

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST
SUNDAY OF HOLY IMAGES



Icon of the Restoration of Holy Images

On the Holy Images

In former times God, who is without form or body, could never be depicted. But now when God is seen in the flesh conversing with men, I make an image of the God whom I see. I do not worship matter; I worship the Creator of matter who became matter for my sake, who willed to take His abode in matter; who worked out my salvation through matter. Never will I cease honoring the matter which wrought my salvation! I honor it, but not as God. How could God be born out of things which have no existence in themselves? God's body is God because it is joined to His person by a union which shall never pass away. The divine nature remains the same; the flesh created in time is quickened by a reason endowed soul. Because of this I salute all remaining matter with reverence, because God has filled it with His grace and power. Through it my

salvation has come to me. Was not the thrice-happy and thrice blessed wood of the Cross matter? What of the life bearing rock, the holy and life-giving tomb, the fountain of our resurrection, was it not matter? Is not the ink in the most holy Gospel-book matter? Is not the life-giving altar made of matter? From it we receive the bread of life! Are not gold and silver matter? From them we make crosses, patens, chalices! And over and above all these things, is not the Body and Blood of our Lord matter? Either do away with the honor and veneration these things deserve, or accept the tradition of the Church and the veneration of images.

St. John of Damascus

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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

Glory to Jesus Christ! Bridgeport, Pennsylvania 19405
Slava Isusu khristoo! www.sspeterpaulukrchurch.us

Feb. 25-26, 2023
First Sunday of Lent

THIS WEEKEND MARKS the first anniversary of the invasion of Ukraine by Russia. Therefore, we will dedicate this weekend to Ukraine by praying for the deceased Ukrainian soldiers and civilians, and pray for peace and freedom in our native Land. This Saturday evening at 6 we plan to dedicate our Liturgy to our Brothers and Sisters, soldiers and civilians in Ukraine with our requiem panachyds service. And this Sunday we will Livestream the 9 am Liturgy and Panachyda with prayers for peace and freedom in Ukraine. "Slava Ukrainni." "Slava Heroim."

WE HAVE NOW BEGUN the Great Fast (Velky Pist), the preparatory 40-day period before Easter (VELYKDEN). We are obliged to fast from all meat every Friday, attend Church every weekend and perform good deeds for the needy. We fast today so that we can feast tomorrow!

DONATION REPORTS FOR LAST YEAR can now be obtained from the parish office useful for tax purposes. Just give your name to the ushers and Father Pastor will prepare your confidential by the following week.
report

PLEASE CHECK OUT the 2023 envelope and church calendars displayed in the church basement today. Be sure to take these items for yourself and all your family members and friends and neighbors. PLEASE!

THIS WEEKEND WE WILL Livestream on YOUTUBE the Holy Liturgy on Sunday at 9 am. Next weekend we will also livestream on YOUTUBE the Holy Liturgy on Saturday at 6 pm. Please inform all your distant relatives and friends throughout the USA about this great outreach service of our parish to evangelize our people near and far.

PLEASE REMEMBER TODAY ALL OUR AILING AND ELDERLY FAITHFUL: Pat. Pascall, Dottie Dolgash, Luba Jackson, Olga Danko, Jim Patzuk, Jim Deskiewicz, Gina Plisiewicz, Joanne Plisiewicz, John Morenko, Vera Trysiewicz, the Katarynick Family, the Tomchick Family, and all our struggling and suffering folks. Perhaps a prayer, a card, a kind thought...?

PLEASE TAKE HOME a copy or two of our parish's 2022 financial report. We thank Zenny and Dorrie Martyniuk for producing this report, which indicates the robust health of our parish and the goodness of all of you.

DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, Feb. 25, 6 pm	Brothers and Sisters in Ukraine
Sunday, Feb. 26, 9 am	Peace and Freedom in Ukraine
Saturday, March 4, 6 pm	+George, Anna Ferenz (Dudas F.)
Sunday, March 5, 9 am	Health of Maruszczak F. (Bill M.)

TODAY'S TROPAR: O Faithful, let us adore and glorify the Word, Who with the Father and the Spirit has no beginning, and Who was born of a Virgin. He deigned to ascend the Cross. to suffer death, and by His Resurrection to raise up the dead.

GLORY TO THE FATHER AND THE SON..

TODAY'S KONTAK: The Word (Jeuss Christ) of the Father, O Mother of God, became manifest in you, by the Incarnation. And He restored the defiled image of the human race to its former beauty by His divine splendor. We decalare it in our words and deeds by working toward our salvation.

Слава Україні!

Р. Ю. Павлов