, as though a Savior had not been born.

When the Son of God became a human being for the salvation of the world, He did not do so with all the trappings of the false hopes we typically embrace. He was not born in a palace or in a family of great wealth, power, or fame. There was certainly no sin involved in the virginal conception of our Lord, but the circumstances were hardly conventional. His teenage virgin mother became pregnant by a miracle of the Holy Spirit. Joseph, the older man to whom the Theotokos was betrothed as her guardian, would have divorced her quietly, had not an angel told him the truth about the situation in a dream. Living under the military occupation of the Roman Empire, the Lord’s parents had to go to Bethlehem for a census at the time of His birth, where He came into the world in the unthinkable lowly circumstance of being born in a cave used for a barn with an animals’ feeding trough as His crib.

Despite the temptation throughout Christ’s ministry to overthrow the Romans by force and set up an earthly reign, He refused to be distracted from His vocation to conquer death itself, which required that He submit to execution on a Roman cross and wearing a crown of thorns, being mocked as the king of the Jews. Though the false hopes of His disciples had been crushed, the Savior rose in victory on the third day in a fashion no one expected. His disciples then learned to hope anew for the fulfillment of God’s promises in ways that required a complete change of mind and heart, for they took up their crosses as they served a kingdom not of this world. Along with countless generations of martyrs and confessors, they repudiated the idolatry of serving themselves as they learned to hope only in the Lord.

In the remaining days before Christmas, let us embrace the radically disorienting calling to hope in nothing and no one other than the God-Man Who is born to heal and fulfill all who bear the divine image and likeness. His human lineage shows that He came for people as conflicted, confused, and compromised as we are. They wanted to be like the other nations and endured exile in foreign lands as a result. We wander as aliens from the everlasting joy of His Kingdom whenever we put serving ourselves or any worldly goal before obedience to Him. Like Daniel and the three holy youths, it is time for us to refuse to worship false gods and to trust that our Savior will not abandon us to destruction in the lions’ dens and fiery furnaces of life in a world enslaved to the fear of death. Through prayer, fasting, generosity, and repentance, let us complete our preparation this week to receive the God-Man born for our salvation at Christmas, for He alone is our hope and the hope of the entire world.

<https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/easternchristianinsights/2021/12/18/preparing-for-christmas-requires-the-right-kind-of-hope-homily-for-the-sunday-before-the-nativity-of-christ-the-genealogy-in-the-orthodox-church/>



# THE SAINT CONSTANTINE SCHOOL PITTSBURGH

## MATCHING GIFT CAMPAIGN 2021

# MATCH INCREASED!

Dear Cherished Supporters,

**CHRIST IS BORN!** Glorify Him! The Saint Constantine School (TSCS) Pittsburgh Launch Committee prays that everyone had a joyous feast! During the remembrance of Christ's birth we recall the hope that was introduced into the world. It is this hope that we see reflected in The Saint Constantine School that is shaping the formation its students.

**We continue to gather support!** Our generous donors continue to show their excitement as they have now increased their match up to \$25,000.00! They are asking the Pittsburgh community to respond!



## Please donate today so that we can turn \$25,000.00 into \$50,000.00!!!

**NOW is the time!** As you reflect on the past year and think about making end-of-year charitable donations, we humbly ask for your financial support of the Pittsburgh branch campus. We also ask that you share this opportunity with your family and friends! Remember, every dollar raised goes directly towards the cost of opening our local campus, including the hiring of a locally-based head of school. Now is the time to double your impact!

**Get ready!** God-willing, 2022 holds lots of exciting opportunities for our community! We are looking forward to the kick off our outreach, fundraising and location subcommittees, as well as different in-person and virtual events! We feel such love and pride in our community and look forward to the ways in which God will continue to bring us together! We are grateful for YOU.

