

**January 24, 2016**

**Sunday of the Prodigal Son**

***From the Desk of the Pastor***

Dear Friends in Christ,

Many things happen in January. There is the beginning of the New Year on the secular calendar. We Byzantine Christians celebrate the beginning of God's new revelation to us at Theophany. Annually, here in the US, it is also a time when hundreds of thousands of people gather in Washington, DC, to stand up for the right to life. This is done in order to peacefully and prayerfully protest the evil decision of Roe v. Wade (January, 1973) which legalized the killing of children in the womb by declaring that they were not persons. Despite the law of God and the protests of the people, there are powers at work on this earth which war against the most innocent of lives (Rev. 12:9). Just this past January 6<sup>th</sup>, the Obama administration asked the U.S. Supreme Court to strike down new abortion restrictions in Texas; and this past Tuesday the same Supreme Court rejected a bid by Arkansas to revive a law outlawing abortions after 12 weeks.

You may be one of those folks who isn't supportive of abortion, but who wants "to agree to disagree" and move on with the business of life as usual. Please understand me when I say this: many Christians took the same approach to the Dred Scott ruling of the same Supreme Court which said that Blacks were not persons. Many Christians didn't agree with the immoral decision allowing slavery but neither were they going to do anything to change it. Yet, in the victim's eyes how does that spirit of conformity to evil help them? It is just a different side of the same sword that cuts them down. The sad truth of history, both biblical and secular, is that when we fail to confront evil we slowly begin conforming to it. Look at King Solomon in 1 Kings. Look at our own nation which was so blessed by God, and became such a blessing to the huddled masses surging to her shores. Both, started off so well with every good thing necessary to flourish. Yet, both turned to the idolatry of Molech (1 Kings 11:7).

Lest anyone think I am being political allow me to state that life is a God-issue. He gave it and we cherish it. If Caesar protects life, we pray for him and applaud him. If Caesar violates life, we pray for him and we correct him. God is the author of life, from womb to tomb, not any government. In all formerly Christian countries from the UK to the US, political parties on both sides of the aisle have become the champions of this totalitarianism against the preborn. To quote a famous American judge, "The removal of legal personhood from human offspring in order to destroy the offspring is only the work of tyrants. How long can a society last that violates universal norms and kills its babies in the name of "sexual freedom"? Whose personhood will the government define away next?"

Ending abortion (our modern-day Molech worship) is not only about prayer, but it also involves doing concrete acts of service. If you can only pray, then pray. If you can act, then act. Together, we Christians will accomplish the work of Christ in proclaiming the Gospel of Life.

In Christ,

Jason, priest and sinner

## New Things Happening at Holy Trinity:


- **Fr Jason is available for house blessings between now and Feb. 6.** If you do not want your house blessed, please call the office. Otherwise, Fr Jason will call ahead to bless houses by neighborhoods.
- **Pregnant woman** in Crafton area in need of assistance. Through Fr. Jason work with the Pro Life movement he has learned of a woman in the Crafton area who has chosen to keep her child but has been abandoned by the child's father. If you'd like to help email the parish office or call.
- **Parish Retreat: Fr. Teodosy Kraychuk**, a monk and priest in our church from Canada, will be directing our parish retreat March 11-13. Attend!
- **Eparchial Days of Mercy** will be held here at HTUCC on March 5<sup>th</sup>.
- **Get Ready!** Lent is coming soon! To make this the most memorable Lent of your life we'll be doing "30 Challenges for 30 Days." Which of the challenges from last week's bulletin did you choose to do?
- **Blessing of Candles** will take place on **Tuesday, Feb. 2**, the feast of the Presentation of our Lord in the Temple at the 9am Divine Liturgy. Candles will be available in the church vestibule before liturgy, (\$5.00).

**Prayer List:** Make a point of praying for everyone on the prayer list. If you don't have a prayer list, contact the office and we'll send you one. Keep in your prayers: Anastasia Chruszcz, Stephanya Borszcz, Pauline Danesky, Alice Haritan, Luba and Peter Hlutkowsky, Daniel Holowaty, Theophil Konecky, Pat McGuire, John Maslany, Helen Novak, Joe Popivchak, Mary Simek, Margaret Staskowicz, Anna Szmul, Tillie Volanski, Pete Wheat, Theresa Zozula, Most Rev. Richard Seminack, our pastor from July 1984 until July 2003, and a speedy recovery for Sr. Ann Laszok.



