



**ST. PETER & ST. PAUL
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**
105 CLIFTON AVE
ANSONIA, CT 06401
Rectory Phone 203-734-3895
Church Hall 203-732-2414
Fr. Ed Cell 413-218-6404

*Leaders of the Apostles and
teachers of the world, pray to the
Master of all to grant peace to the
world and great mercy to our souls.*



December 10, 2023

Web Site: www.stspucc.org

Very Rev. Archpriest Edward Canon Young, *Pastor*

Twenty-eighth Sunday after Pentecost, The Holy Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes and Euphrasius *Nativity Fast.*

Epistle Colossians 1:12-18

Gospel: Luke 17: 12-19

Tone 3

DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

WEEKDAYS: MONDAY–FRIDAY 10:00AM

SUNDAY: 8:30 AM (Ukr.) & 10:00 AM (Eng.)

Confessions are heard before each Divine Liturgy:

Sunday 8:00AM to 8:30AM and
9:30AM until 10:00AM

Religious Education – Saturday 10:00AM –
11:00AM

Sunday After 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Call Audrey Sokol 203-924-1184 for more
information.

Preservation – Please use the form in church
vestibule, mail it to the church or bring it to
Michael Wysowski, Jr. or Fr. Edward Young or
Robert Jaskilka.

Address or Name Change/New Phone Number

– Please update your records. See Michael
Wysowski, Jr. to update this info.

Returned checks are subject to a **\$35.00 fee
per check.**

Bulletin Notices – Notices for the bulletin must
be **in writing** by Wednesday @6PM to be
included in that week's bulletin.

Parish Council meets every 3rd Wednesday
of every month @7:15pm in the church hall.

Rectory Office Hours - Thursday 1:00 to 3:00
PM or by Appointment on other days

****Please Note ****

Mass Offerings, Sorokousty
Mother's Day, Father's Day

Checks must be made out to the Fr. Edward Young
not the Church ! Thank You...

Baptism Arrangement for baptism is to be made
personally at the Parish Office. Please call rectory for an
appointment.

Marriage – Arrangements for marriage are to be
made at least **6 months prior** to the Wedding date.
Please call rectory for an appointment.

Sick Calls – To arrange for Sacraments for the elderly
and sick at home, please call Parish Office Fr. Young
at 203-734-3895, ***Please advise the rectory of any
hospitalization.***

In your Estate planning – Remember Sts. Peter & Paul Church in your
will.

Stewardship - "As each one has received a gift, use it to serve
one another as good stewards of God's varied grace" (1 Peter 4:10). All
Catholics, should give generous support—time, money, prayers, and
personal service according to their circumstances—to parish and diocesan
programs and to the universal Church

Special Share in the Eucharist *– Bread & Wine

offered for a week, month, or year. Donations: one week - \$20.00
Donors/intentions will be listed.

Michael Wysowski, Jr or Fr. Edward Young

Eternal Light *– offered to light for a week \$10.00.

Michael Wysowski, Jr. or Fr. Edward Young

Virgin Mary's Lamp and Sacred Heart Lamp* also available for offering!

Offered to light for a week is 10.00, each. Michael Wysowski, Jr. or
Fr. Edward Young

All start on Monday to Sunday!

****Offering must be made when dates
are reserved on a first come first served basis !!!!***

A Welcome to St. Peter and St. Paul Parish to all who are worshipping with us today. If you are over twenty-one years of age and have not yet registered, have moved or will be moving, or have a new telephone number, please fill out the form below. Each household must be registered at St. Peter and St. Paul and every adult receives a set of stewardship envelopes. Registration also entails an annual dues to the parish. If a parishioner is not registered, it is difficult for church authorities to issue him or her a sponsor certificate, reference, or any other certification.




