



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!

Schedule This Week

Sunday, June 26

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, June 28

No Matins or Office Hours

Wednesday, June 29: Feast of Sts Peter and Paul

9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Thursday, June 30

9:00 am Daily Matins

9:30am-12:00 pm Office Hours

Saturday, July 2

No Vespers/Cathedral Vigil

Sunday, July 3

10:00 am Divine Liturgy



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

Sunday of All Saints of North America

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA

OrthodoxPittsburgh.org

June 26, 2022

Announcements

➤ There will be **no Daily Matins or Office Hours on Tuesday, June 28**. Fr Thomas will be out of town serving the funeral for Matushka Joni's uncle, George Corey.

➤ **Next Sunday** we will have a "picnic-style" Coffee Hour. If you can bring a desert to share, please do. Hamburgers, hot dogs, and side dishes will be provided! Thanks to Clayton Harris for leading!

➤ **July's parish schedule will see a temporary reduction** in the number of services, classes, and office hours. The normal schedule will pick back up in August. Please consult the online schedule (orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parishcalendar) for the most accurate schedule. **There will be no Vespers/Cathedral Vigil this Saturday.**

➤ Students K-8 from any parish are invited to our yearly **Vacation Church School from July 5-8**, 10a-1p daily. This year's theme will be "Let your Light Shine." Activities, crafts, lessons, games, and music. To register, contact Matushka Joni at jonisoroka@yahoo.com. Deadline EOD Tue, June 28.

➤ **During the summer months**, a reminder that our diligence in attendance at the Sunday Divine Liturgy, the holy feast days, and the various activities of the church, is encouraged. Find an Orthodox Church while vacationing!

➤ Mark your calendars

June 29 Feast of Sts Peter and Paul (DL 9:30 am)

July 5-8 - Vacation Church School

September 11 - Church Picnic at Clever Park

October 8 - Slavic Food Fest

November 22 - Ceiling iconography work begins

Prayers

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

➤ **Vigil Lights** From **Mat. Nancy K. Mell & Gregory Mell** for the departed servant, for Dn. Joseph Mell; for the health of family. From **Charles A. Wasilko** for the departed servants, father, Charles, godfather, Joe Dichko and grandfathers, Andrew & Theodore. From **Doris Wasilko** for the departed servants, father, Charles, and grandfathers, Andrew & Theodore. From **Marsha Wasilko** for the departed servants, father, Charles and grandmothers, Katherine & Susan; Happy Birthday & Many Years to Eleanor Kovacs! From **John & Olga** for the health of Galina Vilкова and Adam Keith Kowalcheck on his birthday. From **Alexandria Tirpak** for the departed servants, nephew, Nicholas, father, John and brother, Nicholas; for the health of my family; safe travels for Nicholas; special intentions. From **Kristie Mertz** for Katarina & Oliver. From **John & Nancy Pravlochak** for the departed servants, cousins-Jan Pravlochak, Glenn Bednar and Samantha Stroehlen, and fathers, Steve & John; for the health of husband, John; for blessings on Christina & Martin. From **Nancy Shaytar** for the health of husband, George. From **Mat. Joni Soroka** for the newly departed servant, Uncle George Corey; for the health of Fr. Thomas and my father, John Naiser. From the **John Mahalchak family** for the health of friends & family, John, Cheryl, Gregory, Cindy, Daniel, Mary.

Thank You

➤ to our June donors: **Jim and Leslie Wokutch** (Holy Bread \$50, Communion Wine \$40, Incense \$10) in memory of mother, Olga Mell and brother, Deacon Joseph Mell.

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.

Our Calling

We have already celebrated the Descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and are now in the Afterglow of this great Feast of Pentecost. In today's Gospel we hear the call of Jesus to those who would follow Him, fisherman, at first instructing them to take up their nets and follow Him, becoming fishers of men. You see Jesus needed helpers and went out to find them. He chose ordinary people like us to respond with their whole hearts, making them extraordinary by His grace, in order to accomplish His purposes.

We look at the lives of those who followed Him initially, Simon, who became Peter, "The Rock", upon which the Church of Rome rested, Andrew the great missionary and the patron of the Church of Constantinople, John who became the patron of the Church in Ephesus and was titled, "the theologian", as we understand it to this day. You see ordinary men who by their work transformed the entire world for Jesus, becoming, "fishers" of men and women ushering them to the Kingdom of God.

