



## 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, July 24**

**10:00 am** Divine Liturgy

*(No Tues/Thurs Matins or Office Hours in July)*

*(No Saturday Great Vespers with Cathedral Vigil)*

**Sunday, July 31**

**10:00 am** Divine Liturgy (or Typika with Communion)



**Mark your calendars**

September 11 – Church Picnic at Clever Park

October 8 – Slavic Food Fest

November 22 – Ceiling iconography work begins

**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*

### Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA

OrthodoxPittsburgh.org

July 24, 2022

## Announcements

➤ **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](http://orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parishcalendar)) for the most accurate schedule. **There will NO Great Vespers with Cathedral Vigil this coming Saturday.** The next Great Vespers with Cathedral Vigil will be **Saturday, August 16.**

➤ **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!

➤ **Saturday, August 6, 2022**

**Holy Transfiguration Monastery, Elwood City PA Annual Pilgrimage**

*35th anniv. of Mthr. Christophora's Abbatial Service*

**9:30 am** Akathist and procession

**10:00 am** Hierarchical Liturgy

**12:30 pm** Catered Picnic Lunch

**2:30 pm** Sacrament of Holy Unction



## Prayers

➤ **Ill and infirm:** *Known to be hospitalized;* (none). *Home:* : John Mahalchak Jr , 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 servant, Darleen Englert; for the health of sisters, Doris & Marsha; Happy Birthday to John Kowalcheck. From **Marsha Wasilko** for the health of the Wasilko family; Happy Birthday & Many Years to John Kowalcheck! From **John & Olga** for the health of Galina Vilkova and Dana Emma Kowalcheck and her child to be born. From **Donya Yewisiak** for the departed servant, Valentina Barsom-Memory Eternal; for the health of Mat. Joni on her birthday-many happy returns. From the **John Mahalchak family** for the health of friends & family, John, Cheryl, Gregory, Cindy, Daniel, Mary, and Fr. Thomas. From **Richard & Sonia Blaha** for the departed servants, parents, Pete, Dorothy, Betty, and Aunt Rose; for the health of siblings, family, friends, and serving soldiers; special intention & peace.

## Thank You

➤ to our July donors: **Rick and Susan Porter** (Altar Candles \$25) on the occasion of Susie's 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.**

## Quotes On Illness

Only the foolish think that suffering is evil. A sensible man knows that suffering is not evil but only the manifestation of evil and healing from evil. Only sin in a man is a real evil, and there is no evil outside sin. Everything else that men generally call evil is not, but is a bitter medicine to heal from evil. The sicker the man, the more bitter the medicine that the doctor prescribes for him. At times, even, it seems to a sick man that the medicine is worse and more bitter than the sickness itself! And so it seems at times to the sinner: the suffering is harder and more bitter than the sin committed. But this is only an illusion – a very strong self-delusion. There is no suffering in the world that could be anywhere near as hard and destructive as sin is. All the suffering borne by men and nations is none other than the abundant healing that eternal Mercy offers to men and nations to save them from eternal death. Every sin, however small, would inevitably bring death if Mercy were not to allow suffering in order to sober men up from the inebriation of sin; for the healing that comes through suffering is brought about by the gracefilled power of the Holy and Life-giving Spirit. *(St Nikolai Velimirovich)*

“A continuously happy life produces extremely unhappy consequences. In nature we see that there are not always pleasant springs and fruitful summers, and sometimes autumn is rainy and winter cold and snowy, and there is flooding and wind and storms, and moreover the crops fail and there are famine, troubles, sicknesses and many other misfortunes. All of this is beneficial so that man might learn through prudence, patience and humility. For the most part, in times of plenty he forgets himself, but in times of various sorrows he becomes more attentive to his salvation.”*(St Amrose of Optina)*

# Hymns and Readings for Sunday, July 24

## **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** of 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 2 Troparion** (Sts Boris and Gleb)

Righteous passion-bearers and true fulfillers of  
the Gospel of Christ,  
chaste Boris and guileless Gleb,  
You did not resist the attacks of your brother,  
the enemy,  
when he killed your bodies but could not touch  
your souls.  
Therefore, let the evil lover of power mourn  
while you rejoice with the Angels standing  
before the Holy Trinity.  
Pray that those who honor your memory may be  
pleasing to God,//  
and that all Orthodox Christians may be saved!

## **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!”

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

## **Tone 3 Kontakion** (Sts Boris and Gleb)

Today your most glorious memory shines forth,  
noble participants in the passion of Christ, holy  
Boris and Gleb,  
for you call us together to sing praises to Christ  
our God.  
Praying to Him before your sacred images,//  
we receive the gift of healing by your prayers,  
for you are indeed divine healers.

*Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

## **Tone 6 Kontakion** of the 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 (Romans 12:6-14)

Having then gifts differing according to the  
grace that is given to us, let us use them: if  
prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our  
faith; or ministry, let us use it in our  
ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he  
who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with  
liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who  
shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is  
evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly  
affectionate to one another with brotherly love,  
in honor giving preference to one another; not  
lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving  
the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in  
tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer;  
distributing to the needs of the saints, given to  
hospitality.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not  
curse.

## **Gospel** of the Sunday (Matthew 9:1-8)

So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to  
His own city. Then behold, they brought to Him  
a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their  
faith, He said to the paralytic, “Son, be of good  
cheer; your sins are forgiven you.”

And at once some of the scribes said within  
themselves, “This Man blasphemeth!”

But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, “Why  
do you think evil in your hearts? For which is  
easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to  
say, ‘Arise and walk’? But that you may know  
that the Son of Man has power on earth to  
forgive sins”—then He said to the paralytic,  
“Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.”  
And he arose and departed to his house.

Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled  
and glorified God, who had given such power to  
men.

## **Communion Hymn**

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



# One Body, Many Members

Again he uses the same ensample as he does to  
the Corinthians, and that to allay the same  
passion. For great is the power of the medicine,  
and the force of this illustration for the  
correcting of this disease of haughtiness. Why  
(he means) do you think highly of yourself? Or  
why again does another utterly despise himself?  
Are we not all one body, both great and small?  
When then we are in the total number but one,  
and members one of another, why do you by  
your haughtiness separate yourself? Why do you  
put your brother to shame? For as he is a  
member of you, so are you also of him. And it is  
on this score that your claims to honor are so  
equal. For he has stated two things that might  
take down their haughty spirit: one that we are  
members one of another, not the small of the  
great only, but also the great of the small; and  
another, that we are all one body. Or rather  
there are three points, since he shows that the  
gift was one of grace. Therefore be not high-  
minded. For it was given you of God; thou did  
not take it, nor find it even. Hence too, when he  
touches upon the gifts, he does not say that one  
received more, and another less, but what?  
different. For his words are, having then gifts,  
not less and greater, but, differing. And what if  
you are not appointed to the same office, still  
the body is the same. And beginning with gifts,  
he ends with a good deed (4 manuscripts pl.);  
and so after mentioning prophecy, and ministry,  
and the like, he concludes with mercy, diligence,  
and succor. Since then it was likely that some  
would be virtuous, yet not have prophecy, he  
shows how that this too is a gift, and a much  
greater one than the other (as he shows in the  
Epistle to the Corinthians), and so much the  
greater, as that one has a reward, the other is  
devoid of a recompense. For the whole is matter  
of gift and grace. Wherefore he says, “Having  
then gifts differing according to the grace of God  
that is given unto us...”