

SUNDAY OF MEATFARE



*Icon of the Ladder of Divine Ascent*



## *Pushing or Pulling?*

A couple, vacationing in Maine, visited the harbor to watch the boats return from fishing and trapping lobsters. One lobster boat docked near where they sat and unloaded buckets of fresh lobsters. The wife became intrigued as she watched the lobsters scurry about in a bucket. She noticed that as soon as one lobster began to climb its way out of the pail, the other lobsters would pull it back down. It seemed to her that it would have been fairly easy for each lobster to escape from the bucket, except that they always were being pulled back down by the others.

Lobsters certainly can teach us about human nature as well. Doesn't it seem that as soon as one person decides to climb out of the "bucket," there are so many others trying to

pull him or her back down? Rather, shouldn't we try to support and push the other person farther along?

Let us look at the icon on the cover of the bulletin. The icon depicts people traveling from earth to heaven on a ladder. Can we see ourselves on the ladder? Let us ask ourselves: Do we push our neighbor further up the ladder to Heaven, or do we pull them down?

In the Gospel reading today, Jesus speaks of our obligation to assist other people in every need. Moreover, Our Lord tells us that whatever we do to others we do to Him. Conversely, if we neglect others, we neglect Our Lord. "Whatever you do to the least of My brothers, you do to me." (Matthew 25:40)

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](http://www.sspeterpaulukrchurch.us)

Glory to Jesus Christ!  
Slava Isusu Khristoo!

Feb. 20. 2022  
Meatfare Sunday

WE PLAN TO LIVESTREAM the Holy Liturgy this weekend on Sunday the 20th at 9 am. Next weekend we will livestream the Liturgy on Saturday, Feb. 26th at 6 pm. Please tell all your relatives and friends about this wonderful way to pray and sing with us at the Holy Liturgy.

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY for our beloved native land of Ukraine, the epicenter of the world-wide struggle between the East and West, dictatorship and democracy, war and peace. We will include in the Liturgy petitions for peace and freedom in Ukraine in our Liturgies this weekend.

OUR PARISH OFFICE is now preparing official reports of your donations for last year, 2021. Simply give your name to the ushers and Father will prepare a confidential report for you by the following week.

OUR PARISH SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL soon prepare our students for all the upcoming holydays during the current spring semester. There is still time to enroll your children and grandchildren in our program. Simply access our parish website and fill out the school registration form. We will contact you and invite your youngones into the proper class, from pre-school to highschool. Classes are conducted on Google Meet Sundays at 11 am every week.

PLEASE REMEMBER all our dear parish sickly and ailing folks this weekend. We pray today for all these dear ones, particularly Tommy Newmaster, Earl Church, Dottie Dolgash, Pat Pasquale, Alice Machita, Lidia Dychdala and Father Daniel Gurovich in Bethlehem.



BE SURE TO CHECK OUT the beautiful parish calendars and unclaimed parish donation boxes in the Church basement today. Please take home these items for all your family and neighbors today. Also help yourself to a toothbrush or two in the church vestibule. Our parish has two maple-wood beds to give away, a single and a double. Check with Father if interested.

THE WORKERS HAVE FINALLY FINISHED the roofing project at the rectory at the cost of \$10,000. We thank all the good folks for their donations for this purpose. There is still time to make a donation for the new roof.

DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, Feb. 19, 6 pm	+Beatrice Okafor (Dawn Francis Fam.)
Sunday, Feb. 20, 9 am	Health of Dottie D. (Fr. Pastor)
Saturday, Feb. 26, 6 pm	+Thomas J. Hunt (The Plush Family)
Sunday, Feb. 27, 9 am	+Deceased in Fedoryshyn F. (Oksana)

TODAY'S TROPAR:

Angelic Powers were on Your Sepulchre, as the guards became deadlike and Mary stood by the tomb seeking Your Most Pure Body. You captured hell yet were not detained by it. You are the Giver of Life, O Lord Jesus, amen.

GLORY TO THE FATHER AND THE SON...

TODAY'S KONTAK:

O Lord, everyone will be fearful, when You come in Your glory. All the books will be open and secrets revealed. O Judge, most just, have mercy on us all sinners, when You come in Your Glory, Amen.

TODAY'S PROKIMEN:

Great is Our Lord and merciful to us all amen.

LOVE, Fr. Ronald