



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



*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.*

**Fr. Ed Cell 413-218-6404**

**December 11, 2022**

**Web Site: [www.stspucc.org](http://www.stspucc.org)**

**Very Rev. Archpriest Edward Canon Young, Pastor**

Sunday of the Holy Forefathers.. Our Venerable Father Daniel the Stylite (493)

Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11 GOSPEL: Luke 14:16-24

Tone: Sheet

**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.**

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. Robert Jaskilka,

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. Robert Jaskilka Michael

Wysowski, Jr. or Fr. Edward Young

**All start on Monday to Sunday!**

**\*Offering must be made when dates are reserved!**

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# \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ 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*

12/10	SATURDAY		No Liturgy
12/11	SUNDAY	8:30 AM 10:00AM	Pro Populo (For All Parishioners) - За Всіх Парафіян +Stefania & Szymon Gebuza req. by Maria Pisarczyk
12/12	MONDAY		No Liturgy
12/13	TUESDAY	10:00 AM	+William & Clementina Stevenson
12/14	WEDNESDAY	10:00 AM	+Doris & Love Bodak
12/15	THURSDAY		No Liturgy
12/16	FRIDAY	10:00 AM 5:00 PM 6:00 PM	+Stefan, Maria, Alexy, Michael, Karityna & Tomas req. by Julia Gyba Confessions Ukrainian and English Offered for Deceased of Parish
12/17	SATURDAY	9:30 AM 10:00 AM 2:30 to 4:00 PM 4:00 PM	Confession for Children and youth of the Parish Divine Liturgy offered for the Children and Youth of the Parish Confessions Ukrainian and English Divine Liturgy English +Helen Jenks
12/18	SUNDAY	8:30 AM 10:00AM	Pro Populo (For All Parishioners) - За Всіх Парафіян +Anna Lypen req. by Maria & Michael Telep

ETERNAL LIGHT		<i>None Offered</i>	
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY LAMP		<i>In loving memory of +Lydia Warycha by Lisa &amp; Michael Warycha &amp; Family</i>	
SACRED HEART OF JESUS LAMP		<i>None Offered</i>	

<b>BREAD &amp; WINE OFFERING RESERVED DATES</b> <i>None Offered</i>	<b>ETERNAL LIGHT LAMP OFFERING RESERVED DATES</b> 12/19/22-12/25/22 1/2/22-1/8/23 1/9/23-1/15/23 1/16/23-1/22/23 1/23/23-1/29/23	<b>BLESSED VIRGIN MARY LAMP OFFERING RESERVED DATES</b> 12/19/22-12/25/22 12/26/22-1/1/23 1/2/23-1/8/23 1/16/23-1/22/23 1/23/23-1/29/23 3/6/23-3/12/23 2/8/23-5/14/22	<b>SACRED HEART OF JESUS LAMP OFFERING RESERVED DATES</b> 12/19/22-12/25/22 12/26/22-1/1/23 1/2/23-1/8/23 1/9/23-1/15/23 1/16/23-1/22/23 1/23/23-1/29/23 1/30/23-2/5/23 2/6/23-2/12/23 2/1/23-2/19/23
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**During Lent & every Sunday dues current & past will be collected in the church hall after 8:30 AM & 10AM Sunday Liturgies.**

Please bring your dues book to the church hall **dues will not be collected in the rectory**

Back on January 25, 2005 the Parish Council voted to increase the yearly dues to \$75.00 per member. This is the first increase since 1998. The number of upcoming projects that are needed to keep the church building in good repairs, such as painting, doors, walls, fixing the roof, warranted this increase. **Do not place dues in your weekly envelope offering!**

**Please remember - this is not our church but YOUR church!**

**Please fulfill your responsibility to your Church!!**

**2022 & Past Church Dues (Blue Book) (Kollekt)**

**Friendly Reminder - 2022 & Past Church Dues** are due during lent 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.

**TODAY**



**Sunday, at 9:30 AM** there will be the Recitation of the Holy Rosary of Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. One of the intentions for our prayers will be for our parish, and the needs for Ukraine. In this time of Foreign Invasion prayers are needed for we are hearing of the deaths of some many Soldiers and Civilians each day. Please Pray for USA and Ukraine in this time of Great NEED! **God Save and Protect! Боже спаси і О Хорони!**



**ST. PETER & ST. PAUL UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**"LET'S SHOW PRIDE IN OUR PARISH**

**CELEBRATING 125 YEARS TEE SHIRT SALE \$25.00 EACH**

**BLUE WITH YELLOW LOGO S,M,L,XL 7 2XL 48 SHIRTS ORDERED**

**CONTACT SCOTT WALKER AT [SJJAWALK@AOL.COM](mailto:SJJAWALK@AOL.COM) OR 203-735-6365**

**2022 STAMFORD CHARITIES DIOCESE APPEAL**

The month of December continues the Stamford Diocese Charities Appeal for **2022**.

