



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, October 2

10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Church School Following Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, October 4

9:00 am Daily Matins
9:30 am to 12:00 pm Office Hours

Thursday, October 6

9:00 am Daily Matins
9:30 am to 12:00 pm Office Hours

Saturday, October 8

11:00 am to 7:00 pm Slavic Food Fest
5:00 pm Great Vespers with Cathedral Vigil

Sunday, October 9

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

Rdr James Wargo and Danielle Bartko, Choir Dirsc

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA
OrthodoxPittsburgh.org October 2, 2022

Announcements

➤ **Slavic Food Fest Basket Raffle:** Festival Basket update: THANK YOU! to everyone promising to contribute to our basket raffle! We have beautiful baskets and gift cards too. We asked and you answered! Your generosity will be a great success at the Festival. Come see the generous raffle choices. We'll see you on October 8th! Your committee: Lindy Hamilton and Suzy Polny

➤ Thank you to everyone who participated in the **St. Nicholas Ministry Fair**. We had over 40 people sign up on Sunday! If you were not with us or are still thinking about where you'd like to serve, it is not too late to offer your time and talents. To sign up, you can complete your paper copy wh andich will be available downstairs return it Kristie Mertz.

➤ Congratulations to Reader James Wargo and Danielle Bartko who have been appointed as our **new parish Choir Directors** beginning today. James and Danielle will share the all their duties including preparing the music for our Divine Services, directing the main services, conducting rehearsals, and recruiting new members. We're thankful for their talents and leadership and look forward to the fruits of their labors for years to come! May God richly bless them in their work.

➤ Today has been designated as **Church Musician Sunday** by the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in America. May God bless our singers, directors, bell ringers, readers, and all who serve the Church through their gift of music.

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 From **Mat. Nancy K. Mell & Gregory Mell** for the departed servant, for Dn. Joseph Mell; for the health of family. From **John & Olga** for health of Galina Vilko, and Vitalic. From **Doris M. Wasilko** for the health of the Wasilko family. From **Marsha Wasilko** for safe travel for niece, Christina; special thanks. From **Charles A. Wasilko** for sisters, Doris & Marsha. From **Richard & Sonia Blaha** for the departed servants, parents, Pete, Dorothy, and Betty, Uncle John, & Dr. Caesar; for the health of brother, Robert, family, friends, siblings, and serving soldiers; for the birthday of husband, Richard and friends, Diane, Michael, Nikki, and Dr. Bill. From **Alexandria Tirpak** for the departed servant, Aunt Francis; for the health of my family; speedy recovery for Mary Beth; special intentions. From **Cathy Namisnak** for the departed servant, Anna Namisnak-Memory Eternal; for the health of Mary Beth Madalinsky. From **Lindy Hamilton** for the health of Elaine Hamilton and Mary Beth Madalinsky. intentions. From the **John Mahalchak family** for the health of friends and family, John, Cheryl, Gregory, Cindy, Daniel, and Mary.

Thank You

➤ Thank you to our **October** donors: (Bulletin \$60) from **Alexandria Tirpak**, for the health of family and in memory of Amelia Kuck;(Holy Bread \$50) from **Robert Robes** for the health of Teresa on her birthday and their anniversary; (Altar Candles \$25) from **Donya Yewisiak** in memory of Matushka Olga Soroka; (Communion Wine \$40) from **the Robes Family** in memory of Thomas Robes Sr on his birthday; (Incense \$10) from **Fr Thomas and Matushka Joni** for the health of daughter, Melanie, on her 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.

Church School This Week

Today's Lesson: Conversion of Saul

Questions to ask/review:

- Who was Saul? What was Saul doing at the stoning of St. Stephen?
- Why was Saul traveling to Damascus?
- What happened to him on his trip? What did Christ say to him?
- How did Ananias meet Saul? What happened?
- Why does the Church use the name Paul? (this was his Greek name, which was used when he traveled)

Suggested Activities at home:

- Read the story of Saul in Acts 9.
- Play games or attempt to complete a maze with a blindfold.
- Discuss how the event of being blinded would change your life.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, grant me sight to see you in my life, that I may follow you always. Amen.

The coffee hour today Sunday is being sponsored by **The Saint Constantine School Launch Committee** to benefit the planned school. There is no charge to attend, but please consider bringing an offering to benefit this important project! All donations received will be subject to a dollar-for-dollar match by an anonymous donor so please give what you can. Information will also be available at the coffee hour for those who wish to donate online. For more information on the Pittsburgh branch campus, please contact Kate Skowron (katrina.skowron@gmail.com) or Mark Hamilton (mconradhamilton@gmail.com).