Name _____ Phone# _____ Email _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Christmas Anticipation Prayer: Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of **God** was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my **prayer** and grant my desires, [State your intention(s) here...] through the merits of Our Savior **Jesus** Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen. *(This prayer can be said many times in a day before Christmas)* **Christmas Anticipation Prayer:** Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires, [State your intention(s) here...]. through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen



Bread and Wine Offering - None Offered

12/09	Saturday		No Liturgy
12/10	Sunday	8:30AM 10:00AM	Pro Populo (For All Parishioners) - За Всix Парафіян +Tekla Zanowiak req. by Maria Pisarczyk
12/11	Monday		No Liturgy
12/12	Tuesday		No Liturgy
12/13	Wednesday		No Liturgy
12/14	Thursday		No Liturgy
12/15	Friday	10:00 AM	+Antoinette Hlywa
12/16	Saturday	10: 00 AM	+Helen Jenks
12/17	Sunday	8:30AM 10:00AM	Pro Populo (For All Parishioners) - За Всix Парафіян +Helen & Domenick Logaidice req. by Linda Fusco

ETERNAL LIGHT		<i>In loving memory of +Earl B. Holtz by Patricia Holtz & Family</i>		
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY LAMP		<i>In loving memory of +Melania Lypen by Maria & Michael Telep</i>		
SACRED HEART of JESUS LAMP		<i>In loving memory of +Melania Lypen by Maria & Michael Telep</i>		
BREAD & WINE OFFERING RESERVED DATES None Offered		ETERNAL LIGHT LAMP OFFERING RESERVED DATES 12/18/23-12/24/23 12/25/23-12/31/23 1/1/24-1/7/24 1/8/24-1/14/23 1/15/24-1/21/24 1/22/24-1/28/24 6/17/24-6/23/24	BLESSED VIRGIN MARY LAMP OFFERING RESERVED DATES 12/18/23-12/24/23 12/25/23-12/31/23 1/1/24-1/7/24 1/8/24-1/14/24 1/15/24-1/21/24 1/22/24-1/28/24 2/12/24-2/18/24 4/8/24-4/15/24 5/6/24-5/12/24	SACRED HEART OF JESUS LAMP OFFERING RESERVED DATES 12/25/23-12/31/23 1/8/24-1/14/24 1/15/24-1/21/24 1/22/24-1/28/24

Over 32 letters have been **resent** to delinquent dues members of St. Peter & St. Paul totaling over \$27,000 - **Past Church Dues** are due to support your church to pay our obligations to keep the church running such as salaries; electricity; oil; gas; water ; and continual maintenance; repair of the church, rectory and cemetery; insurance ; chancery fees; and telephone just to name a few. As spoken of during the 2022 annual meeting, February 19, 2023.



PRAYER FOR OUR NATION Lord, we pray for peace and unity in our nation today. Keep us in peace, O Christ our God, under the protection of your Holy Cross; save us from our enemies, visible and invisible, that we may glorify You with thanksgiving, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. We pray that You would inspire this nation to be a nation under God. Give us your hope. Give us your peace. Amen the Light of God ~ surround us. The Love of God ~ enfold us.

The Power of God ~ protect us. The Presence of God ~ watch over us.

The Mind of God ~ Guide us. The Law of God ~ direct us.

Wherever we are God ~ be our strength.

PRAY FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE AND THE WORLD: MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS, THROUGH THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL, SPREAD YOUR OMOPHOR ~ WE IMPORE YOUR PROTECTION OVER UKRAINE AND BEG THAT YOU INTERCEDE WITH OUR LORD TO GRANT PEACE.



PRAYER FOR THE DELIVERANCE OF UKRAINE IN TIME OF INVASION: O Lord God of powers, and God of our salvation, O God, who alone work wonders: look down with mercy and compassion on Your humble servants, and out of love for mankind hearken and

have mercy on us and on the land of Ukraine. For, behold, enemies have once more gathered together, in order to cause division and enmity. But You who know all things, understand that they have risen up righteously, and that it will be impossible to oppose their multitudes unless You show us Your help. Therefore, we who are sinful and unworthy pray unto You in repentance and with tears: Help us, O God, our Savior, and deliver the land of Ukraine for the sake of the glory of Your Name, that the enemy may not say: "*Their God has forsaken them, and there is none to deliver and save them.*" But let every nation understand that You are our God, and we Your people are always protected under Your dominion.