This fund provides support for many programs in the Diocese as indicated in the Sower.

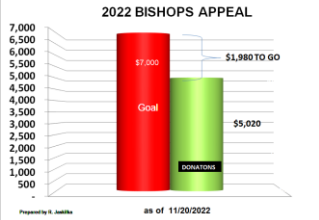
Our offering reminds us that we are members of a greater body of the Church that operates beyond the barriers of our local parish and that each one of us has a role to play in the Church's mission of evangelization and sanctification.

You have received by mail your request for support. Please help this fund as you have in the past.

**Please do not send your donation to Stamford!!!**

**Donations \$5,020.00 or 70.3% to go \$1,980.00 This week \$0.00**

There will be collectors to take your donation for 2022 in the church hall



**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 IMPLORER YOUR PROTECTION OVER UKRAINE AND BEG THAT YOU INTERCEDE WITH OUR LORD TO GRANT PEACE.**

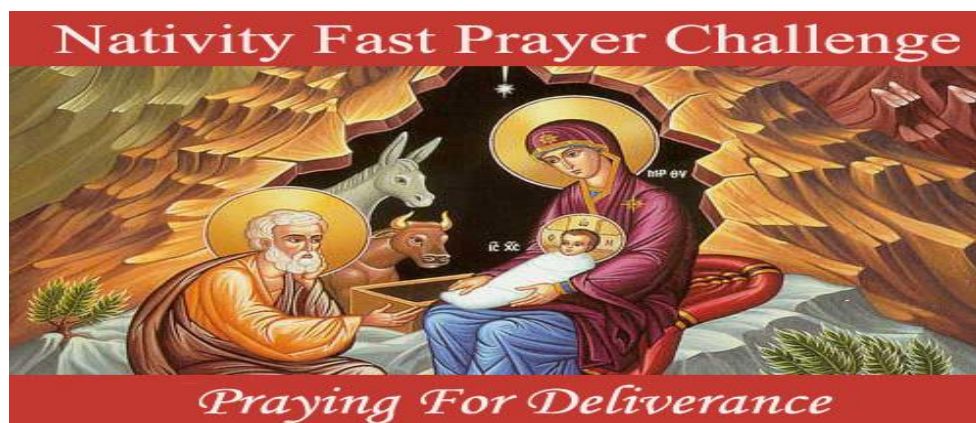


Catholic Prayer For Ukraine: O Lord our God, look down with mercy on the Ukrainian people. Protect and save them from the unjust aggressors who seek to subdue them. Grant them steadfast trust in your mercy and protection. O Mother of God, Through your Holy Protection, places your protective Holy Veil over the Ukrainian people, who run to the shelter of your mercy in their times of need. O Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Grant peace and protection to the people of Ukraine. Give them strength and courage to defend what is good, right, and holy. Keep them safe from harm and provide for all their needs, both temporal and spiritual. Hear our prayers, O Lord, and deliver us from distress, for You are merciful and compassionate and love mankind. To You we give glory: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit Amen.

**One of the lesser known fasting cycles occurs in Eastern Catholic Churches and begins on November 15 and ends Christmas Eve.** Advent is the title given to the four weeks prior to Christmas in the Latin rite of the Catholic church. But there is a another tradition called the Nativity Fast. Nativity Fast is a spiritual practice followed in Eastern Christian churches. • It is a time set aside to spiritually prepare for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. • The emphasis is reflecting on the mystery of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ. • The Nativity Fast starts earlier than Advent. It begins the day after the feast of St. Philip (Nov. 14) on the Eastern Catholic liturgical calendar on November 15. This is how the fast became known by another title: Philip's fast. Either title is used.

The fast period is a full 40 days corresponding to the full 40 days of the Great Lent fast. The Nativity Fast anticipates a joyful event. It may be described as an expectant fast in the wonder and mystery of the coming of Our Savior. Yet, it is a time of reserved joy in which practices of fasting and almsgiving are still encouraged. Abstinence or fasting is suggested as a spiritual discipline, as an invitation and a response. It is our "yes" to being open to welcoming Christ.

