

Triumph of the True Faith

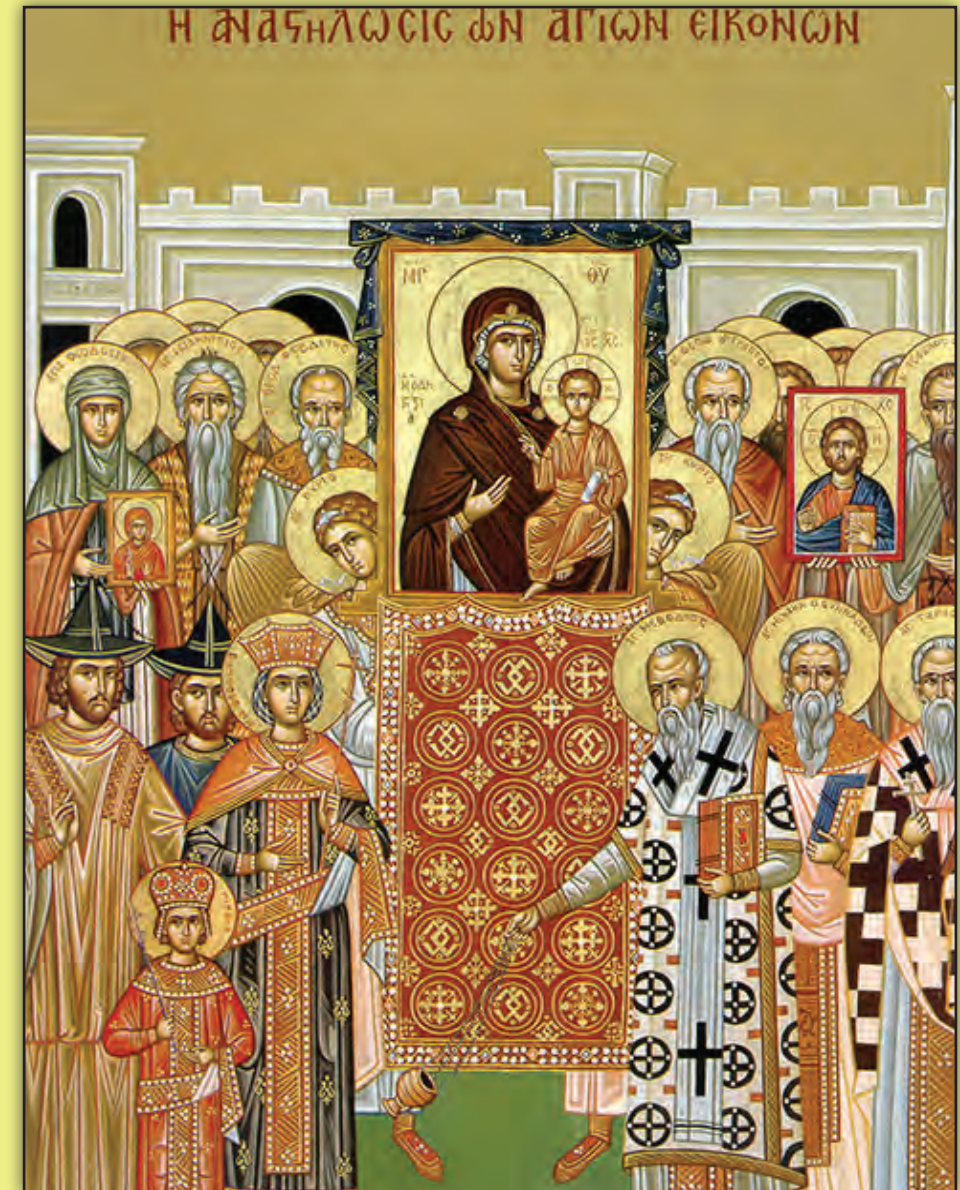
In one of the old churches of Istanbul, Turkey (formerly Constantinople), the local people had the habit of coming in and bowing to the back wall of the spacious church. No one knew why people did this, since the sanctuary was at the other end of the church. When the old church was renovated it was discovered that concealed beneath the centuries-old layers of drab plaster and paint was a beautiful icon of the Mother of God. Further investigation into the matter confirmed that the people had a local custom of revering the sacred icon - even after it had been covered over with plaster by the non-Christian people who had custody of the church for many years.

Perhaps it is that the radiance of the Holy Images of Christ, His Blessed Mother and all

the saints cannot lay concealed even under layers of plaster and centuries of persecution! On this day the Church celebrates the restoration of icons (first instituted in 842 AD) and the end of the Iconoclastic Heresy which raged for many years in the early church.

