

St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Church

1810 Sidney Street Pittsburgh, PA 15203

Web www.stvladimirpgh.org

FaceBook [StVladimirUOCPghPa](https://www.facebook.com/StVladimirUOCPghPa)

V. Rev. Father John Haluszczak, Pastor (412)-513-9148 otetsivan@gmail.com

Subdeacon Nathan Haluszczak Readers: Julian Burgan and Nicholas Sampson
Choral Directors: Mauri Druash-Gladys, Kira Senedak, and Pani Anne Haluszczak

Sunday April 21, 2024

4th Sunday of Great Lent, St Mary of Egypt

Is God the creator of evil?

We state in our Creed that God is the “creator of everything visible and invisible”

What can we say to someone who argues if God created everything, then God must have created evil, since it exists.

Here is one way to respond

Is cold a thing? Does it exist? We all have been cold at one time or another

Actually cold doesn't exist. According to the laws of physics, what we consider cold is actually the absence of heat. A person or object can be studied on whether it has or transmits energy. -460 degrees Fahrenheit is a complete absence of heat. All matter becomes inert and unable to react at this temperature. Cold does not exist. We created this word to describe *what we feel* in the absence of heat.

Does darkness exist?

Darkness also does not exist. Darkness is actually the absence of light. We can study light but not darkness. We can use a prism to spread white light across multiple colors and explore the different wavelengths of each color. You can't measure darkness. A simple ray of light can break into the world of darkness and illuminate it. How can you tell how dark a certain space is? You measure how much light is presented. Darkness is a term man uses to describe the absence of light.

So does evil exist?

We see it every day. Cruelty, numerous crimes and violence throughout the world. These examples are nothing but a manifestation of evil. Evil does not exist, or at least it does not exist in itself. Evil is simply the absence of God. It is like darkness and cold—a man-made word to describe the absence of God. God did not create evil. Evil is not faith or love, which exist as do light and warmth. Evil is the result of the absence of Divine love in the human heart. It's the kind of cold that comes when there is no spiritual heat, or the kind of darkness that comes when there's no spiritual light.

Schedule of services 4/21/2024 until 5/5/2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
21 Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM	22 Bridegroom Matus 6:00 PM	23 Bridegroom Matus 6:00 PM	24 6th Hour 1:00 PM Presanctified Liturgy 6:30 PM	25 10:30 PM Vespers Divine Liturgy 6:00 PM Passion Gospels	26 3:00 PM Burial Vespers 6:30 PM Jerusalem Matins	27 Lazarus Saturday 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy Cleaning Church for Pascha
28 Palm Sunday Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM Bridegroom Matins 1:00 PM	29 Bridegroom Matus 6:00 PM	30 Bridegroom Matus 6:00 PM	1 Holy Unction 7:00 PM	2 10:30 PM Vespers Divine Liturgy 6:00 PM Passion Gospels	3 3:00 PM Burial Vespers 6:30 PM Jerusalem Matins	5 9:30 AM Vespers Divine Liturgy 9:30 PM Nocturns followed by Matins, Divine Liturgy and Blessing of Baskets

We hope that you are having a restorative Lenten Journey. As you may have heard Fr. John announce, All Saints Camp will be hosting Paschal services this year and Fr. John will be leading those services along with Fr. Myron Oryhon. Because May 5th is the Pittsburgh marathon, we will not be able to get into South Side once they start closing the roads around 4am. Fr. Mark Swindle has offered to serve Paschal services at St. Vladimir in the evening beginning at 9:30pm. The Church Council would like to get a sense of who might attend at the church if Fr. Mark serves there.


The schedule of services for both St. Vladimir UOC and All Saints Camp are attached. Two important notes- Fr. John will serve all services at St. Vladimir except the Paschal services on Saturday evening and if you plan to stay overnight at All Saints Camp or eat at camp for any of the weekend, you MUST RSVP with Josh Oryhon (you do not have to RSVP if you are just attending services).

Remember in Prayer

Lyubba, Cecelia, Lotti, Ksenia, Cindy, Wesley, Celia, Carl, Lisa, Peter, Victoria, Theodore, Jamie, Gloria, Maryanne, Marilyn, Chance, Jim, Pauline, Mia, Tatiana, Mary Ann, Wesson, Nicholas, Kateryna, Aleksandra, Kaleena, Amy, Natalia, Stephen, Katherine, Victoria, Peter, Nicole, Jerry, Kathleen, Bohdan, Evalyn, Joseph, Anea Rose, Joshua, Denise, Miriam, Freida, Jaylynn, Collette, Sophia, Theodore, Donna, Lisa, Cathy, Allison, Anna, Stephanie, Mike, Theo, Ann, Chris, Tim, John, Ivy, Natalie, Allysia, Cathleen, Shirley, Kira, Laney, Cassidy, Deborah

O Lord, Jesus Christ, the physician of souls & bodies, look down on your suffering servants, relieve them of their pain and suffering in order that they may be able to arise from their sick-bed and glorify your Holy Name. Amen!"

