

Icons Show the Human Face of God

In recent months my Sunday reflections have frequently focused on our Christian brothers and sisters of the East. Wishing as it were to embrace their rich tradition of faith in a single glance, today I would like to refer once again to the sense of mystery which is apparent in their icons. The East and the West vie with each other to put their art at the service of the faith.

But from the East, where icons had to be defended with bloodshed in the iconoclast crisis of the eighth and ninth centuries, comes a particular call jealously to preserve the religious nature of this art. It is based on the mystery of the Incarnation, in which God chose to assume a human face. In the last analysis, sacred art seeks to transmit something of the mystery of that face.

This is why the East firmly insists on the spiritual qualities which must characterize the artist, to whom Simeon of Thessalonica, the great defender of Tradition, addresses this important exhortation: "Teach with words, write with letters, paint with colors, in conformity with Tradition; the painting is true, as is the writing of books; and the grace of God is present in them, because what is represented there is holy."

By contemplating icons in the whole context of liturgical and ecclesial life, the Christian community is called to grow in its experience of God, and to become more and more a living icon of the communion of life between the Three Divine Persons.

Pope John Paul II

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY



Icon of the Holy Images

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE HOLY FAMILY

4250 Harewood Road NE

Washington, DC 20017

Phone: 202-526-3737 Fax: 202-526-1327 E-mail: ucnsholyfamily@gmail.com

Webpage: www.ucns-holyfamily.org

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY PLEASE CALL: 202-262-5040

Pastoral Care entrusted to:

Father Robert Hitchens Father Wasyl Kharuk

Sunday – February 21, 2021

Слава Ісусу Христу – Слава на віки Glory to Jesus Christ – Glory to Him Forever

The District of Columbia is at Phase 2, and our Church is open for Divine Liturgies. But, some may not feel ready to return, so we will continue to Livestream our 9:00 a.m. English Divine Liturgy and our 11:30 a.m. Ukrainian Divine Liturgy. The dispensation from attending Sunday Divine Liturgy and Holy Days of Obligation throughout the Archeparchy is still in effect until further notice.

Sunday Services will be Live Streamed at 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM

Platform: <https://www.facebook.com/holyfamilyshrine/>

OUR CHURCH IS OPEN FOR LITURGIES

Sunday February 21 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	First Sunday of the Fast-Sunday of Orthodoxy (+Stephen Fisanich from Ferne) (For the Parish)
Friday February 26 **6:00 p.m.**	At Parish – Presanctified Liturgy ALSO Live Streamed https://www.facebook.com/holyfamilyshrine/ (+Helen Caldwell from the Bukowski Family)
Saturday February 27 10:00 a.m.	At Parish ALSO Live Streamed https://www.facebook.com/holyfamilyshrine/ (Sorokousty)
Sunday February 28 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Second Sunday of the Great Fast-St. Gregory of Palamas (For the Parish) (+Marion Bartoszyk from Orest)

IN YOUR CHARITY, PLEASE REMEMBER +FRANK FISANICH IN YOUR PRAYERS

+Frank Fisanich, 87, passed away on February 16, 2021. Frank's funeral will take place **Thursday March 11, at 11:00 a.m. at UCNS Holy Family.** Visitation will be for family and friends beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday. A **Private Burial** will follow in Maryland Veterans Cemetery in Cheltenham, MD. Please remember +Frank in your prayers, and his wife, Ferne and family who mourn his passing. Vichnaya yomu Pamyat! Masks are required and all other Covid-19 protocols are observed.

THE GREAT FAST – A TIME FOR PENANCE AND METANOIA

Our parish will make a commitment to observe this sacred time in accord with the authentic traditions of our Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. We will celebrate the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts on Fridays at 6:00 p.m. in our Church. *Wednesdays will be at SS. Joachim and Anna in Front Royal, VA.* On Saturdays, we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy for the Souls enrolled in the Sorokousty 10:00 a.m. in our Church. Since ancient times, Christians have been challenged to practice: **FASTING – ALMSGIVING – PRAYER – AS A WAY OF LIFE AND A WAY TO ETERNAL LIFE.** Please try your best to make the effort to observe these Lenten Disciplines and Practices during the **FAST 2021.**

Everyone, regardless of age, is encouraged to observe the GREAT FAST as piously as possible!