VOLUNTEER – By definition, it is a person who freely offers to do something or undertakes a task; To volunteer means to freely offer up your time and service to help, willingly and without being forced or paid to do it to serve another or the community. When was last time you Have ever asked yourselves "How do I serve a parish Community" ? As parishioners, we look to come together at a meal, at the parish festival, and other happenings.... Remember these events do not just 'happen'. These events are not the responsibility of the pastor! For these events to take place, it requires the talents of the member of the parish; it requires each of you to come forward and VOLUNTEER your time and talents. You don't need an

invitation, you need to come forward and offer to help freely, inquire where you can serve. For a parish to be active, vibrant, it needs the help from those it serves! It is time to look around, to become aware of where you and your time and your talents can serve the needs of the parish. It is time to step forward and become involved in the life of the parish. Don't look for the other person to step up, this is your Church. If you want to see parish events happen, you need to be involved. Remember each of you are the CHURCH, each responsible for the full life of the parish. Let us come together to grow in hospitality, grow in community and service. Be a leader and come forward. Be that "Gift" !!

PHILIP FAST FOOD PANTRY PROJECT BEGAN NOVEMBER 15

"Do you fast? Prove it by doing good works. "If you see someone in need, take pity on them... For a true fast, you cannot fast only with your mouth. You must fast with your eye, your ear, your feet, your hands, and all parts of your body." ~ St. John Chrysostom

As we prepare for Christmas, we are encouraged during the Philip Fast/Pilypivka, to do good works through prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

As we approach the Philip Fast in preparation for the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord, let our focus be on the needy as we fast. All of this emphasis on fasting during this period is to prepare our hearts for the coming of Our Savior. Beginning on **November 19 through December 17**, the Saint Peter and Saint Paul Ukrainian Catholic Parish will sponsor a "**Philip Fast Food Pantry Project**", collecting non-perishable food staples to be donated to the Saint Francis Pantry at Assumption Parish, Ansonia, CT **Daily giving list of food needed to donate.** Needed non-perishable items are ~ Cereal, oatmeal, rice, beans, canned meats, tuna, canned vegetables and fruits, hearty soups, macaroni and cheese, spaghetti, tomato sauce, peanut butter, grape jelly.

