

**November 29, 2015**

**27<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

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

Dear Friends in Christ,

Glory to Jesus Christ!

You will find in this week's bulletin a special insert to help you spiritually prepare during this Advent season for the rapidly approaching celebration of the Most Holy Nativity of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. Preparing for Nativity (Christmas) means that we pray more, give more and eat less. The goal of all this is closeness to God. By doing the three above things *we* decrease and *He* increases; and that's the best gift we can give our needy world: more of Him. As the song goes, "Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me!"

Inviting God into our hearts, allowing Him to increase, reminds me that soon we'll be inviting evergreens into our homes. If you're not aware of this tradition, then please allow me to outline it for you. Kids, clip this out and take it to school to remind folks about the origins of our customs:

"St. Boniface was an 8<sup>th</sup> century missionary who brought the truth of Christianity to pagan Germany. Returning to Germany later he found paganism still alive – and the eldest son of the chieftain Gundhar being readied for sacrifice to the gods. It was Christmas Eve. The place was under the giant oak tree, sacred to their patron Thor. Boniface, in order to prove these gods powerless, felled the tree with the stroke of an ax, to the astonishment of the onlookers. When he was then asked for the Word of God, Boniface pointed to a nearby evergreen and proclaimed, "This is the word, and this the counsel. Not a drop of blood shall fall tonight. For this is the birth of the Holy Christ, Son of the Father and Savior of the world. This little tree, a young child of the forest, shall be a home tree tonight. It is the wood of peace, for your houses are built of fir. It is the sign of endless life, for its branches are ever green. See how it points toward Heaven. Let this be called tree of the Christ-child; gather about it, not in the wild woods but in your homes; there it will shelter no deeds of blood, but loving gifts and lights of kindness."

This is the origin of what we today call the Christmas tree. Notice, how St. Boniface wasn't polite and accommodating to their error. His reaction to their error was as blunt as his ax was sharp. But, he also was a true pastor, who when something is taken away always replaces it with something better. In place of a young man's blood he taught them to take a young tree. In a few weeks in our homes we will behold a young tree and think of a young child, born for the salvation of our souls. And for that we shall exclaim, "Glory to God in the highest!"

In Christ,

Jason, priest and sinner

## New Things Happening at Holy Trinity:

- **Anyone interested** in helping start an orchard at Trinity Acres? See Fr. Jason.
- **Якщо хтось зацікавлений** у допомозі, щоб почати сад в Триніті акрів, то, будь ласка, зателефонуйте о. Джейсон.
- **Purple Envelopes labeled “Persecuted Christians in Syria”** will be in the church vestibule. Please be as generous as you can for this very important life-saving cause. 100% of proceeds to *Catholic Near East Welfare Association*.
- **Correction:** In last week’s bulletin we duly thanked Helen Marie and Steven Zaletski for donating a remarkable icon in loving memory of their late parents, but it was mistakenly called a Nativity icon. Please note that the icon they donated is an icon representing the Most Holy Trinity.

**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: Luba and Peter Hlutkowsky and Joe Popivchak.

**Please remember** in your prayers the soul of Arlene Daniels, beloved wife of Walter, loving mother of Leanne, Garrett, and Mark, sister of Nancy and sister-in-law of the late “Fr. Russ” Danylchuck. Arlene died on Monday, November 23, 2015. Funeral services were held on Saturday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm at Holy Trinity, with interment at Holy Trinity Cemetery. May her memory be eternal! Vichnaya Pamyat!

