

Sunday Bulletin  
February 9th, 2025  
Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee



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



Sts. Peter & Paul Ukrainian  
Orthodox Church  
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Chuck Woloschak  
*President of the Church Council*

**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*



Sunday Bulletin

February 9th, 2025

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

**Happy & Blessed  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
to Bonnie & Peter Borovitcky**

- bull 16

**In Memory of  
Joseph (Jokey) Malys**

- bull 6

**In Memory of  
Betty Ewanish**

- bull 11

- **Liturgical Schedule & Announcem.** - bull 5
- **Join Us for Zapusty - Feb 22** - bull 7
- **Lenten UOL Retreat - Mar 15** - bull 8
- **On Publican & Pharisee** - bull 9
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- **The Preparational Sundays** - bull 12
- **Christian Humor** - bull 14
- **Orthodox Christianity 101** - bull 15

### **Troparion of the Sunday, Tone 8**

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! / Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our sufferings! / O Lord, our Life and Resurrection: glory to Thee!

### **Kontakion of the Sunday, Tone 8**

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam. / Eve exults in Thy Resurrection, / and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

### **Tone 8 Prokeimenon – (Resurrection)**

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God! (*Ps. 75:10a*)  
V. *In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel. (Ps. 75:1)*



### **The Reading is from the Letter of the Holy Apostle Paul to Timothy 3:10-15**

But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra—what persecutions I endured. And out of *them* all the Lord delivered me. Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

### **Alleluia and Verses Tone 8**

*He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the heavenly God  
He will say to the Lord: “My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in Whom I trust.”  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

### **The reading is from the Gospel according to St. Luke 18:10-14**

“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’ And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise *his* eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”



### **Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest!

*Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

## MEMORY ETERNAL

### PLEASE PRAY FOR RESTING OF THE SOULS

Julian Naumenko, Patricia Huly, David Scharba, John Senediak, Ann & George Klein, Sophia Karpa, Iryna Farion, Charles Demetrios, Nun Antonina, Elaine Cartier, Betty Ewanish, William Zemko, Mary Gula, Mykola Prychodczenko, Oleksander Dmytro. Victims of the war in Ukraine.  
Victims of the Aircrafts Crashes



## PRAYER LIST

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

Metropolitan Anthony, Archbishop Daniel, Tom Drabick, Walter Duzzny, Lori, Christine Kline, Arlene Hawryluk, Jerry Zets, Larry, Darlene Moon, Jeff Smith, Soldier Ivan, Bernard Gnat, Dolly Mehalco, Jeff Ulbrich, 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 suffering from war.

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 Rich Semchee 1 Avery McCormick 2 Katie & Bernie Rogenski's 4 Walter Duzzny 7 Gertrude Senediak 15 Christina M. Thornton 16 Michael Semchee 20 Tamara Betts	21 Dee Bralish 23 Carole Senediak 2 Thomas G DeLuca 25 Kyle Crown 26 Walter Malys 27 Irene Husic 27 Sandy Burlock
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## Bulletin Dedication *(in memory or in honor)*

<u>Sun Feb 2</u>	<u>Sun Feb 9</u>	<u>Sun Feb 16</u>	<u>Sun Feb 23</u>	
1. Available	1. Dedicated	1. Dedicated	1. Dedicated	
2. Available	2. Dedicated	2. Available	2. Available	
<u>Sun Mar 2</u>	<u>Sun Mar 9</u>	<u>Sun Mar 16</u>	<u>Sun Mar 23</u>	<u>Sun Mar 30</u>
1. Dedicated	1. Available	1. Available	1. Available	1. Available
2. Available	2. Available	2. Available	2. Available	2. Available

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

OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD	On Jan 26	On Feb 2
General:	<b>\$ 3394.00</b>	<b>\$ 2710.00</b>
Renovation:	<b>\$ 75.00</b>	<b>\$ 40.50</b>
Online Donations on Tithe.ly	<b>\$ 35.00</b>	<b>\$ 20.00</b>

" The rich exist for the sake of the poor.