Love in Christ,

TSCS PGH Launch Committee

## HERE'S HOW TO GIVE!

**Online:** [https://linktr.ee/TSCS\\_PGH](https://linktr.ee/TSCS_PGH)

Or **mail** a check to:

The Saint Constantine School  
7177 Regency Square Blvd.  
Houston, TX 77036

If you send a check, please write "Pittsburgh" in the memo line

Or use your  
camera to



SCAN ME

CONNECT WITH US



OrthoEdPGH@gmail.com

# St. Peter & St. Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church Raffles

**Great chances for gifts for  
the holidays!**

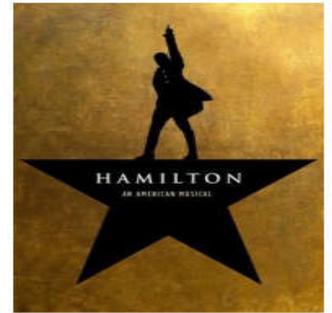


**\$20 per chance  
100 CHANCES**

## Hamilton Tickets Includes:

PNC Broadway in Pittsburgh  
Saturday, March 12th, 2022 8pm

6 Tickets:  
2nd - RCTR Row V  
Seats: 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, and 40



All guests will need to be fully vaccinated with the Moderna, Pfizer, or Johnson & Johnson vaccine and must show proof of vaccination and a valid photo ID at their time of entry into the venue with their valid ticket.

## Apple Package Includes:



- (1) Ipad Air 10.9inch - Wifi 64GB
- (1) Apple Watch Series 7 GPS 45mm
- (1) Apple Airpods (3rd Generation)
- (1) Apple Airtag 4 pack



**\$25 per chance  
100 CHANCES**

## Yeti/ Lottery Ticket

**\$25 per chance  
100 CHANCES**



- (1) Yeti Tundra 45 Hard Cooler
- (1) Yeti Flip 12 Soft Cooler
- (1) Yeti Rambler 18oz Bottle
- (1) Yeti Rambler 10oz Wine Tumbler
- (1) Yeti Rambler Colster Can Insulator
- (1) Yeti Rambler 20oz Tumbler
- (1) \$3 Pack Unopened Lottery Ticket - 100 Tickets
- (1) \$5 Pack Unopened Lottery Tickets - 60 Tickets



\*When all chances are sold, we will post a comment (picture) of the completed Sure Tip Board on our Facebook page. We will also note the time of our LIVE DRAWING. The seal will be scratched LIVE via Facebook Live. Free shipping or pickup. Prizes unclaimed within 30 days become the property of the 75th UOL Convention Board.

1947

*You're invited  
to attend!*

*In the beginning...*



75th UOL Convention July 2022  
St. Peter & St. Paul UOC Carnegie, PA

2022

*75th Annual  
UOL  
Convention  
July 27-31, 2022*



**GIVE A GIFT TO THE NEWBORN CHRIST CHILD BY GIVING A GIFT TO A CHILD WHO SIMPLY NEEDS LOVE**

December 22, 2021  
The Conception by St. Anna of the Most Holy Theotokos

Beloved in the Lord!

## **CHRIST IS BORN!**

At some point in our childhood, we have all had a beloved stuffed animal or doll to hug and care for. It is such a small thing, but in the eyes of a child, that toy may mean the world to them. Having the childhood experience of owning one or many stuffed toys is something we take for granted. There are thousands of children around the world who have never felt that joy.

During this Nativity Season, we are calling upon everyone to share with their brothers and sisters in Ukraine, by sharing a new or gently used stuffed toy. We simply request you place a box under your parish Christmas tree and fill it up! The stuffed toys will be sent to the children in the war zone in Ukraine. Give a gift to the Newborn Christ Child by supporting a child in need of love and comfort.

All donations should be sent to:  
His Eminence Archbishop Daniel  
c/o Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA  
135 Davidson Avenue  
Somerset, NJ 08873

Please contact the Office of Youth Ministry at [uoc youth@aol.com](mailto:uoc youth@aol.com) with any questions.

All donations should be received by January 30th.

In Christ's Love,  
*His Eminence Archbishop Daniel*

*Natalie Kapeluck Nixon*  
Director - Office of Youth Ministry





## ЗРОБІТЬ ДАРУНОК НОВОНАРОДЖЕНОМУ ХРИСТУ, НАДАЮЧИ ПІДТРИМКУ ДИТИНІ, ЯКА ПРОСТО ПОТРЕБУЄ ЛЮБОВІ

22 грудня, 2021 р. Божого  
Зачаття Праведною Анною Пресвятої Богородиці

Улюблені у Господі!

