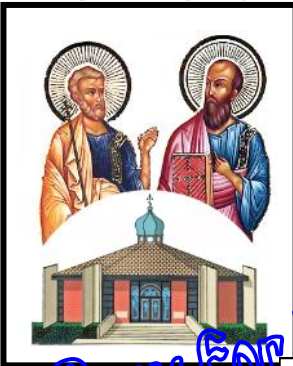


The Word of Sts. Peter & Paul



March 8, 2026

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

Pray for Ukraine

Homily on the Last Judgment

Parish Council

President

Dennis Rehr

Sisterhood of St. Anne

Athena Gordon

Church School

Director

Patricia Wolsko

Ukrainian

Saturday School

Director

PM Olenka

Church Choir

Director

George Cepynsky

Seraphim Group

President

Debbie Pierog

50/50 Club

President

Ivan Bryndzia

Vitalii Kulyk

Jr. UOL President

David Sendeha

Sr. UOL President

Yurii Sendeha



In his homily on the Last Judgment, St. Gregory of Nyssa asks “why would God set standards of charity for entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven?” We need to know the answer. Why have conditions at all? Isn’t God’s love for us unconditional? Hasn’t He

taught us that forgiveness and mercy are expressions of His will? How can there be a Judgment at all if it really is God’s will that “all men be saved” (1 Timothy 2:4)? A few facts to make sure that no one is deceived:

There will be a Judgment. The God-man Jesus Christ is telling us this in today’s Gospel. If we have created another Gospel in our hearts and minds that disputes this, then we have created a new and false Christ. And while we can build a new religion around such a fantasy, it is not true and it cannot save.

There are standards for this Judgment, and those who fail to meet those standards will be condemned. Again, there is no way around this – God says it with His own lips, and He has no lies in Him.

The Judgment will not be a pop-quiz that covers material that has not been taught. In fact, He has given us the answers that will allow us to pass this test ahead of time and done everything in His power to make sure that we receive a passing grade. [In fact, He will even take this test for us. To be sure, having Him living within us is the only way this test can be passed at all.]


So what is the criterion for Judgment? We have heard it so many times before! In order to be saved, Christ tells us that we have to “love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind” and “love thy neighbour as thyself.” (St. Matthew 22:35-37)

Sounds easy, right? But we don’t do it. So Christ has to explain it again to us, telling us that when we do not take care of “the least of these” that we do not take care of Him. In other words, the conditions He gives us today: feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, give clothes to the naked... are things that the person who has been transformed by Christ into a vessel of His infinite love DOES NATURALLY, WITHOUT HESITATION, AND WITHOUT RESERVATION. Is it the way of Christ for Him to sacrifice for the good of others... it is our fallen instinct to sacrifice only for the good of ourselves, or perhaps of those we feel close to. This is why it is so important that we repent, let go of our feelings and opinions about what is right, and allow Christ to grow within our hearts.


Because without Christ, what we call “love” is likely to be self-serving and muddle-headed. We think of “love” as a feeling, but it isn’t. It is a way of life that is lived in complete fellowship with God and is given to the service of others and our union with them. Christ gave us some examples of what such a life looks like; let me give you more.

Love in a Family

What should love in a family look like? We know from experience that it is not enough for someone to be born into (or marry into) a family for them to love the other members of that family. It is a logical contradiction that can only survive in the mind of fallen man to believe that children can be disrespectful to their parents, break their rules, dishonor their family name – and still claim to love them. Such a child may have feelings for their par-



