



Welcome!

Whether you're searching for a new church home or just visiting, we're 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. Please join us downstairs following the Divine Liturgy. We want to get to know you! God bless you!

This Week

Sunday, May 19

- 10:00 am Divine Liturgy/Church School
- 1:30 pm St Alexander Nevsky Cemetery
- 3:00 pm Mt Calvary Cemetery

Tuesday, May 21

- 9:00 am Daily Matins
- 9:30 am to Noon Office Hours

Thursday, May 23

- 9:00 am Daily Matins
- 9:30 am to Noon Office Hours

Saturday, May 25

- 4:00 Community Food Pantry
- 5:00 pm Great Vespers with Cathedral Vigil
- 6:00 pm Social Hour

Sunday, May 26

- 10:00 am Divine Liturgy



Christ is risen! Indeed, He is risen!
Christos voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese! (Russian)
Christos anesti! Alithos anesti! (Greek)

Archpriest Thomas Soroka, *Rector*
Deacon Luke Loboda, *Attached*
Deacon John Skowron, *Attached*
Rdr James Wargo and Danielle Bartko, Choir Dirs

Sunday of the Holy Myrrhbearers

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA
OrthodoxPittsburgh.org
May 19, 2024

Announcements

➤ **McKees Rocks Bridge Alert!** The Helen Street exits on the McKees Rocks Bridge **eastbound side** (the direction from McKees Rocks/Rt 51 to Pittsburgh/Ohio River Blvd) are scheduled to close beginning on Monday morning, May 20 for rebuilding through the end of July. This will affect anyone who is driving to Church from the Route 51 side of the Bridge. The alternate entrance into the Bottoms of McKees Rocks is River Road. This does not affect the Westbound side of the Bridge. For more information, see the PennDot website.

➤ The **cemetery blessings** that were scheduled to take place on Saturday, May 11 were postponed due to rain and thunderstorms. The blessings will take place **today, Sunday, May 19**, at the following times:

- **1:30 pm** St Alexander Nevsky Cemetery
- **3:00 pm** Mt Calvary Cemetery

➤ We invite everyone to consider a donation to our **Dome Restoration Fund**. We must raise at least \$150,000 by November. Please consider helping us!



Prayers

➤ **Ill and infirm:** *Known to be hospitalized (none); Home: John Mahalchak (son). William Warnak, Nancy Shaytar, Donya Yewisiak. Shut in, Rehabilitation, or Nursing Home: 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 **Doris Wasilko** for the departed servants, mother, Mary, grandmothers, Susan & Katherine. From **Charles A. Wasilko** for the departed servant, mother, Mary. From **Marsha Wasilko** for the departed servants, mother, Mary, grandmothers, Susan & Katherine, Godmother, Mary Hollenbach. From **Lindy Hamilton** for the health of Elizabeth Marie Hamilton, Elaine Hamilton, and the Scott family. From **Kristie Mertz** for the health of my mother, Janice Bosko. From **Donya Yewisiak** for the departed servant, Eleanor Kovacs; for the health of Nancy Shaytar. From **John Mahalchak family** for the health of friends & family, John, Cheryl, Gregory, Cindy, Daniel, Mary, Kayla Elizabeth, Sarah, Ivy, and Scarlet. From **John & Olga** for the health of Galina Vilkova; for the protection of Daniel, Nora, and family on their travels. From **Alexandria M. Tirpak** for the newly departed, Eleanor and Constance; for the health of my family; special intentions. From **Richard & Sonia Blaha** for the departed servants, mothers, grandmothers, aunts, and godmothers; for the health of family, friends, siblings, serving soldiers, and father, Leo; for birthdays, anniversaries, peace, and special intention; for God's blessings on our 36th wedding anniversary.

Thank You

➤ to our **May donors Mat. Nancy Mell and Gregory Mell** for (Bulletin \$60, Communion Wine \$40, Altar Candles \$50) in memory of Philip and Ella Karavlan. From **Marsha Wasilko** (Holy Bread \$50) on the occasion of her birthday. From **Fr Thomas and Mat. Joni Soroka** (Incense \$10) for the health and salvation of daughter, Jacqueline, on her birthday.

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.

