



## 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, October 8

10:00 am Divine Liturgy/Church School

### Tuesday, October 10

9:00 am Daily Matins

9:30 am to 12:00 pm Office Hours

### Wednesday, October 11

6:30 pm Daily Vespers

7:00 pm Bible Study

### Thursday, October 12

9:00 am Daily Matins

9:30 am to 12:00 pm Festival Cooking Prep

### Friday, October 13

9:30 am to 12:00 pm Festival Cooking Prep

### Saturday, October 14

11:00 am to 7:00 pm Slavic Food Fest

5:00 pm Great Vespers/Cathedral Vigil

### Sunday, October 15

10:00 am Divine Liturgy/Church School

**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

## Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA

OrthodoxPittsburgh.org October 8, 2023

## Announcements

➤ **Food Pantry matching donation alert!** A kind parishioner has offered to match donations up to a total of \$800 for the Food Pantry. Can you help? Every dollar will be matched this week. Please help! Earmark a special donation this week to the food pantry! Thank you!

### ➤ Slavic Food Fest News

Everyone is asked to join in supporting our annual Slavic Food Fest. It's an opportunity to reach out to the community and get a taste of our delicious hospitality, see our church, and also learn about our faith. There has been much work done to prepare, but there is still much to do. *(If you're unable to help, we would appreciate your considerate donation to help defray costs.)*

- Join us on Thursday/Friday from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm to help **prepare food**.
- **Spread the word** by sharing on social media or take some handbills to post.
- **Yard signs** are ready and downstairs. Please take one for your yard and at least one for a high traffic public area.
- Items for the **baskets** go to Jessica Krchmar
- Sign up to **help** work at the Fest. See Kristie Mertz or Deb Burgess.

➤ Join us for the reboot of our **annual St Nicholas Symposium to be held on Saturday, October 21 from 2:00-4:00 pm**. The topic of the Symposium will be **Christian Iconography and the Second Commandment**. This Symposium will be a series of short talks discussing Iconography from a variety of perspectives. This will be perfect for Orthodox Christians, those who are interested in icons, and those who may disagree with icons but are interested in Orthodoxy. More info next week!

## Prayers

➤ **Ill and infirm:** *Known to be hospitalized (none); Home:* John Mahalchak (son), Rick Porter, Donya Yewisiak. *Shut in, Rehabilitation, or Nursing Home:* Eleanor Kovacs, Natalie Popovich, Michael Soroka.

➤ **Vigil Lights From Mat. Nancy K. Mell & Gregory Mell** for the departed servants, Dn. Joseph Mell, brother/uncle Philip Karavlan and Sally Mrvos; for the health of family and Doris Wasilko-Happy Birthday & Many Years. From **Richard & Sonia Blaha** for the departed servants, parents, brother, Robert Caesar, Grandma Blaha, Grandpap Petronka, Uncle Peter, and newly departed, Alma; for the health of family, friends, siblings, and serving soldiers; for special intention, peace, anniversaries, and birthdays. From **Charles A. Wasilko** for the health of sister Doris on her birthday and for Donya Yewisiak. From **Nancy Shaytar and George M. Shaytar** for the departed servant, George Shaytar; for the health of Donya Yewisiak. From **Doris Wasilko** for the health of Donya Yewisiak and the Wasilko family. From **Alexandria Tirpak** for the departed servant, daughter, Amelia; health of my family, Nicholas & family, Andrea & family, and Donya; for special intentions. From **Marsha Wasilko** for the health of Donya Yewisiak; Happy Birthday & Many Years to Doris & niece, Christina! From **Lindy Hamilton** for the health of Elaine Hamilton and Elizabeth M. Hamilton. From **the John Mahalchak family** for the health of John, Cheryl, Daniel, Gregory, Cindy, and Mary; safe trip for daughter and family.

## Thank You

➤ to our **October donors the Robes Family** all categories (Bulletin \$60), in memory of Thomas V Robes Sr, (Holy Bread \$50) for the health of Teresa Robes on her birthday, (Altar Candles \$25) for the health of the Robes children, (Communion Wine \$40) for the health of Roberts and Teresa on their anniversary, (Incense \$10) in memory of Georgiann and Thomas Robes Jr.