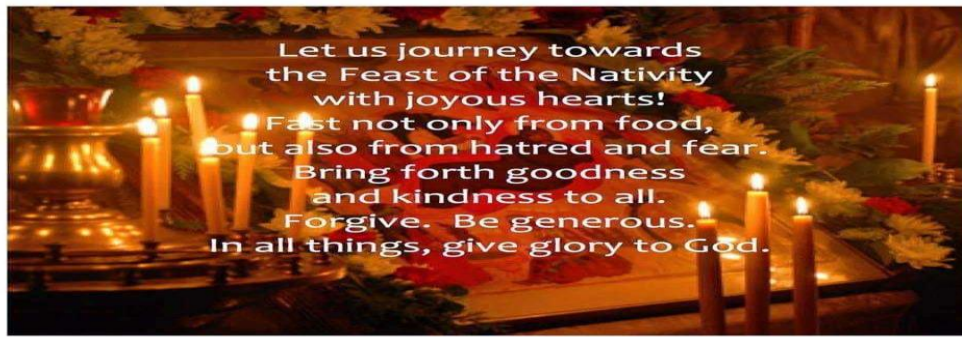
Nativity Fast Prayer Challenge






Praying For Deliverance

My Journey Through the *2023* Nativity Fast


Start 	Nov. 29 Welcome someone to play with you today who may need a friend.	Nov.30 St. Andrew Day! He was the first one called! Be quick to come when you are called today!	Dec. 1 Sweep the porch and sidewalks today for mom and dad, then for a neighbor!	Dec. 2 Do an extra chore but don't tell anyone...be a secret angel.	Dec. 3 Offer to help someone with a difficult job today.
Nov. 15 Discuss how your family will observe this fast for the next 40 days.	Nov. 28 Smile at someone who looks sad today and cheer them up!	Dec 15 Make Christmas cards for priests, monks or nuns, and those in nursing homes today.	Dec. 14 Set the table without being asked.	Dec. 13 St. Lucy Day! Make sweet rolls and deliver them to someone.	Dec. 4 Force branches on the feast of St. Barbara! Blooms by Christmas mean good luck!
Nov. 16 St. Matthew Begin to collect spare change for the poor at Christmas.	Nov. 27 Learn a new prayer today...one you don't have memorized yet.	Dec. 16 Make everybody's bed today as a gift.	Dec. 17 Read a Christmas story to your little sister or brother.	Dec. 12 Say a special prayer for all of the unborn babies today!	Dec. 5 Leave your shoe out for St. Nicholas to fill tonight!
Nov. 17 Say a prayer for someone who is sad today, then send them a card to cheer them up.	Nov. 26 Visit someone who is lonely today and give them a hug.	Dec. 19 Do an extra chore but don't tell anyone...be a secret angel.	Dec. 18 Say a special prayer for someone who is sad today.	Dec 11 Practice your Christmas Carols so you'll be ready at Christmas! Put on a show!	Dec. 6 St. Nicholas Day! Do a secret good deed in his honor.
Nov. 18 Do an extra chore but don't tell anyone...be a secret angel.	Nov. 25 Play in the snow and make a snowman for everyone to see!	Dec. 20 St. Ignatius of Antioch Bake some bread for a neighbor!	Dec.21 Clean and decorate your room for Christmas.	Dec 10 Call Grandma or Grandpa (or an older friend) and say hello today.	Dec. 7 St. Ambrose Bee extra sweet today...sweet as honey!
Nov. 19 Set the table without being asked, maybe make pretty place cards!	Nov 24 Offer to make someone a cup of tea or cocoa and sit and talk to them for a while.	Dec 23 Do you know what to say when someone says, Christ is Born? Glorify Him!	Dec. 22 Practice looking for the first star so you can do it at Holy Supper.	Dec. 9 Read a Bible story before bed tonight that you haven't read before.	Dec 8 Conception of St. Anna Say an extra prayer to welcome the Theotokos!
Nov. 20 Clean your room for the holidays, then decorate!	Nov. 23 Thanksgiving Day Wash the dishes or empty the dishwasher today without being asked.	Dec. 24 Help set the table for Holy Supper. Sing Christmas Carols!			
Nov. 21 Entrance of the Theotokos Review the prayer to the Theotokos and say it 10 times for priests.	Nov. 22 Practice and recite the prayers before and after meals today!	Christ Is Born!			




<p>For your AD info, message Call 203-734-3895 or YoungE8073@aol.com</p>	<p>WAKELEE MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME John S. Zaleski Director Virginia K. Hylwa Administrator</p> <p>203.734.1490 <i>Parishioners Serving Parishioners Over 90 Yrs.</i></p> 	<p>For your AD info, message Call 203-734-3895 or YoungE8073@aol.com</p> <div>  <p>JOIN SUMA F.C.U. & Save Big! Support Locally! Bank Near & Far!</p> </div> <p>For all your financial needs - we are just a call, click or a text away 914.220.4900 memberservice@sumafcu.org or visit our New Haven or Stamford branches. We are open!</p>  <p>www.sumafcu.org</p>
<p>Support those who advertise in our bulletin!</p>		



2024 ENVELOPES
The **envelopes** for **2024** are in the church hall.
Please pick them up; **they will not be mailed.**
Any friends/relatives may also pick up their envelopes for delivery



Also, 2024 calendars have not arrived Yet.

