



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

All services are cancelled this week.

Sunday, December 19

10:00 am Divine Liturgy/Church School
Annual Christmas Program (Yolka)

Thank You

➤ to our December donors: **Jan Widell** (Bulletin \$60) in memory of departed members of the Puskar and Morris families; **Donya Yewisiak** (Holy Bread \$50) in memory of Mat Olga Soroka; **Soroka Family** (Altar Candles \$50) in memory of Barbara Naiser (5 yrs), **Albena Ivanova** (Communion Wine \$40) in memory of father, Rumén Iosifov and Archpriest George Livanos; **John Mahalchak Family** (Incense \$10) for the health of friends and family.

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.

Archpriest Thomas Soroka, *Rector*
Deacon Luke Loboda, *Attached*
Deacon John Skowron, *Attached*

Sunday of the Holy Forefathers

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA

OrthodoxPittsburgh.org December 12, 2021

Announcements

➤ We continue in the period of the **Nativity Fast** (in the west called Advent). Please make these 40 days before Christmas a time of reflection in order to appropriately celebrate Christmas with a pure heart.

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 and Marsha. From **Doris Wasilko** for the departed servants from the Wasilko and Dyczko families; for the health of the Wasilko family. From **Marsha Wasilko** for the health of the Wasilko family. From **Mat. Nancy K. Mell & Gregory Mell** for departed family members, Dn. Joseph Mell; for the health of family. From the **John Mahalchak Family** for the health of friends, family, John, Cheryl, Gregory, Kayla Elizabeth and Cindy. From **Mat. Joni Soroka** for the departed servant, Barbara Naiser; for the health of family and friends; special intentions. From **John Kowalcheck** for the health of Olga Cozza. From **John & Olga** for the health of Galina Vilcova and Elizabeth Kowalcheck on her birthday. From **Nancy Shaytar** for the health of husband, George.

Hymns and Readings for Sunday, December 12

Tone 8 Troparion (Resurrection)

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One!

Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//

O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

Tone 2 Troparion (Forefathers)

Through faith Thou didst justify the Forefathers, betrothing through them the Church of the gentiles.

These saints exult in glory,

for from their seed came forth a glorious fruit:

she who bore Thee without seed.//

So by their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us!

Tone 8 Kontakion (Resurrection)

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam.

Eve exults in Thy Resurrection,//

and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

Tone 6 Kontakion (Forefathers)

You did not worship the graven image,

O thrice-blessed ones,

but armed with the immaterial Essence of God, you were glorified in a trial by fire.

From the midst of unbearable flames you called on God, crying:

“Hasten, O compassionate One!

Speedily come to our aid,//

for Thou art merciful and able to do as Thou dost will!”

Tone 4 Prokeimenon (Forefathers)

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

Epistle of the Sunday (Colossians 3:4-11)

When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.

But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

Gospel of the Sunday (Luke 14:16-24)

Then He said to him, “A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, ‘Come, for all things are now ready.’ But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.’ Still another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ So that servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house, being angry, said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.’ And the servant said, ‘Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.’ Then the master said to the servant, ‘Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.’ ”