**Mark your Calendars: Climbing the Stairs to Mercy:** *Let us approach the throne of grace to find mercy! (Hebrews 4:16)* Our church will host a program for the Year of Mercy on **Saturday, March 5, 2016**, beginning at 9:30am with registrations and ending at 3:30pm. Confessions will be heard around the clock. This program will feature 3 presentations, followed by group discussion to share insights: (1) "What do we know about Mercy from the Scriptures?" {Rev. Fr. Jason Charron} (2) "Do we pray for Mercy


in the Liturgy?" {Rt. Rev. Msgr. George Appleyard} and (3) "How can we practice Mercy in our lives and parishes?" {Rev. Fr. Michael Polosky}.

 **The First All Souls Day is Saturday, Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>.** Please turn in your "Blue Envelope" Remembrance of our Beloved Dead found in your church envelopes, and/or pick up a Sorokousti sheet from the church vestibule. **Please return your names by this Wed., Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>.** You can simply place your names in the church basket, email us at [holytrinitycarnegie@gmail.com](mailto:holytrinitycarnegie@gmail.com), mail them or stop by the rectory.

**The next DRC (Diocesan Resource Committee) meeting** will be on **Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>** at 1:30pm in our church hall.

**The next Coffee & Catechesis** is scheduled for this **Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup>** from 10:15 to 11:15am at the Carnegie Coffee Company (Old Carnegie Post Office Building). If you have a specific question, please email Deacon Myron at [mjspak@verizon.net](mailto:mjspak@verizon.net) or place in the box in the church vestibule. Please bring a friend & if possible RSVP if you plan on attending.



 **American Red Cross** **Take responsibility to protect your life!** Prepare NOW for a sudden emergency. You could be anywhere - at work, school, home, or in the car. How will you communicate, find each other and know if your children, family members and parents are safe? Where will you meet, where will you go, and what will you eat? Our church's fallout shelter may not provide for everyone's needs - regardless of how many frozen

**Michael Haritan** will be giving three (3) free 1 hour presentations. They will each begin in the church hall on certain Sundays at 1pm. Attend these three one-hour presentations produced by the PA Emergency Management Agency, NRA and the Red Cross, and learn that awareness and preparedness is your key to personal safety and survival. **The first class is on Sunday, Feb 14<sup>th</sup> "Emergency Preparedness" in the church hall.**

**The 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting** of the Ukrainian Selfreliance of West. PA Federal Credit Union will be **Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>** at 3:00pm at the Ukrainian-American Citizens Club (302 Mansfield Blvd. Carnegie). Call 412-481-1865 to make your reservations by February 22<sup>nd</sup>.



**Adult Valentine's Day Dinner / Dance** will be sponsored by St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Carnegie on **Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup>** from 6pm until 11pm (doors open at 5:30pm). Cost: \$23 /person and includes Dinner, Desserts, Beer, Wine Soda and all set ups (BYOB). Enjoy live music & dancing until 11pm.

Please RSVP by Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> to Marianne Erhart 412-276-2436 or Sandy Santillo 412-276-1011. Reserve early, LIMITED seating, Checks payable to: SEAS / CM&G.



**Ukrainian (Pre-Lenten) Zabava (Food, Live Music, Dancing)** is sponsored by the HTUCC Youth Group on **Saturday, February 6**, from 7pm until 1am at the Ukrainian American Citizens Club in Carnegie. Admission is \$5 per person and \$7 for a “group of two”. Proceeds of this event will help offset expenses for the World Youth Day trip to Krakow Poland & Lviv Ukraine in late summer. To make reservations by Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, contact Bo at 412-726-8309 or Vasyl at 412-245-6424.

**A Spaghetti Dinner** will be sponsored by The Holy Name Society of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Ukrainian Catholic Church, 4136 Jacob Street, Wheeling, West Virginia, on **Sunday, Feb. 7, 2016**. The time will be from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Menu will consist of spaghetti and meatballs, salad, bread & butter, dessert, and coffee or tea. The cost will be \$7.00 for Adults and \$3.50 for children. It will be held in the Church Hall which is handicapped accessible. Carry out available. Telephone 304-232-1777. Everyone is welcome!



**Sisters seek volunteers for Ukraine in 2016:** After last year’s successful English catechetical camp in Skole, Ukraine, the Sisters of St. Basil the Great have been invited to organize similar week-long camps in four different areas of Ukraine: Ivana-Frankivsk, Zutomyr (near Kyiv), Mukachev and Lviv. Sister Ann Laszok, OSBM and Sister Joann Sosler, OSBM, and their accompanying volunteers will collaborate with the Basilian Sisters and seminarians in Ukraine to hold these English language catechetical camps.

