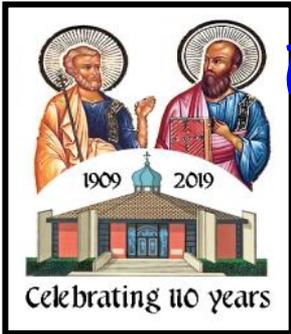


# The Word of Sts. Peter & Paul



**March 22, 2020**

Saints Peter & Paul UOC  
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Palos Park, IL 60464  
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## *A word from the Hierarchs*

**Parish Council**  
**President**  
Sandra Hladky  
**Sisterhood of St.**  
**Anne**  
Andrea Manson  
**Church School**  
**Director**  
Pat Wolsko  
**Ukrainian**  
**Saturday School**  
**Director**  
PM Olenka  
**Church Choir**  
**Director**  
George Cepynsky  
**Seraphim Group**  
**President**  
Debbie Pierog  
**50/50 Club**  
**President**  
Michael Gbur  
**Jr. UOL**  
**President**  
Antony Sendeha

URGENT DIRECTIVE CONCERNING LITURGICAL SERVICES IN ALL PARISHES OF THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA AND DIASPORA  
March 16, 2020

TO: ALL CERGY AND FAITHFUL OF THE UOC OF USA AND DIASPORA  
RE: CONCERNING ALL LITURGICAL SERVICES AND OTHER PRECAUTIONS IN ALL PARISHES DURING THE PANDEMIC CRISIS

Dearly Beloved Brothers and Sisters in our Lord:

CHRIST IS AMONG US! HE IS AND ALWAYS SHALL BE!

As your hierarchs, deeply concerned primarily about your spiritual well-being, but also greatly anxious about your physical and emotional health, we have been monitoring on a nearly 24-hour basis all the news, comments and recommendations of the scientists from the Center for Disease and Prevention Control and the National Institute of Health about the Coronavirus. When we say on a 24-hour basis, we are not exaggerating because we have been spending many sleepless nights praying for

and worrying about you, while trying to decipher the constant stream of information being provided about the virus, and to determine what our best course of action should be with regards to liturgical gatherings in our parish communities. We believe that it is absolutely necessary for you, along with us, to become fully informed about the Coronavirus or COVID-19 because the simple fact is that it is considered to be perhaps the greatest threat to humankind ever. We need to act in response to the threat and this letter comes as the direct result of our mutual discernment and prayer.

Recently, we issued “Further Directives” to you, our clergy, and through the clergy to you, the faithful, concerning the necessity of the cleanliness and sanitization of our Church buildings and all the liturgical utensils utilized during any of our worship services. We especially concentrated on the responsibilities of the parish priests in this regard, on both personal and parochial levels. These directives remain in place. **HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF THE VERY RAPIDLY FORTHCOMING INFORMATION ABOUT THE PANDEMIC AND A MORE POWERFUL WARNINGS AGAINST PHYSICAL PROXIMITY BETWEEN PEOPLE, WE MUST NOW CHANGE OUR DIRECTIVES AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO YOU. WE DO SO, NOT OUT OF A SENSE OF PANIC OR FEAR, BUT RATHER FROM A LOVING CONCERN FOR YOU. THEREFORE:**

1. We direct that **ALL** liturgical worship services in our parish communities, except for Sunday Divine Liturgy, must be suspended until further notice. We direct all our beloved and devoted clergy to celebrate Divine Liturgy every Sunday morning, without a choir, but with the participation of at least a reader or cantor. The Eucharist **MUST** be offered “in behalf of all and for all” during this horrific crisis. We will not close the doors of our parish churches in the face of our faithful who wish to participate in the Liturgy but the restrictions of remaining at least six feet apart must be followed as per regulations set by federal, state and local governments and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

However, we do direct that **ALL** our faithful over the age of 65 completely refrain from visiting their parish churches because they are the most vulnerable and susceptible to the pandemic virus. Further, regarding all other faithful, we can no longer recommend that “those who exhibit no symptoms continue to gath-

## Liturgical Schedule

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|---|---|
| Today   | <p><b>Third Sunday of the Great Lent: Adoration of Cross. Tone seven. Great Lent.</b><br/>         Food with Oil<br/>         The Holy Forty Martyrs of Sebaste: Cyrion (or Quirio), Candidus, Domnus, Hesychius, Heraclius, Smaragdus, Eunoicus, Valens, Vivianus, Claudius, Priscus, Theodulus, Euty chius, John, Xanthias, Helianus, Sisinius, Angus, Aetius, Flavius, Acacius, Ecdicius, Lysimachus, Alexander, Elias, Gorgonius, Theophilus, Dometian, Gaius, Leontius, Athanasius, Cyril, Sacerdon, Nicholas, Valerius, Philoctimon, Severian, Chudion, Aglaius, and Meliton (320).</p> |
|  | <p>Hebrews 4:14-5:6<br/>         Mark 8:34-9:1</p>  |

