Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost



Icon of Saint Tabitha and Others -- October 25th

October 25, 2026: Twenty Second Sunday After Pentecost

Epistle: Gal. 6: 11-18 Gospel: Lk. 16: 19-31

This Weekend	4:00 pm	For Our Parishioners
	10:30	+ Elaine Jablonski (Husband, Jim)
Mon., Oct. 26	9:00	+ Fr. Paul R. Wolensky
Tues., Oct. 27	9:00	Special Intention (Anonymous)
Wed., Oct. 28	9:00	Intention Available: See Father Nestor
Thurs., Oct. 29	9:00	Intention Available: See Father Nestor
Fri., Oct. 30		**No Divine Liturgy Today**
Sat., Oct. 31		**No Morning Divine Liturgy**
	2:00 pm	Confessions
	4:00 pm	+ Olga Telep (Daughter, Lauren)
Sun., Nov. 1	10:30	For Our Parishioners



+ Rev. Paul R. Wolensky (1963 - 2026)

Father Paul Wolensky was born in Wilkes-Barre, PA, on August 27, 1963, to Paul and Anna Havrilla Wolensky. He was a proud trombone player in the Lake-Lehman High School band and graduated in 1981. He attended Penn State University-Wilkes-Barre, and worked as a bartender at Gus Gennetti's and as a DJ at WILK, with the radio call name of Paul Richards.

Fr. Paul, having lost his father, Paul, at an early age became a devoted son to his mother, Anna. Like many before

him and after him, he was always attached to his other home, his parish Saint Vladimir's in Edwardsville. Be it serving at the altar with the priests, singing with choir, or eventually learning to be a cantor, he was dedicated to his church and to Christ.

As he was discerning whether to enter seminary, it was not merely on a whim. It was a decision that took, prayer, as well as grace from on high, to leave one life behind and to follow an invitation tugging at his soul. Should he leave family and a job in local radio broadcasting behind, or begin a journey with Jesus?

He would ultimately choose to begin the journey with His Lord. After visiting St. Basil Seminary, Stamford, CT, he began his studies and formation there with rectors, spiritual directors, as well as both lay and priest professors. There, having a gift for languages, he would learn Ukrainian and develop his skill with cantoring in various church languages.

In 1987, at the direction of Archbishop Stephen Sulyk, he would enter St. Josaphat Seminary, Washington, DC, and begin a program of studies in philosophy at the Catholic University of America. While in Washington, he completed his college program by earning a Bachelor of Art degree. The next part of his journey in Washington would be a program of theology at the Oblates of Mary Immaculate College.

A seminarian's life is not solely his own. Struggling with responsibilities of home and the demands of seminary life and theology studies, he would begin a pause with his journey. As one door closes, for those whom Christ has a challenging plan, other pathways and doors are encountered. For him a new door was opened, and Bishop Basil Losten would direct him to St. Josaphat Seminary, Rome, Italy. While in seminary and studies at the Angelicum (the Dominican Father's University), opportunities to serve or sing at papal liturgies with St. Pope John Paul II or Patriarch Husar would happen. Chances to see the other countries of Europe came along. Time would pass and formation and studies would be completed. He would return to the U.S. and on January 17, 1994, be ordained by Bishop Basil as a priest for the Eparchy of Stamford. As a priest, he would serve as an assistant to Msgr. Chomko in Hartford, CT, some work at St. Basil Seminary, and Holy Ghost in Brooklyn.

In 2001, Archbishop Stefan Soroka was installed as the Archeparchy of

Philadelphia's new Metropolitan. Fr. Paul then began some serious consideration about a new part of his journey. He would ponder the possibility of service as a Philadelphia priest. Archbishop Soroka likewise was giving thought to how best develop some new energy in faith communities.

Thus, Fr. Paul was given the blessing of Bishop Losten to leave the Stamford Eparchy. Transferred to service in Philadelphia, Fr. Paul settled into caring for the Immaculate Conception Cathedral in 2001. He also cared for St. Nicholas Church for 2003. While at the cathedral church, he would add newer sound technology in the church and revamp the bell system.

In 2004, he was transferred to St. Vladimir, Scranton, PA, and also SS. Peter and Paul, Simpson, PA, where he would serve until 2012.

In 2012, Fr. Paul was made pastor of both SS. Peter and Paul Church, Wilkes-Barre, and St. Vladimir, Edwardsville. In 2017, his mother Anna passed away, and he would begin to experience a great decline in his health. His bad health would result in needing to be placed on medical leave in late 2020. His health would continue to deteriorate resulting in his passing into Eternity with his Savior, Jesus, on October 18, 2026.

Fr. Paul Wolensky's journey of being a priest would last some 32 years. Over those years of service ultimately, as every priest does, he tried to do his best to serve Christ, to care for the Church, and to manifest Jesus to the souls entrusted to his care. All that is left for now is to remember Fr. Paul in prayers, to pray for all of our priests, and to pray, work for, and encourage new, good and faithful men to answer the invitation of Jesus to also journey with him and serve as good priests.

A Heartfelt Thank You!

