



## Welcome!

Whether you're searching for a new church home or just visiting, we're 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. Please join us downstairs following the Divine Liturgy. We want to get to know you! God bless you!

## This Week

- Sunday, June 2**  
10:00 am Divine Liturgy
- Tuesday, June 4**  
9:00 am Daily Matins  
9:30 am to Noon Office Hours
- Thursday, June 6**  
9:00 am Daily Matins  
9:30 am to Noon Office Hours
- Saturday, June 8**  
5:00 pm Great Vespers with Cathedral Vigil
- Sunday, June 9**  
10:00 am Divine Liturgy



Christ is risen! Indeed, He is risen!  
Christos voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese! (Russian)  
Christos anesti! Alithos anesti! (Greek)

Archpriest Thomas Soroka, *Rector*  
Deacon Luke Loboda, *Attached*  
Deacon John Skowron, *Attached*  
*Rdr James Wargo and Danielle Bartko, Choir Dirs*

### Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA  
OrthodoxPittsburgh.org  
June 2, 2024

## Announcements

➤ His Eminence **Archbishop Melchisedek** will make an archpastoral visit to our parish next Sunday, June 9. Please make every effort to be in attendance on that day.

➤ We invite everyone to consider a donation to our **Dome Restoration Fund**. We must raise at least \$150,000 by November. Please consider helping us!

➤ **McKees Rocks Bridge Alert!** The Helen Street exits on the McKees Rocks Bridge **eastbound side** (the direction from McKees Rocks/Rt 51 to Pittsburgh/Ohio River Blvd) are scheduled to close beginning on Monday morning, May 20 for rebuilding through the end of July. This will affect anyone who is driving to Church from the Route 51 side of the Bridge. The alternate entrance into the Bottoms of McKees Rocks is River Road. This does not affect the Westbound side of the Bridge. For more information, see the PennDot website.

➤ Magnificent coverage of the official visit of His **Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon, Archbishop of Washington and Metropolitan of All American and Canada** to the **Ukrainian Orthodox Church** under Metropolitan Onuphry can be found at church.ua and facebook.com/Church.ua. The significance of this official visit cannot be understated. Our autocephalous (self-governing) Orthodox Church in America stands in support of the suffering Ukrainian Orthodox Church as the only canonical church in Ukraine. We seek peace and pray for an end to all hostilities.

## Prayers

➤ **Ill and infirm:** *Known to be hospitalized (none); Home: John Mahalchak (son). William Warnak, Nancy Shaytar, Donya Yewisiak. Shut in, Rehabilitation, or Nursing Home: Natalie Popovich, Michael Soroka.*

➤ **Vigil Lights** From **Mat. Nancy K. Mell & Gregory Mell** for the departed servant, Dn. Joseph Mell; for the health of family. From **Doris Wasilko** for the departed servants, mother, Mary and all our deceased Veterans. From **Charles A. Wasilko** for the departed servant, mother, Mary. From **Marsha Wasilko** for the departed servant, mother, Mary (5-26-69); In honor of U.S. Armed Forces...past, present, & future. From **Lindy Hamilton** for the health of Elizabeth Marie Hamilton, Elaine Hamilton, and Phoebe Lewis on her baptism. From **Alexandria Tirpak** for the departed servants, cousin, John Gush), uncle, Stephen Velgos; memory eternal for the newly departed Eleanor; for the health of my family; special intentions. From **John Mahalchak family** for the health of friends & family, John, Cheryl, Gregory, Cindy, Kayla Elizabeth, Sarah, Ivy, Scarlet, and Margaret. From **John & Olga** for the departed servant, Mary Belovsky-Memory Eternal; for the health of Galina Vilkova. From **Richard & Sonia Blaha** for the departed servants, newly departed, Leo Blaha, parents, Pete & Dorothy, Frank, Irene, Raymond, Betty, Uncle George, and Chris Kia; for the health of family and friends, siblings, serving soldiers; for birthdays, anniversaries, peace, and special intention.