In order to hold these camps for the children (ages 10 to 16), the Sisters are seeking volunteers to teach English (i.e. basic grammar, reading, writing and/ or pronunciation, etc). Room & Board will be supplied for the volunteers but they are asked to pay for their own airfare. Volunteers may come for one, two, or three weeks. Depending on the number of volunteers participating and camps held, the Sisters will also visit orphanages and psychiatric institutions.

This year’s Basilian Volunteer Program is tentatively scheduled from May 27 to June 27, 2016, and will be limited to humanitarian efforts in Western Ukraine. For an application and additional information concerning the Come and Serve with the Sisters in Ukraine Program, please contact: Sister Ann Laszok, OSBM 412-260-1607 [srannl@aol.com](mailto:srannl@aol.com). Early application is advised to ensure acceptance. Monetary donations to this worthy cause may be made on line at [www.stbasils.com](http://www.stbasils.com) or mailed to:

Sister Dorothy Ann Busowski, OSBM, Provincial Superior, 710 Fox Chase Road, Jenkintown, PA 19111-4118



## **A World Youth Day (WYD) Trip to Krakow Poland & Western Ukraine**

is being organized by the Eparchial Youth Committee from the Eparchy of Saint Josaphat in Parma. The next WYD will be held in Krakow Poland from 7/23 to 8/5 (tentative dates).

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**In order to raise funds for a trip to World Youth Day**, the HTUCC Youth Group will be holding one of many fundraisers: **The Italian Bread Place Hoagie and Pepperoni Roll Sale for Super Bowl Sunday** (February 7<sup>th</sup>) is presently underway. Order forms are available in the church vestibule or from Youth Group members. Please make checks payable to “Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church Youth”. Orders can be submitted by completing an order form and leaving it in the “box” in the vestibule. **Orders can be submitted up to Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>**. Orders will be available for pick-up on Super Bowl Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup> after the 11:00am Divine Liturgy. For more information about the Parish Youth Group/Youth Group Fundraising, please contact Bohdan Mykhailiv [412-726-8309](tel:412-726-8309) or [bohdanmykhailiv@yahoo.com](mailto:bohdanmykhailiv@yahoo.com).

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“**Christ Among Us**” Ukrainian Catholic radio program on station WPIT at 730AM dial can be heard each Sunday from 2:00 – 2:30pm. **They are interested in hearing opinions and feedback on this radio program.** Please contact the rectory with your responses.

**40 Days for Life Pittsburgh Kick Off** will be **February 9<sup>th</sup>** at 7pm at Synod Hall, Oakland, with guest speaker Rev. Dr. John Guest. 40 days for life (February 10<sup>th</sup> thru March 20<sup>th</sup>) is a peaceful prayerful and proven effective pro-life campaign. For additional information: 412-926-9413 or [nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com](mailto:nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com).



**The Parish Youth Group** will be assembling 130 lunches (260 sandwiches) **this Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm** in the Church Hall for distribution to homeless and less fortunate in Pittsburgh’s Hill District on Saturday morning, January 30<sup>th</sup>. The total cost of this project is approximately \$300.00. Each lunch contains 2 bologna (or other meat) and cheese sandwiches (2 slices of meat and 2 slices of cheese), a drink, fruit, a snack, and two condiment packages. If you would like to support the Youth Group with this project please contact Bohdan Mykhailiv at [412-726-8309](tel:412-726-8309) or [bohdanmykhailiv@yahoo.com](mailto:bohdanmykhailiv@yahoo.com)



**The Church was a Mother to you in Life**, providing for your Spiritual Needs: Please Remember the Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma in your Last Will and Testament. The wording to do this is as follows:

*“I give and bequeath to the Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of St. Josaphat in Parma, located in Parma, Ohio, \_\_\_% of the residue of my estate [or: the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_].”*

**Vital Stats:** \$1,967 was offered in the collection last weekend with another \$94.90 for candles, \$25 for the Eparchy, \$190 for energy, \$20 for Special Offering, \$70 Initial Offering, \$42 for Circumcision of our Lord, \$82 for Theophany, \$14 for “The Natalia Protynyak in Ukraine Fund”, \$20 for the Youth Group Sandwich Project, \$13 for Persecuted Christians in Syria, \$70 for Sunday of Prodigal Son, \$5 for Presentation of our Lord, \$5 for Sunday of Meat Fare, and \$20 for House Blessing, all for a grand total of \$ 2,637.90. Many blessings to all of our contributors whose sacrificial giving is known by God.

