



**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 31, 2023

Web Site: www.stspucc.org

Very Rev. Archpriest Edward Canon Young, *Pastor*

Sunday after the Nativity of Christ Commemoration of the Holy and Righteous Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James, Brother of the Lord. Octoechos Tone 6; Our Venerable Mother Melania the Roman (439)

Epistle Galatians 1:11-19; Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23 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 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 _____




Christ Is Born! Let us Glorify Him!
ХРИСТОС РАЖДАЄТЬСЯ! СЛАВІТЕ ЙОГО!

*prayer for the New Year: Remember us, O God;
 from age to age be our comforter. You have given
 us the wonder of time, blessings in days and nights,
 seasons and years. Bless your children at the
 turning of the year and fill the months ahead
 with the bright hope that is ours in the coming of Christ.
 You are our God, living and reigning, forever and ever. R/. Amen*



Bread and Wine Offering - None Offered

12/30	Saturday		No Liturgy
12/31	Sunday	8:30 am 10:00 AM	Sunday , December 31, 2023 Sunday before Theophany New Year's Eve Feast of Saint Melanie Pro Populo (For Parishioners) - За Всіх Парафіян +Lee Gebuza req. by Bohdasn & Bohdanna Szafan
01/01	Monday	10:00 AM	New Year Feast of the Circumcision & Feast of Saint Basil <i>God's Blessing a New Year</i>
01/02	Tuesday		No Liturgy
01/03	Wednesday		No Liturgy
01/04	Thursday		8:00 AM will be preparing Food for Sunday Please come and assist
01/05	Friday	6:00 PM	The Vigil of Theophany No Meat Permitted "PIST BEZ M'IASA" Divine Liturgy and the Greater Blessing of Water +Tekla Zanowiak req. by Jozse Garan
01/06	Saturday	10:00 AM	Feast of the Epiphany of our Lord. Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ Holy Day Obligation Fast Free <i>Pro Populo (For Parishioners) - За Всіх Парафіян</i>
01/07	Sunday	10:00 AM	Sunday after Theophany <i>Pro Populo (For Parishioners) - За Всіх Парафіян</i> Yevshan Choir will sing the 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

ETERNAL LIGHT		<i>In loving memory +Peter &+ Maria Gebuza & +Jan & +Maria Sembrat by Wasył & Jaroslawa Sembrat & Family & Stefan</i>
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY LAMP		<i>In loving memory of +Bohdan Kofla by The Sembrat Family</i>
SACRED HEART of JESUS LAMP		<i>None Offered</i>

BREAD & WINE OFFERING RESERVED DATES	ETERNAL LIGHT LAMP OFFERING RESERVED DATES	BLESSED VIRGIN MARY LAMP OFFERING RESERVED DATES	SACRED HEART OF JESUS LAMP OFFERING RESERVED DATES
None Offered	1/8/24-1/14/23 1/15/24-1/21/24 1/22/24-1/28/24 6/17/24-6/23/24	1/8/24-1/14/24 1/15/24-1/21/24 1/22/24-1/28/24 2/12/24-2/18/24 3/4/23-3/10/23 4/8/24-4/15/24 5/6/24-5/12/24	1/8/24-1/14/24 1/15/24-1/21/24 1/22/24-1/28/24 1/29/24-2/4/23



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 to 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" !!

Church Donation of \$500.00 Novak Families and Remembrance especially my Mom +Virginia Ferencz by Robert & Kathleen Ferencz

Preservation Donation of \$200.00 In Remembrance of my Grandparents +Michael & +Marie Novak & their family by John Ferencz, Jr.

<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>  <p>JOIN SUMA F.C.U. & Save Big! Support Locally! Bank Near & Far!</p> <p>For all your financial needs - we are just a call, click or a text away</p> <p>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>		

	<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</p>
	<p>ALSO, 2024 CALENDARS ARE HERE – ONE PER FAMILY AS LONG AS THEY LAST. THE CALENDARS WERE GENEROUSLY DONATED BY JOHN ZALESKI OF WAKELEE MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME THANK YOU AND MNOHAYA LITA!</p>

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.

Assistance will be needed to prepare food for Sunday 7 January. Work will begin at 8:00 AM Thursday 4 January 2024. PLEASE COME AND HELP!

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.

SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS - SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY

EPISTLE - GALATIANS 1: 11 - 19 GOSPEL - MATTHEW 2: 13 – 23 TONE 6

In this morning's Gospel, we read of Joseph being warned by an angel to take the Christ Child and his mother into Egypt because Herod was seeking to destroy the child. Egypt is taken as a symbol of the world, made dark and lifeless and lonely by human greed and lust. On this Sunday after Christmas, we honor the infants whom Herod murdered in his fury. The unspeakable tragedy of their murder only causes the cup of Christ's infinite compassion to overflow even more and shows it to be infinitely greater than the murderous fury of Herod. This Gospel of the holy family fleeing to Egypt to escape King Herod's slaughter of the Righteous Ones – our Church Tradition tells us that 14,000 infants were slaughtered by King Herod – is always read on the Sunday after Christmas. This tells us that there is a dark side to the Glory and Joy of Christmas; it is the flight to Egypt made necessary by King Herod's order to slaughter all the male children three years old and younger. That this is read on the Sunday after Christmas tells us that this part of the Christmas story is essential to the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, that it is as much a part of the Christmas story as are the shepherds and the wise men. This is not a little disturbing, is it not, that the Gospel should include an event of such unspeakable cruelty as an essential element? But, it gives, if you will, flesh and blood to the darkness the world is in; it takes the theme of darkness out of the sentimental clouds of abstract ideas and confronts us with the gut-wrenching fact of the evil that exists in the world all around us.

