

February 28, 2016

Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross

From the Desk of the Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

I just came back from a silent retreat in the remote woods of northern Ontario. Good God in heaven, how silence renews! Let me correct that, the space created by silence allows us to be renewed by the awareness of God's holy *presence*. It is a mighty *presence* which we block out by our cacophony and hustle. His holy *presence* is in each person and in each circumstance of life. Each.

If His holy *presence* is present in the people and circumstances of life, then why don't we see it? I think part of the reason we don't see The Presence is because he comes to us wrapped in a cross and we run from it hoping to preserve our life. Yet, the very rejuvenation we seek is only found through the cross.



Allow me to use an example. Like a tourist with acrophobia (fear of heights), the only way the tourist will be able to appreciate the city skyline is actually by going to the top floor of the skyscraper and confronting his fear. In that moment he will experience the sudden silence of the moment. Following that silence will come sheer joy and wonder: *joy* at defeating a fear and *wonder* upon taking in for the first time the beauty of the vast vista splashing into the great beyond. In a similar way, your personal cross is your spiritual skyscraper. Climb it! Yes, ascend the cross and meet Christ at the top in His silence (He only said seven words during his time on the cross, the rest of the time he was surveying in silence the vast vista of the Father's work of salvation spreading out into the great beyond!). On this 3rd Sunday of Lent we venerate the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Take a moment of silence. Imagine how Jesus felt, how he endured it all. Now, imagine our world without His cross...

In Christ,
Jason (priest and sinner)

New Things Happening at Holy Trinity:



- **“Climbing the Stairs to Mercy” Conference** is next weekend. We are pleased to announce that Bishop Bohdan will be with us all day Saturday.

Friday, March 4th Confessions: 8am until 8pm

Saturday, March 5th Confessions: 8am until 3:30pm

Registration: 9:30am

If you live too far away or are unable to make it to Holy Trinity, you can see and hear this event LIVE by going to:

<https://livestream.com/ECEDlivebroadcast/events/4833496>

- **Parish Retreat:** *“Transformed in the Life-Creating Vision of God”*

Retreat Master: Fr. Teodosy Kraychuk, Hieromonk

Dates: March 11th – 13th {Friday – Sunday}

Times: Friday: Mission Talk I, 7pm

Saturday: Akathist, 9am

Mission Talk II, 10am,

Brunch, 11:30am,

Mission Talk III, 1pm

Confessions, 2pm – 3:45pm

Liturgy and Sermon, 4pm, followed by social hour



Sunday: Liturgy 8:30am & 11am, followed by social hour.



•Confessions •Prayer Services • Lenten talks • Refreshments

After a life of drugs, drinking and partying, this former biker heard the voice of Christ Jesus telling him to choose a path. He chose the path of life. Come and be renewed by the power of this voice crying out in the wilderness!

- **Sheptytsky Arms** is in need of some furniture for 2 of their residents: a small kitchen table with 2 chairs, a coffee table, a bed stand, table lamps or tall standing lamps, a small sofa or 3 or a love seat. Thank you. Please call the rectory or call Sister Olga at 412-766-8802 if you can help.

- **PYSANKY** Ukrainian Easter Egg decorating workshops will be held at our church hall *every Sunday* beginning ***This Sunday, Feb. 28th and then March 6th, 13th, and 20th***, from 2pm until 4pm. All supplies are provided * Ages: 10 and up * Cost: Free will donations * Registration is required- call Halyna Charron 412-489-6248 
- **A Food Drive** will be sponsored by our CCD program to benefit the local food bank. Please be generous in helping starting this weekend **February 28th and running through March 13th**. Please place your items in the boxes near the entrances to our church. 
- **NUT ROLLS-\$12.00** will be available for Easter. **Orders** must be in by **Tues., March 1st** and pick up is March 17th or 18th from 9am until 4pm. When ordering you need to specify your pick-up date. Call 412-276-9897 to place NUT ROLL orders.
- **PYROHI** will be available for Easter. **Orders** must be in by **Fri., March 11th** and pick up is March 17th and March 18th from 9am until 4pm. When ordering, please specify type of pyrohi and pick-up-date. Call 412-276-9897 to place PYROHI orders.
- **PASKA BREAD -\$7 plain, \$7.50 raisin** will be available for Easter. **Orders** must be in by **Fri., March 18th** and pick up is March 22nd and March 23rd from 2pm until 5pm. *LIMITED QUANTITY – Order early.* When ordering you need to specify type of bread and pick-up date. Call 412-276-9897 to place PASKA bread orders.

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 Hlutekowsky, Daniel Holowaty, Theophil Konecky, John Maslany, Helen Novak, Joe Popivchak, Mary Simek, Margaret Staskowicz, Anna Szmul, Tillie Volanski, Most Rev. Richard Seminack, our former pastor, Marika Zaliszczuk, and Donald Schultz.



