



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!

This Week

Sunday, October 31

10:00 am Divine Liturgy/Church School

Tuesday, November 2

9:00 am Daily Matins

10:30 am-12:00 pm Office Hours

Thursday, November 4

9:00 am Daily Matins

10:30 am-12:00 pm Office Hours

Saturday, November 6

4:30 pm Confessions

5:00 pm Great Vespers with Cathedral Vigil

Sunday, November 7

10:00 am Divine Liturgy/Church School

Remember to turn your clocks **back one hour** before you go to sleep on Saturday night!

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*

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA

OrthodoxPittsburgh.org

October 31, 2021

Announcements

➤ **Christmas Card Project:** As in years past, we ask for your \$10 donation to have your/your family's name printed on our parish Christmas card which will be sent to parishioners in early December. **All proceeds benefit the monthly food pantry.** The deadline is Sunday, November 28, 2021. Please see Jan Widel or Marsha Wasilko to participate. We also have a limited supply of boxed cards for sale. Thank you!

➤ **Angel Tree to begin in November!** We will be collecting gifts for clients of the Holy Family Institute. Please look for more information in the coming weeks. Thank you for your generosity!

➤ **Thank you** to Bob Madalinsky, Donya Yewisiak, Kathy Namisnak and EVERYONE who helped with the wonderful Halupki Dinner yesterday! God bless you for your faithfulness.

Donations needed for Candle Room Iconography

- Cleansing of the Temple **\$850**
- Parable of Lazarus and the Rich Man **\$1,200**
- Parable of the Mustard Seed **\$600**
- The Widow's Mite **\$450**
- Parable of the Publican and Pharisee **\$450**
- ~~The Good Shepherd \$400~~
- Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins **\$700**
- Parable of the Sower **\$450**
- Pearl of Great Price **\$350**
- Hidden Treasure **\$350**
- The Good Samaritan **\$2,000**
- Eye of a Needle **\$400**
- ~~Parable of the Prodigal Son \$800~~
- Render to Caesar **\$500**

Prayers

➤ **Ill and infirm:** *Known to be hospitalized:* (none)
Home: George Shaytar. *Shut in, Rehabilitation, or Nursing Home:* Garnette Kerchum, Eleanor Kovacs, Natalie Popovich, Olga Tryszyn

➤ Vigil Lights From **Charles A. Wasilko** for the health of sisters, Doris & Marsha. From **Doris Wasilko** for the departed servants of the Wasilko & Dyczko families; for the health of the Wasilko family. From **Nancy Shaytar** for the health of husband, George. From **Mat. Nancy K. Mell & Gregory Mell** for the departed servant, Dn. Joseph Mell; for the health of family. From the **John Mahalchak Family** for the health of friends, family, John, Cheryl, Gregory, and Kayla Elizabeth. From **Irene Kulchock** for the departed servants, Richard Kulchock and Frank Kulchock; for the health of Jan Pravlochak. From **George & Nancy Shaytar** for the health of brother, Nicholas. From **Dawna Beckett** for the departed servants, newly departed brother, Michael Petkash, grandmother, Olga Petkash (3 yrs) and father, Donald Petkash (21 yrs)—Memory Eternal; for the health and salvation of my family. From **Alina** for the departed servant, Leonid. From **Yelena N Paclawski** for the health of my sister, Svetlana; for the peace of my son, Dylan. From **Lindy Hamilton** for the health of Elaine Hamilton; special intention. From **John & Olga** for the health of Galina & Olesya, Elizabeth & newly born, Kassani Kowlacheck.

Thank You

➤ to our October donors, **Robert and Teresa Robes**, for donating all categories. Bulletin \$60, Holy Bread \$50, Altar Candles \$25 in memory of Thomas Robes Sr. Communion Wine \$40 in thanksgiving for Robbie and Teresa's 15th anniversary. Incense \$10 for the health of Teresa 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.

