

Sunday Bulletin  
September 29<sup>th</sup> 2024 – 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross



Sts. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church  
1025 N Belle Vista Ave, Youngstown, Ohio 44509



Sts. Peter & Paul Ukrainian  
Orthodox Church

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**Ministries:**

Altar Servers  
Church Choir  
Church School  
Adult Education  
St. Mary's Sisterhood  
Sts. Peter & Paul Brotherhood  
Senior UOL Chapter  
Junior UOL Chapter  
Youth Ministry  
Orphanage Mission Ministry  
Bingo Team

Fr Mykola Zomchak - Editor

**Website:**

<http://www.stspeterpauluoc.org>



## STS Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church

*We invite you to a celebration  
of the Resurrection of Christ*



**September 29<sup>th</sup> 2024 – 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross**

BEFORE THY CROSS  
WE BOW DOWN IN WORSHIP, O  
MASTER, AND THY HOLY  
RESURRECTION  
WE GLORIFY



**In Memory of Iryna Farion**  
**May her Memory be Eternal** - bull 16

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**The First Antiphon**

*Stichos 1: O God, my God, attend to me; why hast Thou forsaken me?*

**Refrain (after each Stichos):** Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

*Stichos 2: Far from my salvation are the words of my transgression.*

*Stichos 3: My God, I will cry by day, and wilt Thou not hearken? and by night, and it shall not be unto folly for me.*

*Stichos 4: But as for Thee, Thou dwellest in the sanctuary, O Praise of Israel.*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

### **The Second Antiphon**

*Stichos 1: O God, why hast Thou cast us off unto the end?*

**Refrain (after each Stichos): O Son of God Who wast crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia.**

*Stichos 2: Remember Thy congregation which Thou hast purchased from the beginning.*

*Stichos 3: This is Mount Zion wherein Thou hast dwelt.*

*Stichos 4: But God is our king before the ages, He hath wrought salvation in the midst of the earth.*

Glory ... now and ever. Amen.

**...O only-begotten Son and Word of God, .....**

### **The Third Antiphon**

**Reader: *Stichos 1:* The Lord is king, let the peoples rage; He sitteth on the cherubim, let the earth be shaken.**

**Choir:** (Troparion, Tone 1): O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. Grant Thou victory unto Orthodox Christians over their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross do Thou preserve Thy commonwealth.

***Stichos 2: The Lord is great in Zion, and He is high above all peoples.***

**Choir:** Repeat Troparion

***Stichos 3: Worship the Lord in His holy court.***

**Choir:** Repeat Troparion

*Instead of "O come let us worship..." the Reader signs the entry verse:*

**Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship the footstool of His feet, for it is holy.**

*And immediately after that, the choir sings the Troparion of the feast:*

**Troparion Tone 1 (of the Feast)**

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. Grant Thou victory unto Orthodox Christians over their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross do Thou preserve Thy habitation.

**Kontakion — Tone 4 (of the Feast)**

As You were voluntarily raised upon the cross for our sake, / grant mercy to those who are called by Your Name, O Christ God; / make all Orthodox Christians glad by Your power, /

granting them victories over their adversaries, / by bestowing on them the Invincible trophy, Your weapon of Peace.

***Instead of the Trisagion:***

Before Thy Cross we bow down, O Master, and Thy holy Resurrection we glorify (3x)

***Tone 7 Prokeimenon (of the Feast)***

**Reader:** Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship the footstool of His feet for it is holy.

**V.** The Lord reigns, let the people tremble! (Ps. 98:1a)

**The Reading is from the Letter of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians**

*(for the Feast) 1 Cor. 1:18-24*



For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written: Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

**Alleluia and Verses Tone 7**

*V. Remember Your congregation, which You have gotten of old! (Ps. 73:2)*

*V. God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth!*



**The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John**

*(for the Feast) Jn. 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35*

Therefore, when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "You take Him and crucify Him, for I find no fault in Him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God." Therefore, when Pilate heard that saying, he was the more afraid, and went again into the Praetorium, and said to Jesus, "Where are You from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. Then Pilate said to Him, "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?" Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin." When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called The Pavement, but in Hebrew, Gabbatha. Now it was the Preparation Day of the Passover, and

about the sixth hour. And he said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" But they cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him! Crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar!" Then he delivered Him to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus and led Him away. And He, bearing His cross, went out to a place called the Place of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha, where they crucified Him, and two others with Him, one on either side, and Jesus in the center. Now Pilate wrote a title and put it on the cross. And the writing was: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Then many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin. Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home. After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!" So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit. Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe.

