

# The Word of Sts. Peter & Paul



April 20, 2025

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*From our Hierarchs*

*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*

*Nataliia Bryndzia*

**CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED, HE IS RISEN!**

**ХРИСТОС ВОСКРЕС! ВОИСТИНУ**

**ВОСКРЕС!**

*To the beloved clergy, monastics, faithful parishioners and friends of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America and the Diaspora:*

With the joy of the unwaning Light that bursts forth from the empty Tomb, we greet you on this Bright and Holy Day of the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with the ancient and powerful words: **CHRIST IS RISEN!**

Through you, dear brothers and sisters, we proclaim this message not only to your homes and parishes, but to generations past and those yet to come. This radiant greeting echoes through centuries and into eternity. It resounds over mountaintops and through valleys of sorrow, piercing the silence of fear and despair. It brings life. It brings hope. It brings Christ Himself.

We proclaim it boldly today in the face of war, suffering, and injustice. We proclaim it from ancestral soil in Ukraine, torn and

tested, where the faithful hold fast to hope in the Risen Christ even in the darkest hours. We proclaim it in every corner of the world where tears fall silently and suffering weighs heavily. We proclaim it to a world that thirsts not merely for peace but for resurrection - true and eternal.

We proclaim it because death has been conquered, because Christ has trampled down the gates of Hades, and because Light now shines where darkness thought it reigned supreme.

Christ suffered. He carried His Cross to Golgotha. He offered Himself fully and freely - for you, and for all of creation. And in doing so, He revealed the path we too must walk: not one of power and pride, but of service, sacrifice, and self-giving love.

We are called to be His followers - not in word only, but in life and deed. We are called to carry His light into the deepest shadows of our world. In the face of betrayal, blasphemy, bigotry, bullying, and brutality, **we are not to remain silent**. We stand in the radiant strength of the Risen Christ, proclaiming that no tomb can hold Truth, no grave can bury Grace, and no evil can extinguish the eternal Light of God.

This year, we prayerfully commemorate the 1700th anniversary of the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea. That sacred gathering gave voice to the Church's unwavering faith in the Risen Lord, in one God, and in the Holy Trinity - a faith passed down to us through the ages. Yet our task today is not merely to remember the faith of our fathers. It is to *live it* - to make it real and relevant in the world of the 21st century.

To do so means to carry the Cross daily and live the Resurrection hourly. **Pascha is not a single day**, nor is it a distant memory. It is the heartbeat of Christian life. Every act of love, every step taken in truth, every tear shared and every burden lifted is an echo of the empty Tomb and a witness to the Living Christ.

Therefore, dear brothers and sisters in the Lord, **live Pascha**. Let the light of the Resurrection guide your every thought, word, and action - not just today, but every day. Let the victory of Christ over death be the lens through which you see the world and respond to its needs.

Let the world know - not merely by our words, but by our lives - that **Christ is Risen**, and that His Resurrection changes everything.

With profound love in the Risen Lord, we greet you, we bless you, and we pray for you and your families.

**CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED, HE IS RISEN!**

**ХРИСТОС ВОСКРЕС! ВОІСТИНУ ВОСКРЕС!***With prayerful wishes,***Metropolitan Antony***Primate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora***Archbishop Jeremiah***Archbishop of the South American Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA***Archbishop Daniel***Archbishop of the Western Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora* **Liturgical Schedule** **Monday**  
**April 14**  
**6:30pm**

Holy Monday Brightgroom Matins

**Wednesday**  
**April 16**  
**6:30pm**

Holy Unction service

**Thursday**  
**April 17**  
**6:30pm**

12 Passion Gospels

**Friday**  
**April 18****5:30pm** children decorate Christ's tomb  
**6:30pm** Placing of the Holy Shroud**Saturday**  
**April 19****10:00am** Saturday Divine Liturgy  
**10:30pm** Reading of the Acts of the apostles  
**11:30pm** Midnight office**Sunday**  
**April 20****Pascha Resurrection of Our Lord and God  
Jesus Christ****12:00am** Matins**1:00am** Divine Liturgy*Blessing of the paschal baskets in the hall***11:00am** Agape Vespers*Blessing of the paschal baskets outside*

## *Sunday School Corner*



Dear Miss Church Manners,

I went to the Holy Unction Service this week with my mom & dad and couldn't help but notice all the white lilies sitting at the back of the church. My mom told me that the other kids and me will be helping to decorate the tomb on Holy Friday with these flowers. My question to you is why do we use lilies instead of another type of flower? Other than being pretty, do they mean something special?

From, Lily (yes, that is my name)

Dear Lily,

Wonderful question and wonderful name! For centuries white lilies have meant something special in many cultures and faiths. For Christians their meaning is especially significant at Easter. Their pure white blossoms remind us of the new life that comes through the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. They are a symbol of hope and innocence. Their trumpet like blossoms herald the joyous announcement of Jesus's victory over death. References to lilies can be found throughout the Bible and are depicted in icons. They represent purity, innocence and grace associated with saints and the Ever-Virgin Mary.

