

The Return of the Prodigal Son

“He arose and went to his father.” He arose from the wreckage of his conscience and body alike. He arose from the depths of hell and touched the heights of heaven. Before the heavenly Father, a child rises higher because of pardon than he fell low because of guilt.

“He arose and went to his father.” He went not by the motion of his feet but by the progress of his thought. Being afar off he had no need of an earthly journey, because he had found short cuts along the way of salvation. He who seeks the divine Father by faith soon finds Him present to himself, and has no need to seek Him by traversing roads.

“He arose and went to his father. But when he was yet a long way off.” How is he who is coming a long way off? Because he has not yet arrived. He who is coming is coming to do pen-

ance, but he has not yet arrived at grace. He is coming to his Father’s house but he has not yet reached the glory of his former condition, appearance, and honor.

“But when he was yet a long way off, his father saw him.” That Father saw, he “who dwells on high; and looks down on the low things,” “and the high he knows afar off.” “His father saw him.” The father saw him, in such a way that the son could also behold his father. The father’s countenance illumined the face of the approaching son in such a way that all the dark aspect was dispelled which his guilt had previously cast about it.

St. Peter Chrysologus

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON



Icon of the Prodigal Son

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE HOLY FAMILY

4250 Harewood Road NE

Washington, DC 20017

Phone: 202-526-3737 Fax: 202-526-1327 E-mail: ucnsfamily@gmail.com

Webpage: www.ucns-holyfamily.org

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY PLEASE CALL: 202-262-5040

Pastoral Care entrusted to:

Father Robert Hitchens – Administrator

Father Mykola Dziurakh – Parochial Vicar

Sunday – February 16, 2025

Glory to Jesus Christ – Glory to Him Forever + Слава Ісусу Христу – Слава на віки

Confessions are available before the Divine Liturgies

All Services will be Live Streamed at 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM

Platform: <https://www.facebook.com/holyfamilyshrine/>

Saturday February 15 5:30 p.m.	Great Vespers
Sunday February 16 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Sunday of the Prodigal Son (+Michael and +Catherine Dankewych from Family) (For the Parish)
Tuesday February 18 7:00 p.m.	Special Prayer Service with His Beatitude Sviatoslav
Wednesday February 19 9:00 a.m.	(Blessings for Ellen from Friends)
Thursday February 20 9:00 a.m.	(+Marion Bartoszyk from Friends)
Friday February 21 9:00 a.m.	(+Ed Wisniak from Friends)
Saturday February 22 5:30 p.m.	Great Vespers
Sunday February 23 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Sunday of the Last Judgement - Meatfare (+Frank Fisanich from Ferne) (For the Parish)

FIRST CONFESSION CLASSES

First Confession in 2025. Classes will be held on Sundays between the English and Ukrainian liturgies (approx. 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM). First Confessions will be celebrated on Lazarus Saturday (April 12, 2025). No class will be held on February 16 (President's Day weekend). All children must attend Divine Liturgy with their families on a weekly basis during their preparation for the sacrament. If you have children of First Confession age in your family (age 7+), please contact Olya Mulvey by email at olya.kroytor@gmail.com to register or learn more.

CATECHISM CLASSES FOR CHILDREN AGES 3-5

Catechism classes will be held from 10:15-11:15 am on Sunday. Please mark these dates for the first semester: February 23, March 9, 23, April 6, 27, May 4, 18.

THE JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE WITH PATRIARCH SVIATOSLAV AS HE VISITS THE ARCHEPARCHY HOPE & PERSEVERANCE, PEACE & JUSTICE

February 18 at 5:00 PM – A special conference at the Catholic University of America hosted by the Bishop Losten Center of Ukrainian Church Studies. The meeting will be held in Hannan Hall Auditorium at the Catholic University of America, 620 Michigan Ave., N.E. Washington, DC 20064 at 5:00 p.m.

February 18 at 7:00 PM – His Beatitude Sviatoslav will lead a prayer service with our Bishops of the United States, for Hope & Perseverance, Peace & Justice in Ukraine. We will be commemorating the solemn third anniversary of the full-scale invasion in our Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family. There will be refreshments after the service and an opportunity to greet him. It would also be appropriate to present His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk with monetary gifts of love and gratitude.

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR SOROKOUSTY 2025 (LIST OF YOUR DECEASED LOVED ONES)

In the Ukrainian Catholic Church, it is the custom to remember our beloved dead during the time of the Great Fast. The Great Fast begins on Monday March 2 in 2025. These commemorations occur on Saturdays because the Saviour of the world rested in the grave on Great and Holy Saturday, awaiting the Resurrection. Thus, Saturday became for Christians the day for commemorating the deceased, who await the resurrection on the last day. We will be starting our remembrances of the dead on Saturdays, beginning March 8 at 10:00 a.m. Please take the time to remember your deceased family members on the Saturdays of the Great Fast. They hope for our prayers; and in turn, they pray for us. Please submit an envelope with your list of names by email or US Mail. An offering is customarily made for the priests

Prayer List

Our prayer list of the sick or elderly and friends of our parish: **Theresa Aranda, Liana Arnold, Valarie Balthis, Charles Belanger, Barbara Blendy, Bluey Family, Yevhenia Borys, Terry Boyle, Taisia Bullard, Mary Connors, Veronica Cosio, Darlene Dossick, Solomia Dutkewych and Theresa, Ruth Fedack, Bernard F, Ferne Fisanich, Myroslava Futey, Lilian Garland, Thomas Gutmann, H.H., Josie Hacker, Catherine Hetmansky, Vanessa Hetmansky, Bernadell Rita Higgins, Ellen Hitchens, Janet Hitchens, Daniel Horeczko, Boris Hlynsky, Nila Iwaskiw, Bohdan Kantor, Sarah Kelt, LTJG Lydia Kowalskyj USN, Dorothy Kozmoski, Suzanne Krumpelman, Mr. Marko, Melissa Martin, Paul Marynowych, Michele Pretka Litvak, Yaroslava L., Mufada and Family, Sallie Miller, John Moeller, Deborah Pickering, Alexandra Pohorecka, Patricia Pylypec, Ron#119, Michael Joseph Radigan, Roman Rusynko, Lisa Schaible, Christopher Sell,, Teresa Sherwood, Shliakhta Bogdana, Shliakhta Mark, Shliakhta, Andrew, Larry Sosnowich, Lindsey Sydnor, Thomas Sydnor, Stefania Szahaj, Lisa Pretka Turner, Gloria and Luis Vega, Anne Woroniak, Rose Wilson, Fr. George Worschak, and Paul Yarrish.** If you know of someone who should be on this list, please email or call with the name of the individual. Our intercessory prayer for the sick and the aged is truly helpful and comforting. In your Christian Charity, kindly remember our sick parishioners in your prayers and perhaps a card or note.