Once blessed, an icon becomes a sacred object and a meeting place between God and man. Each icon is a “window into Heaven” and a reflection of the radiant light that emanates from God. Therefore, when we pray before an icon of Christ it is as though we are standing before the Lord Himself. The same can be said of the holy images of all the saints. Let us remember, too, that we are also living icons of Christ and our light must shine upon others!

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST SUNDAY OF HOLY IMAGES



Icon of the Commemoration of the Restoration of 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 – March 6, 2022

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

All 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 March 6 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	First Sunday of the Fast-Sunday of Orthodoxy (+John and +Helen Fedkiw from the Popadiuk Family) (For the Parish)
Friday March 11 6:00 p.m.	Presanctified Liturgy (Living of the Nagurney-Medwid Family from Irene)
Saturday March 12 10:00 a.m.	(Sorokousty)
Sunday March 13 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Second Sunday of the Fast- St. Gregory of Palamas (+Charitina Lytwyn Michalczyk Family) (For the Parish)

THE GREAT FAST IS HERE – 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 2022.**

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

SPIRITUAL REGULATIONS FOR THE GREAT FAST 2022

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.

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR SOROKOUSTY 2022 (LIST OF YOUR DECEASED LOVED ONES)

In the Ukrainian Catholic Church, it is the custom to remember our beloved dead during the time of the Great Fast. These commemorations occur on Saturdays because the Saviour of the world rested in the grave on Great and Holy Saturday, awaiting the Resurrection. Thus, Saturday became for Christians the day for commemorating the deceased, who await the resurrection on the last day. We will be starting our remembrances of the dead on Saturdays, beginning March 5, with Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m. at the **Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family, Washington, DC.** Please take the time to remember your deceased family members on the Saturdays of the Great Fast. They hope for our prayers; and in turn, they pray for us. Please submit an envelope with your list of names and an offering is customarily made for the priests by email or US Mail. See the attached Sorokousty Form.

Prayer List

Our prayer list of the sick or elderly and friends of our parish: **Theresa Aranda, Liana Arnold, Chuck Basile, Charles Belanger, Barbara Blendy, Bluey Family, Yevhenia Borys, Taisia Bullard, Michele Burns, Robert Matthew C., Mary Connors, Darlene Dossick, Solomia Dutkewych and Theresa, Ruth Fedack, Bernard F, Lindsey Fedyk, Lilian Garland, Alice Gogniat, Thomas Gutmann, H.H., Josie Hacker, Catherine Hetmansky, Bernadell Rita Higgins, Daniel Horeczko, Nila Iwaskiw, Kateryna Jurach, Oksana K, Sarah Kelt, Dorothy Kozmoski, Suzanne Krumpelman, Fr. Mykhailo Kuzma, Mr. Marko, Michael Joseph Little, Mark Pidlusky, Michele Pretka Litvar, Yaroslava L., Mufada and Family, Sallie Miller, John Moeller, Deborah Pickering, Alexandra Pohorecka, Ron#119, Jane O'Shea, Michael Joseph Radigan, Roman Rusynko, James Salandro, Maria Sawkiw, Lisa Schaible, Christopher Sell, Shliakhta Bogdana, Shliakhta Mark, Shliakhta, Andrew, Larry Sosnowich, Lindsey Sydnor, Thomas Sydnor, Stefania Szahaj, Helen Lefcheck Torre, Cindy Turcek, 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.

God With Us Catechism

In the Epistle appointed for today, we hear the repetition of the word “faith.” What is faith, and why is this virtue focused upon in the Divine Liturgy today? In an attempt to define or explain what faith is, some might use the word “trust.” Faith, however, is something more than trust. Still others may explain what faith is by using the word “belief.” Again, however, the word belief, at least as it is commonly used today, falls short of a full explanation of what faith is. First, it is important to realize that faith, as with trust and belief, is always directed toward something or someone outside of ourselves. “I trust this person” or “I believe this statement.” Faith is an action which goes beyond the one who has faith, and takes hold of someone or something beyond ourselves. So what is faith? Faith is, as some have described it, the total giving over of ourselves to the one in whom we believe. Faith is not the acceptance of a list of doctrines or ideas; faith is not the trust we place in people who are knowledgeable in a particular area or expertise. Faith is the acceptance of the entirety of the person in whom we believe, regardless of the verifiability of what they say or claim to know. Faith unites us totally to Jesus in our mind, in our heart, in our will, and in our spirit. Only then do we begin to see as Jesus sees, understand as Jesus understands, and live as Jesus lives. Why is this important to understand today? As we stand now at the beginning of our Lenten journey (having begun the fast this past week), we begin to realize how attached we are to the things of this world. Today Jesus calls us to place our trust, our belief, and yes, our faith, in him.