



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, November 14

10:00 am Divine Liturgy/Church School
Memorial in memory of Carol Ann Kowalcheck

Tuesday, November 16

9:00 am Daily Matins
10:30 am-12:00 pm Office Hours

Thursday, November 18

9:00 am Daily Matins
10:30 am-12:00 pm Office Hours

Saturday, November 20

4:30 pm Confessions
5:00 pm Festal Cathedral Vigil

Sunday, November 21: Entry of the Theotokos

10:00 am Festal Divine Liturgy/Church School

Looking Ahead

Sunday, December 5 Archpastoral Visit of Archbishop Melchisedek

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

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA
OrthodoxPittsburgh.org November 14, 2021

Announcements

➤ Tomorrow we enter the period of the **Nativity Fast** (in the west called Advent). This period of preparation for Christmas involves turning our minds, hearts, and bodies toward the celebration of the Nativity of Christ through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Please make these 40 days before Christmas a time of reflection in order to appropriately celebrate Christmas with a pure heart.

➤ **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!

➤ The **Nativity Psalter group** will begin again on Monday November 15th. The group reads the Psalter daily and prays for one another throughout the Nativity fast. If you are interested, please contact Deacon Luke today (luke.loboda@gmail.com).

➤ **Angel Tree begins today!** We are collecting gifts for children of the Holy Family Institute. When you take an ornament from the tree downstairs, please purchase gifts for subject and return them unopened. Thank you for your generosity! Donya Yewisiak, chair.

➤ **The new Vespers/Liturgy/Prayerbooks** located in the pews have been donated for church use. **Copies of the book for personal use may be purchased for \$15** at the Candle Kiosk or downstairs after the Divine Liturgy.

- Page 23: Pre-Communion Prayers
- Page 37: Divine Liturgy
- Page 150 Prayers of Thanksgiving

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** God Bless our Veterans. From **Doris Wasilko** for the health of the Wasilko family. From **Marsha Wasilko** for the health of the Wasilko family; to honor all American Veterans on November 11. 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 **Alexandria Tirpak** for the health of my family; special intentions. From **Mat. Joni Soroka** for the departed servant, Barbara Naiser; for the health of family & friends. From **John & Olga** for the health of Galina Vilko and Dmitri & Alexandra on their birthdays. From the **Yurkowski family** for the health of Rose Helen Kozemka on her birthday—Many Years! From **Nancy Shaytar** for the health of husband, George.

Thank You

➤ to our November donors, **Matushka Nancy Mell and Gregory Mell** (Bulletin \$60, Holy Bread \$50, Communion Wine \$40, Altar Candles \$25, Incense \$10) in memory of Deacon Joseph Mell and for the health of their family.

Our Annual St Nicholas Dinner will be held on Sunday, December 5. If you can help to work during the dinner, please sign up downstairs.

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: Wedding at Cana

Questions to ask/review:

- What was the first miracle of Christ? (turning the water into wine)
- What is a miracle? How do we know a miracle has occurred? (an even that cannot be explained by nature)
- Discuss Orthodox weddings. What is the purpose of a wedding? (God unites a man and woman in marriage) Why are weddings special and significant?
- What are the parts of an Orthodox wedding service? (Betrothal, Crowning, Epistle, Gospel, Procession, Cup of wine, Removal of crowns)
- What is the meaning of the procession, also known as the "Dance of Isaiah"? (together husband and wife take up their Cross and follow Christ, they are called to sacrifice themselves for each other and the Church)
- Discuss the dialogue between the Theotokos, Christ, and the servants. What can we learn from it?

Suggested activities at home:

- Read the story together before bed (John 2:1-11).
- Show your child pictures of your wedding. Review the parts of the service and their meaning.
- Sing the Wedding Processional together:
- "Rejoice, O Isaiah! The Virgin is with child, And shall bear a son Emmanuel, Both God and Man, And Orient is His Name, Whom magnifying we call, the Virgin blessed.
- Holy Martyrs, who fought the good fight and have received your crowns, Entreat ye the Lord, That He will have mercy on our souls.
- Glory to Thee, O Christ our God, The Apostles boast, The Martyrs Joy, whose preaching was the Consubstantial Trinity."
- Make grape juice with your child from water; explain how Jesus made the water turn into wine without a can of juice.

Prayer: Our Lord Jesus Christ, thank you for blessing the wedding at Cana, and bless the wedding and marriage of my parents. Amen.

Hymns and Readings for Sunday, November 14

Tone 4 Troparion *of the Resurrection*

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: “Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen,// granting the world great mercy!”

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 3 Troparion *(St. Philip)*

Holy Apostle Philip, entreat the merciful God// to grant our souls forgiveness of transgressions!

Tone 4 Kontakion *of the Resurrection*

My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell, and as Master,// He has risen on the third day!

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

Tone 8 Kontakion *(St. Philip)*

Thy disciple, friend and imitator of Thy passion, the God-preaching Philip, proclaimed Thee to the universe.

By his prayers deliver Thy Church from her enemies; through the Theotokos protect every city, O most merciful Christ!

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 4 Prokeimenon *of the Resurrection*

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

Epistle *of the Sunday* (Galatians 2:16-20)

knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

“But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Gospel *of the Sunday* (Luke 10:25-37)

And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”

He said to him, “What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?”

So he answered and said, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,’ and ‘your neighbor as yourself.’ ”

And He said to him, “You have answered rightly; do this and you will live.”

But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

Then Jesus answered and said: “A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.’ So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?”

And he said, “He who showed mercy on him.”

Then Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

Communion Hymn *of Sunday*

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

The Holy Apostle Philip

After the Ascension of the Lord, the Apostle Philip preached the Word of God in Galilee, accompanying his preaching with miracles. Thus, he restored to life a dead infant in the arms of its mother. From Galilee he went to Greece, and preached among the Jews that had settled there. Some of them reported the preaching of the Apostle to Jerusalem. In response, some scribes arrived in Greece from Jerusalem, with one of the Jewish chief priests at their head, to interrogate the Apostle Philip.

The Apostle Philip exposed the lie of the chief priest, who said that the disciples of Christ had stolen away and hidden the body of Christ. Philip told instead how the Pharisees had bribed the soldiers on watch, to deliberately spread this rumor. When the Jewish chief priest and his companions began to insult the Lord and lunged at the Apostle Philip, they suddenly were struck blind. By his prayer the Apostle restored everyone’s sight. Seeing this miracle, many believed in Christ. The Apostle Philip provided a bishop for them, by the name of Narcissus (one of the Seventy Apostles, January 4).

From Greece the Apostle Philip went to Parthia, and then to the city of Azotus, where he healed an eye affliction of the daughter of a local resident named Nikoklides, who had received him into his home, and then baptized his whole family.

From Azotus the Apostle Philip set out to Syrian Hieropolis (there were several cities of this name) where, stirred up by the Pharisees, the Jews burned the house of Heros, who had taken in the Apostle Philip, and they wanted to kill the apostle. The apostle performed several miracles: the healing of the hand of the city official Aristarchus, withered when he attempted to strike the apostle; and restoring a dead child to life. When they saw these marvels, they repented and many accepted holy Baptism.