

The Word of Sts. Peter & Paul



May 4, 2025

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Pray For Ukraine

From

**Parish Council
 President**

Dennis Rehr

Sisterhood of St. Anne

Athena Gordon

Church School

Director

Patricia Wolsko

Ukrainian

Saturday School

Director

PM Olenka

Church Choir

Director

George Cepynsky

Seraphim Group

President

Debbie Pierog

50/50 Club

President

Ioan Bryndzia

Vitalii Kulyk

Jr. UOL President

David Sendeha

Sr. UOL President

Nataliia Bryndzia

SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARERS



A wealthy man died, apparently without leaving a will. Consequently, according to law, the estate was to be divided among the several surviving cousins who were the next of kin. Also as prescribed by law, the de-

ceased's household goods and other items of personal property were to be converted into cash in a public auction. During the sale, the auctioneer held up a framed photograph, but no one bid on it, including the cousins. Later, a woman approached the auctioneer and asked him if she might

purchase the picture for a dollar, which was all she had. She said it was a photograph of the deceased's man only son. She went on to relate that she had been a servant in the deceased's household when the boy lost his life trying to rescue a drowning person, and that she had loved him very much. The auctioneer accepted the dollar and the woman went home and placed the photograph on a table beside her bed. It was then that she noticed a bulge in the back of the frame. She undid the backing and there, to her amazement, was the rich man's will. The instructions in the will were simple: "I give and bequeath all my possessions to the person who cares enough for my son to cherish this photograph". In today's Gospel we hear of three women who were approaching the tomb of their Master, their Teacher and their Friend. Their hearts were heavy and their steps labored. How could this have happened? It was only days before that they were with Him as He taught and preached. No person had ever preached as He did; no one performed the great miracles that He accomplished. Surely He was the One; the Son of God, the Messiah!

All their hopes and dreams were shattered when He was arrested, condemned to the Cross and hurriedly buried by Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus. They knew in their hearts that He deserved a proper burial. Early in the morning on Sunday they went and purchased the proper spices. Now they journeyed to the tomb to accomplish this task out of love for their Master, their Teacher, and their Friend.

All of a sudden, reality struck. Who was going to roll away the great stone that blocked the entrance of the tomb for them to be able to gain access? Others may have stopped at this point and either considered this to be a lost cause or at best, to return home and enlist the help of others in removing the stone. But this problem did not stop them from continuing on to the Tomb. True love has its way of overcoming any obstacle that is placed before it. Perhaps that is our problem today. We no longer look with love towards the Son of God and understand the great sacrifice He made for each and every one of us. We no longer look to the relationship between Jesus and His Father and the great love they want to share with us. We too have many obstacles in our lives that keep us away from a closer relationship with them. We look at Holy Orthodoxy and see it only as a religion: a series of positives and negatives – laws that can be kept or circumvented – at

the pleasure of its participants. These rules and regulations become a stumbling block, a great stone barrier, for us as we live our complicated daily lives.

If we look at and see Holy Orthodoxy as a mere religion we have honestly failed to understand the teachings of our Master, our Teacher and our Friend. Holy Orthodoxy is not a series of positives and negatives – it is a way of life! And this way of life is based on true love – not a warm and fuzzy feeling about Jesus, but a real commitment to the message of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It was this great love that gave the Myrrh-bearers the courage to continue to the tomb even with the problem of rolling away the great stone. As a result of this love for Him, these same women were the first to hear the glorious news from the Angel of the Lord, “Do not be afraid. You are seeking Jesus of Nazareth who was crucified. He is not here. He is Risen!”

Always remember that Holy Orthodoxy is not a spectator sport. We all participate in the salvific events of our Lord. This is where we meet the Lord - our Way, our Truth and our Life. It was only a few Fridays before that you and I took the Body of our Master, our Teacher and our Friend and carried it around the Church and placed it in the Tomb. We too, early in the morning on “the first day of the week”, came to the Church to find the empty tomb and hear the beautiful words of the Angel: “Christ is Risen from the Dead, conquering Death by death, and to those in the tombs He granted life!”