**Oles & Lyubov Cheren** dba Cataract Press from Clifton, NJ are visiting our parish this **Saturday, Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> after the Divine Liturgies** with a large selection of Ukrainian books, (*both in Ukrainian and English*), CDs, DVDs, maps of Ukraine, greeting cards, jewelry imported from Ukraine, embroidery, scarfs, keyrings, auto and kitchen magnets, and much more. These are displayed in the church hall. ***A percentage of the proceeds will be donated to our parish. Everyone is Welcome!!!***

**St. Josaphat Society** of Holy Trinity would like to thank the following businesses and local sports teams for their most generous donations which were used in our “Chinese” Ukrainian Auction at the “Nite at the Races” on Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>. Without these donations, our event would not have been as successful! **Andy Warhol Museum • Children’s City Theater Company • Carnegie Science Center • Dave & Buster’s • Gateway Clipper Fleet • Levin Furniture • Mr. Magic Carwash • Pittsburgh Airport Marriott • Pittsburgh CLO Musical Theater • Pittsburgh Cultural Trust •**

**Pittsburgh Playhouse • Pittsburgh Steelers • Pittsburgh Pirates • Riley's Pour House and Rockefeller's.**



**HTUCC Youth Group** will be having Mykolaya (St. Nicholas) celebration on **Sunday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>**. *After the celebration*, there will be caroling, performing and giving gifts to the community of Manor Care in Greentree (1848 Greentree Rd). *We will leave the church around 1:00pm.*

Call Bo Mykhailiv at 412-726-8309 or bohdanmykhailiv@yahoo.com

**HTUCC's Bread Bakers** will be making Christmas Bread – Plain \$7 & Raisin \$7.50. *Please place your order by St. Nichols Day, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6<sup>th</sup>* by calling 412-276-9897, or 412-279-4652. Pick up will be Thurs. Dec 10<sup>th</sup> and Friday, Dec 11<sup>th</sup> during Pyrohi Hours.

**A Ukrainian Bake Sale** will take place at SS. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church (404 Sixth Street, Ambridge) on **Sat., December 12<sup>th</sup>** from 3:30 to 5:30pm and **Sun., December 13<sup>th</sup>** from 12:30 to 3:30pm in the church Millennium Room – Ukrainian Christmas Bread, Ukrainian Pastries, Applelicious Candy & Christmas Cookies!!!



**12<sup>th</sup> Annual COOKIE Walk** takes place at Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church Hall (Mansfield Blvd., Carnegie) on **December 12<sup>th</sup>** from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Enjoy “walking” through tables of homemade cookies and pastries. 724-348-7326

**All invited to The University of Pittsburgh Nationality Rooms Holiday Open House** which will be held at the Univ. of Pittsburgh's Cathedral of Learning Commons Hall on **Sunday, Dec. 6, 2015** from **12 Noon -4:00 p.m.** Live Ethnic Entertainment throughout the afternoon featuring Poltava Dance Group. Visit the Ukrainian Nationality Room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. **Admission is free for this event.** All Nationality Rooms will have Vendors and Food for sale in the Main Commons Hall. Ukrainian Room will be decorated with a Christmas Eve Theme by Members of Soyuz Ukrainok in addition to selling canapes and sweet goods. Hope to see you there!

**The Christmas Story** will be presented by the high school students at Aquinas Academy of Pittsburgh on **Fri, Dec 11<sup>th</sup> and Sat, Dec 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm and on Sun, Dec 13<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.** This is a four-part performance: The Story of Creation, The Fall of Man, The Arrival of Our Savior and Jesus' Flight into Egypt. For more information: [www.AquinasAcademy.info](http://www.AquinasAcademy.info) or 724-444-0722

**The next Coffee and Catechesis**-will be Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:15 – 11:15am. Please submit any questions in the “box” at church, or email Fr. Deacon Myron at [mjspak@verizon.net](mailto:mjspak@verizon.net).



