



## 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, August 27

10:00 am Divine Liturgy/Community Day

### Tuesday, August 29: Beheading of St John

9:00 am Daily Matins

9:30 am to 12:00 pm Office Hours

### Thursday, August 31

9:00 am Daily Matins

9:30 am to 12:00 pm Office Hours

### Saturday, September 2

4:30 pm Confessions

5:00 pm Great Vespers/Cathedral Vigil

### Sunday, September 3 (At Clever Park)

10:30 am Divine Liturgy/Church Picnic



**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

## Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA

OrthodoxPittsburgh.org

August 27, 2023

## Announcements

➤ Our **annual Community Day** will be held after the Divine Liturgy. Coffee hour will be outside, weather permitting. We use this yearly opportunity to meet our neighbors and get them to know our church community a bit better. Please greet those who you don't know and show them warm hospitality!

➤ Our **annual Church Picnic** is next Sunday, September 3 at Clever Park in Robinson Township. The Divine Liturgy will be held at the park in the large pavilion beginning at **10:30 am** (please note time change). There is no charge for the picnic but donations are gratefully accepted. We are asking those who can to bring a side dish. Also, the pool is open from noon to 6:00 pm, but we would like to have an idea of which children and adults might want to swim so that we can purchase pool passes. More info via email this week.

➤ Our **annual Slavic Food Fest** will be held on Saturday, October 14 from 11 am to 7 pm. We will begin preparation in preparing the food (especially pierogi and halupki) in the next few weeks. A schedule will be released later this week. We need your help and participation to make this another great success!

➤ We offer our deepest condolences to **Chris Rune** on the passing away of **his father, Mark**. May God grant him peaceful rest and the Rune family grace and comfort.

## Prayers

➤ **Ill and infirm:** Known to be hospitalized;; Home: John Mahalchak (son). Shut in, Rehabilitation, or Nursing Home: Eleanor Kovacs, Natalie Popovich, Rick Porter (Bethel Park Genesis), Michael Soroka.

➤ **Vigil Lights** From **Mat. Nancy K. Mell & Gregory Mell** for the departed servant, Dn. Joseph Mell; for the health of family. From **Richard & Sonia Blaha** for the departed servants, parents, Robert, Blase, Rutha Ann, Uncle Mike, Kum Nick, and newly departed; for the health of family, friends, siblings, and serving soldiers, Dad Leo & Uncle Jack on their birthdays; for special intention, peace, anniversaries, and birthdays. From **Charles A. Wasilko** for the health of sisters, Doris & Marsha. From **Nancy Shaytar and George M. Shaytar** for the departed servant, George Shaytar. From **Susie Porter** for the health of Richard for healing and recovery. From **John & Olga** for the health of Galina Vilko. From **Alexandria Tirpak** for the health of David, Nicholas, and Andrea; for special intentions. From **Mat. Joni Soroka** for the health of students and teachers this school year. From **Doris Wasilko** for the health of the Wasilko family. From **Dawna Beckett** for the health of mother, Pearl Petkash, sons, Christopher Beckett and Michael Beckett on his 26th birthday. From **Albena Ivanova** for the health of family.

## Thank You

➤ to our **August donors:** from Sandi Tirpak (Holy Bread \$50) in memory of Amelia Hanich; from Donya Yewisiak (Communion Wine \$40, and Incense \$10) in memory of her father, Archpriest Vladimir Soroka.

**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.**

## Sayings of Abba Pimen

12. A brother questioned Abba Pimen saying, 'I have committed a great sin and I want to do penance for three years.' The old man said to him, 'That is a lot.' The brother said, 'For one year?' The old man said again, 'That is a lot.' Those who were present said, 'For forty days?' He said again, 'That is a lot.' He added, 'I myself say that if a man repents with his whole heart and does not intend to commit the sin any more, God will accept him after only three days.'

21. Abba Joseph put the same question [about impure thoughts] and Abba Pimen said to him, 'If someone shuts a snake and a scorpion up in a bottle, in time they will be completely destroyed. So it is with evil thoughts: they are suggested by the demons; they disappear through patience.'

29. Abba Pimen said, 'If three men meet, of whom the first fully preserves interior peace, and the second gives thanks to God in illness, and the third serves with a pure mind, these three are doing the same work.'

36. He also said, 'To throw yourself before God, not to measure your progress, to leave behind all self-will; these are the instruments for the work of the soul.'



# Hymns and Readings for Sunday, August 27

## **Tone 3 Troparion** (Resurrection)

Let the heavens rejoice!

Let the earth be glad!

For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.

He has trampled down death by death.

He has become the first born of the dead.

He has delivered us from the depths of hell,

and has granted to the world//

great mercy.

## **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 8 Troparion** (St. Pimen)

By a flood of tears thou didst make the desert fertile,

and thy longing for God brought forth fruits in abundance.

By the radiance of miracles thou didst illumine the whole universe//

Our holy Father Pimen, pray to Christ our God to save our souls!

## **Tone 3 Kontakion** (Resurrection)

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One,

leading us from the gates of death.

On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices;

with the Prophets and Patriarchs//

thy unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

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

## **Tone 4 Kontakion** (St. Pimen)

The remembrance of thine illustrious struggles

delights the souls of the devout today,//

O Pimen, our venerable father, wise in God.

*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 3 Prokeimenon** (Resurrection)

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing

praises to our King, sing praises! (Ps. 46:6)

## **Epistle** of the Sunday (1 Corinthians 15:1-11)

Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel

which I preached to you, which also you

received and in which you stand, by which also

you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I

preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

For I delivered to you first of all that which I

also received: that Christ died for our sins

according to the Scriptures, and that He was

buried, and that He rose again the third day

according to the Scriptures, and that He was

seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. After that

He was seen by over five hundred brethren at

once, of whom the greater part remain to the

present, but some have fallen asleep. After that

He was seen by James, then by all the apostles.

Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by

one born out of due time.

For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. Therefore, whether it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

## **Gospel** of the Sunday (Matthew 19:16-26)

Now behold, one came and said to Him, “Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?”

So He said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.”

He said to Him, “Which ones?”

Jesus said, “‘You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ ‘You shall not steal,’ ‘You shall not bear false witness,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother,’ and, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ”

The young man said to Him, “All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?”

Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

Then Jesus said to His disciples, “Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”

When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?”

But Jesus looked at them and said to them, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

## **Communion Hymn**

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

# Plan Your Giving

As we approach the season where we consider our stewardship to our parish, take some time to figure out what percentage of your total income goes to the church and other charitable causes.

**Stewardship is planned giving** and does not leave giving to chance. It challenges us to plan. It asks us to appraise – deliberately – what we are doing with our time, our talent and our treasure.

Stewardship is not job-oriented or project minded. It is a way of life for a lifetime.

Christian Stewardship takes a positive view on money. It sees money not only as a medium of exchange, but as a symbol of the person who has it. The way we acquire it, use it, and share it, we are reveal who we really are in those actions.

Christian Stewardship trains us to become aware that God is the ultimate giver of the gifts we have. **What we give to God should be “from the top” – not from what may be left over. We are called to offer our “first fruits” as the most pleasing sacrifice to God.**

“Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.” (1 Cor 4:2)