All weekly services canceled per Hierarchal orders

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|---|---|
| <p>Sunday<br/>         March 29</p>   | <p><b>Fourth Sunday of the Great Lent. Tone eight.</b><br/>         Great Lent. Food with Oil Venerable John Lestvichnik (movable holiday on the 4th Sunday of the Great Lent). Martyr Sabinas of Her-mopolis, Egypt (303). Martyr Papas of Lycao-nia (305). Apostle Aristobulus of the Seventy, bishop of Britain (1st c.). Hieromartyr Alexan-der, pope of Rome (119). Martyr Julian of Anazarbus (305). Martyrs Trophimus and Tha-lus of Laodicea (300). Martyr Romanus at Pari-um on the Hellespont. 10 Martyrs in Phoenicia (Greek). St. Pimen, (Georgia).</p> |
|  | <p>Hebrews 6:13-20<br/>         Mark 9:17-31<br/>         Ephesians 5:9-19 (Venerable John Lestvich-nik)<br/>         Matthew 4:25-5:12 (Venerable John Lestvich-nik)</p>   |

er for services”. THE RISK OF INDIVIDUAL “SELF-DETERMINATION” OF ILLNESS OR SYMPTOMS OF THE VIRUS, A FLU OR SIMPLY A COLD – INCLUDING YOUR OWN HIERARCHS – ARE SIMPLY NOT ACCURATE IN TOO MANY INSTANCES. We have canceled all our own scheduled parish visitations throughout this pandemic crisis, so that no obligation is perceived by the faithful to be present to welcome their hierarchs.

2. We realize that many of our faithful are very concerned about not being able to regularly receive the Holy Eucharist – the Body and Blood of our Lord – in Holy Communion. We must never doubt the Compassion of our Lord, which exceeds anything we humans can comprehend, concerning such crisis circumstances as the present. We certainly will not suffer spiritually from a forced absence from community worship and the Eucharist, whatever the length of the crisis. Please stay home and self-quarantine for your own protection and that of others.

3. As we previously stated, our clergy, our Spiritual Fathers, must continue to be most attentive to what you see in the lives of your faithful sons and daughters. Be present to them! Be ready to visit them with the Sacraments when necessary but take all precautions when doing so in order to protect both yourself and those spiritual children. We continue to strongly urge that you do, indeed, FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH THE CDC GUIDELINES ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)), SO THAT YOU CAN EDUCATE YOUR FAITHFUL ABOUT THEM.

We are saddened at the need to issue these directives to you, dear Brothers and Sisters. It seems to be so incredibly contradictory and counter intuitive to all we are and all we have ever done in our Spiritual Guidance of our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora. In decades, centuries and millennia past the speed of communication and the provision of information about such horrific dangers as the present Pandemic of Coronavirus/COVID-19 would have remained unknown until years and years after they ended. Perhaps it is a blessing gifted to us by God in the Holy Trinity to comprehend that with which we are confronted today. May we all do what we can to avoid being infected with the virus and just as important to avoid being conduits through which it is spread by close contact with others. We are social beings and we need each other, but those needs must these days be satisfied through impersonal contact by telephone, video-conferencing and other safe means. We

cannot in good conscience recommend heavy reliance upon the most prominent versions of social media because of some pretty indecent, inaccurate and deceiving things we have seen there. However, we are aware of some possibilities of our parishes live-streaming services there. Please refer to your parish or neighboring parishes to determine which are doing so.

Throughout all this time of threat, illness, concern and anxiety let us remain faithful witnesses of God's LOVE and COMPASSION for us. Let us in all circumstances pray for His embrace of all humanity. Let us beseech the Mother of God for her protection and that she will intercede with her Son and our God beseeching His healing touch on all our lives. Let us contemplate the two new and greatest commandments of all: "The first of all the commandments is: 'Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one. And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment. And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." (Mark 12:30-31)

Loving God and loving our neighbor are one and the same. We are not instructed to "love our neighbor as yourself" in terms of what we see in the mirror or whatever self-concept we have. We are called to love our neighbor as also being created "in the image of God", reflecting that image to the world just as we must do every second of our lives. If we love our neighbor, then ours is to protect our neighbor during the times of threat such as today. That means we must refrain from the physical contact through which a virus can be transmitted.

We fervently pray for you all every day of our lives, our dear clergy and faithful – witnesses to God. Please pray for our continued understanding of what it is that we must do to help ensure your safety and that of the world's. May the Grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the Love of God the Father and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. "The Father is our Hope, the Son is our Refuge and the Holy Spirit is our Protection." We embrace you in the certainty of all this...

