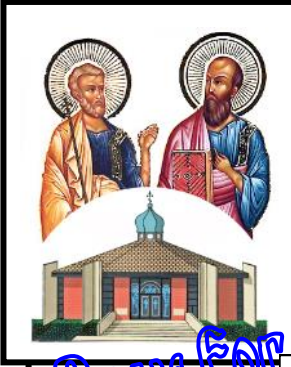


The Word of Sts. Peter & Paul



March 1, 2026

Saints Peter & Paul UOC
 8410 West 131st St.
 Palos Park, IL 60464
 Fr. Vasyl Sendeha — Rector
www.sspeterandpauluoc.net
Rev.vasyl@yahoo.com
 708-361-5165

Pray for Ukraine

Lenten Epistle

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

Ivan Bryndzia

Vitalii Kulyk

Jr. UOL President

David Sendeha

Sr. UOL President

Yurii Sendeha



The Sunday of Orthodoxy is the first Sunday of Great Lent. The dominant theme of this Sunday since 843 has been that of the victory of the icons. In that year the iconoclastic controversy, which had raged on and off since

726, was finally laid to rest, and icons and their veneration were restored on the first Sunday in Lent. Ever since, this Sunday has been commemorated as the "Triumph of Orthodoxy."


The Seventh Ecumenical Council dealt predominantly with the controversy regarding icons and their place in Orthodox worship. It was convened in Nicaea in 787 by Empress Irene at the request of Tarasios, Patriarch of Constantinople. The Council was attended by 367 bishops.

Almost a century before this, the iconoclastic controversy had once more shaken the foundations of both Church and State in the Byzantine empire. Excessive religious respect and the ascribed miracles to icons by some members of society, approached the point of worship (due only to God) and idolatry. This instigated excesses at the other extreme by which icons were completely taken out of the liturgical life of the Church by the Iconoclasts. The Iconophiles, on the other-hand, believed that icons served to preserve the doctrinal teachings of the Church; they considered icons to be man's dynamic way of expressing the divine through art and beauty.


The Council decided on a doctrine by which icons should be venerated but not worshipped. In answering the Empress' invitation to the Council, Pope Hadrian replied with a letter in which he also held the position of extending veneration to icons but not worship, the last befitting only God.

The decree of the Council for restoring icons to churches added an important clause which still stands at the foundation of the rationale for using and venerating icons in the Orthodox Church to this very day: "We define that the holy icons, whether in colour, mosaic, or some other material, should be exhibited in the holy churches of God, on the sacred vessels and liturgical vestments, on the walls, furnishings, and in houses and along the roads, namely the icons of our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ, that of our Lady the Theotokos, those of the venerable angels and those of all saintly people. Whenever these representations are contemplated, they will cause those who look at them to commemorate and love their prototype. We define also that they should be kissed and that they are an object of veneration and honour (timitiki proskynisis), but not of real worship (latreia), which is reserved for Him Who is the subject of our faith and is proper for the divine nature. The veneration accorded to an icon is in effect transmitted to the prototype; he who venerates the icon, venerated in it the reality for which it stands".

An Endemousa (Regional) Synod was called in Constantinople in 843. Under Empress Theodora. The veneration of icons was solemnly proclaimed at the Hagia Sophia Cathedral. The Empress, her son Michael III, Patriarch Methodios, and monks and clergy came in procession and restored the icons in their rightful place. The day was called "Triumph of Orthodoxy." Since that time, this event is commemorated yearly with a special service on the first Sunday of Lent, the "Sunday of Orthodoxy".



Liturgical Schedule



**Sunday
March 1**
8:15am Matins
9:00am Hours
9:30am
Divine Liturgy

1st Sunday of the Great Lent: Triumph of Orthodoxy. Tone 5 Martyr Eudocia of Heliopolis (152). Martyrs Nestor, Tribimius, Marcellus, and Anthony (3rd c.). Matins Gospel (5): Lk. 24:12-35; Heb. 11:24-26, 32-12:2; Jn. 1:43-51; Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