The poor exist for the salvation of the rich. "

" Riches are not forbidden, but the pride of them is. "

" Fasting of the body is food for the soul. "

-St. John Chrysostom

# Liturgical Schedule & Feast Days



## SERVICE AND FEAST DAY SCHEDULE

\* (HEARING CONFESSIONS ON SUNDAYS BEFORE LITURGY 8:30AM - 9:15AM)

- Thursday, February 6, 6:30PM – Moleben (*Supplication*) Service for the sick.
- Sunday, February 9, 9:30AM – Divine Liturgy, Sunday of Publican & Pharisee
- Sunday, February 16, 9:30AM – Divine Liturgy, Sunday of Prodigal Son.  
**The Meeting of the Lord.**
- Sunday, February 23, 9:30AM – Divine Liturgy, Sunday of the Last Judgment
- Sunday, March 2, 9:30AM – Divine Liturgy, Sunday of Expulsion from Paradise

## Upcoming dates & events

- Feb 22 – “Zapusty Celebration” - Celebration before entering the Great Lent: Dinner, Music, Fellowship on Saturday February 22 at 5 to 8 pm. Please sign up in the back of the church.
- Mar 2 – Sisterhood will organize a fellowship.
- July 23-27, 2025 - UOL Convention in Florida – SAVE the DATE – July 23-27, 2025.

## Church School Calendar

\* Church School - Feb 9      \* Church School – Feb 16      \* Church School – Feb 23

## Sr. UOL Calendar

- Saturday, February 8 - Soup Making for St. Andrew’s Soup Kitchen
- Sunday, February 9 - Soup Give Away 11:30am to 1:00pm
- Sunday, February 23 – Sr UOL Meeting
- Saturday, March 15 – UOL Pan-Orthodox Lenten Retreat (OHIO / WESTERN PA) Sat, Mar 15

## Pyrohy Schedule

ORDER BY DATE:	WORK DAY	WORK DAY	PICK-UP DAY
Feb. 10	Feb. 11	Feb. 13	Feb. 14
Feb. 24	Feb. 25	Feb. 27	Feb. 28
March 10	March 11	March 13	March 14
March 24	March 25	March 27	March 28
April 7	April 8	April 10	April 11
May 12	May 13	May 15	May 16

## Choir Rehearsal Schedule

February	March	April
Wed Feb 26 at 7pm	Wed, Mar 5 at 7pm Wed, Mar 19 at 7pm Wed, Mar 27 at 7pm	Wed, Apr 9 at 7pm



**IN MEMORY OF**

**JOSEPH (JOKEY)  
MALYS**

**FEB 9, 2022 -AUG 15, 2000**

**MEMORY ETERNAL!**



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

**SADLY MISSED BY  
WALTER AND DIANE MALYS  
GRAND DAUGHTERS RACHEL,  
SARAH & CHRISTY  
GRANDCHILDREN ANDREW, RUBY,  
THEODORE, WALTER, ELLIE, & SADIE.  
& NIECE JANNA WILLIAMS**

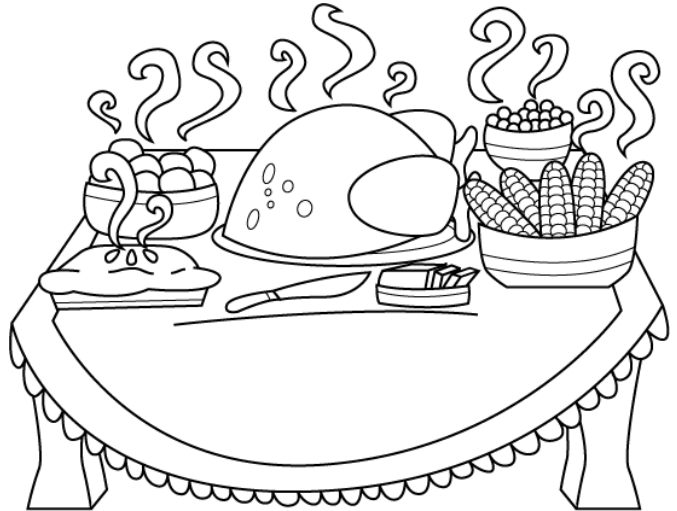


## Join Us for Zapusty!

(Celebration before entering  
the Great Lent)

