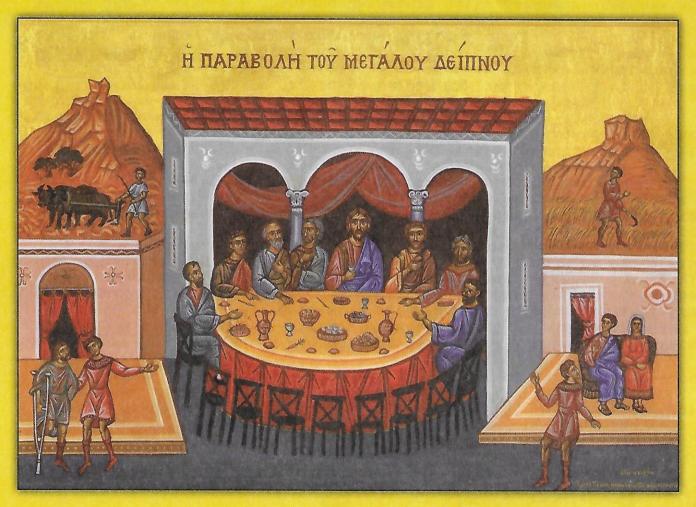
## SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS



Icon of the Parable of the Great Feast

## The Great Feast

This familiar parable is read in the Church each year just two Sundays before the feast of our Lord's Nativity. In it we are reminded of the great care with which God prepared the way of His incarnation. All of the Law and the Prophets look forward to this moment, the moment when the God-man Jesus Christ comes into the world. He is, in fact, the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets – the goal towards which they were all aiming. The whole world was prepared by them for this great event. As the parable tells us the King – that is God – has prepared a great feast for us and has invited us to come and enter into the joy that He has prepared for us.

Today we begin in earnest to move toward the

feast of the birth of our Incarnate Savior Jesus Christ. Today we are called to see the great preparation that has gone into this event, to marvel at the great love and care of God for us that He would labor so long and with such great care for us. Today we look back at the whole of the history of the people of God and see that it is the history of God's preparation all leading to the moment when He would take flesh, become incarnate and enter the world as a child. We have been given an invitation to come and join the feast, to abandon the world and enter the Kingdom of God, to leave our own life and receive instead the Life of Christ. We have been invited, chosen by God – will we then accept the invitation and choose Him?

## Saints Peter & Paul Prainian Catholic Church

Hurst Street at Union Avenue Post office Box 126

Bridgeport, Pennsylvania 19405 www.sspeterpaulukrchurch.us

Glory to Jesus Christ! Slava Isusu Khristoo!

December 15, 2019 Holy Fathers

ALL OUR DEAR PARISHIONERS and friends will share a beautiful Christmas Feast today, Sunday, at 10:30 am, when we gather in our Parish Hall. Our beautiful school students will entertain us with an original stage presentation of the Nativity. St. Nicholas and his helpers will then make his annual visit with gifts for the children. Father Ronald will then bless the table, laden with the 12 dishes or foods of Christmas Eve. Come and sit with us and be a part of our parish family.

OUR SCHOOL CHILDREN will be on Christmas break until Sunday, Jan. 12. The second semester will begin on that date and we trust and expect that all our parish youths will attend this wonderful program.

 $\overline{\text{WE THANK}}$  the 20 folks who sang with us last Sunday at the Bridgeport Presbyterian Church. If smiles and applause are any indication, the singers made our parish proud last Sunday afternoon.

THE PRE-CHRISTMAS PERIOD OF 40 days BEFORE Christmas is called St. Phillips Fast and is a time of fasting from meat on Fridays, seeing to the needs of the poor, and attending Holy Liturgy every week. Only if we fast can we enjoy the great feast of Christmas.

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR a unique Christmas gift, Father Pastor has a few copies on hand of his book "Bishop for a Day". See Father after services today for a copy - personal autograph included!

THIS PAST WEEK we visited with the sacraments: Jerry Brady, Mary and Steve Johnson, Irene Dychdala, Barbara Myskiw, Michael Homa. Please pray for all our ailing folks, especially Bridget Kovach.

ish this Christmastide: Floyd Pachella and Bert LeGendre, decorators Sue, Tom and Michele, our entire School Staff with Prof. George, the kitchen staff on Thursday, and our entire corps of ushers. May the Newborn Divine Infant bless all of these good people with much love.

## DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, 6 pm +Joseph Dudas (Margaret, Karen, Lisa)
Sunday, 9 am =Michael, Agnes and Donna (Fonock-Pasquale Family)
Thursday, 7 am +Julia Dolgash (Dottie Dolgash)
Friday, 7 am Bridget Kovach (The Parish auxiliary)
Saturday, 8 am Health of the Fedoryshyn Family (Oksana)
Saturday, 6 pm +Helen Guman (Daughter Kathy, Son Garry)
Sunday, 9 am Health of the Pawluk Family (Borys and Neonila)

TODAY'S TROPAR:

The three young men, guides of the Faith, rejoiced in a pit of flames, as if they were in a water of rest. The Prophet Daniel appeared as a shepherd to the lions. O Christ God, save our souls for their sake, amen.

GLORY TO THE FATHER AND...

TODAY'S KONTAK:

O Christ, You justified the Forefathers by faith to form through them the Church of the Gentiles. These Saints are glorified because the Virgin mary who bore You descended from them.

O Christ God, through their prayers, have mercy on us.

TODAY'S PROKIMEN: Blessed are You, O Lord, God of our Fathers, amen.

Cove, Ja. Lonald