**Quarterly Reminder (January 2016):** Our Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma is obligated to remind its members that they, especially the victims, have a right and duty to report any incident of the sexual abuse of a minor by the clergy, or by an employee or a volunteer. One should come forward and make that known to his or her pastor or to the bishop or to one of those who assist him in this regard. Once more we remind our readers that our current Bishop Bohdan Danylo can be reached at his Chancery at 440-888-1522 or by writing to him at P.O. Box 347180, Parma, OH 44134-7180. The Victim Assistance Coordinator, Marika Zaliszczuk can be reached on her cell 412-215-5372. You may view the Policies & Procedures at [www.stjosaphateparchy.com](http://www.stjosaphateparchy.com) –then click the link for policies.

### **Lector Schedule:**

- Saturday: January 30 at 4pm: Stephanie Fedora
- Sunday: January 31 at 8:30am: Ben Ciarallo & at 11am: Cantor

### **What’s happening in our parish this week . . .**

Sat. *The holy priest-martyr Clement, bishop of Angora*

1/23

4:00pm Divine Liturgy for the repose of Sophie Popivchak  
requested by Helen M. Zaletski

JC

.....also Divine Liturgy for the repose of Emily Stecko  
requested by Tom & Ming Medwig

IS

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Sun 1/24	<i>Our venerable mother Xenia of Rome &amp; her two servants</i>		
8:30am	Divine Liturgy for the repose of Anna Otchych requested by Diane Kuffner		IS
11:00am	Divine Liturgy for the people of the parish  .....also Divine Liturgy to mark the 10 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the late Les Zaliszczuk & all deceased in the Zaliszczuk family & to mark the 40 <sup>th</sup> day for Anna Zaliszczuk Zhylyk requested by Marika Zaliszczuk & Bohdan & Ann Konecky Families		JC  IS
Mon 1/25	<i>Our holy father Gregory the Theologian, archbishop of Constantinople</i>		
	The Pastor's day off		
Tues 1/26	<i>Our venerable father Xenophon, his wife Maria &amp; their sons</i>		
8:00am	Divine Liturgy for the repose of Stephen & Anna Astriab requested by an anonymous person		JC
Wed 1/27	<i>Transferral of the relics of our father, John Chrysostom</i>		
8:00am	Divine Liturgy to mark the birthdate of the late John Syrylo requested by Suzie Syrylo (OLPH)		JC
Thurs 1/28	<i>Our venerable father Ephraim the Syrian</i>		
Fri 1/29	<i>Transferral of the relics of the holy Archbishop Igantius</i>		
Sat. 1/30	<b>First All Souls:</b> <i>Our fathers, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian &amp; John Chrysostom</i>		
8:30am	Divine Liturgy for those enrolled in Sorokousti		JC
4:00pm	Divine Liturgy for the repose of Emily Stecko requested by Stephanie Fedora		JC

.....also Divine Liturgy for the health of Stephanya Borszcz  
requested by the St. Josaphat Society

IS

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Sun *The holy miracleworkers Cyrus & John*

1/31

8:30am Divine Liturgy for the repose of Anna Otchych  
requested by Diane Kuffner

IS

11:00am Divine Liturgy for the people of the parish

JC

.....also Divine Liturgy for God's Blessing for  
good health for Eleanor Patross requested by Bob &  
Eileen Stovash

IS

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Mon *The holy martyr Tryphon*

2/1

The Pastor's day off

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Tues **Encounter of our Lord with Simeon and Anna**

2/2

9:00am Divine Liturgy to mark the 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the late  
Michael Haritan and the birthday of the late Julia Kucher  
requested by Michael & Jane Haritan

JC

.....with the blessing of candles

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### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



Lubomyr Chubko

Luba Hlutkowsky

Dan Pituch

Nataliya Milligan

Volodymyr Sabuzhak

Roman Lutsiv

Ronald Artinger

Vasyl Zhurybida

James Bogdon

Jonanthan Hoover

Sheerena Zaletski

Judy Krisovenski

Adrienne English

Bohdan Mykhailiv

Yuri Wowczuk

Voldamyr Matviiev

Natalia Charron

Sophia Chubko

Braden Hoover

Roman Konecky

Nestor Lernetovych

Stephen Medwig

Jessica Petrovych

Andrew Sywy

Anastasia Chruszcz

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**Pro Life Quotes for January:**

“How can there be too many children? That is like saying there are too many flowers.”

– Mother Teresa

“The right to life is the first among human rights.” – Pope Francis

"The hairsplitting difference between formed and unformed makes no difference to us.

Whoever deliberately commits abortion is subject to the penalty for homicide."--Saint Basil