+ ANTONY

By the Grace of God, Metropolitan

+ DANIEL

By the Grace of God, Archbishop

+ JEREMIAH

By the Grace of God, Archbishop

## *Seven Day Vigil Candles*

We are please to announce our granddaughter Jordan & Lance Harison are proud parents of baby boy – James Reece. God bless the parents of our great grandson. Much love, John & Leona Jaksich

For the health of my father Pavlo by Halyna Kashpar

For the health, God's blessing & speedy recovery of Son Tom's foot by Alvine & Mike Gbur

For the health and God's blessing of family members by Alvine & Mike Gbur

For the health of Mariana, Andriy, Olena, Katerina, Milana, Oksana, Pavlo, Martin, Beata, Voitek, Halyna, Ivan, Fr. Dmitro, Fr. Vasyl, Dmitro by Mariana Kachala



For the health of Pavlo, Oksana, Martyn, Olga, Ernest, Lukia, Petro, Oleksandra, Zakhariv

God's blessings always for the good health & happiness of the Oberts family, Anne, Bill, Nicholas, Michelle. Requested by Anne Seliga Oberts.

Special intentions for the Oberts & Seliga families by Anne Seliga Oberts

For the health of Mariana, Milana, Andriy, Katerina & Olena by Kachala Family



For the health of Barbara Bruce by PM Olenka

For the health, God's blessing and speedy recovery of Rich Kimak by Fr. Vasyl

For Fr. Vasyl by the parish

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In memory of my Mother Polina. Memory Eternal by Halyna Kashpar

In memory of my newly reposed Maria. Memory Eternal by Halyna Kashpar

In memory of Anthony Kaczor by Michael Supilowski

In memory of Hanna, Katerina, Volodimer, Lubov, Fr. Miron, Igor, Vasyl, Anastasia, Volodimer, Anastasia by Kachala Family

## ***Sisterhood of St. Anne***

God bless our volunteers!



Work Schedule for the month of April.

*Easter Sale session*

Monday April 6 at 8:00am—make cheese pierogies

Tuesday, April 7 at 8:00am Make Sk & Pot balls

Wednesday, April 8 at 8:00am Make Sk & Pot pierogies

Thursday, April 9 sale from Noon - 4:00pm

## ***Prayer Corner for the Month of March***



***We ask all of you to remember in your prayers the following individuals, who are in need of God's healing and grace:*** Christine, Irene Belkow, Alla Grzymiski, Kathy Grzymiski, Joseph Kapusta, Richard Kimak, Leona Jaksich, Jeanne Maack, Pani Mary Donahue, Tina Palasti, Donna Nevels, Maria, Andrew J, Tony Zerebny, Maria Savoy, Nicole, Tom Macauliffe, Elena, John, Michael P, Christine, Anthony, Catherine Hladky, Andrew Hladky, Dean Manson, Pavlo, Barbara Patronik, Elias, Katie Bruce, Patti Faye, Toni Marie Klavin, Michael Kimak, Chloe Mckinney, Yuriy Zmysly, Paul Jr & Dorothy Seliga, Wolodymer Kashpar, Priest Vasyl Dovhan, Priest David Clooney, Priest Petro, PM Maria, Frankie, Zachary, Orest, Oksana, Alexander, Paul, Olga.

*If there is anyone who is in need of prayers, and you want to add them to the prayer corner, please notify Fr. Vasyl.*

*If you would like me to visit with the Sacraments of the Holy Confession and Eucharist, please call the rectory to set up an appointment. I will gladly visit everyone.*

*Fr. Vasyl*

## ***Monthly Memorial Service***

***March 29:*** In memory of Eddie on the anniversary of his passing into eternal life. Requested by Klavin family



In loving memory of dear mother, Stephanie Luchyn. Memory Eternal

Requested by Lorraine Ehlert

In memory of Grandfather Vasyl on the anniversary of his passing into eternal life. Memory Eternal! Requested by PM Olenka

## Coffee Hour Schedule



Today —

*Coffee hours are canceled until April 5, 2020*

04/5/2020 Janet / John Beck and Pat /Mike Beck

04/12/2020 Palm Sunday UOL Brunch

04/19/2020 PASCHA

04/26/2020 Lamb & Chicken Roast

Please remember the dates you are signed up to do the coffee hour.

*If you would like to volunteer for the Coffee Hour or need to change your scheduled date, please see Olga Piskoun call 708-361-5165 or email [opiskoun@yahoo.com](mailto:opiskoun@yahoo.com)*

*Lenten Fish Fries canceled*

## Church Humor

### *Priest's Business Card*

A new priest was visiting in the homes of his parishioners. At one house it seemed obvious that someone was at home, but no answer came to his repeated knocks at the door. Therefore, he took out a business card that he had printed "Revelation 3:20" on the back of it for just such an occasion, and stuck it in the door. When the offering was processed the following Sunday, he found that his card had been returned.

Added to it was this cryptic message, "Genesis 3:10." Reaching for his Bible to check out the citation, he broke up in gales of laughter. Revelation 3:20 begins "Behold, I stand at the door and knock." Genesis 3:10 reads, "I heard your voice in the garden and I was afraid for I was naked."