

SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS



Icon of All Saints

PETER & PAUL FAST – “NO! Not another fast!”

Yes, a fast the church designates as the "Apostles" but it is known simply as “Peter’s” (*Petrivka - Пєтpивкa*). The fast of the Apostles begins on the Monday following All Saints Sunday, which is the first Sunday after Pentecost, and extends until the vigil of SS. Peter and Paul Day, which falls on 29 June.

Spiritually, this fast is linked to Pentecost as the witness of these Apostles is the immediate result of the Descent of the Holy Spirit upon them. It is observed in memory of the fast which the Apostles kept before they went forth to preach the Gospel.

The Church bids us to fast at certain times. This means that certain foods are restricted. Besides giving up these foods, we give up certain pleasures and try to be unselfish and to repent of our sins and faults. It means even more than this: it is the hard training of our body to subdue its desires and learn not to care so much for material things so that we may be fit to receive spiritual grace.

In the Old Testament, kings and prophets and all the people fasted and prayed before setting out to do great deeds. Jesus Christ fasted for forty days in the wilderness to set us the example, and He told His Apostles that the evil spirits of sins could only be driven away by prayer and fasting. (Matt 17:21)

The church followed Christ's teaching and set apart certain days and times for self-denial and penitence, which are called fasts. Usually these times are before great Holy Days or on days of special commemoration. Wednesdays and Fridays of each week are also fast days.

Many of the designated days are not kept. Unfortunately, SS. Peter and Paul Fast is best described as the “forgotten” fast.

Liturgical Schedule

(unless otherwise noted in the bulletin):

Saturday Evening Vespers: 6:00 pm

Sundays 8:00 AM (English)

10:00 AM (Ukrainian)

Holyday Vigil: 6:00 PM

Holyday Liturgy: 9:00 AM

Other Services as announced in Bulletin

The Holy Mystery of Reconciliation

(Confession): Sundays from 7:30 to 7:45 AM and 9:30 to 9:45 AM and also by appointment.

The Holy Mysteries of Initiation (Baptism, Chrismation and Holy Eucharist): Parents must make arrangements with the Pastor at least 3 months prior to Initiation. Adults seeking to be initiated must undergo a period of instruction (Catechumenate.)

The Holy Mystery of Crowning (Marriage): The couple must contact the Pastor at least 6 months prior to the desired date of marriage and **before** scheduling anything related to the crowning (including the reception.) Couples must participate in pre-marriage catechesis.

The Holy Mystery of Holy Anointing of the Sick: Please inform the Pastor of anyone in need of anointing or anyone homebound and unable to attend Liturgy or receive Holy Eucharist.

Catechesis: Contact the Pastor.

Cantors: Vladimir Bachynsky, Luke Miller and Olena Bankston

НЕДІЛЯ ВСІХ СВЯТИХ

Кожен день церковного календаря присвячений двом або більше святым. Їхні імена ми знаємо. Це ті праведники, яких Церква проголосила святими, тобто видала непомильний декрет, що дана особа втішається вічним щастям в небі.

Крім канонізованих святих, існує ще величезна кількість таких, про яких Церква не знає. Це чоловіки і жінки, що жили згідно Христової науки. На цьому світі вони були праведниками, і сьогодні втішаються в небі спогляданням Бога, тобто вічним щастям, хоч не є канонізовані Церквою. Якраз тим невідомим святым віддаємо пошану цієї неділі.

Багато людей думають, що святість вимагає від людини героїчних дій, поступків. Очевидно, були святі, які відважилися покинути світ, свої родини і піти до таборів прокажених, щоби там чинити милосердя і вмерти зараженими проказою. Були святі, які жили у відлюдних печерах. Були святі, які будували лікарні для хворих, притулки для бідних, бездомних. Однак, нам треба пам'ятати, що не великі діла зробили їх великими святими, але любов до Бога і до ближнього.