<p>PARISH COUNCIL Meeting <i>December 13, 2023</i></p>	 <p>Monthly Meeting of St Peter & St Paul Board of Directors Wednesday, evening December 13th, 2023 @ 7:15 pm in the church hall All Board members are requested to attend!!!!</p>
--	--

CHRISTMAS PASTORAL LETTER OF HIS BEATITUDE SVIATOSLAV

Most Reverend Archbishops and Metropolitans, God-loving Bishops, Very Reverend Clergy, Venerable Monastics, Dearly Beloved Brothers and Sisters, in Ukraine and throughout the world
Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign.
Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and shall call his name Immanuel. (Is. 7:14)

Christ is born! Glorify Him!

Beloved in Christ!

In this time of war, we, the Ukrainian people need a sign, a sign of hope – that God is with us, that God's life-giving power is stronger than the deadly power of the enemy fighting against us. In the Holy Scriptures, the birth of a child is a sign of hope from God! Today throughout the world the Church proclaims: “But as he [Joseph] considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit... She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.’ All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ‘Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel’ (which means, God with us)” (Mt. 1:20, 22–23).

Isaiah prophesied about Christ: “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (Is. 9:6). As often happens with God's promises, the fulfillment of the prophecy exceeds all human expectations because the Child that is born is not just an ordinary human child but the Son of God! He is the living God present among us. What is now being sent to humankind is not only a sign and symbol of hope – the Lord Himself comes to ensure and fulfill this hope. He comes as a baby in whom is God's power and might, God's authentic peace for all humanity, and for Ukraine in particular. The eternal God becomes man, one of us, for all time. So indeed, God is with us!

Angels rejoice in heaven, and people exalt today,
and all creatures leap with joy
because of the birth of the Lord Savior in Bethlehem;
for all deceit of idolatry has ceased,
and Christ reigns forever.

We must live with the hope of Christ, overcoming all challenges and trials. Even when it seems to us that the world around us is collapsing, when the enemy's deceitful propaganda suggests to us that we have no future, we still hope against hope – because God is with us! The Holy Apostle Paul reminds us: “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever” (Heb. 13:8). If we have Christ, we have a future that no one can take away from us.

The Almighty God comes into the world even now, this year, in His Nativity, in the body of a defenseless, weak child, to dispel fear before the strong and powerful of this world. God does not force anyone to anything but captivates us with his beauty and light, joy and peace. He appears to us today as a weak and vulnerable baby so that we accept Him, love Him, and tenderly embrace Him – embrace the One who envelops us with His love. How wondrous are God's plans! The Ruler of the world, the Prince of Peace is the Child of God! So, in the Nativity of Christ, we can already see today that our future is not to be feared – it is full of peace, joy, tenderness, grace, and love, as we sing in the carol:

And the bright star cries out to the world:
The Messiah brings joy and happiness!

*To Bethlehem hasten all of you now,
To welcome God in a poor cave!*

God makes Himself dependent on people. He becomes a child so that we, taking up the mission of Mary, His Mother, and Joseph the Betrothed, protect Him from all dangers, all the Herods of this world.

We feel the same responsibility today regarding the children of the war in Ukraine. This is the most vulnerable segment of our society, and the trauma of war in children is the most complex. There are millions of women and children among Ukrainian refugees and internally displaced persons. Among the various types of humanitarian crises are the education and upbringing of children under the constant threat of rockets and bombs, poorly implemented school programs, stolen years of childhood innocence, and freedom from worry. We will protect our children in every way available to us! At the same time, let us remember that their spiritual wounds are healed in love, both in their family and in the family of God's children—in the Church of Christ. Let our church communities be a safe space for children, free from all forms of violence and contempt for human life, because to accept a child in the name of God is to accept the newborn Christ.

Dreaming of a bright future for our children, we must understand that for our people true victory is not only the liberation of territories and secured borders. Winning the war means creating a safe spiritual space of hope for the Ukrainian family, unafraid to give birth to children in their native land. Let every Ukrainian child be for us a sign of hope from God and of our faith in a blessed future.