SPIRITUAL REGULATIONS FOR THE GREAT FAST 2021

Although our Church traditionally prescribed abstention from meat and dairy products in days gone by for the entire duration of the Great Fast, the following are the minimal Lenten regulations today: Abstinance from meat and all dairy products on Good Friday. Abstinance from meat only on all Fridays of the Great Fast as well as Holy Saturday. It is also traditional to abstain from meat on Wednesdays during the Great Fast. Everyone should receive the Holy Mysteries of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist during the period from the onset of Great Fast to the Wednesday before Ascension Thursday. The Fasting and Abstinance regulations are not binding on persons 60 or older, the very poor, sick, nursing or pregnant women, children below the age of 14, and those who engage in physically very hard labor. However, all are urged, if able to do so, to observe the fasting and abstinance regulations.

FIRST CONFESSION 2021 PREPARATION CLASSES – SUNDAYS AT 10:30 A.M.

First Confession will be celebrated in our parish for children ages 7 and older on **Saturday June 5.** In order to prepare to receive this sacrament, the children must attend the preparation classes on **Sundays at 10:30 a.m. on: Feb.: 21, 28, Mar.: 7, 21, 28, Apr.: 18, 25, May: 16 and 23** Children must also attend the Divine Liturgy on these days. Please do not be late. Although we previously celebrated First Confession on Lazarus Saturday, that is not possible this year. We are a month behind on preparation because of the pandemic and, more importantly, Easter falls very early this year. Considering COVID restrictions and the possibility of inclement winter weather in the coming weeks, and student illnesses, it is necessary to schedule the celebration of the sacrament for June 5. That date is unlikely to change, unless there are new restrictions issued by the DC government. Also, to clarify, we do not plan to hold class every Sunday. According to the planned schedule, which starts on January 31, there will be no class on major holidays or the second Sunday of the month: *i.e.*, February 14, March 14, April 4 (Easter), April 11, May 2 (Old Calendar Easter), May 9 (Mother's Day), or May 30 (Memorial Day weekend).

CONCERNING FUTURE PARISH EVENTS

The Mayor of the District of Columbia extended the Pandemic State of Emergency to **March 31, 2021.** As such, we will not be able to have our **Pre-Lenten Communion Breakfast or Easter Bazaar and Pysanka Workshop.** Fellowship with Cake and Coffee after the Sunday Divine Liturgies will also continue to be suspended.

Prayer List

Our prayer list of the sick or elderly and friends of our parish: **Theresa Aranda, Liana Arnold, Fr. Frank Avant, Susan Avant, Charles Belanger, Barbara Blendy, Bluey Family, Yevhenia Borys, Taisia Bullard, Michele Burns, Mary Connors, Jack Davis, Darlene Dossick, Solomia Dutkewych, Ruth Fedack, Bernard F, Lilian Garland, Thomas Gutmann, H.H., Josie Hacker, Catherine Hetmansky, 1LT Catherine Hetmansky Hayes (Active Duty Iraq), Bernadell Rita Higgins, Daniel Horeczko, Nila Iwaskiw, Kateryna Jurach, Oksana K, Sarah Kelt, Dorothy Kozmoski, Suzanne Krumpelman, Fr. Mykhailo Kuzma, Michael Joseph Little, Mark Pidlusky, Michele Pretka Litvar, Yaroslava L., Mufada and Family, Sallie Miller, John Moeller, Matthew Parowski, Deborah Pickering, Alexandra Pohorecka, Ron#119, Michael Joseph Radigan, Ivanna Richardson, Roman Rusynko, James Salandro, Maria Sawkiw, Lisa Schaible, Christopher Sell, Shliakhta Bogdana, Shliakhta Mark, Shliakhta Andrew, Timothy Stock, Lindsey Sydnor, Thomas Sydnor, Helen Lefcheck Torre, Jarrelyn Trusen, Lisa Pretka Turner, Gloria and Luis Vega, Jennifer Wilson.** If you know of someone who should be on this list, please email or call with the name of the individual. Our intercessory prayer for the sick and the aged is truly helpful and comforting. In your Christian Charity, kindly remember our sick parishioners in your prayers and perhaps a card or note.

Lenten Services Great Fast 2021 – In Church and Live Streamed

We will celebrate the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts on Fridays at 6:00 p.m. in our Church. *Wednesdays will be at 6:00 p.m. in SS. Joachim and Anna in Front Royal, VA.* On Saturdays, we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy for the Souls enrolled in the Sorokousty 10:00 a.m. in our Church.

Friday 6:00 p.m. and Saturday 10:00 a.m. – Holy Family

Via Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/holyfamilyshrine/>

Wednesday 6:00 p.m. – Saints Joachim and Anna

Via Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ssjoachimandanna/>