



## Welcome!

Whether you are searching for a new church home or just visiting, we are glad you're with us today. If you have a prayer request, are looking for more information about the Orthodox Faith, would like to join our parish, or would like to speak with Fr Thomas, we invite you to fill out a visitor's card and drop it in the offering basket as your offering today. We want to get to know you! God bless you!

## Schedule This Week

### Sunday, August 13

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

### Monday, August 14

7:00 pm Great Vespers/Parish Festal Vigil

### Tuesday, August 15: Dormition of the MOG

9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy

Blessing of Flowers and Herbs

10:30 am to 12:00 pm Office Hours

### Thursday, August 17

9:00 am Daily Matins

9:30 am to 12:00 pm Office Hours

7:00 pm Men's Night (TX Roadhouse, Bridgeville)

### Saturday, August 19

4:30 pm Confessions

5:00 pm Great Vespers/Cathedral Vigil

### Sunday, August 20

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

4:00 pm Canonsburg Farewell Party to Alex

**To our Visitors: Holy Communion is reserved for Orthodox Christians who prepare themselves by prayer and fasting. Non-Orthodox visitors are welcome to come forward to venerate the cross and receive the Antidoron (blessed bread) at the conclusion of the service**

Archpriest Thomas Soroka, Rector

Deacon Luke Loboda, Attached

Deacon John Skowron, Attached

Rdr James Wargo and Danielle Bartko, Choir Dirs

## Leavetaking of the Transfiguration of Christ

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA

OrthodoxPittsburgh.org

August 13, 2023

## Announcements

➤ This Monday night and Tuesday morning we will celebrate the **great feast of the Dormition (falling asleep) of the Mother of God**. At this feast we will bless flowers and herbs. The faithful are encouraged to bring flowers and herbs from home to be blessed. Please join us for this beautiful feast of the Church!

➤ We are **grateful to all the parishioners who put in a tremendous amount of work in** on the Educational Building (former the Parish House) this past week. All walls and ceilings were painted and the old carpet was removed. There is a certain amount of work that will need to be completed before the beginning of Church School on September 10, but the bulk of first phase of the work is completed. We are grateful to Deacon Luke for organizing and all those who donated many hours of strenuous labor. May God richly bless you!

➤ Men's Night on **Thursday night at 7:00 pm** at Texas Roadhouse in Bridgeville. Farewell, Alex!

➤ The **Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry** will sponsor a retreat at St George Antiochian Orthodox Cathedral in Oakland on Saturday, August 26 beginning at 10:00 am with two talks and a light lunch. Register at [tinyurl.com/ocpmevent2023](http://tinyurl.com/ocpmevent2023).

➤ **Looking ahead!**

**Community Day** Sunday, August 27

**Church Picnic** Sunday, Sept 3 at Clever Park

**Slavic Food Fest** TBD (Saturday Oct 14?)

## Prayers

➤ **Ill and infirm:** *Known to be hospitalized:*, *Home:* John Mahalchak (son). *Shut in, Rehabilitation, or Nursing Home:* Eleanor Kovacs, Natalie Popovich, Michael Soroka.

➤ **Vigil Lights** From **Mat. Nancy K. Mell & Gregory Mell** for the departed servant, Dn. Joseph Mell; for the health of family. From **Richard & Sonia Blaha** for the departed servants, parents- Pete & Dorothy (on their anniversary), Mothers- Dorothy & Betty (on their birthdays), Mat. Mary, and newly departed, John; for the health of Kiprian & Ed on their birthdays; anniversary of cousins, health of family, friends, siblings, serving soldiers; for special intention, and peace. From **Marsha Wasilko** for special thanks. From **Charles A. Wasilko** for the health of sisters, Doris & Marsha. From **Nancy Shaytar and George M. Shaytar** for the departed servant, George Shaytar. From **Irene Kulchock** for the departed servants, Mary Pravlochak and Jan Pravlochak. From **John & Olga** for the departed servant, Anatoli Vilkov; for the health of Galina Vilkova. From **Tatyana Sechler** for the departed servants, Polina, Galina, Slava, Biba, Marina, Daina, and Bruce; for the health of Veronika, Tatyana, Tomas, Kristofer, Daniel, Bobby, Olga, and Nina.

## Thank You

➤ to our August donors: from Sandi Tirpak (Holy Bread \$50) in memory of Amelia Hanich; from Donya Yewisiak (Communion Wine \$40, and Incense \$10) in memory of her father, Archpriest Vladimir Soroka.

## Morning Prayers

*After saying the Trisagion prayers, then say:*

Rising from sleep we fall down before thee, O Good One, and with the angels' song we cry to thee, All-powerful: Holy, Holy, Holy art thou, O God: through the Theotokos, have mercy on us.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

O Lord, who hast raised me from bed and from sleep, enlighten my mind and heart, and open my lips that I may sing of thee, O Holy Trinity: Holy, Holy, Holy art thou, O God: through the Theotokos, have mercy on us.

*Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

The Judge shall come suddenly, and the deeds of each shall be exposed. But at midnight we cry out with fear: Holy, Holy, Holy art thou, O God: through the Theotokos, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy. (12x)

Rising from sleep, I thank thee, O Holy Trinity. For, in the abundance of thy goodness and patience, thou hast not been angry with me, idler and sinner though I be, nor hast thou destroyed me together with my iniquities; but thou hast shown thy usual love for mankind, and hast raised me up as I lay helpless, that I might rise early and glorify thy dominion. Enlighten now the eyes of my mind and open my lips that I may study thy words, and come to understand thy commandments, and accomplish thy will, and hymn thee in heartfelt confession, and praise thine all-holy Name, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Come, let us worship God our King. Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God. Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ himself, our King and our God.

*And then Psalm 50/51 "Have mercy on me, O God..."*

**St Nicholas Church will strive to glorify God through Orthodox Christian worship, sincere love and care for one another, and service to those in need around us.**

# Hymns and Readings for Sunday, August 13

## **Tone 1 Troparion** (*Resurrection*)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: “Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom!// Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!”

## **Tone 7 Troparion** (*Feast*)

Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, O Christ God, revealing Thy glory to Thy Disciples as far as they could bear it. Let Thine everlasting Light also shine upon us sinners, through the prayers of the Theotokos!// O Giver of Light, glory to Thee!

## **Tone 4 Troparion** (*St Nicholas*)

You appeared to your flock as a rule of faith, an image of humility, and a teacher of abstinence. Because of your lowliness heaven was opened to you! Because of your poverty riches were granted to you! O holy Bishop Nicholas, pray to Christ our God to save our souls.

## **Tone 8 Troparion** (*St. Tikhon*)

From thy youth thou didst love Christ, O blessed one. Thou hast been an example for all by word, life, love, faith, purity, and humility. Therefore, thou dost now abide in the heavenly mansions,

where thou standest before the throne of the All-holy Trinity.// Holy Hierarch Tikhon, pray for the salvation of our souls!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

## **Tone 8 Kontakion** (*St. Tikhon*)

Successor to the Apostles, adornment of hierarchs, teacher of the Orthodox Faith,// beseech the Master of all to grant peace to the world and to our souls great mercy.

*Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

## **Tone 7 Kontakion** (*Feast*)

On the mountain Thou wast transfigured, O Christ God, and Thy Disciples beheld Thy glory as far as they could see it; so that when they would behold Thee crucified, they would understand that Thy suffering was voluntary, and would proclaim to the world// that Thou art truly the Radiance of the Father.

## **Tone 4 Prokeimenon** (*Feast*)

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works; / in wisdom hast Thou made them all. (*Ps. 103:26*)

## **Epistle of the Sunday** (*1 Corinthians 4:9-16*)

For I think that God has displayed us, the apostles, last, as men condemned to death; for we have been made a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ’s sake, but you are wise in Christ! We are weak, but you are strong! You are distinguished, but we are dishonored! To the present hour we both hunger and thirst, and we are poorly clothed, and beaten, and homeless. And we labor, working with our own hands. Being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we endure;

being defamed, we entreat. We have been made as the filth of the world, the offscouring of all things until now.

I do not write these things to shame you, but as my beloved children I warn you. For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel. Therefore I urge you, imitate me.

## **Gospel of the Sunday** (*Matthew 17:14-23*)

And when they had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying, “Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water. So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him.”

Then Jesus answered and said, “O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me.” And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour.

Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “Why could we not cast it out?”

So Jesus said to them, “Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.”

Now while they were staying in Galilee, Jesus said to them, “The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and the third day He will be raised up.” And they were exceedingly sorrowful.

## **Tone 4 Festal Hymn** to the Theotokos

Magnify, O my soul, the Lord Who was transfigured on Mount Tabor! Thy childbearing was without corruption; God came forth from thy body clothed in flesh, and appeared on earth and dwelt among men.// Therefore we all magnify thee, O Theotokos.

## **Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (*Ps. 148:1*) O Lord, we will walk in the light of Thy countenance, and will exult in Thy Name forever. (*Ps. 88:15*) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

## **These are the divine wonders we celebrate**

**today**; this is the saving revelation given us upon the mountain; this is the festival of Christ that has drawn us here. Let us listen, then, to the sacred voice of God so compellingly calling us from on high, from the summit of the mountain, so that with the Lord’s chosen disciples we may penetrate the deep meaning of these holy mysteries, so far beyond our capacity to express. Jesus goes before us to show us the way, both up the mountain and into heaven, and – I speak boldly – it is for us now to follow him with all speed, yearning for the heavenly vision that will give us a share in his radiance, renew our spiritual nature and transform us into his own likeness, making us for ever sharers in his Godhead and raising us to heights as yet undreamed of.

Let us run with confidence and joy to enter into the cloud like Moses and Elijah, or like James and John. Let us be caught up like Peter to behold the divine vision and to be transfigured by that glorious transfiguration. Let us retire from the world, stand aloof from the earth, rise above the body, detach ourselves from creatures and turn to the creator, to whom Peter in ecstasy exclaimed: Lord, it is good for us to be here.

It is indeed good to be here, as you have said, Peter. It is good to be with Jesus and to remain here for ever. What greater happiness or higher honor could we have than to be with God, to be made like him and to live in his light? St Anastasius Sinai