***Instead of "It is truly meet..."***

***Refrain:*** Magnify, O my soul, the most precious Cross of the Lord.

***Irmos:*** O Theotokos, thou art a mystical Paradise, who untilled hast brought forth Christ. He hath planted upon the earth the life-giving Tree of the Cross: therefore at its exaltation on this day, we worship Him and thee do we magnify.

### **Communion Hymn**

The light of Your countenance has been signed upon us, O Lord.

*Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

### **MEMORY ETERNAL**

#### **PLEASE PRAY FOR RESTING OF THE SOULS**

George Klein, Iryna Farion, Charles Demetrios, Nun Antonina, Elaine Cartier, Betty Ewanish, William Zemko, Mary Gula, Mykola Prychodczenko, Oleksander Dymtro, Mark Vuksanovich, Vladyslav Chudakorov, Anna Adamovich, Soldier Serhiy. All Who died during the war in Ukraine.



## PRAYER LIST

### PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALING, COMFORT, AND SPIRITUAL PEACE



Metropolitan Anthony, Archbishop Daniel, Sophia Karpa, Arlene Hawryluk, Jerry Zets, Larry, Darlene Moon, Jeff Smith, Soldier Ivan, Bernard Gnat, Dolly Mehalco, Jeff Ulbrich, Ann Klein, David & Richard Scharba, Brittany, Matt, Stephen Shonn, Thelma Zemko, Artur Bohuslav, Bohdan, Lori Hayda, Shirley Duffy,

Michele (Senediak) Caulder, Dobrodiyka Lilya, Sandy, Marilyn O'Leary, Alice Dobransky, Harold Owens, Dave Zylka, Marianne Carmack, Nicholas Yurchyk, Pauline Witkowsky, Eileen Maluk, Peter Anderson, Albert Auden, Michael Gino Maluk, Boris & Kathleen Vuksanovich, Kathy Zebel. People Suffering from any Illnesses. Ukrainian people who are suffering from war.

### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

3 Arlene Hawryluk 7 Delia Walkowicz 8 Elizabeth Zets 15 Jessica Slagel 11 Addison Ratliff 12 Linda Serrano 13 Volodymyr Koval 14 Pat Mounce 14 Dominic Woloschak 16 Fred Battisti Jr.	17 Charles G. Senediak 18 David Spanja 21 Joseph Owens 23 Waltraud Demetrius 27 David Zylka 29 Margie Senediak 29 Mary K. Woloschak 31 Sharlene Senediak 31 Rick Wilson
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## Liturgical Schedule & Feast Days

### SERVICE AND FEAST DAY SCHEDULE



- Sunday, September 29, 9:30AM – **Divine Liturgy, 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday, THE EXULTATION OF THE CROSS.** *Blessing of the Church School Bags*
- Sunday, October 6, 9:30AM – **Divine Liturgy, 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday**
- Sunday, October 13, 9:30AM – **Divine Liturgy, 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday, THE PROTECTION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD.**
- Sunday, October 20, 9:30AM – **Divine Liturgy, 17<sup>h</sup> Sunday**
- Sunday, October 27, 9:30AM – **Divine Liturgy, 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

### Upcoming dates & events

- Sep 29 - **Jr. UOL Meeting**
- Oct 6 - **Sr. UOL Meeting**
- Nov 24 - **Parish Annual Meeting**

### Church School Calendar

- Sunday, Sep 29 - **Church School, Blessing of the bags, Signing Fall Cards for shut ins, Blowing Bubbles for Jesus & making Prayer Boxes for those who were absent last week.**
- Sunday, Oct 6 - **Church School**
- Sunday, Oct 13 - **Church School**

### PYROHY WORK SCHEDULE

<b>October</b>	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup>	
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Wedding Ceremony

**Stefanie Wansack & Brandon Rappach** will be getting married on October **12** at **11:30am**. The Bride and the Groom would like to invite **everyone for the Ceremony** at Sts Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodx Church – Sat, Oct **12** at **11:30am**.

