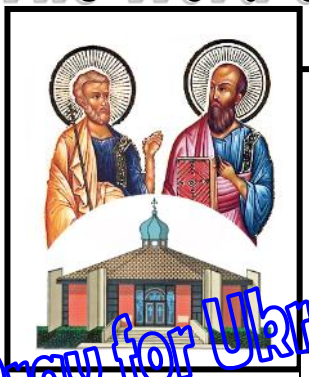
The Word of Sts. Peter & Paul



September 13, 2026

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Pray for Ukraine

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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

Reflection

My dear parish family,

With a heavy heart I have to announce to you about sudden passing of Nicole Kathrine Larson. Our community has been wounded by the recent sadden passing of Fr. Howard and Fr. John and now we hear of passing 22-year-old Nicole.
These are not simply stories we hear about. These are human lives. They are spouses, sons and daughters, friends, classmates, neighbors, and beloved children of God.
And so today, before anything else, we pray. We pray for those who are suffering. We pray for those whose hearts are broken. We pray for the families who are asking questions for which there seem to be no answers. And we pray for those who have died, entrusting them to the mercy and love of God. The Church does not respond to tragedy with condemnation. She responds with prayer. Our Lord Jesus Christ tells us, "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." There are burdens that become so heavy that a person can no longer see a

way forward. Addiction can become a prison. Depression can become darkness. Despair can convince a person that there is no hope and that no one cares.
But brothers and sisters, that voice of despair is a lie.
There is always someone to whom we can turn. There is always a door that can be opened. There is always a person who can listen. And above all, there is Christ, who does not abandon His children.
This is why we must be a Church that notices.
We must notice when someone withdraws.
We must notice when someone is hurting.
We must notice when a friend says, "I'm not doing well."
And when we notice, we must not be afraid to ask:
"Are you okay?" "How can I help you?"
There is no shame in asking for help. There is no shame in receiving medical care. There is no shame in speaking with a priest, a counselor, a physician, a trusted family member, or a friend.
God can work through all of these people.
And we must remember that compassion does not mean pretending that sin and destruction are harmless. We tell the truth precisely because we love one another.
This is why today we pray!
We do not judge; we do not spread gossip. We do not try to guess why.
We simply pray asking Christ for his mercy and love.
We do not know the secret judgment of another person's soul. Only God knows the depths of a person's suffering. Only God knows the final thoughts of the heart. Only God knows the battle that someone may have fought in silence.
Therefore, let us be very careful with our words.
Let us not say, "They were weak."
Let us not say, "They should have known better."
Let us not gossip about their final moments.
Let us not turn someone's tragedy into a scandal.
Instead, let us say:
"Lord, have mercy."
"Lord, receive Your servant." "Lord, comfort the family." "Lord, forgive us our sins." And let us remember the words of the Psalmist: "The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart."

Liturgical Schedule

Sunday **September 13** 8:45am Matins 9:30am Hours **10:00am** **Divine Liturgy**	**15th Sunday after Pentecost. Tone 6** The Placing of the Cincture (Sash) of the Most Holy Theotokos (395-408).Hieromartyr Cyprian, bishop of Carthage (258). St. Gennadius, patriarch of Constantinople (471). Matins (4): Lk. 24:1-12; 2 Cor. 4:6-15; Mt. 22:35-46; To Theotokos: Heb. 9:1-7; Lk. 10:38-42; 11:27-28
Monday **September 14** **9:00am**	**THE UNIVERSAL EXALTATION OF THE PRECIOUS AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS** Repose of St. John Chrysostom (407). Martyr Papas of Lycaonia (305). New Martyr Macarius of Thessalonica (Mt. Athos) (1527). Matins: Jn. 12:28-36; 1 Cor. 1:18-24; Jn. 19, 6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35; Strict Fast Day
Sunday **September 20** 8:45am Matins 9:30am Hours **10:00am** **Divine Liturgy**	**16th Sunday after Pentecost, after the Exaltation.** Tone 7 Afterfeast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Martyr and Confessor Michael and his councilor Theodore, wonderworkers of Chernihiv (1245). Matins (5): Lk. 24:12-35; 2 Cor. 6:1-10; Mt. 25:14-30; Sunday after Exaltation: Gal. 2:16-20; Mk. 8:34-9:1;
Sunday **September 27** 8:15am Matins 9:00am Hours **9:30am** **Divine Liturgy**	**17th Sunday after Pentecost. Tone 8** Martyr Callistratus and his company (49 Martyrs) of Carthage (304). Apostles Mark, Aristarchus, and Zenas of the Seventy. Martyr Epicharis of Rome (284). Ven. Ignatius, abbot (963-975). Matins Gospel (6): Lk. 24:36-53; 2 Cor. 6:16–7:1; Mt. 15:21-28;

The Christian life is not about pretending that everything is fine. It is about bringing our wounds to Christ. It is about confession. It is about repentance. It is about forgiveness. It is about carrying one another's burdens.
St. Paul tells us, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." This is our calling now. Let us pray for forgiveness—not only for the sins of those who have died, but also for ourselves. "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy upon us." Let us pray for the young people of our community.
May God protect them from addiction, despair, exploitation, violence, and hopelessness.
May He give parents wisdom and endurance.
May He give friends courage.
May He give our young people the strength to ask for help.
May He give our Church the humility to listen.
And may He give us all the grace to recognize that every human being standing before us is an image of God.
Today we entrust Nicole, her young soul to the infinite mercy of God. We do not pretend to know what belongs only to God.
We pray. We mourn. We remember and we hope!
Because our faith is ultimately not in death.
Our faith is in Jesus Christ, who entered into death and conquered death.
Christ is risen!
And because Christ is risen, despair does not have the final word.
Death does not have the final word.
Sin does not have the final word.
The final word belongs to God. And God's word is life, mercy, forgiveness, and love!!! And may our Lord Jesus Christ, the Physician of our souls and bodies, grant rest to newly departed Nicole, comfort to Ted, Karen and Naithan, healing to those who are suffering, strength to those battling inside wars and despair, forgiveness to us sinners, and peace to this entire community. Nicole is in peace now.
For You are our resurrection, our life, and our hope, O Christ our God, and to You we give glory, together with Your eternal Father and Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.
Amen.