<p><b>PARISH COUNCIL</b> Meeting <i>December 14,</i> 2022</p>	 <p><b>Monthly Meeting of St Peter &amp; St Paul Board of Directors</b> <b>Wednesday, evening December 14, 2022</b> <b>@ 7:15 pm in the church hall</b> <b>All Board members are requested to attend!!!!</b> <b>Masks are required and social distancing will be enforced !</b></p>
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**SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS**

**EPISTLE - COLOSSIANS 3: 4 - 11    GOSPEL - LUKE 14: 16 – 24 TONE 2**

Today is the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers, when we commemorate all those in the Old Testament who foretold or prefigured the coming of Christ, from our first father Adam to the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary. We remember today that the Incarnation of our Lord did not simply occur one day out of the blue but was the fulfillment of God's eternal plan to bring humanity into His divine life. No one was forced, of course, to prepare for our Lord's coming. Today we honor those who responded in freedom to God's calling, who accepted His invitation to prepare the way for the coming of the Messiah. And in this season of Advent, we want to be like them, which is sometimes a struggle. For we all face powerful temptations to excuse ourselves from the blessing and joy of the Kingdom.

On this Sunday of the Holy Forefathers, we commemorate those who did prepare, all those in the Old Testament who foretold or prefigured the coming of Christ. The first coming of our Lord at His Incarnation did not simply occur one day as a random event but was the fulfillment of God's plan to bring us into His divine life, which took many generations to fulfill. We want to use this season of prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and reconciliation to become more like them.

That is difficult because we constantly face temptations to focus on other things.

Like the guests invited to the great feast in today's gospel, we often think that we have more appealing things to do. In our time of so many distractions and worries, it is easy to forget why Christ was born, why He came among us a helpless baby in a cave used for a barn with an animal's feeding trough for His crib. As St. Paul wrote in today's epistle lesson, He appears so that we may appear with Him in glory. Both the first coming of His birth and the second coming of His return are so that we may share in His salvation. But to encounter Christ at either of His appearances is also to undergo a kind of judgment, for the truth about us becomes evident when we enter into His presence. How we respond to Him reflects the state of our souls. The same is true of how we prepare to receive Him during this blessed season of Advent, of the Nativity Fast.

St. Paul told the Colossians to prepare to encounter Christ by putting their sins to death, for they are all forms of idolatry that exclude us from the holy joy of the Kingdom. Everything from anger and slander to sexual immorality and covetousness are symptoms of the "old nature" that He came to heal as the Second Adam. The weeks of Advent call us to prepare intentionally to welcome the Savior at His birth, for if we do not we risk being so distracted and weakened by our sins that we will have as little interest in being in His presence as did those guests originally invited to the banquet.

It is so easy and alluring to become like the people in today's parable who really believed that they had better things to do than to share in the great joy of the Lord's banquet. But to live that way is to shut ourselves out of the glory that Christ came to share with all He created in His image and likeness. It is to sentence ourselves to misery and decay that are not fitting for those who dare to call God their Father.

Christmas, of course, is a banquet, a great feast. It is a celebration of our salvation in the God-Man Jesus Christ, Who in Himself united humanity with divinity, Who brings us from mortality to immortality. No matter whether we have observed the Nativity Fast so far, we all have the ability to use the next several days to prepare to enter more fully into the great glory of our salvation. Our preparation is about opening ourselves to the healing mercy of Christ as we prepare to encounter Him at His birth. For how we receive Him will reveal the true state of our souls. During these weeks of Advent, we may accept the invitation to the great banquet of the Lord by embracing these spiritual disciplines. As difficult as we probably find them to be and as bad as we are in doing them, they are powerful means of opening our souls to the glory that He has brought to the world through His appearance at Bethlehem. They are how we humble ourselves before Him, fighting our passions, resisting our temptations, and doing what we can to prepare to welcome Him at Christmas for our salvation. They are what Advent is all about. Christmas will be here soon, and how we respond to the Lord as His birth will make clear the state of our souls. Will we be ready to welcome Christ into our lives at His birth? Will we be ready to accept the invitation to the feast? The good news is that, in the Babe of Bethlehem, even unlikely people like you and me are invited to take our place with the Holy Forefathers and Foremothers of Christ in the heavenly banquet and to shine with the light of heaven, to appear with Him in glory. That is why our Savior was born. (*Excerpt from <https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/>*)