We hear the words of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ “...the Father Himself loves you because you have loved Me and have believed that I came forth from the Father.” (John 16:27) Let us be modern day Myrrh-bearers or witnesses to the fact that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God Who came into the world to redeem us. In thanksgiving for all the gifts that we have received, let us with faith and love proclaim our commitment to our Savior by living the lives of “Resurrected People” and shouting out in all confidence: “Christ is Risen” “Indeed He is Risen!”



Christ is Risen!

Below is the Sunday School recap for the next bulletin:

The combined younger classes picked up where we left off before Pascha on interior Church design. We begin our next unit of study learning about icons. We realize those of you reading this recap are familiar with icons and know what they represent. However, what you may not be aware of...

Icons are **purposely** not realistic.

An icon can be made on any medium from wood, metal, stone, even fabric and in any size—but are not considered a true icon until it has been blessed by the priest in Church.

Icons tell us story. They show and tell what we, as Orthodox Christians, believe. This was especially important at a time hundreds of years ago when most people did not know how to read. Pictures helped them understand the lessons being taught.

While there are exceptions, as a rule, iconographers do not sign their work. It is a testament of their humility. The focus is on the sacred subject matter rather than the artist's individual talent.

Every object depicted in an icon has scriptural significance—even the colors. Nothing is left to chance. There are certain prescribed steps that an iconographer needs to follow in creating an icon (more about this, the symbols and colors used will be explored in an upcoming lesson).

As you bow down, cross yourself &/or kiss an icon know that you are reverencing the Saint that is being depicted in an art form unique to Orthodoxy, one that dates back to the very early days of Christianity!

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

~Ms. Karen

Sources: Orthodox Pebbles & [Let's Take a Walk Through Our Orthodox Faith](#)

Announcements

Parish Council usually meets once a month on the second Sunday of the month. The next Council meeting will take place today Sunday May 18, 2025.

Guests are welcome. If you would like to participate at the council meeting, please let any of the officers know.

Sunday's Second Collection

Sunday's Second Special Collection is dedicated each month to a different cause: Month May is dedicated to Parish Scholarship Fund.



Liturgical Schedule



<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday May 4</p> <p>8:15am Matins 9:00am Hours 9:30am Divine Liturgy</p>	<p>Third Sunday of Pascha, of the Myrrh-bearing Women. Tone 2 Sts. Myrrh-Bearing Women, Righteous Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus. Virgin-martyr Pelagia of Tarsus in Asia Minor (287). Hieromartyr Erasmus, bishop of Formia in Campania (303). Hieromartyr Albian (Olbian), bishop of Anaea in Asia Minor (304). Hieromartyr Silvanus of Gaza (311). Matins (3): Mk. 16:9-20; Acts 6:1-7; Mk. 15:43-16:8;</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday May 10</p>	<p>No vespers</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday May 11</p> <p>8:45am Matins 9:30am Hours <u>10:00am Divine Liturgy</u></p>	<p>Fourth Sunday of Pascha, of the Paralyzed Man. Tone 3 Hieromartyr Mocius (Mucius) (295). Holy Equals-to-the Apostles Methodius (885) and Cyril (869), first teachers of the Slavs. Ven. Sophronius, recluse of the Kyiv Caves (13th c.). Matins (4): Lk. 24:1-12 Acts 9:32-42; Jn. 5:1-15; To Equals-to-the Apostles: Heb. 7:26-8:2; Mt. 5:14-19;</p>

Eternal Light

In memory of Elena Batura by anonymous



Seven Day Vigil Candles

- For the health of Larry Pierog by Fr. Vasyl
- For the health of John Batura by PM Olenka
- For the health of Tina Palasti by Fr. Vasyl
- For the health of Patti Faye by John Batura
- _____
- In memory of my my parents Polina & Pavlo.
Memory Eternal! Heavenly Kingdom! Kashpar Family
- In memory of my husband Antony Zerebny
by Maria Zerebna
- In memory of Anthony Kaczor by Michael Supilowski
- In memory of Tony Kovco by Michael Supilowski