Saturday Vespers & sorokousti at 5:00pm

**Sunday
March 8**
8:15am Matins
9:00am Hours
9:30am
Divine Liturgy

Second Sunday of the Great Lent Tone 6 St. Gregory Palamas the Archbishop of Thessalonica. Synaxis of all Venerable Fathers of the Kyiv Caves. St. Theophylactus, bishop of Nicomedia (845). Matins (6): Lk. 24:36-53; Heb. 1:10-2:3; Mk. 2:1-12; To Ven.: Gal. 5:22 - 6:2; Lk. 6:17-23 ; To St.: Heb. 7:26 - 8:2; Jn. 10:9-16; Liturgy of St. Basil

**Wednesday
March 11** Presanctified Liturgy at 6:00pm

**Friday
Marchh 13** Akathist to the Mother of God at 6:00pm
Sorokousti

**Saturday
March 14** Vespers at 6:00pm

**Sunday
March 15**
8:15am Matins
9:00am Hours
9:30am
Divine Liturgy

3rd Sunday of the Great Lent. Veneration of Cross. Tone 7 Martyrs Agapius, Publius (Pauplios), Timolaus, Romulus, two named Dionysius, and two named Alexander, at Caesarea in Palestine (303). Hieromartyr Alexander of Side in Pamphylia (270-275). Martyr Nicander of Egypt (302). Matins (7): Jn. 20:1-10 Heb. 4:14-5:6; Mk. 8:34-9:1;

Orthodox teaching about icons, as defined at the Seventh Ecumenical Council of 787, is embodied in the texts sung on this Sunday.

The name of this Sunday reflects the great significance which icons possess for the Orthodox Church. They are not optional devotional extras, but an integral part of Orthodox faith and devotion. They are held to be a necessary consequence of Christian faith in the incarnation of the Word of God, the Second Person of the Trinity, in Jesus Christ. They have a sacramental character, making present to the believer the person or event depicted on them. So the interior of Orthodox churches is often covered with icons painted on walls and domed roofs, and there is always an icon screen, or iconostasis, separating the sanctuary from the nave, often with several rows of icons. No Orthodox home is complete without an icon corner (iconostasion), where the family prays.

Icons are venerated by burning lamps and candles in front of them, by the use of incense and by kissing. But there is a clear doctrinal distinction between the veneration paid to icons and the worship due to God. The former is not only relative, it is in fact paid to the person represented by the icon. This distinction safeguards the veneration of icons from any charge of idolatry.

Sunday's Second Collection

Sunday's Second Special Collection is dedicated each month to a different cause. Month of March is dedicated for Parish Scholarship Fund. Month of April is dedicated to College care packages. Month of May is dedicated to sponsor a Seminarian at UOL Convention.

Parish Council

Parish Council meeting is
Sunday March 1, 2026 after the Coffee hour.

Parish Annual Meeting is Sunday March 8, 2026 after the Coffee Hour. We ask all of the parishioners to put an extra effort to be present at the important meeting.

All of the officers of parish organizations are asked to submit an annual report. All of the reports are asked to be submitted preferably electronically by **Sunday March 1, 2026.**

Sunday School Corner



Sunday School Recap February 22

Forgive us our trespasses....

Not only was it Cheese-fare Sunday where we fast from all meat, egg and dairy products for 40 days. It was the final Sunday before Great Lent. It was also the Sunday of Forgiveness. On this day we commemorate Adam's expulsion from Paradise; it tells of our need for forgiveness. It reminds us of our need for God's forgiveness and guides our hearts, minds and spiritual efforts on returning to Him in repentance. Great Lent is a journey.

To begin our journey through Lent, the children and their teachers will be doing a Lenten activity each week. These activities are meant to be done at home together as a family. The activities reinforce the values of forgiveness, gratitude, generosity, prayer and love. Week one, we are to memorize the Jesus Prayer: "*Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, a sinner.*" This is a prayer of the heart & mind and is meant to be said silently or softly. It is often used with a prayer rope. St. Paul's commanded us to pray without ceasing. Doing so will bring us inner peace and closer to the presence of God and his mercy. It is a simple prayer that really isn't.

*Yours in Christ,
Ms. Debbie, Ms. Faith & Ms. Karen*

Sisterhood of St. Anne

Sisterhood of St. Anne We are always happy to see more volunteers. If you can give us an hour or two we would greatly appreciate.

