

THIRD SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST
SUNDAY OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS



Icon of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

The Greatest Act of Love

During the Second World War, an American prisoner of war held captive in a prison camp was sentenced to railroad repair detail. When the day's work had ended, the tools were counted and one shovel was reported to be missing. The officer in charge of the guards insisted that it had been stolen to attempt escape. Infuriated, the officer denounced the men and demanded that the guilty one step forward to accept his punishment. When no man came forward, the officer's rage had reached the heights of violence and he threatened to kill everyone on the work detail! To show that he meant what he said, he had one of the guards cock his rifle and aim it at the first man in line. At this point, one of the prisoners stepped forward and said calmly, "I did it."

The officer ordered the prisoner to be beaten in front of the other prisoners. When they had finished beating him, the prisoner remained standing at attention when the officer gave the order to execute him. The men of the work detail picked up their friend's body and marched back to camp to bury him. When the tools were counted at the guardhouse, it was discovered that no shovel was ever missing.

Our Lord Jesus Christ tells us, "No greater love can there be than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you to do." (John 15:13-14) The Cross of our Lord is a sign of His love for us. Let us venerate with great joy this enduring symbol of God's covenant with us!

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

Slava Isusu Khristoo!
Glory to Jesus Christ!

March 19-20, 2022
The Third Sunday

THE HOLY LITURGY will be livestreamed this Sunday, the 20th, at 9 am for all our elderly, ailing and distant faithful on the YOUTUBE platform. We will conclude the Liturgy with our litany of petitional prayer for Ukraine and sing our Ukrainian National Anthem. We plan to Livestream the Holy Liturgy next Saturday, the 19th, at 6 pm. Be sure to tell all your relatives and friends about this schedule.

WE ARE STILL COLLECTING FUNDS for our Brothers and Sisters in Ukraine. Be sure to make these checks payable to our Church so that we can cash these checks and send the total sum to our Archbishop Borys for doling out funds to our Refugees in Poland and Romania. We are rapidly approaching the \$50,000 mark for this purpose thanks to all our friends and faithful and their generosity for our Brothers and Sisters.

OUR PARISH WOMEN are putting together Easter baskets for our folks and their children for a modest donation. All the donated funds will go to our war-torn Brothers and Sisters in Ukraine. Please be generous.

THE PARISH SCHOOL is now on the regular schedule with classes at 11 am on GOOGLE MEET, EVERY Sunday. Only four weeks remain on our spring schedule-semester, so be sure that your young ones tune in.

OUR SOLEMN FIRST COMMUNION CLASS will receive Holy Eucharist on Sunday, May 8, Mothers' Day, at the 9 am Holy Liturgy. The Sacrament of Holy Confirmation and Penance will be administered Saturday morning, May 7.

WE THANK the good folks who brought cut willow branches and placed them on the rectory porch. We still need more cut nbranches for our Willow Sunday services, so cut and bring us a bunch or two, if you can.

FINANCIAL REPORTS for tax purposes of parish donations in 2021 can now be obtained from the parish office. Simply give your name(s) to the ushers and Father will prepare a confidential report for you by the following week or so.

DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, March 19, 6 pm	+Peter, Martha Popivchak (The Family)
Sunday, March 20, 9 am	+George Baran (Chuchra, Baran Fam.)
Saturday, March 26, 6 pm	+Anna S. Burns (Michele, Maureen)
Sunday, March 27, 9 am	+Lubomyr TRyciecky (Vera Tryciecky)

TODAY'S TROPAR:

O Lord, save Your People and bless Your inheritance. Help the faithful rulers to vanquish their enemies and protect Your Faithful with Your Holy Cross.

GLORY TO THE FATHER AND THE...

TODAY'S KONTAK:

The gates of Heaven are no more guarded by a blazing sword, for the Tree of the Cross has extinguished it, so destroying the sting of death and the victory of Hell. O my Savior, You went to those in Hades, crying aloud: "Return now to Paradise, All You Faithful".

TODAY'S PROKIMEN:

O Lord, save Your People, bless Your Inheritance.

"Служба українці"
О. ПОХОМЕГ