Donations in the mail

Carol Bartlett in memory of all of those who died in the war in Ukraine—\$1,300.00

50/50 Club

The winner for the month of April was Ukrainian School Barvinok. Next drawing will take place **on Sunday May 25, 2025**. We encourage to buy tickets for the whole year for a discounted price of \$65.00. If you would like to buy for one or several months the ticket is \$6.00 for a month. You can win \$250.00. All of the proceeds go to College Scholarship Fund of our parish. Support children of our parish family.
For more info please see Ivan Bryndzia & Vitalii Kulyk

Sisterhood of St. Anne

God bless our volunteers!

We are taking a break for Summer.

The Schedule of work before the festival will be posted when available.



Prayer Corner for the Month of May



We ask all of you to remember in your prayers the following individuals, who are in need of God's healing and grace:

Nina Gregosanc & family, Larry Pierog, Pat Beck. Mark, Roman, Judy Broud, Joshua Mark, Mary Wisniowski, Mary Pirtle, Nathan, Gail, Allie Branch, Mike Moran, Christopher Flavin, Even, Edward, Bob Lewandowski, Michael Melnyk, Lilia, Andy, Bohdan, Ralph Palm, David, Irine, Zoriana, Lev, Alla Grzynski, Kathy Grzynski, Nicole, John & Patti, Barbara Patronik, Barbara & Katie Bruce, Michael Kimak, Chloe McKinney, Yuriy Zmysly, Dorothy Seliga, Halyna & Wolodymer Kashpar, Mykola, Priest Vasyl Dovhan, Tina & Frankie, Alexander, Anatoli & Pamela, Janet, Sam and Natalia.

Pray for soldiers in Ukraine: Maksym, Taras, Yaroslav, Pavlo, Slavko, Mikola, Victor, Taras, Yuriy, Stepan, Volodimer, Mykola, Svitlana, medic Stella, Oleg, Yuriy, Dmitro, Bohdan, Roman, Mykola, Kostia, Vitaliy, missing in action Volodimer, Taras, Mykola, wounded Roman, prisoner Taras.

Pray for Our expecting mother:

Kristyna, Myroslava, Maria, Michelle, Natalia & Evnehia.

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

Bible Study

Next Bible Study will take place on Tuesday, May 6 at 7:00 pm.

Via Zoom. We are going to work on family tree of Jesus Christ and Psalms.

Resources; Orthodox Study Bible.

If you are interested in joining the study, please see Fr. Vasyl



Memorial Service



May 25— In memory of all of those who reposed in the Lord in the month of April.

Coffee Hour Schedule



Sponsored coffee hours

You can sponsor coffee hour monetarily by donating \$50.00 to cover the cost of one coffee hour. If you would like to volunteer, please let PM Olenka or Fr. Vasyl know:

May 4 — Lamb & Chicken Roast

May 11— Mother's Day Brunch men are cooking

May 18- Nina Gregosanc in memory of husband Vince

May 25 — open

June 1— PM Olenka

June 8— open

Lamb and Chicken Roast TODAY

Annual Lamb & Chicken Roast Dinner

Sunday May 4 served after the Divine Liturgy

Donation: Adults—\$25.00

Students—\$15.00

Children under 10 years old—free

Volunteers are needed to set and and clean after the event.

To sign up check the sign up sheets by the kitchen door.



Selfreliance Association



Безкоштовне вивчення усіх документів для новоприбулих (Social Security, Work permit, Benefits)

Кожної Середи у Церковній залі з 9:00-17:00. За інформацією просимо звертатись до Пані Матки Оленки Сендега “Асоціація Самопоміч.” або за телефоном (773) 692-1010

ESL Classes

ESL Announcement:

ESL sessions have resumed in the church hall every Thursday at 6:30pm. For more information please see Pat Wolsko.

Безкоштовні ESL класи для усіх бажаючих кожного Четверга о 18:30 вечора у Церковній залі. Дотаковою інформацією просимо звертатися до о. Василя або Пані Матки Оленки.