Dear Parish Family,

Before we begin the solemn  
journey of Great Lent, we  
invite you to celebrate  
Zapusty with us - our final  
feast before the Lenten fast!



This joyful gathering is a time for fellowship, delicious food, music and shared traditions as we prepare our hearts for the season ahead.

Free admission! You are welcome to bring your favorite dish to share - whether it's a cherished family recipe or a simple favorite - and let's enjoy this evening together in good company!

- Date: Saturday, February 22
- Time: 5:00 - 8:00 PM
- Location: Church Hall

To help us plan, please sign up in the back of the church.  
We look forward to celebrating with you!





# 2025 Annual WPA/Ohio Pan-Orthodox Lenten Retreat

## *The Language of Orthodoxy*

*Experience Great Lent through the Prophets and Saints  
Embracing Christ's Call by using the Language of Orthodoxy*

9:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Saturday, March 15, 2025

River Valley Complex

320 Shenango Street

Pulaski, Pennsylvania 16143

(724) 652-6184

Registration begins February 3, 2025

Visit Website <https://www.uolofusa.org> starting 2/3/2025

A day of prayer, reflection and transformation

*Includes: Breakfast, Morning Prayers, Speakers, Group Discussion,  
Lunch, Snacks, Confession, Vespers*

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without  
him was not anything made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light  
of men. And the light shined in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.*

*John 1:1-5*

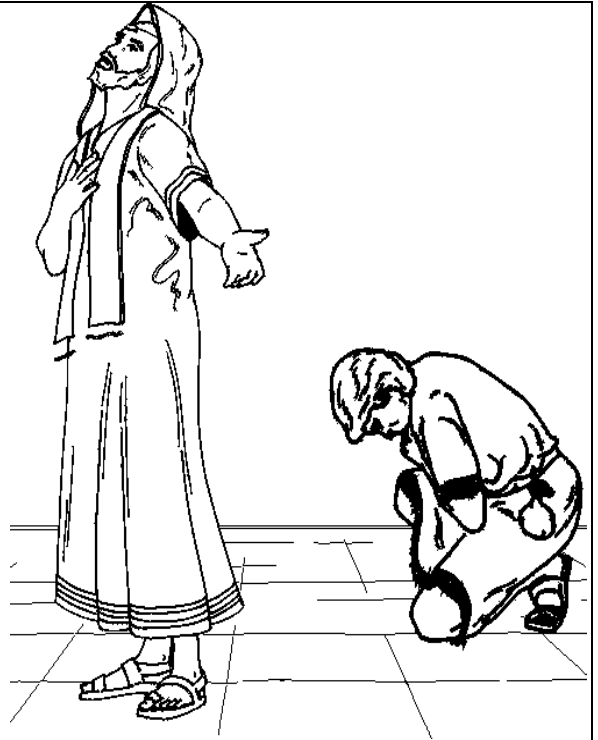


Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA  
*Dedicate to our Church. . . Devoted to its Youth*



## On the Publican and Pharisee

God's temple is a house of prayer, where His children draw near to Him in communion. In today's Gospel, Christ tells the parable of the Pharisee and the Publican—two men who enter the temple to pray but leave with very different outcomes. The Pharisee, standing proudly, thanks God that he is not like other sinners, boasting of his fasting and tithing. The Publican, standing humbly at a distance, dares not lift his eyes but beats his chest, pleading, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." Christ declares that only the Publican is justified, for "everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted" (Luke 18:14).