#### **CATECHISM - CHRIST OUR PASCHA - TODAY'S EPISTLE / GOSPEL LESSON :**

**FAITHFULLNESS:** Page 157, Section 462-463

**CELEBRATING OUR HOLY FOREFATHERS:** The Sunday of the Holy Forefathers is the Sunday that falls between December 11-17, the second Sunday before the Nativity. The ancestors of Christ according to the flesh are remembered on this Sunday of the Nativity Fast. On the Sunday of the Forefathers, the Church remembers all who were before the Law and after the Law. The Holy Forefathers and Fathers are the Old Testament relatives according to the flesh of our Lord Jesus Christ, beginning with the holy ancestors Adam and Eve, Abel, Seth, Enoch, Noah, and his sons, all the great Fathers and Mothers and Prophets of the Old Testament, the Righteous

Sarah, Isaac and Jacob, including Holy Prophet Elias and Daniel, and concluding with Holy Zechariah (Zachary), Joachim and Anna, Holy Prophet and Forerunner John the Baptist and the Theotokos and the holy patriarch Abraham, and so on up to the glorious Nativity of Christ. This is what Luke the Evangelist says in the lineage of the Lord Jesus Christ, as he goes from Joseph back to Adam and includes the whole world. They lived before the Law, especially the Patriarch Abraham, to whom God said, "*In thy seed shall all of the nations of the earth be blessed*" (Genesis 12:3, 22:18).

**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 2022 -2023 Divine Services, Ansonia, CT

### Friday, December 16,

5:00 PM Confession (Ukr & Eng)

6:00 PM Divine Liturgy

Fr. Ivan Mazuryk, Fr. Gregory Lozinsky & Fr. Raphael Strontstsky will be our Confessors.

### Saturday, December 17

9:30 AM Confession for Children

10:00 AM Children Divine Liturgy

2:30-4:00 PM Confession (Ukr & Eng)

4:00 PM Divine Liturgy English

### Sunday, December 18, Sunday before the Nativity that of the Fathers

8:30 AM Divine Liturgy Mission Sermon

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy Mission Sermon

Confession will be heard before and after Liturgy

### Saturday December 24, Christmas Eve is a day of Abstinence from Meat "PIST BEZ M'IASA" 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) - За Всіх Парафіян* Liturgy of Saint Basil

### Sunday, 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) - За Всіх Парафіян*

### Monday, December 26, Sunday after Christmas

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

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

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

### Saturday, December 31, 2022 New Year's Eve Feast of Saint Melanie

4:00 PM Vigil Liturgy for the Feast and Liturgy of Saint Basil Celebrated English

### Sunday, January 1, 2023- Sunday before Theophany Feast of the Circumcision & Feast of Saint Basil

8:30 AM Divine Liturgy

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

### Thursday, January 5, 2023 the Vigil of Theophany No Meat Permitted "PIST BEZ M'IASA"

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

### Friday, January 6, 2023 Feast of the Epiphany of our Lord. Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ Holy Day Obligation

Fast Free

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

7:00 P.M. Divine Liturgy

### Sunday, January 8, 2023 Sunday after Theophany

8:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy





**Our Lady of the Sign The Mother of God Carried in her womb  
Him Who the Universe could not Contain**

**Saint Philip's Fast the Christmas Fast the Penitential Season Before for Christmas**

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 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. We should plan on giving what we save from eating a humble diet according to the prescriptions of the Church; discipline our flesh and bring it under the submission of our spirit to purify our hearts to welcome the Messiah when he comes, making it possible to be able to support the local Food Pantry at Assumption Parish, Ansonia, CT through our good work ~ donating . Daily giving list of food needed to donate: Cereal, oatmeal, rice, beans, canned meats, tuna, canned vegetables and fruits, hearty soups, macaroni and cheese, spaghetti, tomato sauce, peanut butter, grape jelly. The pre-Christmas time is a period of merriment and parties. Yet the Church points to a deeper spiritual meaning of Christmas, that on this day God the Son and Word emptied Himself to take flesh as a man. As St. Paul said, "he made himself poor though he was rich, so that you might become rich by his poverty." (1 Corinthians 8,9). This penitential season, then, is an invitation by the Church to humble ourselves in some small way, in imitation of Christ so that we might receive on Christmas day God's greatest gift - His only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. The Saint Peter and Saint Paul Ukrainian Catholic Parish will this year hold a "FOOD DRIVE" for the period of the Philip Fast—November 15—December 18, the Sunday before Christmas.

