



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 9

10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Church School Following Divine Liturgy
Trisagion in memory of Joseph and Anita Hrimnock

Tuesday, October 11

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

Wednesday, October 12

6:30 pm Daily Vespers
7:00 pm Bible Study

Thursday, October 13

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

Saturday, October 15

4:30 pm Confessions
5:00 pm Great Vespers with Cathedral Vigil

Sunday, October 16

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 Dirs

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA
OrthodoxPittsburgh.org October 9, 2022

Announcements

➤ **Slavic Food Fest:** Thank you to everyone who worked so diligently to make yesterday's Slavic Food Fest a great success! We had people from all over Pittsburgh visit our parish and the famous St Nicholas hospitality was on full display. We are grateful to everyone who prepared food, donated food, served, sold tickets, collected money, set up and cleaned, conducted church tours, and did so many little and big jobs to make the event run smoothly. We will publish a list of names of all those who worked so diligently next week.

➤ **There is Slavic Food Fest food available for purchase today after the Divine Liturgy.** Please help us complete the sale of the delicious food that was served to the public. Thank you!

➤ **Please note: There will be no services** from Wednesday, October 19 to Saturday, October 22. Fr Thomas will be meeting with the Metropolitan Council in Virginia as the head of the Departments of the Orthodox Church in America.

➤ Please remember to support the planned **Saint Constantine Orthodox School** with your financial gifts. For more information on the Pittsburgh branch campus, please contact Kate Skowron (katrina.skowron@gmail.com) or Mark Hamilton (mconradhamilton@gmail.com). Make your donations at saintconstantine.org/pittsburgh.



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 **Doris M. Wasilko** for the departed servants from the Wasilko & Dyczko families; for the health of the Wasilko family. From **Marsha Wasilko** Happy Birthday & Many Years to Doris and niece, Christina! From **Charles A. Wasilko** for the health of sister, Doris and niece, Christina on their birthdays. From **Richard & Sonia Blaha**. From **Nancy Shaytar** for the health of husband, George & family. From **Mat. Joni Soroka** for the departed servant, George Corey; for the health of family. From **Lindy Hamilton** for the health of Elaine Hamilton and Mary Beth Madalinsky; special intentions. From **Donya Yewisiak** for special intention.

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.

Church School This Week

Today's Lesson: Peter and Cornelius

Questions to ask/review:

- What is a "Jew"? What is a "Gentile"?
- What did Jews believe about themselves and their relationship with God?
- What did most Jews believe about Gentiles?
- How did Jesus treat Gentiles (consider the Samaritan women or the centurion)?
- Who was Cornelius? What did the angel tell him?
- What animals were considered clean or unclean?
- Describe Peter's vision. What was God teaching Peter?
- What happened when Peter met Cornelius? What surprised Peter? (the Holy Spirit came upon the Gentiles gathered there)

Suggested Activities at home:

- Read the story of Peter and Cornelius in Acts 10.
- Read Leviticus 11 together and pick which animals were clean/unclean.
- Discuss how Christ is the Savior of all people, regardless of background.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, help me to love all Your people just as You do. Amen.



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, October 9

Tone 8 Troparion (Resurrection)

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One!
Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

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 1 Troparion (St. Tikhon)

Chosen by God in a turbulent time,
thou hast glorified God in complete holiness,
and attained greatness through humility,
showing forth the power of God through
simplicity and piety.
Thou didst lay down thy life for the Church and her people,
O holy Confessor and Patriarch, Father Tikhon.
Pray to Christ God with Whom thou wast also crucified,
that He may save our souls!

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

Tone 8 Kontakion (Resurrection)

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam.
Eve exults in Thy Resurrection,//
and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

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 8 Prokeimenon (Resurrection)

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God! (Ps. 75:10a)

Epistle of the Sunday (2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1)

And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said:

“I will dwell in them
And walk among them.
I will be their God,
And they shall be My people.”

Therefore
“Come out from among them
And be separate, says the Lord.
Do not touch what is unclean,
And I will receive you.”
“I will be a Father to you,
And you shall be My sons and daughters,
Says the Lord Almighty.”

Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Gospel of the Sunday (Luke 7:11-16)

Now it happened, the day after, that He went into a city called Nain; and many of His disciples went with Him, and a large crowd. And when He

came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, “Do not weep.” Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, “Young man, I say to you, arise.” So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother.

Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, “A great prophet has risen up among us”; and, “God has visited His people.”

Communion Hymn

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

Portrait of St Tikhon

Patriarch Tikhon, like all holy people, was inwardly very free. He blessed and thus legitimized, as Patriarch and as a saint, frequent Communion of the Holy Mysteries of Christ. He called the people to this. This blessing has particular meaning to us.

He blessed people for the labor of confession and martyrdom. He showed by his own example how the Church can be victorious over the most terrifying, unbelievable evil.

He showed that the Church can be governed by holy bishops, even if it is deprived of administrative forms. And its life, though outwardly disastrous, is an extraordinary example of faith. The Church called forth these saints. In this sense, the communist persecution was the brightest page in the history of the Christian Church. When has such a host of saints made known? And the Patriarch was their

leader. The warriors of Christ walked under his omophorion. This was unique in history.

If you look at our history in the historical scope of the Universal Church, then we see before us a terrifying picture of a spiritual war, when persecutions are not happening in some distant province where an emperor comes and makes a local pogrom. No, a whole enormous country, the largest country in the world, was subject to persecutions. Throughout Russia the Church was declared illegal. And not just as a temporary measure, but with the intent of destroying the whole Church. The entire episcopate was suffering repression. Almost all the priests were either killed or imprisoned. Before the [Second World] war, in Russia only a few bishops and about 100 priests remained free.



But the Church proved that it is not an earthly organization that can be closed or destroyed. It is the Body of Christ. It showed that it is not bound by earthly forms. You can destroy all the Church’s earthly forms of its life, but it will not become any weaker from this. It answers deadly persecutions with the feat of confession and sanctity, and it is victorious.

If you imagine a painting, you would have a battle between good and evil, the righteous and the sinners, and in this picture, at the head of the army and among the warriors, following after Christ and the angelic powers, goes Patriarch Tikhon leading the army. The Gospel shows us a spirit of victorious opposition on the way of the cross. These were Christians who took up their cross and followed after Christ. There were hundreds of thousands of them. Patriarch Tikhon is a symbol of the era, and an image of ascetic labor in the Church.