On this joyful day of Christ's Nativity, "let us commend ourselves, and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God." May all those imprisoned and held captive know that we have not forgotten them and continue to pray for them. May all the wounded and traumatized experience the joy of our Savior's birth and God's healing touch. May the relatives and friends of those who have gone missing without trace never doubt the Lord's closeness to them.

With Christ in our hearts, already today let us plan to rebuild all that has been destroyed—both physical and spiritual, so that our brothers and sisters, scattered around the world, do not lose hope of returning home, but, on the contrary, dream of their active participation in the revival of the country. But above all, let all the children of our nation know how much God loves them, and that with God's love even the greatest evil can be overcome.

From the bottom of my heart, I impart on you all my fatherly blessing, and wish each of you, from the youngest to the oldest, the authentic joy of the children of God, a tasty kutia, a merry celebration of Christ's Nativity, and a happy, peaceful, and blessed New Year!

Christ is born! Glorify Him!

† SVIATOSLAV

Given in Kyiv

**at the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ,
on the day of the Holy Praiseworthy Apostle Andrew the First-called
the 30th of November in the 2023rd Year of our Lord**

Troparion (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!



Schedule of Christmas Season 2023 -2024 Divine Services, Ansonia, CT

Sunday, December 17, Sunday of the Forefathers

8:30 AM Divine Liturgy

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Friday, December 22, Friday before Christmas

9:00 AM Royal Hour 6th

Saturday, December 23, Saturday before Christmas

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Sunday December 24, Sunday of the Fathers and *Christmas Eve is a day of Abstinence from Meat "PIST BEZ M'IASA"*

8:30 AM Divine Liturgy

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Christmas Services

9:00 PM Grand Compline Service "Povecheriye"

10:00 PM CHRISTMAS DAY LITURGY For Holy-Day Obligation Liturgy *Pro Populo (For All Parishioners) - 3a Bcix Парафіян Liturgy of Saint Basil*

Monday December 25, The Great Feast of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ Holy-Day Obligation

10:00 A.M. Christmas Day Liturgy *Pro Populo (For Parishioners) - 3a Bcix Парафіян*

Tuesday, December 26, Synaxis of the Mother of God

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, December 27, Feast of Saint Stephen the First Martyr

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Sunday , December 31, 2023 New Year's Eve Feast of Saint Melanie

8:30 AM Divine Liturgy

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Monday , January 1, 2024 Sunday before Theophany Feast of the Circumcision & Feast of Saint Basil

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Friday, January 5, 2024 the Vigil of Theophany No Meat Permitted "PIST BEZ M'IASA"

6:00 P.M. Divine Liturgy and the Greater Blessing of Water

Saturday, January 6, 2024 Feast of the Epiphany of our Lord. Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ Holy Day Obligation Fast Free

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Sunday, January 7, 2024 Sunday after Theophany

8:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Following Divine Liturgy our Parish Christmas Dinner



ANNUAL PARISH COMMUNITY PROSPHORA- HOLY SUPPER

Sunday, 7th January 2024

This is a wonderful tradition of our parish. It will take place following the 10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy. As in the past, we ask all attending to bring a dish to pass. Suggested "meatless pot luck" dishes such as: Borscht & Mushroom Soup; Halushky (noodles & sauerkraut); Herring; crab cake or fish fillets; Macaroni & cheese; Pyrohy-Pierogi; Mushrooms sauce; Stewed fruits; other traditional items from Holy Supper and dessert items. Please assistance with this family event of our parish, the contact persons are: **Jaroslawa Sembrat** at 203-929-4813 or **Father Edward Young** 413-218-6404. All members of the parish should be present at this event.

Yevshan Choir will sing the 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy January 7, 2024 Following Liturgy, we will sing a short "mini-concert" of 6 pieces in the Church Before Iconostasis.

Yevshan Choir will join the Parish Christmas Dinner and sing during the our Christmas Common Meal.