### ХРИСТОС РОЖДАЄТЬСЯ!

У якийсь момент нашого дитинства у кожного з нас була улюблена м'яка іграшка чи лялька, щоб обійняти та гратись. Це мала річ, але в очах дитини ця іграшка може означати цілий світ. Мати в дитинстві бодай одну чи декілька м'яких іграшок для нас є звичною річчю. Проте по всьому світі є тисячі дітей, які ніколи її не мали.

Під час цього Різдва ми закликаємо всіх поділитися зі своїми братами та сестрами в Україні новою чи своєю, в хорошому стані, іграшкою. Ми просимо вас помістити під вашу парафіяльну ялинку коробку і впродовж Різдвяних свят наповнити її іграшками. М'які іграшки передадуть дітям у зону бойових дій в Україні. Зробіть подарунок новонародженому немовляті Христу, попідкувавшись про дитину, яка потребує любові та втіхи.

Усі пожертви слід надсилати на адресу:  
His Eminence Archbishop Daniel  
c/o Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA  
135 Davidson Avenue  
Somerset, NJ 08873

З будь-якими запитаннями звертайтеся до Відділу  
Праці з Молоддю за адресою [uocsouth@aol.com](mailto:uocsouth@aol.com).  
Усі пожертви повинні бути здійснені до 30 січня.

У Христовій Любові,  
*Високопреосвященніший Архієпископ Даниїл*

*Наталія Капелюк Ніксон*  
Директор – Відділ Праці з Молоддю



# Calendar of Events

Jan. 28	Parish Men's Group Meeting
Feb. 13	Sr. UOL Chapter Meeting
Feb. 16	UOL Souper Bowl Sunday Luncheon
Apr. 10	Pysanky Sale
July 27-31	75 <sup>th</sup> UOL Convention

## COFFEE HOUR

Jan. 9	Pat Sally, Michael & Tracey Sally
Jan. 16	Jim & Irene Rozum, Natalie Turicik
Jan. 23	Deacon Evan & Pani Alice
Jan. 30	Natalie & Ethan Nixon, Beverly Kapeluck
Feb. 6	Souper Bowl Sunday, Bonnie & Nicole Reinhart
Feb. 13	Chris & Justina Mills, Matushka Laryssa
Feb. 20	Ron & Bev Wachnowsky
Feb. 27	Meatfare Sunday

## Parish Weekly Schedule

Monday

### **Kyiv Ukrainian Dance Ensemble & School**

Rehearsals begin every Monday at 6:00 pm. Classes for all ages.

For more info call Director Natalie Kapeluck or just stop down any Monday

Thursday Morning

### **Senior Coffee Hour**

*You're invited* to our FREE coffee and donuts, and sometime pancakes, French toast or waffles every Thursday from 10:00 AM to 11:30 . . .or whenever it's over. At th parish hall. **YOU ARE NOT PERMITTED TO BRING ANYTHING!!!** However, bring a Friend!!!

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month

### **St John & Martin's Closet**

Clothing for men, women and children. Bedding & towels

Trade something old for something new, leave a donation. or just take what you need.

Donations of clean, gently used or new clothing/bedding accepted when the closet door is open.

Call 276-9718 to schedule a donation.

### **Parish Website/Social Media**

**To Submit items for publication on website & social media**

>email any information to be included on the Website, Facebook or Instagram to Parish Technology.

If you have any fliers or jpgs please include them, but not necessary.

E-mail Technology at [technology@orthodoxcarnegie.org](mailto:technology@orthodoxcarnegie.org)

Please indicate the time frame you would like items posted to website and/or social media.

Find & follow us on:



**BULLETIN SPONSOR DATES**

Jan. 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Jan. 9 \_\_\_\_\_  
Jan. 16 \_\_\_\_\_  
Jan. 23 \_\_\_\_\_  
Jan. 30 \_\_\_\_\_

Feb. 6 \_\_\_\_\_  
Feb. 13 \_\_\_\_\_  
Feb. 20 \_\_\_\_\_  
Feb. 27 \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

**BULLETIN SPONSOR FORM**

Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_  
In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Bulletin you wish to sponsor \_\_\_\_\_  
Donation (\$20. minimum suggested) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please make checks payable to "Sr. UOL Chapter") \_\_\_\_\_



\*\*\*\*\*

SS. Peter & Paul  
Ukrainian Orthodox Church  
PO Box 835  
Carnegie, PA 15106

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**