Remember---PRAY TO END ABORTION! “Many people are very, very concerned with the children in India, with the children in Africa where quite a number die, maybe of malnutrition, of hunger and so on, but millions are dying deliberately by the will of the mother. And this is what is the greatest destroyer of peace today. Because if a mother can kill her own child -- what is left for me to kill you and you kill me - there is nothing between.”

MOTHER TERESA, Nobel Lecture, Dec 11, 1979



will be sold again this year *to help underwrite Parish Youth Group Activities*. Order forms are available in the church vestibule. Please make your check payable: "Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church Youth". **Orders can be submitted** by completing an order form and leaving it in the box in the vestibule **up to this Sunday February 28th**. Orders will be ready for pick up on Palm Sunday, March 20th. For more information, call Bo 412-726-8309 or bohdanmykhailiv@yahoo.com.

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 pyrohi are stored. There will be three (1) hour presentations beginning at 1pm in the church hall. Attend these presentations produced by the PA Emergency Mgt. Agency, NRA and the American Red Cross and learn that awareness and preparedness is your key to personal safety and survival.

Class #2 "Refuse to be a Victim" will be on March 6th

Class #3 "Disaster Preparedness for Seniors" will be on April 10th

Men Following Jesus Christ HTUCC Group has been asked once again to serve dinners at the Light of Life Rescue Mission on **Monday, March 14th**. We need at least 7 volunteers to serve dinners from 4:45 pm through 6:15pm. Please call Deacon Myron if you and/or your friends can help at 412-303-9086 or mjspak@verizon.net.

49th Annual Ukrainian Pysanky Sale will take place at Sts. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church (220 Mansfield Blvd, Carnegie) on **Sunday, March 20th** from 11am until 4pm. With over 1,200 Pysanky Easter eggs and over 300 specialty eggs, this is still the biggest egg sale in town! For more information, visit www.orthodoxcarnegie.org or phone 412-527-5359 or 412-279-2111.

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

\$2,000 post-secondary scholarship will be awarded to a student by Pennsylvania American Water (PAW). To apply, students must complete the Stream of Learning Scholarship application at pennsylvaniaamwater.com. Deadline is March 21, 2016. **All applications** must be postmarked by **March 21, 2016**. Questions? Call 724-743-3103.

PAW is also conducting its 13th annual Protect Our Watersheds **Art Contest** which is open to 4th, 5th and 6th grade students. **Deadline for entries: March 30th**. The Grand Prize winner receives a \$100 gift card to Barnes & Noble, plus will have his/her artwork printed on unique seed-filled cards that when planted and watered produce flowers. For more information go to www.pennsylvaniaamwater.com.

A Winter Soup Sale will take place on **Saturday, March 5th** at St. Andrew Lutheran Church (218 Alter Street, East Carnegie) from 9am until 1pm. Homemade savory soups: Vegetarian Chili, Beef Barley, Chicken Noodle & Manhattan Clam Chowder, \$3.50 / pint \$7 / quart. Pre-orders can be made by calling 412-279-3615 no later than February 21st.

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: \$1,390.80 was offered in the collection last weekend with another \$105.50 for candles, \$275 for the Eparchy, \$5 for Utilities, \$25 Special Offering, \$10 for Synod of Bishops, \$3 for Veneration of the Cross, \$39 for “The Natalia Protynyak in Ukraine Fund”, \$450 Unrestricted Memorial donations on behalf of Pete Wheat and \$3,446.75 from the Pyrohi Project, all for a grand total of \$5,750.05. Many blessings to all of our contributors whose sacrificial giving is known by God.

Lector Schedule:

- Friday: March 4 (Pre-Sanct.) at 7pm: George Honchar
- Saturday: March 5 at 4pm: Helen Zaletski
- Sunday: March 6 at 8:30am: Terry Styran & at 11am: Cantor
- Friday: March 11 (Pre-Sanct.) at 7pm: Cantor

What's happening in our parish this week . . .

Sat. 2/27	<i>Our venerable father and confessor, Procopius</i>	
8:00am	Parastas for those enrolled in Sorokousti	JC
1:30pm	<i>Lock-in-Retreat begins (St. Anne's Youngstown, OH)</i>	
4:00pm	Divine Liturgy to mark the birthday of the late Anna Kulik requested by Conrad & Margie Kulikalso Divine Liturgy for health & blessings for Nathan Orr requested by Tom & Ming Medwig	IH IS

Sun. 2/28	<i>Our venerable father & confessor Basil, companion in fasting with Procopius</i>	
8:30am	Divine Liturgy to mark the 11 th anniversary of the late Catherine Esterburg requested by her daughter Arlene	IS
11:00am	Divine Liturgy for the people of the parishalso Divine Liturgy for the repose of Janet Andrejasik requested by Marika Zaliszczuk	JC IS

Mon. 2/29	<i>Our venerable father Cassian the Roman</i>	
8:30am	Matins	

Tues. 3/1	<i>Our venerable martyr Eudokia of Heliopolis</i>	
8:30am	Matins	

Wed. 3/2	<i>The holy priest-martyr Theodotus, bishop of Cyrenia</i>	
8:30am	Matins	