Hymns and Readings for Sunday, October 2

Tone 7 Troparion (Resurrection)

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death.
To the thief Thou didst open Paradise.
For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change
weeping into joy,
and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ
God,
to proclaim that Thou art risen,//
granting the world great mercy.

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 7 Kontakion (Resurrection)

The dominion of death can no longer hold men
captive,
for Christ descended, shattering and destroying
its powers.
Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and
cry:
“The Savior has come to those in faith;//
enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

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 7 Prokeimenon (Resurrection)

The Lord shall give strength to His people. / The
Lord shall bless His people with peace. (Ps.
28:11)

Epistle of the Sunday (2 Corinthians 6:1-10)

We then, as workers together with Him also
plead with you not to receive the grace of God in
vain. For He says:

“In an acceptable time I have heard you,
And in the day of salvation I have helped you.”

Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is
the day of salvation.

We give no offense in anything, that our
ministry may not be blamed. But in all things we
commend ourselves as ministers of God: in
much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in
distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in
tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings;
by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by
kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, by
the word of truth, by the power of God, by the
armor of righteousness on the right hand and on
the left, by honor and dishonor, by evil report
and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; as
unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and
behold we live; as chastened, and yet not killed;
as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet
making many rich; as having nothing, and yet
possessing all things.

Gospel of the Sunday (Luke 6:31-36)

And just as you want men to do to you, you also
do to them likewise.

“But if you love those who love you, what credit
is that to you? For even sinners love those who
love them. And if you do good to those who do
good to you, what credit is that to you? For even
sinners do the same. And if you lend to those
from whom you hope to receive back, what
credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to
sinners to receive as much back. But love your
enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing
in return; and your reward will be great, and
you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind
to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be
merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

Communion Hymn

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

Love Your Enemies

Now we have a natural law implanted in us, by
which we distinguish between what is virtue,
and what is vice. Hence it follows, And as you
would that men should do to you, do you also to
them. He does not say, Whatever you would not
that men should do to you, do not you. For since
there are two ways which lead to virtue, namely
abstaining from evil, and doing good, he names
one, signifying by it the other also. And if indeed
He had said, That you may be men, love the
beasts, the command would be a difficult one.
But if they are commanded to love men, which is
a natural admonition, wherein lies the difficulty,
since even the wolves and lions observe it,
whom a natural relation compels to love one
another. It is manifest then that Christ has
ordained nothing surpassing our nature, but
what He had long before implanted in our
conscience, so that your own will is the law to
you. And if you will have good done to you, you
must do good to others; if you will that another
should show mercy to you, you must show
mercy to your neighbor.

The Lord had said that we must love our
enemies, but that you might not think this an
exaggerated expression, regarding it solely as
spoken to alarm them, he adds the reason,
saying, For if you love them which love you,
what thank have you? There are indeed several
causes which produce love; but spiritual love
exceeds them all. For nothing earthly engenders
it, neither gain, nor kindness, nor nature, nor
time, but it descends from heaven. But why
wonder that it needs not kindness to excite it,
when it is not even overcome of malice? A father
indeed suffering wrong bursts the bands of love.
A wife after a quarrel leaves her husband A son,
if he sees his father come to a great age, is
troubled. But Paul went to those who stoned him
to do them good. Moses is stoned by the Jews,
and prays for them. Let us then reverence
spiritual love, for it is indissoluble. Reproving
therefore those who were inclined to wax cold,
he adds, For sinners even love those which love
them. As if he said, Because I wish you to
possess more than these, I do not advise you
only to love your friends, but also your enemies.
It is common to all to do good to those who do
good to them. But he shows that he seeks
something more than is the custom of sinners,
who do good to their friends. Hence it follows,
And if you do good to those who do good to you,
what thank have you?

Whereby you will confer more upon yourself
than him. For he is beloved by a fellow servant,
but you are made like to God. But it is a mark of
the greatest virtue when we embrace with
kindness those who wish to do us harm. Hence
it follows, And do good. For as water, when cast
upon a lighted furnace, extinguishes it, so also
reason joined with gentleness. But what water is
to fire, such is lowliness and meekness to wrath;
and as fire is not extinguished by fire, so neither
is anger soothed by anger. (Chrysostom)