- *With love, Stefanie & Brandon.*



- Volunteers Needed

We need volunteers-workers to help with the Pyrohy making fundraiser! ANYONE is welcome to join! We especially need men to help lifting and carrying. The planned dates for Pyrohy making are **Oct 8 & 10** with sales on Friday (**11<sup>th</sup>**). Please talk to Anna if you're willing to help – 234-247-1534.



- *Respectfully, Pyrohy Crew*

- Sponsor one family with Children

As the war in Ukraine continues so does the suffering of people, especially children. One day Addison was watching the news report about the reality of Life of Ukrainian children. She got so emotional, she wants to help. She asked adults in Sunday School how this could be done. We thought it would be nice to sponsor one family with children, who were displaced because of war or children whose fathers are fighting on the front line. We are asking parishioners if they know anybody and can provide the names of such people. At the beginning of Sunday school year we will pick one family. Children can start communicating with them through writings. We will try to support them however we can to bring some hope for their future and somehow help them through their pain. Please submit your names to Father.

- *Church School Administration*

- St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, Parma, OH, Celebrates 100 Years

**Date:** Sunday, October 13, 2024 - **Divine Liturgy:** 9:00 am

**Banquet:** Immediately following the Liturgy

**Location:** St. Vladimir Ukr Orth Cathedral, Grand Hall

**Tickets are on sale now. Purchase by October 1, 2024**

**\$100** per adult ticket \* Children under **18** are **free**

**Ticket price includes:**

Banquet dinner \* Centennial Commemorative Book \*

Commemorative wine glass

**Contact:** Lucy Komichak - 440-897-1234 (cell) \* [LucKom@aol.com](mailto:LucKom@aol.com) (email)



- Did you know section.

Please submit the information about the children before the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of month to be published in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday`s Bulletin.





## Obituary

Charles Demetrios

CANFIELD - Charles N. Demetrios, 79, passed away unexpectedly Tuesday afternoon, September 3, 2024.

Born on December 7, 1944, in Youngstown, Charles was the son of the late George Demetrios and Mary Pavlechko Demetrios and was a lifelong resident of the area. He was a graduate of Chaney High School and enlisted in the Army Reserves after completing his education. Following his service, Charles embarked on a diverse working career, first at Schwebel's Baking Company and Youngstown Steel Door where he was a certified welder, before committing 30 years to General

Motors in Lordstown, where he eventually retired.

Charlie was a man of deep faith and a lifelong member of Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church. He was also a talented mechanic and enjoyed trap shooting and riding his motorcycle. One of his favorite traditions was his annual trip to Daytona Beach, Florida, for Bike Week. Above all, Charles was devoted to his family and will always be remembered as a good husband, father, and grandfather.

He is survived by his wife of nearly 59 years, Waltraud "Wallie" Wagner Demetrios, whom he married September 26, 1965; his daughter, Christine (John) Burlock of Boardman; his son, Mark (Wendy) Demetrios of Canfield; his four beloved grandchildren, Nicole (Tim) Spencer, Alexa Demetrios, Katie Demetrios, and Michael Demetrios; two great-grandchildren, Lucas and Serena Spencer, and his brother, George (Diane) Demetrios of Boardman.

Funeral Service took place on Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

Interment will take place at Sts. Peter and Paul Cemetery.

*Memory Eternal!*

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### PRAYER

O God of spirits and of all flesh, Who has trampled down death and overthrown the devil, and given life to Your world, now, do the same  
o Lord, give rest to the souls of Your departed servant in a place of brightness, a place of refreshment, a place of repose, where all sickness, sighing, and sorrow have fled away.





## Obituary

George Klein

AUSTINTOWN - George R. Klein, 87, passed away Friday evening, September 13, 2024.

