



## 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, September 18

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Church School Following Divine Liturgy

Parish Council Meeting following Coffee Hour

Tuesday, September 20

9:00 am Daily Matins

9:30 am to 12:00 pm Office Hours

Thursday, September 22

9:00 am Daily Matins

9:30 am to 12:00 pm Office Hours

Saturday, September 24

4:00 pm Community Food Pantry

4:30 pm Confessions

5:00 pm Great Vespers/Cathedral Vigil

6:00 pm Social Night (all are welcome!)

Sunday, September 25

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 After the Elevation of the Cross

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA

OrthodoxPittsburgh.org September 18, 2022

## Announcements

➤ Next week the Parish Council will be sponsoring a Ministry Fair which will present the numerous things that happen to make our parish special. You have been hearing about the various ministries from representatives of the Parish Council. Next week you'll receive a bird's eye view of all the wonderful things that happen and \*can\* happen in our parish, but we need your God-given talents to grow our parish. Please consider carefully the needs and vision of our parish and how you can plan an important role in making it all happen!

➤ Slavic Food Fest Basket Raffle: Slavic Food Festival Basket update: Ideas are rolling in . . . we have several donators but we need one from "YOU"! Please see Suzy Polny or Lindy Hamilton with your ideas to be added to the list. Finished baskets and / or Gift Cards are due to the church next Sunday, September 25th! Volunteers for Festival Day ticket sales are needed for two hours each. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board downstairs. Together, we can make this a success! Thank you.

➤ Congratulations to our new Orthodox Christians today!

- Nathan Paul and James Donald Lewis (sons of Heidi and Patrick Lewis) through the sacrament of Baptism
- David "Lex" Kohn through the sacrament of Chrismation

May God grant them good health, peace, prosperity, and many blessed years!

## 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

➤ *(No Vigil Lights last week due to the Picnic.)*

## Thank You

➤ Thank you to our September donors: Alexandria Tirpak, all categories (Bulletin \$60, Holy Bread \$50, Altar Candles \$25. Communion Wine \$40, Incense \$10) for the health and salvation of her family and for the repose of the departed of her family.

Thank you to everyone who made last week's parish picnic a great success! We had great attendance any many visitors! Thank you especially to Clayton Harris, John Kowalcheck, Jeremiah Martin, all those who cooked and served, everyone who prepared and donated food and drink and to everyone else who worked to make it a fun day for everyone.

## Sunday, September 25, 2022

*Service 4:00 PM • Dinner 5:00 PM*

ST. NICHOLAS  
GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL  
419 South Dithridge St.  
Pittsburgh (Oakland) 15213

*Net proceeds will benefit IOCC's Ukraine Crisis Response*

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For information or questions, contact  
Zelfa at 412.417.4706 or zkhalil1@live.com

## Church School This Week

Today's Lesson: Pentecost, Philip, and the Eunuch

Questions to ask/review:

- Why is Pentecost the beginning of our Church history?
- How many repented, believed, and were baptized on Pentecost? (about 3000)
- What is the role of the Holy Spirit throughout Church history?
- How was the day of your baptism like your "personal Pentecost"?
- How did the Church receive the Holy Spirit? How did you at your Chrismation?
- When Philip met the Ethiopian Eunuch, what was he doing? Describe their conversation.
- What did the Ethiopian say before Philip would baptize him? (I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God)

Suggested Activities at home:

- Put the icon of Pentecost in your icon corner for prayers this week; point out each character, the flames, and the dove and discuss the meaning of each.
- Sit down with your child and look at pictures of his/her baptism and chrismation. -When your small child is bathing, let him/her feel the cleaning of the water and see the dirt washing away; compare this to the washing away of sin at baptism.
- Baptize and anoint a baby doll, discussing what is said and why.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, come and fill the Church and our hearts with Your love and wash us clean from every evil thought.

*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, September 18

## 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 1 Troparion (Feast)

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance! Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries; and by virtue of Thy Cross// preserve Thy habitation!

## 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.

*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 4 Kontakion (Feast)

As Thou wast voluntarily raised upon the Cross for our sake, grant mercy to those who are called by Thy Name, O Christ God; make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power, granting them victories over their adversaries// by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace!

## Tone 7 Prokeimenon (Feast)

Extol the Lord our God: / worship at His footstool for He is holy! (*Ps. 98:5*)

## Epistle of the Sunday After the Cross (Gal 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.

## Epistle of the Sunday (2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4)

Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

Moreover I call God as witness against my soul, that to spare you I came no more to Corinth. Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are fellow workers for your joy; for by faith you stand.

But I determined this within myself, that I would not come again to you in sorrow. For if I make you sorrowful, then who is he who makes me glad but the one who is made sorrowful by me?

And I wrote this very thing to you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow over those from whom I ought to have joy, having confidence in you all that my joy is the joy of you all. For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you.

## Gospel of the Sunday Before the Cross (Mk 8:34-9:1)

When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, “Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.”

And He said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power.”

## Gospel of the Sunday (Matthew 22:1-14)

And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: “The kingdom of heaven is

like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. Again, he sent out other servants, saying, “Tell those who are invited, “See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding.” ’ But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them. But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then he said to his servants, “The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.’ So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests.

“But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. So he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ “For many are called, but few are chosen.”

## Tone 8 Hymn to the Theotokos (Feast)

Magnify, O my soul, the most precious Cross of the Lord! You are a mystical Paradise, O Theotokos, who, though untilled, has brought forth Christ; through Him the life-bearing wood of the Cross was planted on earth. Now at its Exaltation, as we bow in worship before it, we magnify you.

## Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (*Ps. 148:1*) The light of Thy countenance has been signed upon us, O Lord. (*Ps. 4:7*) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!