

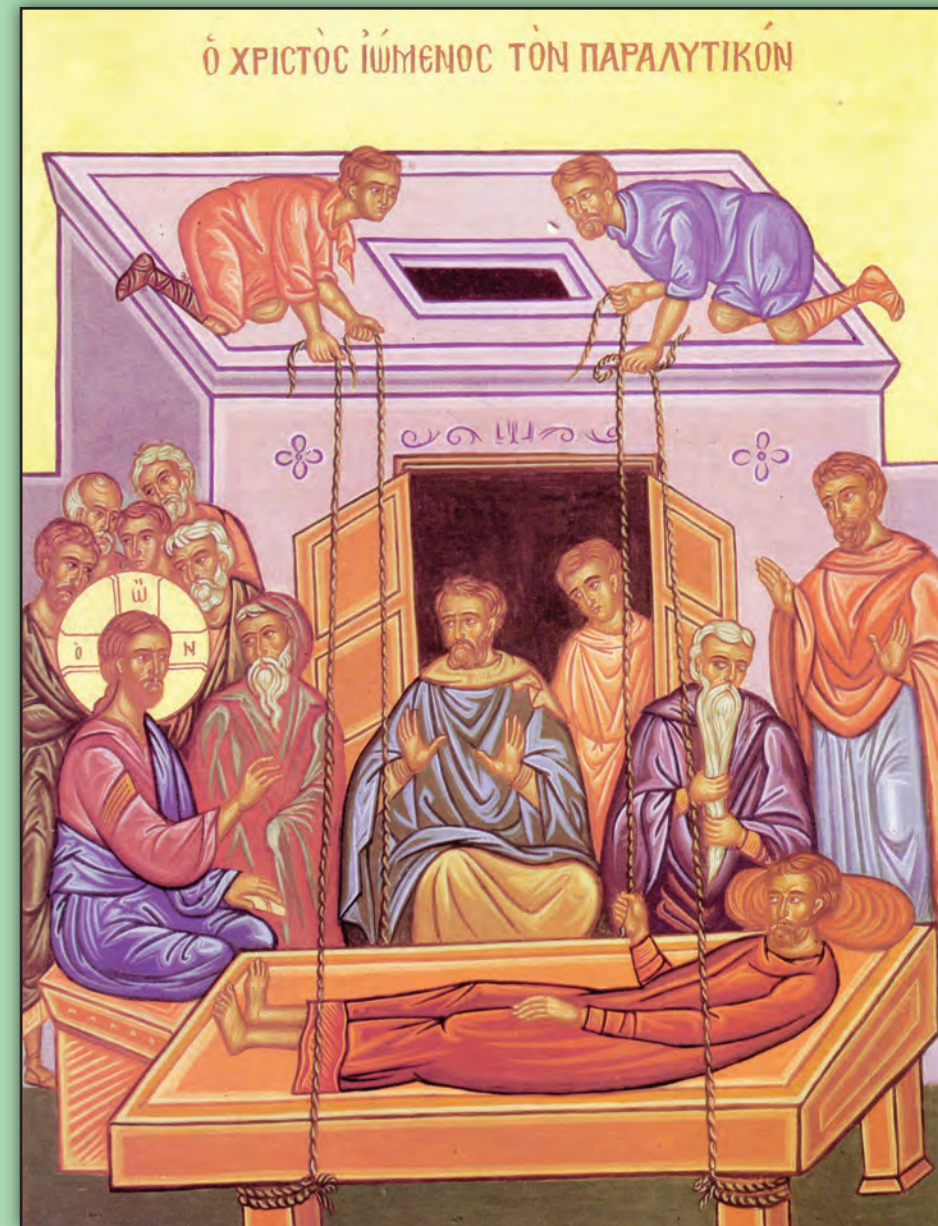
You are Forgiven and Healed

In Capernaum Jesus is surrounded by great numbers of people. As He preaches to the crowd, four friends of a paralyzed man lower him on his mat through the roof so that he can be close enough for Jesus to see him and cure him. Jesus responds to this act of faith, not by healing the man immediately, but by touching off the first of a series of controversial dialogues with the Scribes and Pharisees. When Jesus says, “Child, your sins are forgiven,” He is as much as saying, “It is God whom you approach.” In the Old Testament, only God is capable of forgiving sins; and it was expected that He would do so only at the end of time. It becomes clear why the Scribes murmur “he is blaspheming” and why Jesus brings it all out in the open. His claim to be able to forgive sins better reveals His identity as Son of God than do the miracles He performs.

Aware of the silent censure His forgiving word has caused in the crowd, Jesus proceeds to prove that “the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth” by commanding the man to rise and walk in the sight of everyone. In concluding this miracle, Mark asks his readers to praise God for His presence in their midst as the forgiver-healer, just as the crowd did, even in the face of those who did not believe.

It is significant that Mark has chosen to present this miracle and teaching about Jesus’ power to forgive sins so early in his Gospel drama. It shows that the need for the experience of God’s forgiveness was as important to first-century Christians as it is today. Mark’s readers praise God for saying clearly, and even today, “My sons, my daughters, I absolve you from your sins.”

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST SUNDAY OF ST. GREGORY PALAMAS



Icon of Healing the Paralytic

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE HOLY FAMILY

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Pastoral Care entrusted to:

Father Robert Hitchens Father Wasyl Kharuk

Sunday – February 28, 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 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)
Friday March 5 **6:00 p.m.**	At Parish – Presanctified Liturgy ALSO Live Streamed https://www.facebook.com/holyfamilyshrine/ (+David and +Myron Nagurney)
Saturday March 6 10:00 a.m.	At Parish ALSO Live Streamed https://www.facebook.com/holyfamilyshrine/ (Sorokousty)
Sunday March 7 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Third Sunday of the Great Fast - Veneration of the Holy Cross (For the Parish) (+Stephen Rapawyj from Maria Slota)

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/>

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.: 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.