This parable is not just about two men—it is about us. How often do we, like the Pharisee, take pride in our religious practices while inwardly judging others? We may fast, pray, and attend church, but if our hearts are filled with self-righteousness, we have already lost the grace of humility. True holiness is not found in outward observance alone but in a heart broken before God, seeking His mercy. The saints understood this well. Despite their righteousness, they considered themselves the worst of sinners. St. Paul called himself "the chief of sinners," and St. Peter wept bitterly over his denial of Christ. They constantly examined their hearts and prayed, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner."

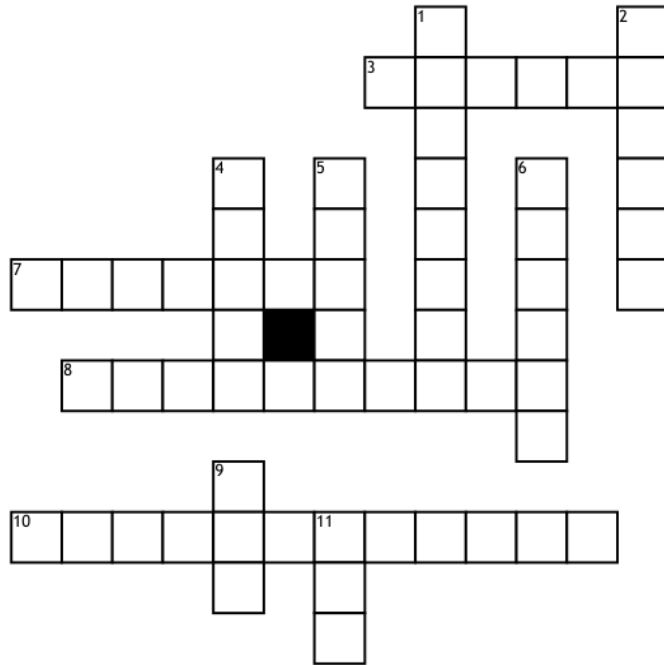
If even the saints saw themselves as unworthy, how much more should we? Instead of measuring ourselves against others, we must compare ourselves to the holiness of Christ and the lives of the saints. Only then will we see our own weaknesses clearly. The struggle between the Pharisee and the Publican exists within each of us. One voice tempts us toward self-exaltation; the other calls us to repentance. Our salvation depends on which voice we follow.

At the end of our lives, no accomplishments, good works, or human praises will matter. The only prayer that will remain is, “God, be merciful to me, a sinner.” May this humble cry fill our hearts always, leading us to God’s mercy and eternal life.

Let us take this lesson to heart. Pride blinds us, but humility opens the door to God’s grace. The Pharisee thought he was righteous, yet his prayer was empty, while the Publican, in his humility, found true justification.

As we prepare for Great Lent, let us examine our hearts honestly. Do we stand before God with pride, or do we kneel before Him with repentance? Let us cast away self-righteousness and embrace the humility that leads to salvation. May our constant prayer be, “God, be merciful to me, a sinner,” so that, like the Publican, we too may go home justified in the eyes of the Lord. Amen..

## Publican and Pharisee



### Across

3. The Publican was the opposite of proud ...
7. The Publican was asking God to .....him
8. Not only we must ask God to forgive us but to also help us change our ways. This is called r...
10. Another name for the Publican

### Down

1. According to the Parable this man went home justified

2. The word for Church in the Jewish tradition
4. The Pharisee was filled with the opposite of humble
5. The Publican felt bad for his sin and was beating his ...
6. The Publican knew he was a S.....
9. The Pharisee was looking up at...
11. The Pharisee knew the --- very well