Fun Floral Fact: The wild varieties of lilies that are native to the northern regions of North America, Europe and Asia come in multiple shades of pink, yellow, purple and orange. They can be found growing in a wide range of habitats, including forests, meadows, and mountains. There are over 100 variety of lilies worldwide. However, did you know the large white lily that is associated with our Easter celebration is a relatively new tradition in the U.S.? An Oregon soldier, Louis Houghton, returned home from Japan at the end WWI with Easter lily bulbs and shared them with fellow gardeners. Their popularity as a beautiful hardy perennial plant quickly grew and spread throughout the country (pun intended).

A Not So Fun Floral Fact: Certain varieties of lilies can be toxic to cats—so use caution if having a vase of these lovely blooms in your home if you have a cat.

**CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!**

Ms. Church Manners (a.k.a. Miss Etta Kitt)

Sources: [Orthodox\\_Easterlilies](#), [shuncy.com](#) & [umc.org](#)

## **Recap of Teen Class - April 13, 2025**

Although our time was short due to the bread making our wonderful teen students agreed to meet after eating lunch. We began with them sharing their homework assignment which was to once again look at the virtues on each step of Saint John Climacus' Ladder and practice one of the virtues during the past week. They enthusiastically shared and described an incident of their behavior this past week relating to and identifying the virtue. Examples of their sharing represented; love, prayer and obedience. We then briefly looked at a printed handout of a map of the Holy Land defining Jesus' activities in Jerusalem during each day of Holy Week which they were familiar with. We shared a few questions regarding the map and then moved on.

Lastly, we looked over a handout I had for them which was written in question form for a guided reflection and self examination in preparation for confession. I encouraged them to keep this for future use, particularly if they had just completed a recent confession. In spite of our time limit the teens were thoughtful and very cooperative in their reflective thoughts and comments during our session.

*Pascha blessings to all. Christ Is Risen ! Ms. Pat*

## **Announcements**

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

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

### ***2025 Scholarship Applications***

Application forms for a graduating high school senior who is a member of our church and is planning to further their education at a community college, university or trade school are available from Pat Wolsko. They must be completed and returned by Sunday, April 27. The recipients of this church sponsored scholarship will be announced at the end of May.

## *Eternal Light*

In memory of Elena Batura by anonymous



## *Seven Day Vigil Candles*

- For the health and God's blessings for Pat and Mike Beck by Gbur & Lang Families
- For the health and God's blessings for Janet Ganske by Gbur & Lang Families
- For the health and God's blessings for Pat Ciapinski by Gbur & Lang Families
- For the health and God's blessings for Katie & Barbara Bruce by Gbur & Lang Families
- For the health and quick recovery after the surgery of John Batura by PM Olenka
- For the health of Tina Palasti by Fr. Vasyl
- For the health of Patti Faye by John Batura
- For the health of Pat Beck by Fr. Vasyl
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## *50/50 Club*

The winner for the month of March was Faith Neswick  
Next drawing will take place **on Sunday April 27, 2025**  
We encourage to buy tickets for the whole year for a discounted price of \$65.00. If you would like to buy for one or several months the ticket is \$6.00 for a month. You can win \$250.00.  
All of the proceeds go to College Scholarship Fund of our parish.  
Support children of our parish family.  
*For more info please see Ivan Bryndzia & Vitalii Kulyk*

## *Sisterhood of St. Anne*

***God bless our volunteers!  
Have a Blessed Easter— Resurrection of our Lord  
and God Jesus Christ!***

### **Work Schedule:**

Tuesday April 29 at 5:30pm — make stuffed cabbage  
Wednesday April 30 at 8:30am — pack stuffed cabbage  
Thursday May 1— sale



## Prayer Corner for the Month of April



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

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

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

**Pray for Our expecting mother:**

Khristina, Myroslava, Maria and 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*

## Bible Study

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

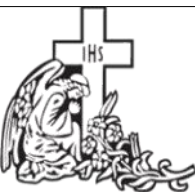
Via Zoom. We are going to work on family tree of Jesus Christ and Psalms.

Resources; Orthodox Study Bible.

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

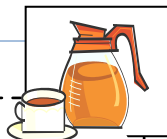


## Memorial Service



**April 27**— In memory of all of those who reposed in the Lord in the month of April.

## Coffee Hour Schedule



### Sponsored coffee hours

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

April 20— Easter

*April 27— Jr. UOL Brunch*

May 4 — *Lamb & Chicken Roast*

May 11— *Mother's Day Brunch men are cooking*

May 18- *Nina Gregosanc in memory of husband Vince*

May 25 — *open*

## Annual Lamb & Chicken Roast

Sunday May 4 served after the Divine Liturgy

Donation: Adults—\$25.00

Students—\$15.00

Children under 10 years old—free

*Volunteers are needed to set up and clean after the event. To sign up check the sign up sheets by the kitchen door.*



## Selfreliance Association



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

Кожної Середи у Церковній залі з 10:00-17:00. За інформацією просимо звертатись до Пані Матки Оленки Сендега “Асоціація Самопоміч.” або за телефоном (773) 692-1010

## ESL Classes

### ESL Announcement:

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

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