George was born May 7, 1937, in Youngstown, a son of the late John and Anna Mueller Klein. A lifelong resident of the area, he graduated from Austintown Fitch High School in 1954 and went on to work as a millwright with Local 1871 for many years. Later, George worked for Packard Electric in Warren, retiring in 1999 after a fulfilling career.

He proudly served his country in the United States Army following the Korean War and was an active member of Allen Lodge 276, and the Free & Accepted Masons Lodge in both Columbiana and North Jackson. George was also a devoted member of the Saxon Club and Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church, where he built lasting friendships and served his community.

A man who loved the outdoors, George found joy in hunting, golfing, and tinkering around the house and garage. His hands were never idle, always fixing or improving something with care and precision. George was also passionate about giving back and was a dedicated volunteer with Boy Scout Troop #72, where he shared his skills and mentorship with young scouts.

George is survived by his loving wife of nearly 66 years, Ann Kichton Klein, whom he married November 15, 1958. Together, they raised a beautiful family, including two sons, John C. (Judy) Klein of Granville, OH, and Robert (Bonnie) Klein of Lebanon, OH; a daughter, Maryann (Thomas) Mott of Powell, OH; and seven grandchildren, Garrett, Cailin, Steffan, Kiana, Colin, Joshua, and Jillian, who brought immense joy to his life. He is also survived by his two brothers, Al (Julie) Klein of Las Vegas, and Paul (Patricia) Klein of Canfield; his sister, Peggy (Frank) Sedlar of Canfield; and many nieces, nephews, and extended family members.

George was preceded in death by his two brothers, Jimmy & Edward Klein.

In keeping with George's wishes, private services were held.

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### PRAYER

In Your hands, O Lord, we commend the soul of Your servant, and we pray for his repose. Forgive him all the sins he has committed, knowingly or unknowingly, and grant him a place of rest, where the light of Your countenance shines forever.

OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD AS OF	On Sep 13-15	On Sep 22
General:	<b>\$6504.00</b>	<b>\$ 932.50</b>
Renovation:	<b>\$ 156.00</b>	<b>\$ 46.00</b>
Online Donations on Tithe.ly	<b>\$ 120.00</b>	<b>\$ 15.00</b>

“ The one who gives generously also reaps generously ”

- 2 Corinthians 9:6

## Bulletin Dedication *(in memory or in honor)*

Sun Sept 1 1. Dedicated	Sun Sept 8 1. Dedicated 2. Dedicated	Sun Sept 15 1. Dedicated	Sun Sept 22 Unavailable	Sun Sept 29 1. Dedicated 2. Available
Sun Oct 6 1. Available 2. Available	Sun Oct 13 1. Dedicated 2. Dedicated	Sun Oct 20 1. Dedicated 2. Available	Sun Oct 27 1. Available 2. Available	

For bulletin dedication please call – 330-799-3830, Fr Mykola

## Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Parish in Youngstown, OH Celebrated 100 Years of Ministry

*(Consistory of the UOC of USA Press Release)*

The year 2024 marks a momentous occasion for Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Parish in Youngstown, Ohio, as it celebrated its 100th anniversary. Over the course of a century, this parish has been a beacon of faith, love, and spiritual strength for generations of Orthodox Christians. This centennial celebration over the weekend of September 12-15, 2024, led by His Eminence Metropolitan Antony and His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, was not only a milestone for the local faithful but also a deeply spiritual moment for the broader Ukrainian Orthodox Church.



The festivities began with a prayerful Vespers service at the parish’s temple on September 12, 2024, where intercessory prayers were offered for the people and nation of Ukraine, particularly during this time of Russian aggression. The Vespers brought a profound sense of solidarity and unity, not only with those present but with the entire Ukrainian diaspora, which has long stood as a symbol of hope and resilience. Archbishop Daniel addressed the congregation, reflecting on the upcoming feast of the new ecclesiastical year, reminding all of the traditional resolutions made for a new era, a new beginning, and a new year of grace. He eloquently spoke about the significance of the centennial - a time to honor the past, celebrate the present, and anticipate the future of

this beloved parish community. One of the most moving moments of the celebration came following the Vespers service when the faithful, led by Metropolitan Antony and Archbishop Daniel, traveled to the parochial cemetery. There, Archbishop Daniel served a memorial service for all the clergy and parishioners who have reposed in the Lord over the past century.