We are schedules to work:

Sunday March 1 —make cheese balls

Monday March 2 —8:00am male perogies

Tuesday March 3 —8:00am prep for SC and make SC 5:30pm

Wednesday March 4 —8:00am pack SC and bake bread 5:30pm

Thursday March 5 —Perogie sale 11:00am—3:00pm

Monday March 9— make SK balls

Tuesday March 10— 5:30pm make perogies

Sunday March 15—make cheese balls

Monday March 16— make perogies

Seven Day Vigil Candles



For the health and God's blessings of my wife Donna
Nevels on her birthday by Jim Nevels

For the spiritual, mental and physical health and well-being of
our Leap Year baby, Nicole, as we celebrate her 22nd birthday.
~Ted, Karen & Nate Larson

For the health and well-being of Larry Pierog.
~ The Larson Family

For the health and well-being of Richard Kimak.
~ The Larson Family

For the health and God's blessings of Patti Faye
by John Batura

For the health of my sister Evhenia on her birthday Many years
by Halyna Kashpar

For the health of Maria, Vasyl, Anhelina and David
by Maria

In loving memory of my parentrs Pavlo & Polina Memory Eter-
nal Heavenly Kingdom by Hlayna Kahspar

In memory of Larysa, Volodimer, Halyna, Hryhoriy, Lidia,
Evnehia and Tamara by Tetiana

Sr. UOL Fish Fry

The Chapter is going to host 2 more Fish fries
during the Great Lent..

If you would like to volunteer, please put your name on the lists
posted by the kitchen door. УПЛІ буде мати ще
2 рибні вечері під час посту. Якщо ви бажаєте бути
волонтером, прошу записатися на листку біля
кухонних дверей.



Lenten Fish Fry
On Fridays from 5:00pm-7:00pm
March 6
April 4



Made to order fried cod fish or calamari or coconut shrimp
Served with Potato perogies or tatter tots and salad, bread,
beverage and dessert

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:

Nina Gregosanc & family, Larry Pierog, Mark, Judy Broud, Mary Wisniowski, Mary Pirtle, Bob Lewandowski, Andy, Bohdan, Ralph Palm, David, Irine, Zoriana, Lev, Alla Grzynski, Nicole, John & Patti, Barbara Patronik, Barbara Bruce, 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: Petro Drapala, Yaroslav, Pavlo, Slavko, Mikola, Victor, Taras, Yuriy, Stepan, Mykola, medic Stella, Oleg, Yuriy, Dmitro, Bohdan, Roman, Mykola, Kostia, missing in action Vitaliy.

Pray for Our expecting mothers:

Tetiana & Maria

New moms Natalia, Anna, Krystyna, Pavai, Myroslava, Nataliia, Maria, Michelle.

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

Memorial Service

March 29 — In memory of all of those who have stepped into eternity in the month of February.



Coffee Hour Schedule



We are back to 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 sign up the schedule is on the door of the church hall kitchen.

March 1— Donna & Jim Nevels

March 8 — Sisterhood of St. Ann for Annual Meeting

March 15—open

March 22—Larson & Pierog Families

March 29—Jr. UOL pancake flip

April 5— Sr. UOL Potluck

April 12— Easter

April 20— open

April 27— Beef & Chicken Roast

Mark your calendars

Sunday, March 1 at 6:30pm - Pan Orthodox Vespers

Holy Resurrection Serbian Orthodox Church 5701 N Redwood Dr. Chicago, IL

Wednesday, March 31 at 7:00pm — Pan Orthodox Akathist to the Mother of God at Our parish at 7:00pm Lenten Refreshments after.

Sunday, June 14 at 9:30am — First Confession and visit of His Archbishop Daniel. Luncheon in honor of the First Confession Class.

Free ESL Classes/Класи Англійської мови



ESL classes every Tuesday evening, in the Church Hall. Adults wishing to improve their English are welcome to join us at 5:30 p.m. If you have any questions, please see Pat Wolsko or Athena Gordan.

Безкоштовні заняття КЛАСИ ESL Кожного Вівторка о 5:30 вечора в церковній залі. Запрошуємо усіх, хто хоче вивчити мову, хто хоче стати більш вправним в розмові, читанні та написання англійської мови. Реєстраційні форми знаходяться на столі при вході у церкві. Якщо у вас є будь-які запитання, зверніться до Пет Волско, о. Василя або ПМ Оленки.