Liturgical Schedule



<p>Sunday March 8 8:15am Matins 9:00am Hours 9:30am Divine Liturgy</p>	<p>Second Sunday of the Great Lent Tone 6 St. Gregory Palamas the Archbishop of Thessalonica. Synaxis of all Venerable Fathers of the Kyiv Caves. Matins (6): Lk. 24:36-53; Heb. 1:10–2:3; Mk. 2:1-12; To Ven.: Gal. 5:22 - 6:2; Lk. 6:17-23 ; To St.: Heb. 7:26 - 8:2; Jn. 10:9-16; Liturgy of St. Basil</p>
<p>Wednesday March 11</p>	<p>Presanctified Liturgy at 6:00pm</p>
<p>Friday March 13</p>	<p>Akathist to the Mother of God at 6:00pm Sorokousti</p>
<p>Saturday March 14</p>	<p>Vespers at 6:00pm</p>
<p>Sunday March 15 8:45am Matins 9:30am Hours 10:00AM Divine Liturgy</p>	<p>3rd Sunday of the Great Lent. Veneration of Cross. Tone 7 Martyrs Agapius, Publius (Pauplios), Timolaus, Romulus, two named Dionysius, and two named Alexander, at Caesarea in Palestine (303). Hieromartyr Alexander of Side in Pamphylia (270-275). Martyr Nicander of Egypt (302). Matins (7): Jn. 20:1-10 Heb. 4:14–5:6; Mk. 8:34–9:1;</p>
<p>Wednesday March 18</p>	<p>Presanctified Liturgy at 6:00pm</p>
<p>Friday March 20</p>	<p>Akathist to the Mother of God at 9:30AM Sorokousti</p>
<p>Sunday March 22 8:45am Matins 9:30am Hours 9:30am</p>	<p>4th Sunday of the Great Lent Tone 8 Venerable John Listvychnyk Hieromartyr Basil, presbyter of Ancyra (362). Matins (8): Jn. 20:11-18; Heb. 6:13-20; Mk. 9:17-31; Mt. 4:25 - 5:12; Liturgy of St. Basil the Great</p>

ents, but surely you will agree that this child's love is of a very fallen nature; and that the heart of such a child needs to be recreated in a mature, self-sacrificing, and respectful way.

Nor do parents get off easy. How can I claim to love my children if I do not provide for them, nurture them, and protect them? I am sure you know people – quite often they are men – who claim to love their children, but do not respect the mother of those children, or who have to be forced by the courts to support those children, or who are unwilling to sacrifice their own vices to give those children a good home! What does it mean when such a parent claims to “love” his children? Surely we must admit that such a love is fallen and in need of serious transformation!

If we could look into the hearts of children, fathers, mothers, husbands, and wives, then we could know if their love for their children was true. But only God can do that – we are awful at it. We think our own hearts are so pure and are far too quick to condemn the hearts of others. So we need indicators. If you know parents who drive simple cars, live in smaller houses, and live modest lives so that they can provide for their children, you have a strong indicator that their love is sincere. If you know parents that are so concerned about getting bigger houses and bigger cars and the best of everything that they work all hours of the day and night and do not spend any time with their children, you have a strong indicator that their love is something less than pure. I could go on, but you get the idea. *V. Rev. Anthony Perkins*

Sisterhood of St. Anne

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

We are schedules to work:

Monday March 9— 8:00sm Make SK balls

Tuesday March 10—5:30pm Make SKPergooes

Sunday March 15—make cheese balls

Monday March 16– make Cheese perogies

Tuesday March 17– 8:30am and 5:30pm make perogies

Sunday March 29 —make cheese balls

Monday March 30 —8:00am make perogies & 5:30pm make SC

Tuesday March 31 —8:30am pack SC

Wednesday April 1—5:30pm Bake bread

Thursday April 2— 11:00am-3:00pm Perogies Sale



Sunday School Corner



Sunday School Recap March 1, 2026

Last week, the first Sunday of Great Lent, was the Sunday of Orthodoxy. Children of all ages took part in a procession of carrying icons to commemorate the day, almost 1200 years ago, the priests and bishops carried icons back into their churches after being forced to remove them, stemming from an iconoclastic controversy that lasted almost 70 years. This day marks the triumph of Orthodoxy.

The family activity homework from the previous week was to memorize the Jesus Prayer.... which they did.... Beautifully!

We ended class by reviewing the topic ideas for the 2026 UOL essay contest. Parents, a reminder that their essays are due by March 30.

*Peace be with you,
~Ms. Debbie, Ms. Faith & Ms. Karen*

Sunday's Second Collection

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

Advanced Education Scholarship

2026 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. She will be happy to answer any questions regarding the application and the process or applying. The deadline for accepting the form and its accompanying essay is April 19.