**Father Raphael Strontsitsky is Missionary for our Nativity Fast Missionary and he will Preach and Hear Confessions**

**Nativity Fast Mission**

**Friday, 16 December 5:00 PM Confession (Ukr & Eng)**

6:00 PM Divine Liturgy

**Saturday, 17 December** 9:30 AM Confession for Children

10:00 AM Children Divine Liturgy

2:30-4:00 PM Confession (Ukr & Eng)

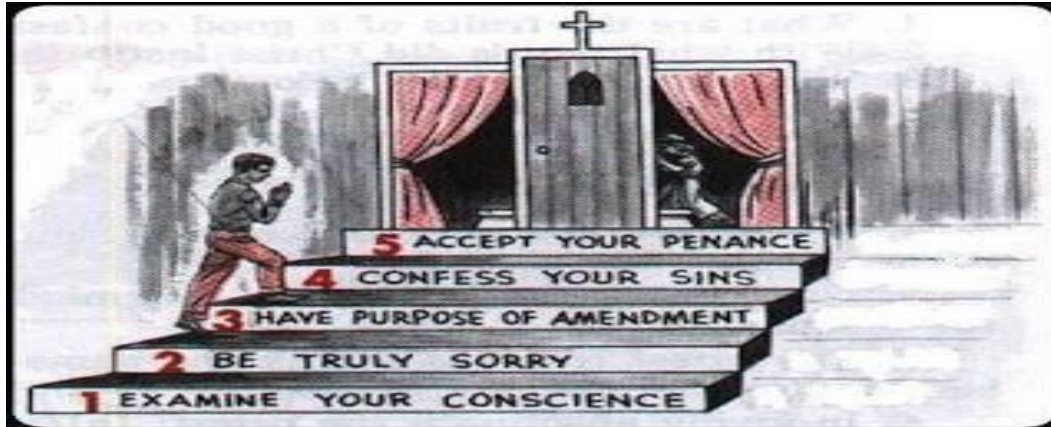
4: 00 PM Divine Liturgy English

**Sunday, 18 December** 8:30 AM Divine Liturgy Mission Sermon

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy Mission Sermon

Confession will be heard before and after Liturgy

### **Sacrement of Confession 5 Parts of a Good Confession**



“Create  
in me a  
**clean heart,**  
and put a  
new **O God,**  
and right  
**spirit**  
within me.”  
Psalm 51:10

**ST NICKOLAS EVENT DECEMBER 4, 2022**



## ST NICKOLAS EVENT DECEMBER 4, 2022

**SAINT NICHOLAS CELEBRATION 2022**– WE ARE MOST GRATEFUL TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED IN MAKING THIS CELEBRATION OF SAINT NICHOLAS SUCH A JOY FILLED EVENT. WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR THE LEADERSHIP AND DEDICATION OF JOLANTA KOWAL AND ALL THOSE WORKING WITH HER. TO THE PARENTS OF OUR GOOD SAINT NICHOLAS PLAYERS, WE ARE VERY APPRECIATIVE THAT YOU TOOK TO TIME TO BE A CHURCH FOR THE REHEARSALS. THE ATMOSPHERE OF JOY WITH OUR SAINT NICHOLAS PLAYERS WAS SO PLEASING AND BROUGHT A GREAT DEAL OF HAPPINESS. ALSO, THOSE WHO DONATED TO THE DOOR PRIZES AND THAT



IS A GREAT BLESSING TO THE PARISH.  
GOD BLESS AND PROTECT.



Let us journey towards  
the Feast of the Nativity  
with joyous hearts!  
Fast not only from food,  
but also from hatred and fear.  
Bring forth goodness  
and kindness to all.  
Forgive. Be generous.  
In all things, give glory to God.

**Week 5: Ancestors of the Messiah** 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.

1. 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.

2. Pray/Sing the Tropar and Kondak of the Week (see below) with your family.

3. Read the material on the Feast aloud slowly and meditatively with your family

4. Share with your family your thoughts about God's Call and Mission.

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!)



ST. Michael the Archangel  
Ukrainian Catholic Church

# CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Sunday, Dec 11      Неділя, 11 грудня  
12pm-4pm

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## Following Divine Liturgy our Parish Christmas Dinner



### **ANNUAL PARISH COMMUNITY PROSPHORA- HOLY SUPPER** **Sunday, 8th January 2023**

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