

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
PETER AND PAUL PRIME APOSTLES



Icon of Saints Peter and Paul -- June 29th

June 29, 2025: Third Sunday After Pentecost

Epistle: Rom. 5: 1-10

Gospel: Mt. 6: 22-34

This Weekend

Holy Apostles Ss. Peter and Paul

4:00 pm + John, Lucille & George Marushock & + Mildred,
Nancy & Evelyn Foster (Sister, Ilona)
10:30 For Our Parishioners

Mon., June 30

9:00 Health of Howard Smith (Mary Patricia Brown)

Tues., July 1

9:00 + Margret Marcinko Heyl (Shirley Romanovitch)

Wed., July 2

9:00 + Marie F. Piercy (Terry Statuto)

Thurs. July 3

9:00 + Jacob, Ann & Karen Jablonski (Gloria Jablonski)

Fri., July 4

9:00 For Our Country

Sat., July 5

No Morning Divine Liturgy

2:00 pm Confessions

4:00 pm + Susan & Andrew Horvath (Daughter)

Sun., July 6

10:30 For Our Parishioners

FEAST OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

Commemorated on June 29th

The Feast of Saints Peter and Paul came to be observed early in the history of the Church. Although they died at different times and places, their commemoration has universally been kept on the same day to highlight the central role they had in the foundation of the early Church. It is for the same reason that they are called the “Leaders of the Apostles” in the Liturgy.

St. Peter, whose original name was

Simon, was a fisherman in Galilee when Jesus called him to be a Disciple. “Come after me and I will make you fishers of men.” (Mt. 4: 19). After Jesus’ Ascension, Peter was the spokesman of the Apostles, and a witness of Christ’s divinity. He delivered the first sermon on Pentecost and received the first Gentiles into the church. From Jerusalem He went to preach the gospel in Asia at Antioch (Gal. 2:11), then to Cappadocia,



Galatia, Pontus, and finally Rome. He was crucified, head downward, most probably in 67 A.D.

St. Paul, known as Saul before his conversion, was born at Tarsus in the Roman province of Cilicia. As a youth, he went to Jerusalem to receive his education in Judaism from the celebrated rabbi, Gamaliel (Acts 22:3). At the time of Jesus' ministry he had already left Jerusalem. Saul did not

see the Lord during His earthly ministry. By the grace of God, Saul was miraculously converted on the way to Damascus around the year 34 A.D. After receiving baptism Paul left for a long retreat in Arabia to prepare himself for his future mission. He was most zealous to preach the gospel of Christ to the world. He established many churches and visited many other churches. To these he wrote numerous letters which form a significant part of the New Testament canonical writings.

The Icon of Peter and Paul is simple and direct, striving only to represent the holiness and wisdom

of the two Apostles whose lives were totally devoted to witnessing the Good News of Jesus Christ and our salvation. They stand majestically, as pillars of the Church and teachers of the Lord Jesus. The liturgy hails the chief Apostles with beautifully composed hymns. Peter is called the "rock of faith" and Paul "pride of the universe." Together they are celebrated

as “luminaries of those in darkness,
two rays of the sun and pillars of divine

doctrines, and friends of Christ.”

4th of July History & Trivia - Did You Know...

- The major objection to being ruled by Britain was taxation without representation. The colonists had no say in the decisions of English Parliament.
- In May, 1776, after nearly a year of trying to resolve their differences with England, the colonies sent delegates to the Second Continental Congress. Finally, in June, admitting that their efforts were hopeless; a committee was formed to compose the formal Declaration of Independence. Headed by Thomas Jefferson, the committee also included John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Philip Livingston and Roger Sherman. On June 28, 1776, Thomas Jefferson presented the first draft of the declaration to Congress.
- Betsy Ross, according to legend, sewed the first American flag in May or June 1776, as commissioned by the Congressional Committee.
- Independence Day was first celebrated in Philadelphia on July 8, 1776.
- The Liberty Bell sounded from the tower of Independence Hall on July 8, 1776, summoning citizens to gather for the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence by Colonel John Nixon.
- June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress, looking to promote national pride and unity, adopted the national flag. “Resolved: that the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation.”
- The first public Fourth of July event at the White House occurred in 1804.
- Before cars ruled the roadway, the Fourth of July was traditionally the most miserable day of the year for horses, tormented by all the noise and by the boys and girls who threw firecrackers at them.
- The first Independence Day celebration west of the Mississippi occurred at Independence Creek and was celebrated by Lewis and Clark in 1805.
- On June 24, 1826, Thomas Jefferson sent a letter to Roger C.

Weightman, declining an invitation to come to Washington, D.C., to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. It was the last letter that Jefferson, who was gravely ill, ever wrote.

- Both Thomas Jefferson and John Adams died on Independence Day, July 4, 1826.
- The 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence did not sign at the same time, nor did they sign on July 4, 1776. The official event occurred on August 2, 1776, when 50 men signed it.
- The names of the signers of the Declaration of Independence were withheld from the public for more than six months to protect the signers. If independence had not

been achieved, the treasonable act of the signers would have, by law, resulted in their deaths.

