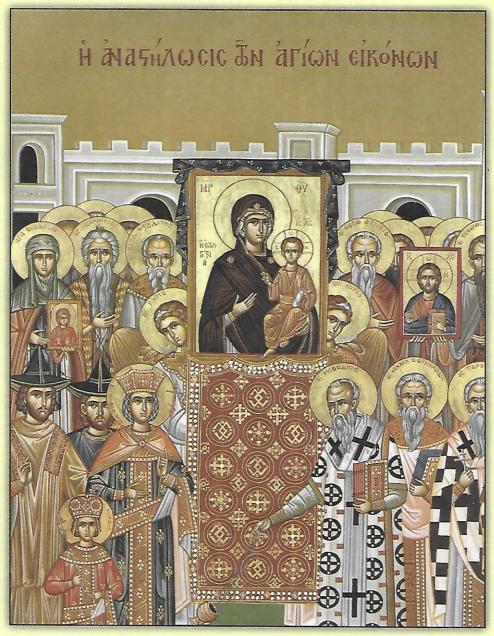
## FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY



Icon of the Holy Images

## Icons Show the Human Face of God

In recent months my Sunday reflections have frequently focused on our Christian brothers and sisters of the East. Wishing as it were to embrace their rich tradition of faith in a single glance, today I would like to refer once again to the sense of mystery which is apparent in their icons. The East and the West vie with each other to put their art at the service of the faith.

But from the East, where icons had to be defended with bloodshed in the iconoclast crisis of the eighth and ninth centuries, comes a particular call jealously to preserve the religious nature of this art. It is based on the mystery of the Incarnation, in which God chose to assume a human face. In the last analysis, sacred art seeks to transmit something of the mystery of that face.

This is why the East firmly insists on the spiritual qualities which must characterize the artist, to whom Simeon of Thessalonica, the great defender of Tradition, addresses this important exhortation: "Teach with words, write with letters, paint with colors, in conformity with Tradition; the painting is true, as is the writing of books; and the grace of God is present in them, because what is represented there is holy."

By contemplating icons in the whole context of liturgical and ecclesial life, the Christian community is called to grow in its experience of God, and to become more and more a living icon of the communion of life between the Three Divine Persons.

Pope John Paul II



## Saints Peter & Paul Carainian Catholic Church

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March 10, 2019 First Sunday -Lent

WE HAVE NOW BEGUN THE PILGRIMAGE, KNOWN AS THE Great Fast, the sacred time of preparation for Easter and the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus. The Church instructs us to keep the Fast by abstaining from meat on all the Fridays of the 40 days, attending the sacred services every week, helping the needy. Remember: If we do not fast, we will not feast on Easter Sunday with all our family and friends.

ON FRIDAY EVENING, 6 pm, we will celebrate the ancient and brief service called the Presanctified Liturgy. This is a brief Vespers-type liturgy with the distribution of Holy Communion at the conclusion. If you have never attended this service, you are in for a spiritual treat!

ON SATURDAY MORNING, 8 am, we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy and a brief Panachyda or memorial service for all your beloved deceased. Be sure to give Father a list of your familial déceased, so that we can include them in this Saturday morning service.

SOME 2019 CHURCH CALENDARS and envelope boxes still remain for you and your family in the church basement today. Please take home these items today for yourself and all your family.

NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 10, Father Ronald will conduct an adult seminar on the meaning and services of Holy Week as the final preparation for the great Feast of the Resurrection. Bring your family and friends and share in this session of learning, questions-answers, treats and gifts, coffee, tea and sweets galore. It's all free and all for you!

A GREAT BIG THANKYOU goes out today to all the folks who shared in the cooking and serving the Saturday night fund-raiser for the local Knights of Columbus. God bless all of you good people for giving welcome witness to our neighbors, even as our Lord taught us in Matthew's Gospel.

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS are now learning the ancient art of eggdecorating (Pysanky). Feel free to monitor this program and learn a few tips from our experts this Sunday morning.

PLEASE REMEMBER all our parish sick and infirm: Jim Deskiewicz, Gina Plisiewicz, Mary T. Johnson, Maryann Erdek, Irene Dychdala, Michael Homa, Maryann Cameron, Anne Bryngelewich, Marie Sedor, mary Irene Michaels. Perhaps a card, a prayer, a kind word or thought...?

## DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, 6 pm +Betty Fitzpatrick (Jim Patzuk and Daughters)
+Mary Martyniuk (Chief Zenny and Dorrie)

Sunday, 9 am +Deceased in the Fedoryshyn Family (Oksana Fedoryshyn)
Thursday, 7 am +Stephen Shewchuk (St. Michael's Choir)
Friday, 6 pm +Dr. Noelle Rotondo (Bill Maruszczak)
Saturday, 8 am +Andy and Olga Smulley (Daughters Dorothy, Theresa)
Saturday, 6 pm +Horace Hitchens (Borys Pawluk Sr.)
Sunday, 9 am +Motria Dejneka (Trene and Sophie)

TODAY'S TROPAR: While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and soldiers guarded your most pure Body, You rose in the Third Day, O Savior, giving new life to the world. And so the heavenly powers cried out to You: "Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Your Kingdom! You are the lover of all mankind!"

GLORY TO THE Father and...

TODAY'S KONTAK: The indescribable Word of the Father, O Mother of God, became manifest in You at the Incarnation. He restored the defiled image of the human soul to its former beauty by His divine splendor. Now we all can strive daily to gain our salvation.

TODAY'S PROKIMEN: O Lord, God of our Fathers, blessed are You, forever.

TR. Ronald