**HTUCC Poinsettias for Christmas** offering envelopes are in the church vestibule. \$22 for a 10 inch (we have ordered 6) and \$15 for an 8 inch (we have ordered 30). Once you have completed your envelope, you can place it in the collection basket. **Deadline: Wed., Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>.**

**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:** \$1,949 was offered in the collection last weekend with another \$135.20 for candles, \$20 for Energy, \$8 for Special Offering, \$277 for the eparchy, \$244 for the Entrance of the Theotokos, \$110 for the Priest Retirement, \$25 memorial donation for Emily Stecko and \$55 for “The Natalia Protynyak in Ukraine Fund”. The Pyrohi Project brought in \$3,120.50 for a grand total of **\$5,943.70. Many blessings to all of our contributors whose sacrificial giving is known by God.**

### **Lector Schedule:**

- Saturday: December 5 at 4pm: Helen Zaletski
- Sunday: December 6 at 10am: (GOF)- George Honchar (English) and Serhiy Chovnyk (Ukrainian)

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

Sat.	<i>The holy venerable martyr Stephen the younger</i>	
11/28		
10:00am	Panahyda <i>(In memory of the victims of the 1932-1933 Holodomor)</i>	
12:30pm	Funeral Services for Arlene Daniels	JC
4:00pm	Divine Liturgy for the victims of the 1932-1933 Holodomor requested by the New Ukrainian Wave	JC
	.....also 40 <sup>th</sup> day Divine Liturgy for the late Carol Kulik Carraway <i>(moved from 11-25-15)</i>	IS

.....with Baptism of Emma Catherine and Dylan Joseph Bates  
.....followed by a sale of Ukrainian items in the church hall

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Sun  
11/29  
8:30am Divine Liturgy for the repose of Mildred & Frank Nowicki  
requested by George Honchar & Family IS  
  
.....followed by a sale of Ukrainian items in the church hall  
  
11:00am Divine Liturgy for the people of the parish JC  
  
.....also Divine Liturgy for the repose of Emily Stecko  
requested by Tom Kerchansky IS  
  
.....followed by a sale of Ukrainian items in the church hall

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Mon.  
11/30  
*The holy and most praiseworthy apostle Andrew, the first called  
by the Lord*  
The pastor's day off

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Tues  
12/1  
*The holy prophet Nahum*  
*Pastor away*

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Wed  
12/2  
8:00am Divine Liturgy for the repose of Emily Stecko requested by  
Conrad & Margie Kulik (rescheduled from 11-18-15) JC  
  
7:00pm *Emmanuel Moleben*

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Thurs  
12/3  
*The holy prophet Zephaniah*  
Pyrohi Project 7am-12pm

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Fri  
12/4  
*The holy great martyr Barbara & father John Damascene*  
Pyrohi Project 7am-12pm

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Sat.  
12/5  
4:00pm Divine Liturgy for the repose of Sophie Popivchak requested  
by Susan & Dan Butera JC

.....also Divine Liturgy for Eva Kalymon  
requested by Nick & Yurko Honchar

IS

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Sun **Our Father among the saints, Nicholas of Myra in Lycia**

12/6

10:00am Divine Liturgy for the people of the parish JC

.....also Divine Liturgy for the repose of John & Catherine  
Patross requested by Eleanor Patross

IS

1:00pm .....followed by *St. Nicholas celebration church hall*  
.....*Youth Group leaves for Manor Care in Greentree*

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Mon *Our father among the saints, Bishop Ambrose*  
12/7 The pastor's day off

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Tues *Prefeast of the Conception of St. Anne*  
12/8

8:00am Divine Liturgy for the repose of Theresa Kohut  
requested by Pete Kohut (OLPH) JC

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Wed **Conception of St. Anne, when she conceived the most holy  
12/9 Mother of God**

9:00am Divine Liturgy for the repose of Sue Kanai requested by  
Eleanor Patross

12pm Divine Liturgy in Wheeling JC

7:00pm *Emmanuel Moleben*



**DECEMBER Birthdays**

*If you name is not listed below-call the rectory!!!*

*Peter Colaizzi*

*Oleg Mykhayliv*

*Patricia Johnson*

*Eric Hanzel*

*Walter Kalyn*

*Terry Styran*

*Yuriy Pavlyshyn*

*David Moss*

*Helen Moskal*

*Kathy Sembrat*

*Russ Zorey*

*Jennifer Styran*

*Martha Charron*

*Matthew Klim*

*Euphemia Medwig*