## This Week in Church School

**Today's lesson:** St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians

**Verse (younger classes):** I Corinthians 9:24- "Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it." OR I Corinthians 13: 5 -"Love... does not seek its own."

### Questions to ask/review:

- How is our life similar to a race? What is our "prize"?
- What can help us to win the race? What do we need?
- What does it mean to "not seek your own"?
- What can you do this week to practice not seeking your own?

**Verse (older classes):** I Corinthians 12:14- "For in fact the body is not one member, but many."

### Questions to ask/review:

- In what way can the Church be called the body of Christ?
- How does Jesus work in the world today? (through us)
- Do we all have the same talents?
- What are your talents? What part(s) of the body are you most like?

### Suggested Activities at home:

- Read and discuss this week's Scripture verse.
- Run relay race in the backyard with family or friends. Discuss how life is similar to the race.
- Follow through on your child's action plan to share this week.

**Prayer:** Lord, give me strength and health to run the race of life as did thy saints. OR Lord, let me love my neighbor today, as You love me.

**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, October 8

## **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 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** (Fathers)

Thou art most glorious, O Christ our God, Who hast established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth. Through them Thou hast guided us to the True Faith.// O greatly compassionate One, glory to Thee!

## **Tone 1 Kontakion** (Resurrection)

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Thyself. Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished. Adam exults, O Master! Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee:// “Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

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

## **Tone 6 Kontakion** (Fathers)

The Son Who shone forth from the Father was ineffably born, two-fold in nature, of a woman. Having beheld Him, we do not deny the image of His form, but depict it piously and revere it faithfully. Thus, keeping the True Faith,// the Church venerates the icon of Christ Incarnate.

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

## **Tone 6 Kontakion of the Theotokos**

Steadfast protectress of Christians, constant advocate before the Creator, do not despise the cry of us sinners, but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith. Hasten to hear our intercessions and to intercede for us, O Theotokos For you always protect those who honor you.

## **Tone 1 Prokeimenon** (Resurrection)

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee! (Ps. 32:22)

## **Tone 4 Prokeimenon** (Fathers)

Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers, / and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever! (v. 3)

## **Epistle of the Sunday** (2 Corinthians 9:6-11)

But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward

you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. As it is written:

“He has dispersed abroad,  
He has given to the poor;  
His righteousness endures forever.”

Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.

## **Gospel of the Sunday** (Luke 7:11-16)

Now it happened, the day after, that He went into a city called Nain; and many of His disciples went with Him, and a large crowd. And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, “Do not weep.” Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, “Young man, I say to you, arise.” So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother.

Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, “A great prophet has risen up among us”; and, “God has visited His people.”

## **Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (Ps. 148:1) Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! (Ps. 32:1) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

# Pelagia the Penitent

Before her acceptance of Christianity through Baptism, Pelagia was head of a dance troupe in

Palestinian Antioch, living a life of frivolity and prostitution. One day Pelagia, elegantly dressed, was making her way past a church where Saint Nonnus was preaching a sermon. Believers turned their faces away from the sinner, but the bishop glanced after her. Struck by the outer beauty of Pelagia and having foreseen the spiritual greatness within her, the saint prayed in his cell for a long time to the Lord for the sinner. He told his fellow bishops that the prostitute put them all to shame. He explained that she took great care to adorn her body in order to appear beautiful in the eyes of men. “We... take no thought for the adornment of our wretched souls,” he said.

On the following day, when Saint Nonnus was teaching in the church about the dread Last Judgment and its consequences, Pelagia came. The teaching made a tremendous impression upon her. With the fear of God and weeping tears of repentance, she asked the saint for Baptism. Seeing her sincere and full repentance, Bishop Nonnus baptized her.

By night the devil appeared to Pelagia, urging her to return to her former life. The saint prayed, signed herself with the Sign of the Cross, and the devil vanished.

Three days after her baptism, Saint Pelagia gathered up her valuables and took them to Bishop Nonnus. The bishop ordered that they be distributed among the poor saying, “Let this be wisely dispersed, so that these riches gained by sin may become a wealth of righteousness.” After this Saint Pelagia journeyed to Jerusalem to the Mount of Olives. She lived there in a cell, disguised as the monk Pelagius, living in ascetic seclusion, and attaining great spiritual gifts. When she died, she was buried in her cell (460 AD).