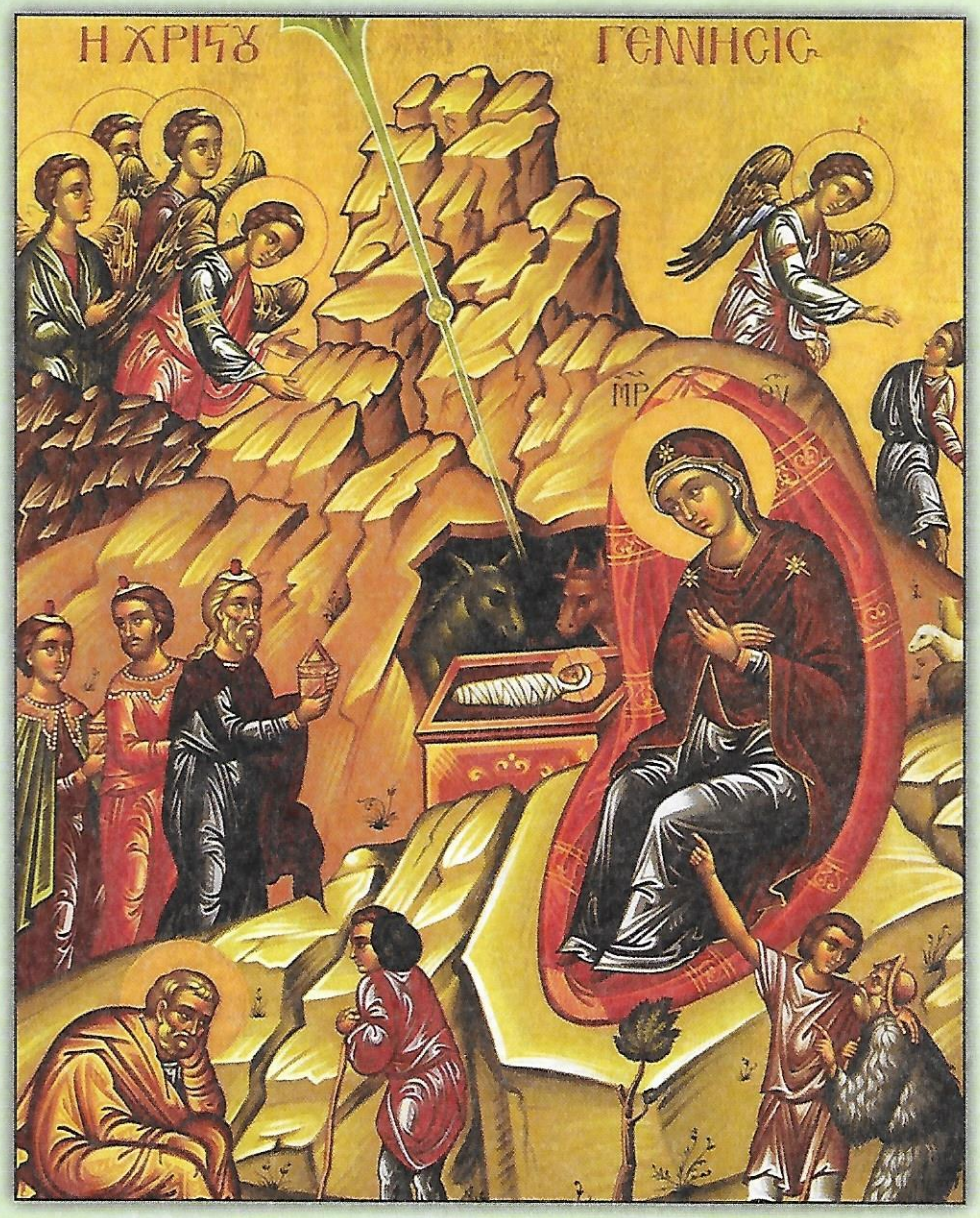
The Sunday before The Nativity of Our Lord
Sunday of the Ancestors



Icon of the Nativity of Our Lord

Jesus Our Joy and Peace

When our Lord and Savior came to earth and made Himself bodily present, the angels appeared in chorus and gave the good news to the shepherds: I bring you good news of great joy which shall be to all the people. We, too, borrow this hymn from these holy angels and announce great joy to you.

Today, very dearly beloved, the people of Christ have been exalted, and the enemies of truth have been humbled. Today, dearly beloved, Christ is in joy, and the Devil in grief. Today, the angels are in exaltation, and the demons in confusion.