Week 5: Ancestors of the Messiah

1. Read the material on this Week's Feast slowly and meditatively to yourself. Recall that Jesus' Holy Ancestors include all of his biological and spiritual ancestors from the Old Testament. They cooperated in, prepared for, and helped enable his Nativity because they answered the Call of God. Be mindful of the fact that God calls us too to go and witness to His Love.
2. Reflect on the following readings: on the Birth of Moses (Exodus 1: 8-22 and 2:1-10) and the Call of Moses (Exodus 3:1-10). Then, think about the following points:
 - God chooses us even before we are born.
 - God gives each of us a Mission to help Him save and love people. Finally, consider ways in which God might be calling you to His do His work.
3. Pray/Sing the Tropar and Kondak of the Week (see below) with your family.
4. Read the material on the Feast aloud slowly and meditatively with your family
5. Share with your family your thoughts about God's Call and Mission.
6. Ask your children or family member(s) to consider the following questions:

- What would they like to do for God? (Ask them to name 3-5)
- How would they like to help God in the future?
- How can they help God now?

When is your Name Day and what was your Saint like?

8. Conclude with the antiphon of St. Philip's Fast.

Antiphon of St. Philip's Fast

O Bethlehem, be prepared; Eden is opened to all; O Ephratha, be made ready; for in the cave the tree of life has blossomed forth from the Virgin; for her womb has been shown to be a spiritual paradise, in which is the divine plant, from which having eaten, we will live and not die as Adam did. Christ is born to raise the image that had fallen.

Tropar - Tone 2

By faith you justified Your ancestors,
and through them you betrothed the Church taken from
the nations.

These saints exult in glory,
from their seed comes the blessed
fruit, the one who bore You without
seed.

By their prayers, O Christ our God, have mercy on us!

Kondak - Tone 6

Armed by the Being that defies description,
You defied the man-made idol, O thrice blesses youth.
In the midst of the unbearable
flames you stood and cried out to
God:

"In Your mercy o gracious One, hasten and come to
our aid," for You can do whatever You will.

The Story of Moses (Exodus 1:8 ff.)

A new king, who did not know what Joseph had done for Egypt, told the Egyptians: "There are too many of those Israelites in our country, and they are becoming more powerful than we are. If we don't outsmart them, their families will keep growing larger. And if our country goes to war, they could easily fight on the side of our enemies and escape from Egypt." The Egyptians put slave bosses in charge of the people of Israel and tried to wear them down with hard work. Those bosses forced them to build the cities of Pithom and Rameses, where the king could store his supplies. But even though the Israelites were mistreated, their families grew larger, and they took over more land. Because of this, the Egyptians hated them more than before and made them work even harder, so that their lives were miserable.

The Egyptians were cruel to the people of Israel and forced them to make bricks and to mix mortar and to work in the fields. Finally, the king called in Shiphrah and Puah, two women who helped the Hebrew mothers when they gave birth. He told them: "If a Hebrew woman gives birth to a girl, let the child live. If the baby is a boy, kill him!"

But the two women were faithful to God and did not kill the boys. The king called them in again and asked, "Why are you letting those baby boys live?" They answered: "Hebrew women have their babies much quicker than Egyptian women. By the time we arrive, their babies are already born." God was good to the two women because they truly respected him, and He blessed them with children of their own. The Hebrews kept multiplying until finally, the king gave a command to everyone in the nation, "As soon as a Hebrew boy is born, throw him into the Nile River! But you can let the girls live." A man from the Levi tribe married a woman from the same tribe, and she later had a baby boy. He was a beautiful child, and she kept him inside for three months... (read the rest of the story by your family Bible!)

Pyrohy Making for Christmas 2023



Using the Dough Sheeter, the dough was rolled and cut by hand



The Pyrohy were pinched closed and then cooked in the Kitchen



And then they were packed for sale.

These few photos tell some of all the hard work that was done over three days. It is wonderful to see the people of the parish come together for the common good of the parish for Christmas. We Saw how quickly the cabbage Pyrohy want. God bless and today enjoy Saint Nicholas Celebration