**IN MEMORY OF**

**BETTY J.  
EWANISH**

**+ JULY 15, 2024**



**DEDICATION BY  
SUSAN TIBBS (COUSIN OF JOE EWANISH)**

**HER MEMORY BE FROM  
GENERATION TO GENERATION**



# The Preparational Sundays before the Great Lent

The Sundays before Great Lent serve as a spiritual warm-up, helping us transition into the intense period of fasting, prayer, and repentance. Each Sunday presents a theme that calls us to self-examination and prepares our hearts for the Lenten journey. Let's go deeper into each of them:

The  
Season  
of  
Lent



## 1. Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee (Humility in Prayer) – February 9, 2025

- Gospel Reading: Luke 18:10-14
- This Sunday introduces the theme of humility, which is essential for true repentance.
- The parable contrasts two men praying in the Temple:
- The Pharisee boasts of his righteousness, fasting, and tithing, looking down on others.
- The Publican, knowing his sinfulness, simply prays, “God, be merciful to me, a sinner.”
- Christ teaches that it is the Publican—not the outwardly pious Pharisee—who is justified before God because of his humility.
  - Lesson for us: We must avoid pride in our spiritual life and recognize our need for God’s mercy.
  - Liturgical Note: This week is a fast-free week, even on Wednesday and Friday, as a reminder that salvation is by God’s grace, not by our own efforts alone.

## 2. Sunday of the Prodigal Son (Repentance and God’s Mercy) – February 16, 2025

- Gospel Reading: Luke 15:11-32
- This Sunday reminds us that no matter how far we stray, God will always welcome us back.
- The parable tells of a son who wastes his inheritance in sinful living, ends up starving, and finally decides to return to his father, saying, “I have sinned.”
  - Instead of rejecting him, the father embraces him with love, celebrating his return.
  - The elder brother, however, resents the father’s mercy, representing those who struggle with forgiving others.
    - Lesson for us: God’s love is greater than our sins. We must trust in His mercy and also learn to forgive others.
    - Liturgical Note: The well-known Psalm 137 (“By the rivers of Babylon”) is chanted at Matins, evoking a sense of spiritual exile and longing for God’s presence.

## 3. Meatfare Sunday (Sunday of the Last Judgment) – February 23, 2025

- Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:31-46
- This Sunday focuses on Christ’s Second Coming and the Last Judgment.

- Christ teaches that at the final judgment, all people will be separated like sheep and goats based on how they treated others:
  - Those who fed the hungry, clothed the naked, and cared for the needy will inherit eternal life.
  - Those who ignored the suffering of others will face condemnation.
  - Lesson for us: True faith is shown through love and good works. Lent is not just about fasting from food but about fasting from selfishness and indifference.
  - Liturgical Note: This is the last day meat is eaten before Pascha, signaling the beginning of dietary restrictions.

#### 4. Cheesefare Sunday (Sunday of Forgiveness) – March 2, 2025

- Gospel Reading: Matthew 6:14-21
- The final Sunday before Great Lent focuses on forgiveness and fasting.
- Jesus teaches:
  - If we do not forgive others, God will not forgive us.
  - When fasting, we should not seek praise but focus on our relationship with God.
  - This day is also known as Forgiveness Sunday because at the end of Vespers, Orthodox Christians ask forgiveness from one another to start Lent with a clean heart.
  - Lesson for us: Great Lent is not just about fasting from food but about reconciling with others and preparing our souls for Pascha.
  - Liturgical Note: This is the last day dairy is eaten before Pascha. After this, the full Lenten fast begins.

#### Final Thoughts

Each of these Sundays calls us to take a step toward deeper spiritual awareness:

- Publican and Pharisee → Humility in prayer
- Prodigal Son → God’s mercy and our need for repentance
- Last Judgment → Love in action and responsibility for others
- Forgiveness Sunday → Reconciliation and preparing for the Lenten struggle

This journey into Lent is not just about food restrictions but about changing our hearts, growing in love, and drawing closer to God.



