

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
SECOND SUNDAY OF MATTHEW



*Icon of the Call of the First Apostles*

*June 26, 2011*  
**2ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
*Tone 1*

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 27 - JULY 3**

TUESDAY, JUNE 28

6:00 PM – GREAT VESPERS WITH LYTIA (*FULFILLS OBLIGATION FOR PETER & PAUL*)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29 – *THE HOLY, GLORIOUS, ALL-PRAISEWORTHY AND PREEMINENT APOSTLES PETER AND PAUL*  
*DAY OF OBLIGATION*

9:30 AM – DIVINE LITURGY                      FOR ALL PARISHIONERS

SATURDAY, JULY 2

6:00 PM – Great Vespers for Sunday

SUNDAY, JULY 3 – *3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST*

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy                      For All Parishioners

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*SAYINGS OF MOTHER GAVRILIA (+1992)*

- ❖ *Human relationships become difficult when the “I” stands above the “You”.*
- ❖ *God loves your enemies as much as He loves you.*
- ❖ *By God’s permission some people become instruments of the Power of Darkness for our own testing and progress.*
- ❖ *You must not get upset, because a restless heart drives away all Help.*
- ❖ *If one can live in the world and yet not mix with it – just as oil and water do not mix in the oil lamp – then he can live in God. He is in this world but not of this world.*
- ❖ *We are all vessels, sometimes of Light and sometimes of Darkness.*
- ❖ *Keep your mouth shut in the hour of crisis, when a problem is acute. Do not say anything, because you may regret it a thousand times. Instead, tell it to the angels so that they may place it at the Lord’s feet, and pray the Lord for an angel of peace to calm your soul.*
- ❖ *We should ask God everyday to break our will and make it His, so that we may become as He wants us to be.*
- ❖ *We must not “surrender” to His Will. This is what soldiers do. We, who are His children, must offer Him our own will along with all our being – in whatever pitiful state we may be – and tell Him: “Lord, take all my faults and imperfections and set them right.”*
- ❖ *You must not talk about people who are absent.*
- ❖ *Some of the sailors on a ship may quarrel and fight each other, but the ship sails on and reaches its destination. The same is true of the Church because Christ Himself is at the helm.*
- ❖ *We are useful only when we do not exist for ourselves. And vice versa.*
- ❖ *Like Simon of Cyrene, we must be always ready to rush to the help of our fellow-man.*
- ❖ *Do what you must do, and God will do what He must do.*
- ❖ *Poor human beings! We consider the perishable as Immortal and the Immortal as nonexistent!*
- ❖ *The Lord said, “Whoever wants something, believing, he will receive” – as long as the request is in accordance with God’s Commandments, that is to say, with Love.*
- ❖ *Do not deny others the crumbs falling off your table from the Bread of Life which is given to you whole by the Lord. So many hunger and thirst for Love, like Lazarus who fed on the crumbs falling off the table of the rich man.*

***Please Note:***

When you go on vacation, please don’t forget that the church still relies on your contributions. Our bills do not go on vacation. The summer months are most difficult due to the decrease in attendance. Your absence on any Sunday does not negate your obligation to support your home parish.

## The Feast of Ss. Peter & Paul

June 29th



The Feast of the Holy Apostles falls on Wednesday, June 29th. We will have Great Vespers on the Eve of the Feast (June 27) at 6:00 pm and the Divine Liturgy on June 29 at 9:30 am. This is one of the Great Feasts of the Church Year and all the faithful are bound to celebrate this Feast. You may fulfill this obligation by attendance at either Great Vespers or Divine Liturgy (or both!) The *Pastoral Guide of the Ukrainian Catholic Church* states - "Although every Catholic may fulfill his obligation of assisting at the Divine Liturgy, Vespers on Sundays and holy days in any Catholic church, our faithful should as a rule attend their own parish church."



### Two Saints, One Day?

"Self" Magazine is certainly a sign of the times. This is an age when it is socially acceptable to admit that life is all about me.

But selfishness is nothing new. Ever since Adam and Eve, human beings have made the choice to dethrone God and put in His place the unholy trinity of me, myself, and I.

But Jesus commands us to "love thy neighbor as thyself." Doesn't this imply that love of self is OK, even required?

Absolutely. God placed in us a drive towards self-preservation. He made beneficial activities, like eating, pleasurable. And he made destructive activities painful.

But He also gave us intellect and will so that we are not driven simply by instinct, as are the animals. So the ancient enemy of humanity does his best to deceive our intellect into thinking that what is destructive is actually good for us. And he entices us to use our will to choose these destructive things contrary to God's commandments. The end

justifies the means, he argues, and so if we have to trample over others and defy God to get what we want, so be it.

This is the kind of self-love that Jesus condemns (Matthew 10:37-42). It leads to ruin, confusion, and emptiness. There is no way to tame this or to fit religion into it. The only solution is to kill it. In baptism, this old egocentric self is crucified and buried with Christ (Romans 6:11). The man who wrote this line, Saul of Tarsus, knew what he was talking about. The about-face required of him was radical, turning him from persecutor to persecuted, agent of hatred to apostle of love. There can only be one Lord—Jesus or me.

Accepting Jesus means allowing Him to be boss, allowing Him to call the shots and direct my steps. Picking up the cross and following Him (Matthew 16:24-25) means accepting the Father's will, even where it "crosses" my will, even when it leads to suffering. This is the meaning of Jesus' words to Peter "as a young man you fastened your belt and went about as you pleased, but when you are older, you will stretch out your hands and another will tie you fast and carry you off against your will" (John 21:18)

As we celebrate the Solemnity of Ss. Peter and Paul, let us recall that before these saints were shepherds and apostles, they were sheep and disciples. God was able to do great things in them and through them because they made a decision to surrender control of their lives and destiny to the Son of Man who is also the Son of God.

Jesus says "follow me" to each of us. It may mean making a change of career. It may mean breaking off a relationship that is leading us away from Christ. Or it may just mean doing what we are already doing but for an entirely different reason ... achieving great things not to draw attention to ourselves, but to glorify Christ ... seeking an intimate relationship no longer to take but to give ... working not for the weekend, but for the kingdom.





**Українська Греко-Католицька Церква  
Святого Йоана Хрестителя  
St. John the Baptizer  
Ukrainian Greco-Catholic Church**

**Святкуємо 50-років!**

**Celebrating 50 Years!**

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***What Have We Left Behind?***

Most successful people would probably tell you that what separates great people from ordinary people is that great people are willing to risk making decisions, whether right or wrong, and then acting on those decisions. Great people are people who have made great choices, often very risky choices, but in the long run their choices have usually been right. Biblical history is peopled with folks who were confronted by decisions they had to make.

Just imagine the decision required of those fishermen on the shores of Lake Galilee. Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John were fishermen, true, but they were businessmen. Perhaps even prosperous businessmen. Fish was a staple in the diet, and fishermen could often make a very good living. The brothers Peter and Andrew were

probably business partners with the brothers James and John and most likely had a good business going. So when Jesus said to the two sets of brothers, "Follow me," He was not calling them to leave a sport, or a hobby; he was asking them to leave their careers, their livelihoods, and their families! They had everything to lose.

What have we left behind to follow Him? Unless there's some pain, some discomfort, some sacrifice, then most probably we haven't left anything. Perhaps we're still fumbling about in our boats, tossing our nets over the side, and business goes on as usual.

Yet, if we do that, the Great Fisherman might leave us and move on to someone else, and the choice might go by forever.