This moment captured the essence of the Orthodox faith, which holds that the Church is not limited to those on earth, but encompasses the entire communion of saints - those who have gone before us and are now in the presence of the Lord. As the Archbishop prayed for the departed, he reminded the faithful of the importance of remembering and honoring those who laid the foundation for the parish community. The pioneers of the parish, who toiled and sacrificed to establish a house of worship, are not forgotten. Their legacy lives on in the hearts of those who continue to gather in the temple they helped to build.

Prayer for the departed is a fundamental aspect of Orthodox Christian life. It is a reminder that death does not sever our ties with our loved ones, but rather, through Christ, we remain united. As Archbishop Daniel emphasized, praying for the deceased pioneers of the parish is an act of love and gratitude - a recognition that the roots of the parish's faith and traditions run deep, watered by the prayers and sacrifices of those who have passed on.

On Saturday morning – September 14, 2024, the youth of the parish, along with the parish board of administration president Charles (Chuck) Woloschak and Rev. Fr. Mykola Zomchak, the pastor of Saints Peter and Paul Parish warmly welcomed the hierarchs into the temple. The Divine Liturgy was celebrated with great sense of spiritual solemnity, concelebrated by both hierarchs and eleven priests, as well as a deacon, altar servers, and seminarians from Saint Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary.

His Eminence Metropolitan Antony offered an inspiring homily, reflecting on the ministry of the parish over the past century. He drew parallels between the Gospel narrative, where Christ enters the temple and proclaims a message of repentance and love, and the enduring mission of Saints Peter and Paul Parish to be a place of spiritual renewal. Metropolitan Antony reminded the congregation that just as Christ called His people to repentance and love 2,000 years ago, so too does He call the parish community today to continue its ministry with faith and compassion.

The faithful, moved by the Spirit, approached the Holy Eucharist, receiving the Body and Blood of Christ with reverence and devotion. It was a powerful reminder of the centrality of the Divine Liturgy in the life of the Church, and the spiritual nourishment that sustains the faithful, generation after generation.

At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, Archbishop Daniel blessed a new icon specially written for the parish's centennial celebration. The icon depicted Saints Peter and Paul holding in their hands the rendition of the parish's temple, symbolizing the unity of the parish community. This beautiful work of sacred art, written by digital iconographer Elizabeth Symonenko, now stands as a spiritual symbol of the parish's 100-year journey in faith. Following the service, the entire congregation processed outside to the newly constructed bell tower. The bell tower, built through the generous donations of

parishioners, holds deep significance for the community. Each brick used in its construction was donated in memory of a loved one who had been part of the parish family. Metropolitan Antony and Archbishop Daniel blessed and dedicated the bell tower, and for the first time, the new bell rang out across the neighborhood, symbolizing the enduring presence of the parish in Youngstown. In a touching moment, the bell was rung by the oldest parishioner – Nicholas Yurchyk (born in 1926), connecting the past with the present and future of Saints Peter and Paul Parish.

The celebrations continued in the parish hall, where 340 parishioners and guests gathered for a festive luncheon. The spirit of joy and thanksgiving was palpable, as the faithful shared memories, laughter, and fellowship. During the luncheon, both hierarchs presented leading parish organizations with Blessed Hramotas - Certificates of Blessing and Appreciation, acknowledging their dedicated service and contributions to the life of the parish. These gestures of recognition underscored the importance of lay participation in the ministry of the Church, affirming that every member of the parish family plays a vital role in its continued success.

Local and state representatives also attended the luncheon, offering citations of gratitude on behalf of the Youngstown community: United States Senator Sherrod Brown (*represented*); State Representative Lauren McNally, Ohio House of Representatives for District 59; Mahoning County Commissioners David Ditzler, Carol Rimedio-Righetti, and Anthony Traficanti; 4th Ward Councilman for the City of Youngstown Mike Ray. Their presence was a testament to the impact that Saints Peter and Paul Parish has had, not only within the Church but also in the broader community. For 100 years, the parish has been a source of spiritual nourishment, cultural preservation, and charitable outreach, touching the lives of countless individuals.