This week in Church School

Today's lesson: Theophany

Questions to ask/review:

- Who was the last and greatest prophet of Israel? (John the Baptist)
- Did John recognize Jesus when He arrived? In what ways is John the new Elijah? (Elijah's mantle of prophecy was passed on to Elisha and from him in an uninterrupted chain of prophets)
- How old was Jesus when He was baptized? (about 30)
- How had He lived up until this time? (as a carpenter, in Nazareth)
- Did Jesus need to be baptized because He was a sinner? Then why was He baptized? (He was fulfilling His responsibility to represent all of creation in being cleansed.)
- What does Theophany mean? (Theos meaning "God" and Phanos meaning "to show") We meet here the Trinity for the first time in the New Testament. How was the Trinity present at Theophany?
- Why do we bless the water at Theophany? What do we use it for through the year? (house blessing, illness, etc.)

Suggested activities at home:

- Before bed, read the story together (Matthew 3:13-17).
- Look at pictures of your child's baptism and if possible locate his Baptismal cross and gown. Identify and discuss the child's relationship with their Godparents.
- Place an icon of the feast in a prominent place in your home.
- Sing the Troparion of the feast. Discuss how it will be also used at the house blessing: "When Thou, O Lord, was baptized in the Jordan, worship of the Trinity was made manifest; for the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee, calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truth of His word. O Christ our God, Who hath appeared and enlightened the world, glory to Thee."

Prayer

"In the name of the Father, and the Son. and of the Holy Spirit. Jesus, thank you for my baptism. I was baptized just like you. Help me to follow Your path. Amen.

Hymns and Readings for Sunday, October 31

Tone 2 Troparion *(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 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 1 Troparion *(St. John Kochurov)*

You were revealed to all as a true shepherd
O Hieromartyr John of Chicago,
for you nurtured your people in the Orthodox Faith,
guiding them by word and deed on the path of salvation,
and defended the Faith even unto the shedding of your blood.
Therefore we your spiritual children cry out in thanksgiving:
“Glory to Him Who gave you strength!
Glory to Him Who granted you the Martyr’s
^crown!//
Glory to Him Who through you grants mercy to all!”

Tone 2 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior,
seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb!

The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with Thee, //
and the world, my Savior, praises Thee forever.

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

Tone 8 Kontakion *(St. John Kochurov)*

As you zealously fulfilled your pastoral service,
You brought your soul to God as a well pleasing sacrifice, O Father John.
Entreat Christ God to grant peace to the world and great mercy to our souls.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 6 Kontakion *(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 2 Prokeimenon *(Resurrection)*

The Lord is my strength and my song; / He has become my salvation. *(Ps. 117:14)*

Epistle of the Sunday (2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9)

The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. In Damascus the governor, under Aretas the king, was guarding the city of the Damascenes with a garrison, desiring to arrest me; but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped from his hands.

It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord: I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—

whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a one was caught up to the third heaven. And I know such a man—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter. Of such a one I will boast; yet of myself I will not boast, except in my infirmities. For though I might desire to boast, I will not be a fool; for I will speak the truth. But I refrain, lest anyone should think of me above what he sees me to be or hears from me.

And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Gospel of the Sunday (Luke 8:26-39)

Then they sailed to the country of the Gadarenes, which is opposite Galilee. And when He stepped out on the land, there met Him a certain man from the city who had demons for a long time. And he wore no clothes, nor did he live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out, fell down before Him, and with a loud voice said, “What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg You, do not torment me!” For He had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For it had often seized him, and he was kept under guard, bound with chains and shackles; and he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the wilderness.

Jesus asked him, saying, “What is your name?”

And he said, “Legion,” because many demons had entered him. And they begged Him that He would not command them to go out into the abyss.

Now a herd of many swine was feeding there on the mountain. So they begged Him that He would permit them to enter them. And He permitted them. Then the demons went out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the lake and drowned.

When those who fed them saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. Then they went out to see what had happened, and came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. They also who had seen it told them by what means he who had been demon-possessed was healed. Then the whole multitude of the surrounding region of the Gadarenes asked Him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. And He got into the boat and returned.

Now the man from whom the demons had departed begged Him that he might be with Him. But Jesus sent him away, saying, “Return to your own house, and tell what great things God has done for you.” And he went his way and proclaimed throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.

Communion Hymn of Sunday

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (Ps. 148:1)

St John Kochurov was born July 13, 1871 and died on October 31, 1917. He was a missionary to America and the first clergy martyred during the Bolshevik Revolution.