Every life, whether of a man or women, young or old, rich or poor, educated or uneducated can be transformed into a calling. Every task, whether that of teacher or a student, a professional businessman, a homemaker, a chef, entrepreneur, athlete, musician, sportsman etc. can be experienced as God's call.

The essential key is closeness to God, for it transforms ordinary tasks into extraordinary ones by God's grace when we conscientiously place our lives in God's hands through faith, when we seek God's purposes in our tasks, when we recognize their usefulness from God's viewpoint, and when we accomplish them as service to others for the glory of God. (LAF)

Hymns and Readings for Sunday, June 26

Tone 1 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body,

Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world.

The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life:

“Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ!

Glory to Thy Kingdom!//

Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!”

Tone 8 Troparion *(All Saints of America)*

As the bountiful harvest of Thy sowing of salvation,

the lands of North America offer to Thee, O

Lord, all the saints who have shone in them.

By their prayers keep the Church and our land in abiding peace//

through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One!

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

Tone 1 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Thyself.

Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished.

Adam exults, O Master!

Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee://

“Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 3 Kontakion *(All Saints of America)*

Today the choir of Saints who were pleasing to God in the lands of North America

now stands before us in the Church and invisibly prays to God for us.

With them the Angels glorify Him, and all the Saints of the Church of Christ keep festival with them;//

and together they all pray for us to the Pre-eternal God.

Tone 1 Prokeimenon *(Resurrection)*

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee! *(Ps. 32:22)*

Epistle of the Saturday *(Romans 2:10-16)*

but glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God.

For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law (for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified; for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them) in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

Gospel of the Sunday *(Matthew 4:18-23)*

And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, and

immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (Ps 148:1) Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; praise befits the just! (Ps 32/33:1) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

North American Saints

Today is also the Feast of the Saints of North America, a special day set aside following Pentecost to celebrate the lives of the saints who have touched our continent. Saints whether from Russia, Volynia, Galicia, Uhorschina, Serbia, Alaska, Lebanon, Syria, the Carribean, who have taken upon themselves the tasks that God has given them, bringing many to the Holy Orthodox faith.

St. Herman of Alaska, a simple monk toiled in Spruce Island for decades to help in every aspect of life. St. Nicholas of Zhica, while still suffering from the physical tortures of the concentration camps, came to Pennsylvania to teach young American boys the truths of our faith, preparing them for the priesthood. St. Raphael of Brooklyn as well as St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre worked in teaching the faith to the newly arrived immigrants who founded Churches across the entire length of this country. St. Matushka Olga from Alaska who nurtured the native Yupik speaking people of the Three rivers in Alaska about the Love of God.

These are the ordinary men and women who became not only extraordinary but “saints”, in the Church in America, and yes there are many

more to come, who also likewise struggled in the early days to administer to the faithful.

So as we celebrate this Sunday of the Saints of North America let us remember how they responded to the “call” of Christ and maybe we too might be called in a similar way to bring all peoples to the knowledge of truth.. (LAF)

List of Glorified Saints of North America

Alexander Hotovitzky, hieromartyr, Missionary of America; **Alexis of Wilkes-Barre**, Missionary, leader of ex-Uniates into Orthodoxy; **Bogoljub Gakovich**, hieromartyr; **Bazyli Martysz**, hieromartyr, Polish protopresbyter who served parishes in Alaska, Canada, and Pennsylvania; **Herman of Alaska**, first missionary to Alaska; **Innocent of Alaska**, missionary bishop to Alaska; **Jacob Netsvetov**, a native of the Aleutian Islands who became a priest; **John Kochurov**, first hieromartyr of the Bolsheviks in 1917; **John Maximovitch**, ROCOR bishop of Shanghai and San Francisco, wonderworker; **Juvenaly of Alaska**, Protomartyr of America; **Mardarije Uskokovich**, a Serbian bishop of North America; founder of St. Sava's Monastery in Libertyville, Illinois; **Matej Stijačić**, hieromartyr; **Nikolaj Velimirović**, theological writer and a gifted orator, rector of St. Tikhon's Seminary; **Peter the Aleut**, protomartyr of America; **Raphael of Brooklyn**, founder of the Antiochian Orthodox Mission in America; **Sebastian Dabovich**, first American-born Orthodox priest of Jackson, California; **Seraphim (Samoylovich) of Uglich**, missionary in Alaska and hieromartyr under the Soviets; **Teofan Beatović**, hieromartyr; **Tikhon of Moscow**, bishop of the Aleutians and Alaska, missionary, then Patriarch of Moscow; **Varnava Nastić**, the New Confessor, born in Gary, Indiana.