



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. We want to get to know you! God bless you!

This Week

Wednesday, May 16 – Ascension of Christ

6:00 pm Divine Liturgy

Saturday, May 19

4:30 pm Confessions

5:00 pm Great Vespers

Sunday, May 20

9:15 am Adult Education

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Church School after Divine Liturgy

Paschal Greeting

Christ is risen! Indeed, He is risen!

Christos voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese! (Russian)

Christos anesti! Alithos anesti! (Greek)

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*
Mat. Janet Mihalick, *Choir Director*

Sixth Sunday of Pascha: Healing of the Blind Man

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA
OrthodoxPittsburgh.org

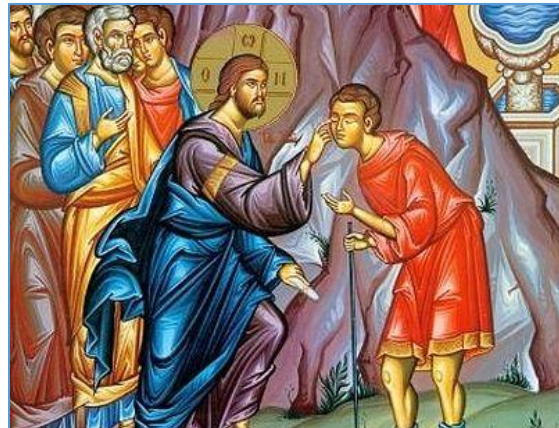
May 13, 2018

Announcements

➤ The men of our parish cordially invite everyone downstairs after the Divine Liturgy for our **annual Mother's Day Brunch** in honor of the women of our parish. (**Men of the parish** are reminded to give a **minimum \$10** contribution to Bob Madalinsky to sponsor the cost of the brunch. The men are asked to stay and clean up the hall after the brunch.)

➤ **Our May hoagie sale** will be held on Wednesday, May 30. Italian Hoagies and wraps are \$6.50 each and the Turkey hoagies and wraps are \$7.00 each. Orders can be placed by calling 412-974-9912, faxing 724-926-4052 or emailing rjmbmsam1@verizon.net. Orders are due on Sunday evening, May 27. Orders can be picked up between noon and 1 pm May 30 at the church hall.

Next Sunday will be the last day of Church School for the school year. We will hold our year end recognition after the gospel reading next Sunday. Parents should ensure that their children are in attendance. Church school will be held after the Divine Liturgy.



Prayers

➤ **Ill and infirm: Known to be Hospitalized; (none). Home recovery** George Shaytar. *Shut in, Rehabilitation, or Nursing Home:* Olga Bednar, Georgiann Robes, Olga Tryszyn, Mary Zapp.

➤ **From Mat. Nancy K. Mell and Gregory Mell** for the departed servant, Dn. Joseph Mell; for the health of family. **From Doris M. Wasilko** for the departed servant, (uncle) Joseph Dichko; for the health of the Wasilko family. **From Charles A. Wasilko** for the departed servant, (uncle) Joseph Dichko. **From Alexandria Tirpak** for the health of (daughter) Andrea & David on their Anniversary; special intentions. **From John & Olga** for the health of Anatoly & Galina Vilkov. **From John Kowalcheck** for the health of Olga on her birthday. **From John & Nancy Pravlochak** for the departed servant, Richard Kulchok; for the health of our grandchildren and Fr. Tom on his birthday. **From Marsha Wasilko** for the departed servant, (uncle) Joseph Dichko (5/10/13); for safe travels. **From Donya Yewisiak** for the health of Reader Leonard. **From Tatyana Sechler** for the departed servants, Polina, Lida, Slava, Bruce, Galina, Valentina; for the health of Diana, Veronika, Sergei, Tatyana, Adick, Bernadette and Kristofer.

Thank You

➤ to **Alex and Yaroslav Noskov** for providing outstanding work and saving our church several thousand dollars by removing the exterior fan in the old "kitchen" of our church basement and blocking the wall with brick. The continued presence of this exterior fan unfortunately allowed frigid air to enter the basement during the winter and caused the water pipes in our basement to burst twice during the last few winters. Thank you again to Alex and Yaroslav for their love for our church and their offering of their time and talent!

Today in Church School

Today's lesson: The Lord's Prayer

Questions to ask/review:

- When and where do we pray? Why do we pray?
- Why did Christ teach the "Lord's Prayer" to His disciples? (they asked Him how to pray)
- "Our Father"-What's a father like? How can God be Our Father? (He created all of us)
- "Who Art in Heaven"-What's heaven like? (union with God, paradise)
- "Hallowed be Thy Name"- Hallowed means holy; what does holy mean?
- "Thy Kingdom come"-What kingdom is coming? How is the kingdom already here? (God's will reign after the Second Coming of Christ, but we can also experience it now in the Church)
- "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven"- Who should be directing our lives?
- "Give us this day our daily (essential) bread"- What bread do we really need most? (the Word of God, the Eucharist)
- "Forgive us our trespasses": How often do we need forgiveness?
- "As we forgive those who trespass against us": How often do we forgive? Are we forgiving as much as we need God's forgiveness?
- "And lead us not into temptation": Remember Jesus's temptations? How can we overcome ours?
- "But deliver us from the evil one": Who is the evil one? How has Jesus delivered us? (the Cross and Resurrection)

Suggested activities at home:

- Read the scripture before bed: Matthew 6:5-15.
- Institute or continue daily prayers in the family icon corner.
- Pray the Lord's Prayer each day. Work with your child to memorize it.

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 Today

Troparion of the Resurrection Tone 5

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,
Co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,
born for our salvation from the Virgin.
For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh
to endure death
and to raise the dead,
by His glorious resurrection.

Kontakion of the Sunday Tone 4

I come to You, O Christ, blind from birth in my spiritual eyes
and call to You in repentance:
You are the most radiant light of those in darkness.

Kontakion of Pascha Tone 8

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal,
Thou dist 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.

Prokeimenon (Psalm 76) Tone 8

Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!

Epistle (Acts 16:16-34)

Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." And this she did for many days.

But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And he came out that very hour. But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to the authorities.

And they brought them to the magistrates, and said, "These men, being Jews, exceedingly trouble our city; and they teach customs which are not lawful for us, being Romans, to receive or observe." Then the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates tore off their clothes and commanded them to be beaten with rods. And when they had laid

many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed. And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, "Do yourself no harm, for we are all here."

Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized. Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household.

Gospel (John 9:1-38)

Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing.

Therefore the neighbors and those who previously had seen that he was blind[b] said, "Is not this he who sat and begged?" Some said, "This is he." Others said, "He is like him." He said, "I am he."

Therefore they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" He answered and said, "A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and I received sight."

Then they said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also asked him again how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see."

Therefore some of the Pharisees said, "This Man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them.

They said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind and received his sight, until they called the parents of him who had received his sight. And they asked them, saying, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but by what means he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we do not know. He is of age; ask him. He will speak for himself." His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had agreed already that if anyone confessed that He was Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, "Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner." He answered and said, "Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see."

Then they said to him again, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" He answered them, "I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become His disciples?"

Then they reviled him and said, "You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. We know that God spoke to Moses; as for this fellow, we do not know where He is from."

The man answered and said to them, "Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes! Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing."

They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?"

He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you." Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him.

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.