## Christian Humor:

1. "Lord, grant me patience... but please hurry!"
2. "Jesus, take the wheel... and my Wi-Fi router when I should be praying."
3. "Father, help me love my neighbors... even when they park in front of my house."
4. "Lord, help me turn the other cheek... and not roll my eyes while doing it."
5. "Heavenly Father, give me the strength to diet... but if that's not Your will, bless this pizza."
6. "Lord, lead me not into temptation... especially the 'just five more minutes' button on my alarm."
7. "God, please help me see the good in people... even in the ones who drive slow in the left lane."
8. "Jesus, help me be a light in the world... and not just when my phone flashlight accidentally turns on."
9. "Lord, help me be slow to anger... and even slower to respond to internet trolls."
10. "Jesus, remind me that 'love thy neighbor' applies... even when they mow their lawn at 7 a.m."
11. "Father, grant me the wisdom to know when to speak... and when to mute myself on Zoom."
12. "Lord, help me trust in Your timing... even when Amazon says my package will be late."
13. "God, teach me to forgive others... just like I forgive myself every time I say I'll start my diet on Monday."
14. "Holy Spirit, fill me with Your peace... and not just coffee."
15. "Lord, help me resist temptation... especially when there's a 'Buy One, Get One Free' Sale."



# Orthodox Christianity 101

## ETERNAL LIFE

**I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world [ages] to come.**

The Orthodox Church does not believe merely in the immortality of the soul, and in the goodness and ultimate salvation of only spiritual reality. Following the Scriptures, Orthodox Christians believe in the goodness of the human body and of all material and physical creation. Thus, in its faith in resurrection and eternal life, the Orthodox Church looks not to some “other world” for salvation, but to this very world so loved by God, resurrected and glorified by Him, tilled with His own divine presence. At the end of the ages God will reveal His presence and will fill all creation with Himself. For those who love Him it will be paradise. For those who hate Him it will be hell. And all physical creation, together with the righteous, will rejoice and be glad in His coming.

*The wilderness and the solitary places will be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom in abundance ([Is 35.1](#)). For behold I create new heavens and a new earth says the Lord, and the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create, for behold I create Jerusalem a rejoicing and her people a joy ([Is 65.17-18](#)).*

The visions of the prophets and those of the Christian apostles about things to come are one and the same:

*Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband; and I heard a great voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling of God is with men. He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God himself will be with them; He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away” (Rev 21.1-5).*

When the Kingdom of God fills all creation, all things will be made new. This world will again be that paradise for which it was originally created. This is the Orthodox doctrine of the final fate of man and his universe.

It is sometimes argued, however, that this world will be totally destroyed and that God will create everything new “out of nothing” by the act of a second creation. Those who hold this opinion appeal to such texts as that found in the second letter of Saint Peter:

*But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away .??. and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and the works that are upon it will be burned up ([2Pet 3.10](#)).*

Because the Bible never speaks about a “second creation” and because it continually and consistently witnesses that God loves the world which He has made and does everything that He can to save it, the Orthodox Tradition never interprets such scriptural texts as teaching the actual annihilation of creation by God. It understands such texts as speaking metaphorically of the great catastrophe which creation must endure, including even the righteous, in order for it to be cleansed, purified, made perfect, and saved. It teaches as well that there is an “eternal fire” for the ungodly, an eternal condition of their being destroyed. But in any case the “trial by fire” which “destroys the ungodly” is in no way understood by the Orthodox in the sense that creation is doomed to total destruction, despised by the loving Lord who created it and called it “very good” ([Gen 1.31](#); also [1Cor 3.13-15](#); Heb 12.25-29; [Is 66](#); Rev 20-22).





**HAPPY  
& BLESSED  
50<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY TO  
BONNIE  
& PETER  
BOROVITCKY**

**MAY GOD BLESS YOUR MARRIAGE  
AND KEEP YOU BOTH IN BLISS  
FOR MANY MORE YEARS!**

**GREETINGS FROM  
THE FAMILY,  
PARISH FAMILY  
& FRIENDS**