Yet, we call it the "Gospel" of the Slaughter of the Righteous Ones. Where is the "Good News" in such cruelty? Among other things the slaughter of the Righteous Ones should shake us to realize how much is at stake in the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. The world exists in good and evil, and the evil can be unspeakably cruel. The Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ tells us that the world is not supposed to exist like this. It was created "good"; it was created in light, for it was on the first day that God said, "Let there be light". This light was not the light of the sun and moon. This light, then, was another light, a light more primordial than the sun and moon, a light even that was immaterial, spiritual, for it was the light of the Church, a light that was life-giving, a light shining in the darkness of the void that manifested the goodness, the love, the glory, and the joy of Christ, the Image of God in whom all things were made. In the Holy Spirit, it is understood in Christ's Holy Church that this light, the first act of God's creation, was a prophecy of the birth of God the Word in the flesh; for it is known in the Church that Christ was born of the Holy Virgin on the first day of the week.

So, the slaughter of the Righteous Ones tells us that the world exists in an unnatural condition. Existing in good and evil, the world exists in inner conflict that can only weaken it and make it sick, so that everything that comes to exist in the world exists in this profound internal schizophrenia of good and evil. The slaughter of the Righteous Ones is carried out under the order of a man wholly given over to evil, so that King Herod becomes an image of the devil seeking to destroy the Lord who is the Light of God, in whom is the Life of the Holy Spirit, who is the Light of the world. Herod's failure to destroy the infant Jesus is the manifestation in space-time of the Gospel proclamation of St John: "The Light shines in the darkness and the darkness could not destroy it." This morning, we see how the Church remembers the murdered infants. They are not "murdered infants," but martyrs, "Holy Innocents," the "Holy Righteous Ones." We see how in his infinite compassion, the Lord has raised up these murdered infants in the memory of his holy Church, as in the arms of his blessed Mother, as his beloved athletes who suffered martyrdom for him and who by their martyrdom have shown themselves to be the "most splendid eyes of the Church," for whose sake Herod is put to shame." In another week, we come to the Feast of Theophany. Christ God, the Sun of Righteousness, will descend into the waters of the Jordan as into the

primordial waters of creation. He will cleanse the waters by his descent and make creation holy again. The dark spirits that lurked in the waters of creation since the fall of man he will chase away by his Word as he did in the beginning; and, standing in the Jordan, he will clothe himself with the creation he himself made and he will make it radiant from within with the light of his divinity. (Excerpts from <https://www.sthermanmpls.org/>)

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

THEOPHANY: Page 66, Section 180; Page 72, Sections 197-202

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2024 - SOLEMN HOLY DAY

FEAST OF THE CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD - FEAST OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT

Христос Родився! Christ is Born!

The Circumcision is the principal feast of the day. Eight days after His birth, the Child was circumcised according to the Mosaic Law and was given the name assigned to Him by an angel before He was conceived – Jesus. In Gospel for today, we read the history of the feast: "And when eight days were fulfilled for his circumcision, His name was called Jesus, the name given by the Angel before he was conceived in the womb" (Lk. 2:21).

In the Old Testament, circumcision was a law signifying the covenant of God with Abraham and his descendants: the rite was of a great importance as it symbolized membership in the religion and nation and subordination to the law and duties. Non-observance of the law meant a breach thereof and exclusion from the nation.

The church stresses in the event of the circumcision of Jesus Christ primarily sacrifice and self-denial: each Christian must practice circumcision of his or her lusts and evil desires.

The feast of circumcision is not one of the 12 greatest feasts even though it is considered an important one. The church also commemorates St. Basil the Great on this day.

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 6 - FEAST OF THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD
HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

Христос Рождається - Славимо Його!

Христос Хрещється! В річці Йордані!

Christ is Baptized! In the Jordan!

The Feast of the Holy Theophany (Epiphany) of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ is celebrated each year on January 6. The Feast commemorates the Baptism of Christ and the divine revelation of the Holy Trinity. At the Baptism of Christ, all three Persons of the Holy Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—were made manifest. Thus, the name of the Feast is Epiphany, meaning manifestation, or Theophany, meaning manifestation of God. When Jesus came up from the water, the heavens opened suddenly, and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him. The Bible records that the Spirit descended like a dove and alighted on him. When this happened, a voice came from heaven and said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." This was the voice of God the Father.

Christ's baptism in the Jordan was "theophany," a manifestation of God to the world, because it was the beginning of our Lord's public ministry. It was also a "theophany" in that the world was granted a revelation of the Holy Trinity. All three Persons were made manifest together: the Father testified from on high to the divine Sonship of Jesus; the Son received His Father's testimony; and the Spirit was seen in the form of a dove, descending from the Father and resting upon the Son. The theme of "manifestation" or "revelation" is also expressed in Scripture with the symbolism of light. In the hymn of the Feast we sing, "Christ has appeared and enlightened the world." Thus, January 6 is also known as the Feast of Lights. The Church celebrates on this day the illumination of the world by the light of Christ