Today, Christ, the King of peace, has come forth with His peace and routed all discord, banished dissension, and dissipated conflict. As the brilliance of the sun lights up the sky, so He illumines the Church with the splendor of peace. For, the text says, there has been born to you today a Savior of the world. O how desirable is the very name of peace! How firm a foundation peace is for the Christian religion, and what a heavenly ornament for the altar of the Lord! What can we utter worthy of peace? Peace is a name of Christ Himself, as even the Apostle says: For Christ is our peace. He it is who has made both one. The two were at variance, not over conflicting opinions or faith, but because of the Devil's envy. But, just as the streets are cleansed when the king comes forth, and the whole city decked with myriad flowers and banners to keep out of sight anything less worthy of the king's countenance, so also now, when Christ the King of peace comes forth, let everything depressing be removed from our midst. While truth is shining, let falsehood be banished, and discord flee, and concord be resplendent.

St. Peter Chrysologus

Rev. Dr. Ronald Popivchak
Pastor

Area Code 610
272-7035

Saints Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church

Hurst Street at Union Avenue
Post Office Box 126
Bridgeport, Pennsylvania 19405
www.sspeterpaulukrchurch.us

Christ is Born!
Khristos Razhdayetsia!

December 22, 2019
Christmas Week

THE CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE this week includes the Pre-Liturgy Vespers on Tuesday, the 24th, at 8:30 pm, followed by the Christmas Divine Liturgy at about 9 pm. On Wednesday, the 25th, we will sing the Christmas Day Divine Liturgy at 10 am. We trust that every parishioner, every family and especially every child, son and daughter, will be with us to celebrate the Birth of Jesus Christ this week.

WE ARE SO VERY GRATEFULto all our faithful for their generosity to our church this Christmas Season. Your goodness is the reason our Parish is vibrant and growing. We trust and pray that the Newborn Lord Jesus will bless all of you with good health and much love in the New Year!

WE SEND OUT OUR LOVE TO ALL OUR SCHOOL STAFF AND STUDENTS with Prof. George Maxim in the lead for the wonderful stage production last Sunday. We are so very proud of our Sunday School and all our volunteer Catechists. Our School will be on Christmas break until Sunday, Jan.12. We received late word that Mrs. Peggy Gulattois recovering well from her collapse last Sunday in the Hall, thanks to the great care of Dr. Scott Richard and his helpers, thanks be to the Lord Jesus on the stage!

FATHER RONALD thanks all the good people, who remembered him this Christmas with their prayers, cards, gifts and kindly wishes. May the Infant of Bethlehem bless all of you with health and Joy this Christmastide.

THIS PAST WEEK we visited with the sacraments Pauline Newhart, Martha Dinich, Frank and Sandi Katarynick. Please remember thèsestruggling folks and all our elderly with your prayers and good wishes.

BURIED ON WEDNESDAY: Bridget (Kushnir) Kovach, 96, pioneer parishioner and officer in the Parish Auxiliary, mother of Patricia and Lorraine. May the Divine Infant Jesus take Bridget home to Heaven!

BURIED ON FRIDAY: +Bruce Pierce, 64, husband of Terri (Jordan) Pierce, Pottstown, PA. May our Good Lord Jesus give him rest in Heaven!

FATHER PASTOR has a few copies of his best-seller book "Bishop for a Day" this weekend for your last-minute Christmas shoping - autograph included.

SEE FATHER PASTOR BEFORE AND AFTER Liturgy this weekend for Christmas confessions. Just ask and he will accomodate you.

DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, 6 pm +Helen Guman (Daughter Kathy, Son Garry)
Sunday, 9 am Haelth of the Pawluk Family (Borys and Neonila)
Tuesday, 9 pm Health of all the Parishioners
Wednesday, 10 am The Martinick and Plush Family (Kathy, Ted, Children)
Thursday, 7 am +Bridget Kovach (Mary Irene Michaels)
Friday, 7 am +Hunter and Peggy Robinson (Bill Maruszczak)
Saturday, 8am +George and Mary Halas (Cindy and Elaine)
Saturday, 6 pm +Simko and Roberto Family (Bob and Angie Simko)
Sunday, 9 am +Stefan and Thomas (Luba Jackson)
+Walter and Antoinette(Daughters Lois and Debbie)

CHRISTMAS TROPAR: O Christ Our God, your Nativity has spread the Light of wisdom throughout the world. The people who lived in darkness learned through the One Star to worship You, the Sun of Righteousness and as the Orient from on high, O Lord, glory be to You.

GLORY TO THE FATHER AND THE SON...

CHRISTMAS KONTAK: Today the Virgin mary gives birth to the Inconceivable One, and the earth presents a cave to the Inaccessible One. The angels and the shepherds praise Him, as the Magi gift him with gold, amen.

CHRISTMAS PROKIMEN: Let all the earth adore You and sing out Your Name.

Fr. Romaley