Сьогодні, в Неділю Всіх Святих, ми не згадуємо великих святих, імена яких відомі Церкві, бо для їхнього почитання є призначені Церквою спеціальні дні в церковному році. Сьогодні ми згадуємо малих, невідомих Церкві святих, чоловіків і жінок, які за Божим пляном не мали змоги чинити надзвичайні, великі діла, і які через тихе, скромне життя не могли виявити назовні героїчних чеснот свого духа.

Святе Євангеліє не є теоретичним поясненням природи Бога чи природи неба, швидше воно є практичним поясненням як християнин повинен жити. Христове навчання не домагається від нас умового розуміння, а радше воно домагається нашого діяння. Беручи це до уваги, треба зазначити, що „малі святі” сьогоднішнього світу - це люди, які приймають практичні поради Євангелія. Вони приймають послання Господа й втілюють його в життя.

Звеличуючи великих святих минувшини і приглядаючись до діяння „малих святих”, ми признаємо, що Господь кличе нас до святості, тобто до свідчення євангельської правди. Великі святі, такі як Іван Золотоустий, Василій Великий, чи Августин є для нас якби недоступні шпиль гір, наслідувати їх нам важко. Зате важливі й дуже корисні для нас „малі святі” сьогоднішнього дня, бо вони втілюють Христову науку в життя.

SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

Each day of the Church calendar is dedicated to two or more saints. We know their names. These are the pious persons whom the Church has officially declared to be saints, enjoying eternal happiness in heaven.

Besides the canonized saints, there are numerous saints, the men and women who lived their lives in accordance with Christ's teachings, whose names the Church does not know. They lived a pious life during their time on earth and now rejoice in eternity with God, even though they were not canonized by the Church. These are the saints to whom this Sunday is dedicated.

Many people think that sainthood requires some kind of heroic action. Of course, there were saints who showed exceptional courage, leaving their families and going to labor camps where many died preserving their faith. There were saints who built hospitals and shelters for the homeless and poor. But, we should remember that these great deeds did not make them saints, but rather their love of God and their neighbor.

Today, the Sunday of All Saints, we do not recognize the great saints because they have their own day within the Church calendar. Today we remember the small, unknown saints, the men and women who, in God's plan, did not have the opportunity to do great deeds, who lived quiet, modest lives without showing the heroic virtues of their souls.

The Holy Gospel is not a theoretical explanation of the nature of God or heaven. Rather, it is a practical handbook of how a Christian should live. Christ's teachings do not require intellectual understanding from us; they require certain actions from us. Keeping this in mind, we must say that "little saints" are those people who accept the practical advice of the Gospels. They accept the message of God and incorporate it in their lives.

In looking at the deeds of the great saints and of the actions of the "little saints," we come to the conclusion that the Lord calls us to saintliness – to witnessing the evangelical truth. Great saints are like the unattainable top of a mountain for many, but we can emulate the "little saints" by living Christ's teachings each day of our lives.

Українська Католицька Парафія Матері Божої Неустаючої Помочі

Церква Святого Пророка й Предтечи Йоана Хрестителя
Святиня Святого Миколая, Архиепископа Мір Лікійського, Чудотворця

Ukrainian Catholic Parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Church of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptizer John
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*God is wonderful in His saints.
He will give strength to His people.*

The Church of Christ honors even after their death those who have lived a truly godly life. Every day of the year it commemorates the saints who departed hence on that day, leaving this mortal life. It sets the life of each of them before us for our benefit, and also shows us how each died, whether they fell asleep in peace or ended their lives in martyrdom. On this day, however, the Church gathers them all together and sends up a common hymn in their honor.

My brothers and sisters, let us too honor the saints of God. How shall we honor them? By imitating them, by purifying ourselves from every stain of body and spirit and by ceasing to sin until, by this abstinence, we are brought to a sanctity like theirs. On these festival days at least let us offer God bodies and souls that are acceptable to him, so that we too, by the prayers of the saints, may gain a share in their glory and eternal bliss.

May we all attain to this by the grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with his eternal Father and the most holy, good, and life-giving Spirit belongs glory now and always and for endless ages. Amen.

St. Gregory Palamas