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to all of our parishioners for making my recent birthday so wonderful. Your thoughtfulness, warm prayers, and kind wishes truly touched my heart. Opening the lovely birthday cards, receiving such generous gifts, and enjoying all the yummy delectables brought so much joy to my celebration.

We are truly blessed with a wonderful, caring church family, and I am

deeply grateful for your continuous kindness and fellowship. May God bless each of you and your families abundantly!

From the Valley Community Library: Paws To Relax

Children and teens are invited to unwind and relax Monday, October 19 at 5:30 during this calming, sensory-friendly program. Take a break from the stress of everyday life by spending time with friendly therapy dogs from Companionate Canines while enjoying a variety of hands-on sensory activities. Whether you prefer petting a furry friend, exploring calming sensory stations, or simply relaxing in a quiet space, this program offers a peaceful opportunity to pause and relax. Ages 6-17. Registration is required. This program is a PA FORWARD Initiative promoting Health Literacy.

Ethnic Dinner at St. Mary's Church

St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church, located at Linden St. & Mifflin Ave. in downtown Scranton, invites us to their Ethnic Dinner which is scheduled for Sunday, October 25, 2026 (11:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.). Dinner includes: halupki, halushki, pirohi, kielbassa, bread and butter. Potato pancakes, bake sale, and basket raffles are also available. For tickets & information, please call: 570-343-5151.

Annual Turkey-Fest Dinner

Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, will host their annual Turkey-Fest Dinner as a take-out only event on Saturday, November 7th in their school hall on the corner of West Chestnut and North River Streets in Wilkes-Barre. Pick-ups will be from 12:00 (noon) to 4:00 pm. The event will feature our traditional turkey dinner and basket raffle. Dinners will be $16.00 for adults and $10.00 for children. Call (570) 829-3051 to make your reservation. Walk-in customers will be welcomed, but reservations are strongly encouraged. Tell your friends and family. Non-perishable food items will be collected for donation to a local food pantry.

Fall Book Sale

The Friends of the Valley Community Library's fall book sale will take place on Friday, November 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday, November 21 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Patrons may fill a provided bag on Saturday from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. for $5.

There will be a special presale for Friends of the Library members only on Thursday, November 19, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Purchase a membership at the door for $10 individual/$15 families. The book sale will be held inside the library.

The Valley Community Library, a member of the Lackawanna County Library System, is located at 739 River St., Peckville, and serves residents in the valley area.

Community Event: Mid Valley Secondary Center PTSA Craft Fair

Join the Mid Valley Secondary Center PTSA for their annual Craft Fair on Saturday, November 21, 2026, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Mid Valley Secondary Center in Throop.

Kick off your holiday shopping with a variety of local vendors, a basket raffle, a visit from Santa, and more! Proceeds directly support Mid Valley students and school programs.

Vendors Needed: Vendor applications are currently being accepted. Official details and registration information can be found on their Facebook event page (Mid Valley Secondary Center PTSA Craft Fair). Please note: For safety, the PTSA will never request online payments for vendor fees.

Save the Date: St. Cyril's Cash Bingo!

Mark your calendars! St. Cyril's will be hosting our annual Cash Bingo on Sunday, January 24, 2027. In the event of inclement weather, the snow date is scheduled for Sunday, January 31, 2027.

Please take note of our new location this year: The Moon Ballroom (located right next to Idle Hours).

Thanks to the incredible generosity, hard work, and participation of our parish family, last year's Bingo



was a tremendous success. As this is one of our major parish fundraisers, we are counting on everyone's help and enthusiasm once again to make this event just as rewarding.

More details regarding ticket sales, times, and volunteer opportunities will follow in the coming weeks. Please spread the word to family and friends, and thank you in advance for your continued dedication and support of St. Cyril's!

Collection Processing Team

The Collection Processing Team for the month of October 2026 is Team #2: Eugene Zinsky, John Turko, Jr., and Michael Shumek.

Sunday Collection for Oct. 17 & 18, 2026: $2,349.00

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

A Time to Celebrate

Happy Birthday and Mnohaya Leeta to the following Parishioners who celebrated their birthday in October:

Christina Carey	Jule Harris	Mary Ann Spryn
Thomas J. Drakes	Sandy Sczesniak	Lauren Telep

SS. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

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E-Mail: olyphant@ukrcatholic.org

Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

Peter Restores Tabitha to Life

Now in Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which translated in Greek means Dorcas, a gazelle). She was completely occupied with good deeds and almsgiving. Now during those days she fell sick and died, so after washing her, they laid [her] out in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay."

So Peter got up and went with them. When he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs where all the widows came to him weeping and showing him the tunics and cloaks that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter sent them all out and knelt down and prayed. Then he turned to her body and said, "Tabitha, rise up."

She opened her eyes, saw Peter, and sat up. He gave her his hand and raised her up, and when he had called the holy ones and the widows, he presented her alive. This became known all over Joppa, and many came to believe in the Lord. And he stayed a long time in Joppa with Simon, a tanner.

Acts of the Apostles 9:36-43