



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!

Services This Week

Sunday, January 16
10:00 am Divine Liturgy/Church School
Tuesday, January 18
9:00 am Daily Matins
9:30 am-12:00 pm Office Hours
Thursday, January 20
9:00 am Daily Matins
9:30 am-12:00 pm Office Hours
Saturday, January 22
5:00 pm Vespers with Cathedral Vigil
Sunday, January 23
10:00 am Divine Liturgy/Church School

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*

30th Sunday after Pentecost

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA
OrthodoxPittsburgh.org January 16, 2022

Announcements

➤ A long time member of our parish, Garnette Kerchum, fell asleep in the Lord on Friday, January 14. Visitation will be at Szal Funeral Home on Tuesday, January 18 from 2p-8p with Parastas at 7:00 pm. The funeral will be held at Church on Wednesday, January 19 at 10:00 am. May her memory be eternal!

The 2022 calendars and offering envelopes are available at the candle desk.

➤ Those who wish to have their home blessed after Jan 6 should contact Fr Thomas directly.

➤ Please consider being a monthly sponsor for the categories of bulletin, prosphora, altar candles, communion wine, and/or incense. You can find the form at the candle desk. Your name and remembrance will be published in each bulletin for the month.

➤ Our Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 30 after the Divine Liturgy. Only adult parishioners in good standing may vote in the meeting. Please see Fr Thomas for any questions.

➤ Please remember to submit reports for the annual meeting to Deb Burgess by Thursday the 20th. Reports can be emailed to deborahsburgess@gmail.com.



Prayers

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

➤ Vigil Lights From Mat. Nancy K. Mell & Gregory Mell for the departed servant, Dn. Joseph Mell; for the health of family. From Marsha Wasilko for the departed servants, Grandmother, Susan Wasilko (1/15/80) and Brother, Raymond (1/10/17). From Charles A. Wasilko for the departed servants, brother, Raymond, and Baba Wasilko. From Doris Wasilko for the departed servants, Brother, Raymond and Grandmother, Susan Wasilko; for the health of the Wasilko family. From Alexandria Tirpak for the departed servant, my lovely daughter, Amelia; for the health of my family; special intentions. From Nancy Shaytar for the departed servant, mother, Sophia Kraynak; for the health of my husband, George. From John Mahalchak family for the health of friends & family, Cheryl, John, Gregory, Kayla Elizabeth, and Cindy. From Donya Yewisiak for the departed servant, Amelia Kuck. From John & Olga for the health of Galina Vilcova and for the health and salvation of our family. From Tatyana Sechler for the departed servants, Polina, Galina, Slava, Valentina, Andrei, Diana, Bruce, and Marina; for the health of Sergey, Tatyana, Adrianna, Edward, and Veronika. From Irene Kulchock for the health of Jan Pravlochak.

Thank You

➤ to our January 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.

This Week in Church School

Today's lesson: The Lord's Prayer

Questions to ask/review:

- What question did the disciples ask that led Christ to teach them the Lord's prayer?
- What does it mean that God is our Heavenly Father?
- How can we keep God's name holy? What does it mean to be holy?
- What would it mean for God's kingdom to come? In what way is God's kingdom already here?
- What are we asking by "Thy will be done"?
- What daily (essential) bread does God feed us with? (his Body in the Eucharist)
- Why must we forgive others?
- When and where do we pray? How can we pray more like God wants us to?

Suggested activities at home:

- When you pray together as a family each night this week, discuss one verse of the Lord's prayer afterwards.

Prayer: Prayer: O Lord, teach me to pray, may Your will be done.



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 Sunday, January 16

Tone 5 Troparion (Resurrection)

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.

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 4 Troparion (Veneration/Chains of St Peter)

Thou didst come to us without leaving Rome through the precious chains that thou didst wear. First-enthroned of the Apostles we bow down to them in faith and pray: "Through thy prayers to God grant us great mercy!"

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

Tone 5 Kontakion (Resurrection)

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior, shattering its gates as Almighty, resurrecting the dead as Creator, and destroying the sting of death. Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man,// and we cry to Thee: O Lord, save us!

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 5 Prokeimenon (Resurrection)

Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us / and preserve us from this generation forever. (Ps. 11:7)

Epistle of the Sunday After (Col 3:12-16)

Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Gospel of the Sunday After (Luke 18:18-27)

Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not steal,' 'Do not bear false witness,' 'Honor your father and your mother.' "

And he said, "All these things I have kept from my youth."

So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich.

And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

And those who heard it said, "Who then can be saved?"

But He said, "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God."

Communion Hymn of Sunday

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

The Veneration of the Honorable Chains of the Holy and All-Praised Apostle Peter

In about the year 42, on the orders of Herod Agrippa, the Apostle Peter was thrown into prison for preaching about Christ the Savior. In prison he was held secure by two iron chains. During the night before his trial, an angel of the Lord removed these chains from the Apostle Peter and led him out from the prison (Acts 12:1-11).

Christians who learned of the miracle took the chains and kept them as precious keepsakes. For three centuries the chains were kept in Jerusalem, and those who were afflicted with

illness and approached them with faith received healing. Patriarch Juvenal (July 2) presented the chains to Eudokia, wife of the emperor Theodosius the Younger, and she in turn transferred them from Jerusalem to Constantinople in either the year 437 or 439.

Eudokia sent one chain to Rome to her daughter Eudoxia (the wife of Valentinian), who built a church on the Esquiline hill dedicated to the Apostle Peter and placed the chain in it. There were other chains in Rome, with which the Apostle Peter was shackled before his martyrdom under the emperor Nero. These were also placed in the church.

On January 16, the chains of Saint Peter are brought out for public veneration.

People who suffered from various illnesses received healing if they touched Apostle Peter's chains with faith. The chains were transferred to Rome, where St. Peter had died as a martyr, in the 5th century, and were placed in the church of his name on the Esquiline Hill, called San Pietro in Vincoli, which means "St. Peter-in-Chains". A fragment of the chains was preserved in the Church in honor of St. Peter in Constantinople, not far from Hagia Sophia.

Anthony from Novgorod, who made a pilgrimage to Constantinople in 1200, wrote that he saw the iron chains of St. Peter, framed in a golden icon. The Patriarch and all people kiss the chains of St. Peter on the holiday of Chains. When Constantinople was conquered by the Turks in 1453, the Chains were lost, and the Roman part of the Chains has remained the only one.