Fr. Vasyl

Parish Council

Monthly Council meting will take place TODAY Sunday September 13 after Coffee hour. Guests are welcome.

Sunday's Second Collection

Sunday's Second Special Collection is dedicated each month to a different cause. Month of September is dedicated to College students care packages.

Sunday School

We are currently preparing our theme and related lessons, along with new instructional materials for this coming year. As we set up the classrooms and arrange for our class configurations by grade and age, as well as checking registration with parents, we will schedule our first day of Sunday School, for Sunday, September 20.
Parents of any new students should consult with Miss Pat for a registration form.
We look forward to learning more about our Orthodox Faith with each of you and your children.

In the Love and Glory of Jesus Christ,
Ms .Pat, Ms .Karen, Ms. Debbie and Ms. Faith

Baptism announcement

The baptism of Andrea Rose Heck, granddaughter of the late Andrea Manson and daughter of Rosemary (Manson) Heck, will take place on September 20th at 2 p.m.

All friends of Rosemary and her mother Andrea from the parish are welcome to attend the baptism and reception to follow in the church hall.

Rosemary (Manson) & Wade Heck

Seven Day Vigil Candles

For the health and strength of Ted, Karen, & Nathan Larson by John & Mary Jo Grzymski
For the health and strength for Ted, Karen & Nathen Larson by Gbur & Lang Families

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- In memory of Nicole Larson by John & Mary Jo Grzymski
- I memory of Nicole Larson by Gbur & Lang Families
- In memory of Nicole Larson by Fr. Vasyl & PM Olenka

Selreliance Association

Безкоштовне виповнення усіх документів для новоприбулих (Social Security. Work permit, Benefits) За інформацією просимо звертатись до Пані Матки Оленки Сендега "Асоціація Самопоміч." або за телефоном (773) 692-1010
We offer free of charge consultation as well as filling up applications for Social Security, work authorization and benefits for new immigrants. *For more info see PM Olenka.*

College Care Package

Parents and Guardians, do you have a son, daughter or grandchild enrolled in college or a vocational/trade school? If so, we want to let them know their parish family is thinking of them and praying for them in a very tangible way. It is our plan to send care packages from time to time throughout the academic year with little reminders of home and faith tucked inside. It is our hope that this would be a welcome break from the pressures of studies and late-night cram sessions. It doesn't matter if they are living on or off campus or commuting from home. Nor does it matter what year they are in. As long as they are pursuing their degree or certification, they are eligible. If this is something you know they would enjoy receiving, applications will be made available soon in the coming weeks. Until then, should you have any questions please reach out to one of the committee members: **Karen Larson, Athena Gordan, Debbie Pierog or Michelle Supilowski**.

Prayer Corner for the Month of September

We ask all of you to remember in your prayers the following individuals, who are in need of God's healing and grace:
Joshua Smith, Jake, Anne, Marcia, Carolyn, Judy, Donna, Danylo Drapala, Nina Gregosanc & family, Larry Pierog, Mark, Judy Broud, Mary Wisniowski, Mary Pirtle, Bob Lewandowski, Andy, Bohdan, Ralph Palm, David, Irine, Zoriana, Lev, Alla Grzymski, 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 Rocky, Natalia, Natalia.

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

Pray for Our expecting mothers:
Marta and Tetiana

New moms: Olha, Maria, Viktoria, Bozhena, Tetiana, Natalia, Anna, Krystyna, Pavai, Myroslava, Nataliia, 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

September 27 — In memory of all of those who have stepped into eternity in the month of September.

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.

September 13 — Anatoli & Pamela Omelian
September 20— Sloan Family in memory of Fr. Howard
September 27 — Pork & Chicken Roast
October 4 — open
October 11— Brezden in memory of Orest
October 18 — open
October 25 —Anatoli & Pamela Omelian

Mark your calendars

Sunday September 20 — First day of Sunday School
Sunday September 27 — Pork & Chicken Roast Dinner at Noon
Sunday November 8 — Parish Family Thanksgiving Dinner
Sunday January 10 — Parish Family Christmas Dinner

ESL Classes

ESL CLASS
After a very busy summer at Sts. Peter & Paul Church, we plan to resume our English classes in the Church Hall on Wednesday, September 16, at 5:30 p.m. Don't forget to bring your summer "homework". We hope you had an enjoyable summer in spite of our stormy August. We look forward to seeing old and new students on September 16, 2026
In Christ, Pat Wolsko and Athena Gordan

Безкоштовні заняття КЛАСИ ESL Відновлюємо безкоштовні уроку Англійсщкої мови з 18 Вересня 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
Пет Волско, о. Василя або ПМ Оленка.