

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



*Icon of Saint Procopius -- July 8th*

### *Their Death is More Like Dreaming*

We ought to honor the saints. They are Christ's friends, children and heirs of God. This is the teaching of the theologian and evangelist John: "To all who received him ... the Word gave power to become children of God." [John 1:12]

The Creator of all things is called in Scripture Lord of lords, King of kings, God of gods. The saints are precisely lords, kings and gods, not in their own nature but because they have become lords over themselves, they have ruled their passions, they have kept intact that image of God in which they were created.

Indeed, the saints of their own choice are united to God, they have welcomed Him as a guest in the hearts, and by sharing with Him have become what He is by nature. They have become God's servants, friends and children. The honor given His faithful servants of which

they are the witness is a test of our love for our Lord and theirs.

He has found in them a spotless dwelling place and has performed His promise: "I will make my abode among you ... and I will walk among you and will be your God ... ." [Lev. 26:11-12]

It is of the saints that Scripture says: "The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God and the torment of death shall not touch them." [Wis. 3:1] In fact, their death is more like dreaming than dying. God is life and light, and those who are in the hand of God are themselves life and light.

By means of the Spirit, God is dwelling in the bodies of the saints. Why then should we not honor the temple of the living God?

*St. John of Damascus*

Rev. Dr. Ronald Popivchak  
Pastor

Area Code 610  
272-7035



Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church

Hurst Street at Union Avenue

Post Office Box 126

Bridgeport, Pennsylvania 19405

[www.sspeterpaulukrchurch.us/](http://www.sspeterpaulukrchurch.us/)

"Slava Isusoo Khristoo!"  
"Glory to Jesus Christ!"

July 7, 2013  
Independence Wk.

ALL OF AMERICA will celebrate Independence Day this weekend with fireworks, cook-outs and family trips far and wide. Maybe even a Phillies game and a cold one or two? But what we really are celebrating is the freedom we all enjoy and love here in the USA. Our freedom was hard fought and painfully earned by past but not forgotten heroes and heroines, but ultimately is a gift from God. And so we will gather this weekend in church to thank our great forebears and especially thank Almighty God for all the freedoms we now enjoy. Thank God Above for the free and the good old USA!

LAST CALL FOR ALL THE GRADS in our parish both Highschool and College to claim a beautiful gift this weekend. Our list of graduates to date includes: Katie Breitbarth (La Salle U.), Kristina Maruszczak (Pitt U.), Erika Fanchiki (Penn State U.), Melanie Klufas (Downingtown HS). God bless all these scholars and "Mnohaya Leeta".

ON FRIDAY WE VISITED with the Holy Sacraments (Mysteries): Robert Kovach, Irene Yaroma, Maryanne Erdek and Irene Dychdala. Please remember these folks and all our elderly and struggling faithful in your prayers and kind thoughts this week.

ST. WOŁODYMYR, the Grand Prince of Kiev and Baptizer of all Ukraine, will be celebrated next weekend in our parish. Wołodymyr was the Grandson of Olha and Ihor, rulers in Kiev; he brought the Christian Faith to ancient Ukraine or Rus' in the summer of 988 and had the inhabitants baptized in the Dniپر River. Wołodymyr died July 15, 1015, and was proclaimed a Saint soon thereafter.

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT our great website (listed above) and share it with all your family and friends. You just may see yourself and family members in all the programs and activities of our fine parish.

WE TAKE A NOTE TO THANK all our terrific faithful who attend the Holy Liturgy, sing and pray with us in church. And we realize the sacrifice so many folks make to come to church every week. God bless all of you for keeping our church alive with your prayers and donations.

\*\*\*\*\*

DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, 6 pm +Elizabeth Jablonski (Russell and Judy)  
Sunday, 9 am For all the Faithful  
Thursday, 7 am +Lubomyr Tryciecky (The Wright Family)  
Friday, 7 am +Stella Krysko (The McGrath Family)  
Saturday, 8 am +Mary Budick (The Bokoski Family)  
Saturday, 6 pm +Metro Kardash (Martha Dinich)  
Sunday, 9 am For all the Faithful

\*\*\*\*\*

TODAY'S TROPAR: Angelic Powers were on Your Sepulchre, as the guards became dead-like. Mary stood by the tomb, seeking Your most pure Body. You captured hell yet were not detained by it. You are the Bestower of Life and have met the Virgin, O Lord, risen from the dead, glory be to You.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER AND...

TODAY'S KONTAK: When Christ God, the Life-Giver of all things, raised up from the valley of gloom all the dead, He gave Resurrection to the human race, For He is the Savior of all, The Resurrection and the Life and God of all.

TODAY'S PROKIMEN: O Lord, save Your People and bless Your Inheritance.

*R. Ronald*