Thurs. 3/3	<i>The holy martyr Eutropius & his companions</i>	
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Fri. 3/4	Climbing the Stairs to Mercy: <i>Our venerable father Gerasimus of the Jordan</i>	
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8:am-8pm Confessions for Mercy Conference here at HTUCC

7:00pm	Pre-sanctified Liturgy for the repose of Jonathan Sparks requested by Conrad & Margie Kulik	JC
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Sat. 3/5	Climbing the Stairs to Mercy: <i>The holy martyrs Conon and his wife Maria</i>	
8:00am	Parastas for those enrolled in Sorokousti <i>....also Confessions available until 3:00pm. Ask a priest...</i>	JC
9:30am	Registration for Mercy Conference, which ends 3:30pm	
10am	<u>Presentation #1</u> : “ <i>What do we know about Mercy from the Scriptures?</i> ” {Rev. Fr. Jason Charron}	
11am	<u>Presentation #2</u> : “ <i>Do we pray for Mercy in the Liturgy?</i> ” {Rt. Rev. Msgr. George Appleyard}	
12pm	Lunch (catered)	
1pm	<u>Presentation #3</u> : “ <i>How can we practice Mercy in our lives and parishes?</i> ” {Rev. Fr. Michael Polosky}	
2pm	Priests available for Confessions	
4:00pm	Divine Liturgy for the repose of Rose & Julie Showrank, and Antoinette, John, Walter & Mary Hurey requested by an anonymous person <i>....also Divine Liturgy to mark the 47th anniversary of the late Stephen Zinski and Anastasia Zinski requested by their son, Stephen</i>	JC IS

Sun. 3/6	<i>The 42 holy martyrs of Ammoria in Phrygia</i>	
8:30am	Divine Liturgy for health & blessings for Peter & Luba Hlutkowsky requested by the St. Josaphat Society	IS
11:00am	Divine Liturgy for the people of the parish <i>....also Divine Liturgy for the repose of Michael & Julia Konecky requested by Bohdan & Anne Konecky & Family</i>	JC IS



February Birthdays

Bruce Alstad	Pat Baessler	Gabby Blythe
Halyna Ciarallo	Ivan Slota	Donna Sradomski
Ted Sywy	Cesare Ulrich	Mary Kurzawski
Maria Hanzel	Vivian Ulrich	Loretta Luebbert
Olga Konecky	Heidi Sciulli	Tillie Volanski
Alex Konecky	Anne Konecky	Mark Popivchak
Chris Kohl	Rebecca Zaletski	Alice Johnson
Natalia Lutsiv	Maxim Milligan	Daniel Saad
Joseph Wowczuk		



March Birthdays

Jo Ann Pretka	Olga Medwig	Richard Hurey
Peter Hlutkowsky	Anna Karpa	Frank Zuk
Evhen Czuczman	Mary Ann Volanski	Arlene Esterburg
Mary Suzanne Dennis	Veronica Alstad	Frances Wengryn
Janet Dupilka	Tim Davis	Irene Was
Pat McGuire	Roseann Duhig	Tetyana Chubko
Katherine Volanski	John Maslany	Helen Marie Zaletski
Stanislav Davyda	Thomas Medwig	Victoria Ulrich



Quotes on the Meaning of the Holy Cross:

(Note: The following quote is from Archbishop Fulton Sheen. It still applies to the Communist lands of China and N. Korea, but where he mentions Communism in the quote you could also substitute it for ISIS in the Middle East and the drive of its followers to spread its evil ideology throughout the world at great cost. FJC.)

“The modern world, which denies personal guilt and admits only social crimes, which has no place for personal repentance but only public reforms, has divorced Christ from His Cross; the Bridegroom and Bride have been pulled apart. What God hath joined together, men have torn asunder. As a result, to the left is the Cross; to the right is Christ. Each has awaited new partners who will pick them up in a kind of second and adulterous union. Communism comes along and picks up the meaningless Cross; Western post-Christian civilization chooses the unscarred Christ.

Communism has chosen the Cross in the sense that it has brought back to an egotistic world a sense of discipline, self-abnegation, surrender, hard work, study, and dedication to supra-individual goals. But the Cross without Christ is sacrifice without love. Hence, Communism has produced a society that is authoritarian, cruel, oppressive of human freedom, filled with concentration camps, firing squads, and brain-washings.

The Western post-Christian civilization has picked up the Christ without His Cross. But a Christ without a sacrifice

that reconciles the world to God is a cheap, feminized, colorless, itinerant preacher who deserves to be popular for His great Sermon on the Mount, but also merits unpopularity for what He said about His Divinity on the one hand, and divorce, judgment, and hell on the other. This sentimental Christ is patched together with a thousand commonplaces, sustained sometimes by academic etymologists who cannot see the Word for the letters, or distorted beyond personal recognition by a dogmatic principle that anything which is Divine must necessarily be a myth. Without His Cross, He becomes nothing more than a sultry precursor of democracy or a humanitarian who taught brotherhood without tears.”

+*Archbishop Fulton Sheen*