- Thomas McKean was the last to sign in January, 1777.
- The origin of Uncle Sam probably began in 1812, when Samuel Wilson was a meat packer who provided meat to the US Army. The meat shipments were stamped with the initials, U.S. Someone joked that the initials stood for “Uncle Sam”. This joke eventually led to the idea of Uncle Sam symbolizing the United States government.
- In 1941, Congress declared 4th of July a federal legal holiday. It is one of the few federal holidays that have not been moved to the nearest Friday or Monday.

Happy Independence Day!!!

A REMINDER FOR VACATION SEASON

It is that wonderful time of year once again — Vacation Time! A season for rest and relaxation, when we temporarily step away from our daily routines to recharge. Whether we stay at home or venture out to visit friends, explore new destinations, or embark on exciting adventures, vacations offer

a much-needed break for the soul. During these moments, it's easy to let our usual obligations slip from our minds.

However, there is one reality we cannot escape: bills and financial responsibilities never seem to take a vacation. This includes the operational

costs of our Church, which, paradoxically, often increase during the summer months. Whether it's the upkeep of church facilities or utility bills, these vital needs continue to require support, even as we are away enjoying time with loved ones.

So, as you pack your bags, finalize travel plans, or settle into your summer routine, please keep your Church in mind. Ensuring that your Sunday Collection envelopes

are mailed in while you're away is an easy and thoughtful way to maintain your contributions to the Church's mission. This simple act allows you to fully enjoy your vacation, knowing you have supported the work that continues to uplift our community.

Thank you for remembering your Church during this busy season, and may your summer be filled with joy, relaxation, and renewal!

AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEM REPLACEMENT AT OUR CHURCH: CHALLENGES AND THE PATH FORWARD

Our church is currently facing a significant challenge with our air conditioning system. The bigger unit, which has served us well over the years, is no longer functional. This has placed a considerable strain on the smaller air conditioning unit, which, while still operational, is not always capable of maintaining a comfortable temperature in the church.

The malfunction of the larger unit has led to fluctuating temperatures within the church, making it challenging for our Parishioners to enjoy a comfortable environment during services. The smaller unit's inability to consistently regulate the temperature has been particularly

problematic during peak summer months, affecting the overall experience of our community.

In response to this issue, we have invited several contractors to assess our air conditioning system and provide quotes for its replacement. We are currently awaiting their bids, which will give us a clearer understanding of the scope and cost of the project.

It is important to note that this will not be an inexpensive project. Replacing an air conditioning system of this scale involves significant investment, and we are mindful of the financial implications for our church community. We will explore various

options to fund this project, including potential fund raising efforts.

Our goal is to ensure that our church remains a welcoming and comfortable space for all. We are committed to finding a solution that balances cost with efficiency and reliability. Once we have received and reviewed the bids from the

contractors, we will communicate further with the congregation about the chosen path forward and any assistance we may require.

We appreciate the patience and support of our community as we navigate this challenge and work towards a sustainable solution for our air conditioning needs.

BRING A FRIEND TO CHURCH:

Now that the nicer weather is here, it is a great time to invite a relative or friend to St. Cyril's to appreciate the beauty of our Church

and to experience our Ukrainian culture. Who knows we may gain a new member.

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

During June, our Archeparchy takes up the Peter's Pence Collection, which provides Pope Leo XIV with the funds he needs to carry out his charitable works around the world. The proceeds benefit the most disadvantaged: victims of war,

oppression, and disasters. Join our Holy Father as a witness of charity to those who are suffering. Please use the special "Peter's Pence" envelope in your donation envelope packet to make your offering. It is not too early to already submit your offering.

COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM

The Collection Processing Team for the month of June 2025 is Team

#2: Eugene Zinsky, John Turko, Jr., and Michael Shumek.

Sunday Collection for June 21 - 22, 2025: \$

Sincere thanks to all of you for your kindness and generosity.

Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

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Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

The Illustrious and Pre-Eminent Apostles Peter and Paul

The New Testament clearly shows Peter as the leader of the Apostles, chosen by Jesus to have a special relationship with him. With James and John he was privileged to witness the Transfiguration, the raising of a dead child to life and the agony in Gethsemane. His mother-in-law was cured by Jesus. He was sent with John to prepare for the last Passover before Jesus' death. His name is first on every list of apostles. But the Gospels prove their own veracity by the unflattering details they include about Peter. He clearly had no public relations person. It is a great comfort for ordinary mortals to know that Peter also has his human weakness, even in the presence of Jesus. After Jesus' Ascension, Peter presided in Jerusalem, was bishop of Antioch, and finally presided over the Church in Rome where on the Vatican Hill he was martyred, head downwards according to tradition, in the Circus of Nero.

Paul had been the most Pharisaic of Pharisees, the most legalistic of Mosaic lawyers. Following his

conversion, he suddenly appears to other Jews as a heretical welcomer of Gentiles, a traitor and apostate. Paul's central conviction was simple and absolute: Only God can save humanity. No human effort – even the most scrupulous observance of law – can create a human good which we can bring to God as reparation for sin and payment for grace. To be saved from itself, from sin, from the devil and from death, humanity must open itself completely to the saving power of Jesus. Paul never lost his love for his Jewish brothers and sisters, though he carried on a lifelong debate with them about the uselessness of the Law without Christ. He reminded the Gentiles that they were grafted on the parent stock of the Jews, who were still God's chosen people, the children of the promise. According to tradition, Paul was beheaded in Rome near the Ostian Way where the church of Tre Fontane now stands.