Church School Wrap Up

This year, our outstanding Church School program focused on the Epistles of the New Testament, the Feast Days, and the Sacraments.

Our Church School program is made up of numerous classes which teach students in an age, information, and application appropriate way.

During each week of Church School, a short summary of review questions was printed in the bulletin for parents to review with their children. We trust that parents were diligent in reviewing these important matters with their children.

Additionally, in order for our children, who are full members of the Body of Christ, to be integrated into the life in Christ, it is imperative that they live the life of the Church. No amount of didactic presentation will make someone into an enduring Christian. Simply bringing our children to Church School will not keep them in the Church. We must integrate all aspects of the Christian life into the life of our families. Reading the Scriptures daily, daily prayer, reading the lives of the Saints, discussion about important social and moral issues, and of course, participation in the liturgical services of the Church, will give our children an opportunity to face the challenges of the modern world

We are grateful to our Church School coordinators, teachers, substitutes, faithful parents, and students for desiring to teach and learn more about the Orthodox Christian faith so that we all can grow and deepen in our faith in God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Hymns and Readings for Sunday, May 19

Troparion Tone 2 (Resurrection)

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal,
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead.
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out://
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”

Tone 2 Troparion (Pentecostarion)

The noble Joseph,
when he had taken down Thy most pure Body
from the Tree,
wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices,
and placed it in a new tomb.
But Thou didst arise on the third day, O Lord,//
granting the world great mercy.

Tone 2 Troparion (Pentecostarion)

The Angel came to the myrrhbearing women at the tomb and said:
“Myrrh is fitting for the dead;
but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption!
So proclaim: “The Lord is risen,//
granting the world great mercy.”

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

Tone 2 Kontakion (Pentecostarion)

Thou didst command the Myrrhbearers to rejoice, O Christ God.
By Thy Resurrection, Thou didst stop the lamentation of Eve, the first mother.
Thou didst command them to preach to Thine Apostles://
“The Savior is risen from the tomb!”

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 8 Kontakion (Pascha)

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal,
Thou didst destroy the power of death.
In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God,
proclaiming, “Rejoice!” to the Myrrhbearing Women//
granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

Tone 6 Prokeimenon

O Lord, save Thy people, / and bless Thine inheritance! (Ps. 27:9a)

Epistle of the Sunday (Acts 6:1-7)

Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, “It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them.

Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

Gospel of the Sunday (Mark 15:43-16:8)

Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent council member, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, coming and taking courage, went in to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate marveled that He was already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him if He had been dead for some time. So when he found out from the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph. Then he bought fine linen, took Him down, and wrapped Him in the linen. And he laid Him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock, and rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Josés observed where He was laid.

Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they said among themselves, “Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?” But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away—for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed.

But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples—and Peter—that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you.”

So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Hymn to the Theotokos of the Feast

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace:
“Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: ‘Rejoice, your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb!’

With Himself He has raised all the dead.”
Rejoice, O ye people!

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on you. Exult now, and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O pure Theotokos, in the Resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymn of the Sunday

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality! Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (Ps. 148:1) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

On this day, the third Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Myrrh-Bearing women; and we also commemorate Joseph of Arimathea, who was a secret disciple, and also Nicodemus, who was a disciple by night.

Of these Saints, the women were the first and unerring witnesses of the Resurrection of Christ, while Joseph and Nicodemus were witnesses of His burial, which are the primary and most essential elements of our dogmatic teaching. For Nicodemus was expelled from the synagogue as soon as he decided to part company with the Jews, while Joseph, after burying the Lord’s body, was cast by the Jews into a pit, from which he was snatched up by Divine power and brought to Arimathea, his homeland. After arising, Christ appeared to him while he was still in fetters, and gave him greater assurance of the mystery of the Resurrection. Although Joseph suffered greatly at the hands of the Jews, he was no longer able to keep silent about this mystery, but boldly recounted to everyone what had happened. It is said of Nicodemus that, by virtue of his writings, he was the first to explain in detail the events surrounding the Passion and Resurrection of Christ, because, coming from the synagogue, he was better informed about the schemes and deliberations of the Jews, and, in short, he knew everything about them. And because, as we have said, Joseph and Nicodemus were reliable witnesses of the Lord’s burial, they were ranked together with the women who beheld the Resurrection.