### **A New Beginning: Looking Ahead with Faith and Hope**

As the centennial celebrations drew to a close, there was a profound sense of both gratitude and anticipation. The faithful of Saints Peter and Paul Parish honored their past, celebrated their present, and looked forward to the future with hope. The leadership of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Archbishop Daniel, and Fr. Mykola Zomchak has been instrumental in guiding the parish through this pivotal moment in its history. Their dedication to the spiritual well-being of the faithful, coupled with their vision for the future, ensures that the parish will continue to thrive in its second century of ministry.

This centennial celebration was not merely a commemoration of the past but a call to action for the future. It was a reminder that the Church is ever-living, ever-growing, and ever in need of the prayers and participation of its faithful. As Saints Peter and Paul Parish embarks on its next 100 years, it does so with the firm foundation of faith, love, and unity, confident that with God's grace, it will continue to be a shining light in Youngstown and beyond.

***May God bless the clergy, the faithful, and all those who have labored in love for the glory of His Church, and may the memory of those who have gone before us be eternal!***

*Consistory of the UOC of USA Press Release  
- [https://uocofusa.org/news\\_240916\\_1](https://uocofusa.org/news_240916_1)*

## **Message of Gratitude and Blessing** *reflecting on the spiritually uplifting 100th anniversary celebration*

As we reflect on the tremendous success of our 100th anniversary celebration, I want to express my deepest gratitude and call the Blessing of the Holy Spirit upon all who made this milestone event possible.

To the President of the Parish, the Parish Board and the members of our 100th Anniversary Committee—your dedication, countless hours of planning, and commitment to excellence made this celebration truly remarkable. Your talents and hard work have honored the legacy of our beloved Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church, and we are eternally grateful.

Sincere gratitude to all those who generously offered their time, talents and treasure in support of this celebration, whether in visible roles or quietly working behind the scenes. Your contributions, large and small, helped create an event that will be cherished for years to come. You have shown what it means to serve with love and devotion, and for that, we are deeply thankful.

I would also like to acknowledge the invaluable role of the various organizations within our parish. Your tireless work and dedication over the years, and especially during this celebration, have been instrumental in building the vibrant and faithful community we enjoy today. From your spiritual, cultural, and charitable contributions, you have strengthened our parish in ways that will echo for generations.

To our hierarchs, clergy, dignitaries, and guests, thank you for your presence and for blessing this occasion with your prayers, support, and participation. Your attendance and encouragement remind us of the unity and strength of our faith community, and we are deeply honored to have shared this momentous occasion with you.

May God bless each and every one of you for your contributions, prayers, and fellowship, and may He continue to guide us as we move forward in faith and love.

May the Blessing of the Lord be with each and every one of you,  
Fr Mykola, *pastor*.



## The Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

The Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross is celebrated each year on September 14. The Feast commemorates the finding of the True Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by Saint Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine.

### Background

In the twentieth year of his reign (326), the Emperor Constantine sent his mother Saint Helen to Jerusalem to venerate the holy places and to find the site of the Holy Sepulchre and of the Cross. Relying upon the oral tradition of the faithful, Saint Helen found the precious Cross together with the crosses of the two thieves crucified with our Lord. However, Helen had no way of determining which was the Cross of Christ.

With the healing of a dying woman who touched one of the crosses, Patriarch Macarius of Jerusalem identified the True Cross of Christ. Saint Helen and her court venerated the Precious and Life-Giving Cross along with many others who came to see this great instrument of Redemption.

The Patriarch mounted the ambo (pulpit) and lifted the Cross with both hands so that all of the people gathered could see it. The crowd responded with “Lord have mercy”.

This became the occasion of the institution in all of the Churches of the Exaltation of the Precious Cross, not only in memory of the event of the finding of the Cross, but also to celebrate how an instrument of shame was used to overcome death and bring salvation and eternal life.