Recipients of this Church sponsored scholarship will be announced at the end of May.

Scholarship Committee

Eternal Light

In memory of Olga Beck given by children Tony Beck & Susan Ziegler—\$100.00



Seven Day Vigil Candles

For the health of Brandon Reynolds by the Masur Family
For the health and safety of the Markian, Alec and Hanna Masur by Terese & Mark
For the health and God's healing of Richard Kimak by Fr. Vasył
For the speedy recovery of Barbara Bruce by PM Olenka
For the health and God's blessings of Patti Faye
by John Batura



Selfreliance Associations

Безкоштовне вивчення усіх документів для новоприбулих (Social Security, Work permit, Benefits) Кожної Середи у Церковній залі з 9:00-17:00. За інформацією просимо звертатись до Пані Матки Оленки Сендега “Асоціація Самопоміч.” або за телефоном (773) 692-1010



Sr. UOL Fish Fry

The Chapter is going to host 1 more Fish fry during the Great Lent..

If you would like to volunteer, please put your name on the lists posted by the kitchen door. УПЛ буде мати ще 1 рибну вечерю під час посту. Якщо ви бажаєте бути волонтером, прошу записатися на листку біля кухонних дверей.



Lenten Fish Fry

On Fridays from 5:00pm-7:00pm

April 4



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

Prayer Corner for the Month of March



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

Nina Gregosanc & family, Larry Pierog, Mark, Judy Broud, Mary Wisniowski, Mary Pirtle, Bob Lewandowski, Andy, Bohdan, Ralph Palm, David, Irine, Zoriana, Lev, Alla Grzymiski, Nicole, John & Patti, Barbara Patronik, Barbara Bruce, Chloe McKinney, Yuriy Zmysly, Dorothy Seliga, Halyna & Wolodymer Kashpar, Mykola, Priest Vasyl Dovhan, Tina & Frankie, Alexander, Anatoli & Pamela, Janet, Sam and Natalia.

Pray for soldiers in Ukraine: Petro Drapala, Yaroslav, Pavlo, Slavko, Mikola, Victor, Taras, Yuriy, Stepan, Mykola, medic Stella, Oleg, Yuriy, Dmitro, Bohdan, Roman, Mykola, Kostia, missing in action Vitaliy.

Pray for Our expecting mothers:

Tetiana, Maria & Veronika
New moms Natalia, Anna, Krystyna, Pavai, Myroslava, Natalia, Maria, Michelle.

*If there is anyone who is in need of prayers, and you want to add them to the prayer corner, please notify Fr. Vasyl
If you would like me to visit with the Sacraments of the Holy Confession and Eucharist, please call the rectory.
to set up an appointment. I will gladly visit everyone.
Fr. Vasyl*

Memorial Service

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



Coffee Hour Schedule



We are back to sponsored coffee hours

You can sponsor coffee hour monetarily by donating \$50.00 to cover the cost of one coffee hour.

If you would like to volunteer, please sign up the schedule is on the door of the church hall kitchen.

March 8 — Sisterhood of St. Ann for Annual Meeting

March 15— PM Olenka & Nataliia Sendeha

March 22— Larson & Pierog Families

March 29—Jr. UOL pancake flip

April 5— Sr. UOL Potluck

April 12— Easter

April 19— open

April 26— Beef & Chicken Roast

Mark your calendars

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

Sunday April 26— Beef & Chicken Roast served after teh Divine Liturgy

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

Free ESL Classes/Класи Англійської мови



ESL classes every Wednesday evening, in the Church Hall. Adults wishing to improve their English are welcome

to join us at 5:30 p.m. If you have any questions, please see Pat Wolsko or Athena Gordan.

Безкоштовні заняття КЛАСИ ESL Кожної Середи

о 5:30 вечора в церковній залі. Запрошуємо усіх, хто хоче вивчити мову, хто хоче стати більш вправним в розмові, читанні та написання англійської мови. Реєстраційні форми знаходяться на столі при вході у церкві. Якщо у вас є будь-які запитання, зверніться до