THE NEIGHBORHOOD RESILIENCE PROJECT and
TROY AND THEODORA POLAMALU PROUDLY PRESENT



CITRONE **thirty/three** NEIGHBORHOOD RESILIENCE PROJECT

TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024 | ACRISURE STADIUM

RESILIENCE BOWL

ABOUT THE RESILIENCE BOWL
The Resilience Bowl, hosted by Troy and Theodora Polamalu, is an exciting new football-inspired event designed to raise money and awareness for the Neighborhood Resilience Project's work with Pittsburgh area trauma-affected communities.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD RESILIENCE PROJECT
The mission of the Neighborhood Resilience Project is to support the transformation of neighborhoods from Trauma Affected Communities to Resilient Healing and Healthy Communities through Trauma Informed Community Development. The staff provide extensive support to communities affected by trauma including emergency relief, food distribution, health services, and trauma response, benefiting thousands of individuals.

TICKET INFORMATION

GENERAL ADMISSION

AGES 0-22 \$10 | AGES 23-64 \$20 | AGES 65+ \$10

- Admission to the Great FedEx Hall and Fun Zone
- Seating at Acrisure Stadium to view Celebrity Flag Football Game

BLACK AND GOLD TICKET

\$300

- Admission to the pre-game reception at the PNC Champion's Club
- Limited celebrity access
- Premium seating to view the Celebrity Flag Football Game
- Access to the Silent Auction

GET INVOLVED
SPONSORSHIP DECK
PURCHASE TICKET

CONTACT FOR ANY QUESTIONS:
trb@neighborhoodresilience.org

Why should we confess our sins?

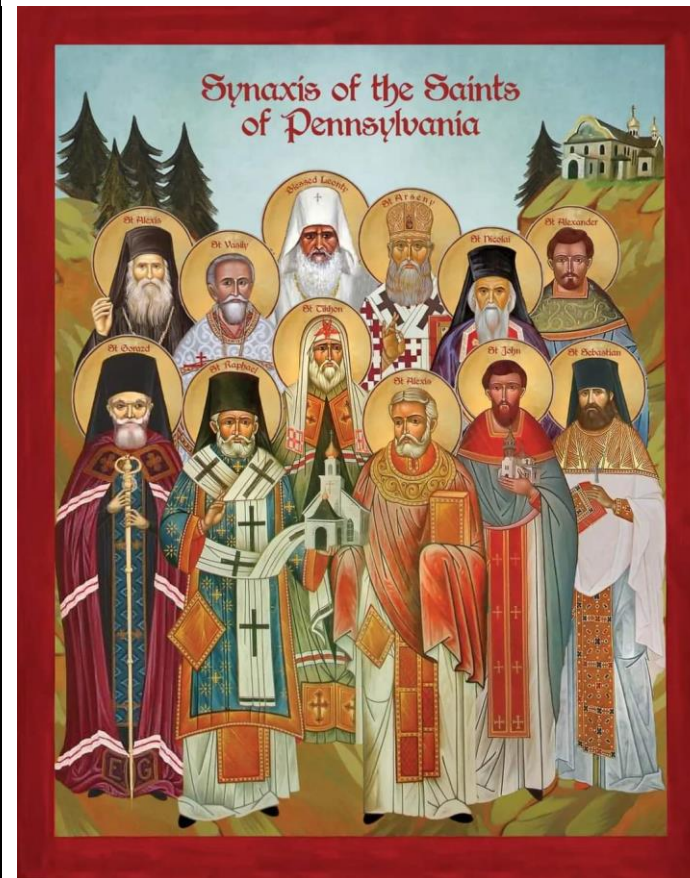
- 1 John 1:9* *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*
- James 5:16* *Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.*
- Proverbs 28:13* *Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.*

CONCERNING THE MYSTERY OF PENANCE

(in order to receive frequent communion, our Hierarchs instruct us to confess our sins once each of the four Lenten periods at a minimum)

Our Lord instituted the Sacrament of Holy Penance/Confession when He stated to His disciples: "Who so ever sins you remit they are remitted unto them. Who so ever sins you retain, they are retained." (John 20: 23) The Bishop, as successor to the Apostles, assigns the Orthodox Priest to hear the confessions of the faithful entrusted to his spiritual care in parish life. It is important to note that every Orthodox Christian should develop a relationship with a Father Confessor of his or her choosing, with whom he or she is most comfortable. In the event that the Spiritual Confessor is not his or her parish priest, it is the responsibility of the individual to inform the parish priest of such so that he is aware that spiritual needs are being met. Any parish priest must understand that an individual may choose a Spiritual Confessor with whom he or she feels most comfortable.

Those preparing for the Mystery of Penance or Holy Confession must conduct a thorough examination of their life and conscience prior to Confession. Confession before a Priest, who represents both God and fellow man must not be taken lightly and must be sincere and honest. An Orthodox Christian should never fear baring his or her soul to a spiritual confessor, seeking his guidance through any difficult time or with a spiritual problem.



Out of these United States, Pennsylvania has the most saints to boast of. Our state has five monasteries, many within driving distance, and the highest number of parishes.

Glory to God!

BIRTHDAYS

Fr James Cairns 4/23,
Natalia Petrylo 4/27

"The devil is the better than most Christians.

Christians fast from food.
The devil never eats.
Christians keep vigil.
The devil never sleeps.
Christians read the scriptures.
The devil has memorized the scriptures.
Christians believe in God.
The devil has seen God.
But there is one thing that separates the devil from Christians, and that is Humility.

Humility is the only thing that no devil can imitate."

— St. John of the Ladder