The Feast is an opportunity outside of the observances of Holy Week to celebrate the full significance of the victory of the Cross over the powers of the world, and the triumph of the wisdom of God through the Cross over the wisdom of this world. This Feast also gives the Church an opportunity to relish the full glory of the Cross as a source of light, hope and victory for Christ’s people. It is also a time to celebrate the universality of the work of redemption accomplished through the Cross: the entire universe is seen through the light of the Cross, the new Tree of Life which provides nourishment for those who have been redeemed in Christ.

<https://orthodoxtimes.com/the-precious-and-life-giving-cross-story-and-celebration-of-its-exaltation/>



“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.”

- Matthew 16:24



## **The Exaltation of the Life-Giving Cross: A Symbol of Hope in Times of Crisis**

On September 14/27, the Orthodox Church celebrates the Feast of the Exaltation of the Life-Giving Cross of the Lord, one of the most solemn and meaningful days in the liturgical calendar. This feast, rich in history and deep in spiritual significance, provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the power of the Cross as a symbol of life, especially in the face of the moral and social crises of our times.

In today's world, we are confronted with a "culture of death" that Archbishop Daniel of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA often speaks about. This culture manifests itself in various forms: the disregard for human life, the breakdown of moral values, and the increasing alienation from God. Whether it is seen in the global conflicts that tear nations apart, the exploitation of the vulnerable, or the degradation of human dignity through various forms of addiction, consumerism, and individualism, this culture stands in stark contrast to the life-giving power of the Cross. Yet, the Cross remains a sign of hope. It reminds us that even in the darkest of times, life will always triumph over death. As Archbishop reflects, "The Cross, far from being a symbol of defeat, is the ultimate symbol of victory and renewal. It is a reminder that our Lord did not leave us to face the world's challenges alone, but has given us the strength of His Cross, a source of life and transformation." As followers of Christ in the 21st century, we are called to embrace the Cross not just as a historical event, but as a living reality. In the face of moral decay, social injustice, and personal suffering, the Cross offers us a way forward. It calls us to die to the selfishness and pride that perpetuate the culture of death and to rise to a new life in Christ, where love, compassion, and mercy reign.

The Cross is not an easy path; it is a path of sacrifice and self-denial. Yet, it is the only path that leads to true life. In the words of our Savior, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me" (Mk. 8:34). This call to follow Christ through the Cross is as relevant today as it was 2,000 years ago. As we contemplate the Exaltation of the Life-Giving Cross, let us be reminded that we are all called to carry our own crosses. Whether it be the cross of personal suffering, the cross of standing up for truth in a world that often rejects it, or the cross of caring for those in need, we are not alone. Christ is with us, and through His Cross, we have the strength to overcome any trial.

Archbishop Daniel reminds us that in times of crisis, we must not lose hope. "The Cross teaches us that there is no situation so dire that God's grace cannot redeem it. The darkness of Good Friday is always followed by the light of the Resurrection." In a world filled with uncertainty, the Cross remains our sure and steadfast hope. Let us take courage, knowing that through the Cross, death has been overcome, and life - true, eternal life - is ours in Christ.

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Life-Giving Cross is not just a remembrance of past events, but a living and dynamic call to embrace the Cross in our lives. In a society fraught with moral confusion and social decay, the Cross stands as a symbol of life, hope, and renewal. It challenges us to confront the culture of death with the life-giving power of Christ's victory, and to live out the Gospel with courage, humility, and love. May we, as modern-day followers of Christ, draw strength from the Cross, and may it be for us what it has always been for Christians throughout the ages: the invincible weapon of peace, the source of life, and the path to eternal victory in Christ.

*- Archbishop Daniel*

**IN MEMORY OF**

**IRYNA FARION**

**+ JULY 19, 2024**

**UKRAINIAN LINGUIST  
& POLITICIAN WHO WAS  
UNJUSTLY KILLED**



**“MAY THE LORD REST HER  
SOUL IN HIS HEAVENLY KINGDOM”**

LOVINGLY REMEMBERED FOR HER SERVICE  
& INPUT TO THE UKRAINIAN NATION & THE  
CULTURE, ESPECIALLY FOR HER LOVE &  
DEDICATION TO THE UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE

DEDICATION BY  
BOHDAN & NADIYA LYUBUSKA