## Thank You

➤ to our **June** donors the **Mertz family** (\$25 Altar Candles) for the health of Oliver on his birthday; the **John Mahalchak family** (\$10 Incense) for the health of family and friends and in memory of departed loved ones.

*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.*

## The Life of St Photini

Nero ordered that her children, Saints Sebastian, Photinos and Iosés be blinded and locked up in prison, and Saint Photini and her five sisters Anatolé, Photó, Photida, Paraskevé and Kyriaké were sent to the imperial court under the supervision of Nero's daughter Domnina. Saint Photiné converted both Domnina and all her servants to Christ. She also converted a sorcerer, who had brought her poisoned food.

Nero then commanded the Saints to be crucified, and their naked bodies to be beaten with straps. On the fourth day the Emperor sent servants to see whether the martyrs were still alive. But, approaching the place of the tortures, the servants became blind. An Angel of the Lord freed the martyrs from their crosses and healed them. The Saints took pity on the blinded servants, and restored their sight by their prayers to the Lord. Those who were healed came to believe in Christ and were soon baptized.

Enraged, Nero ordered that the skin to be flayed from from Saint Photini's body, and then to throw her into a well. Sebastian, Photinos and Iosés had their legs amputated, and they were thrown to dogs. Then their was skin flayed off. Saint Photini's sisters also suffered terrible torments. Nero ordered soldiers to cut off their breasts, and then to flay their skin. An expert in cruelty, the Emperor prepared the most painful execution for Saint Photida. Her feet were tied to the tops of two trees which had been bent to the ground. When the ropes were cut the trees sprang upright, tearing the martyr apart. The Emperor ordered the others beheaded. Saint Photini was removed from the well and locked up in prison for twenty days.

After this Nero had her brought to him and asked if she would now relent and offer sacrifice to the idols. The courageous Photini spat in the Emperor's face. Mocking him she said, "O most impious of the blind, you profligate and stupid man! Do you think me so deluded that I would consent to renounce my Lord Christ and instead offer sacrifice to idols which are as blind as you are?"

After hearing such words, Nero ordered that the martyr be thrown into the well again. There she surrendered her soul to God (+ ca. 66).

# Hymns and Readings for Sunday, June 2

## **Tone 4 Troparion** (Resurrection)

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: “Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, // granting the world great mercy!”

## **Tone 8 Troparion** (Midfeast)

In the middle of the feast, O Savior, fill my thirsting soul with the waters of piety, as Thou didst cry to all: “If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink!” // O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to Thee!

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

## **Tone 8 Kontakion** (Pentecostarion)

The Samaritan Woman came to the well in faith; she saw Thee, the Water of wisdom and drank abundantly. // She inherited the Kingdom on high, and is ever glorified!

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

## **Tone 4 Kontakion** (Midfeast)

Christ God, the Creator and Master of all, cried to all in the midst of the feast of the Law: “Come and draw the water of immortality!” We fall before Thee and faithfully cry: // “Grant us Thy mercies, for Thou art the Fountain of our life!”

## **Tone 3 Prokeimenon** (Pentecostarion)

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

## **Epistle of the Sunday** (Acts 11:19-26, 29-30)

Now those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but the Jews only. But some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord

Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord.

Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord.

Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul. And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.

Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea. This they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

## **Gospel of the Sunday** (John 4:5-42)

So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob’s well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour.

A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give Me a drink.” For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.

Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, “How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?” For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.

Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.”

The woman said to Him, “Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father

Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?”

Jesus answered and said to her, “Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.”

The woman said to Him, “Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw.”

Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.”

The woman answered and said, “I have no husband.”

Jesus said to her, “You have well said, ‘I have no husband,’ for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly.”

The woman said to Him, “Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.”

Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

The woman said to Him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When He comes, He will tell us all things.”

Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am He.” And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, “What do You seek?” or, “Why are You talking with her?”

The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, “Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the

Christ?” Then they went out of the city and came to Him.

In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, “Rabbi, eat.” But He said to them, “I have food to eat of which you do not know.” Therefore the disciples said to one another, “Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?”

Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, ‘There are still four months and then comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this the saying is true: ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors.”

And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, “He told me all that I ever did.” So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His own word.

Then they said to the woman, “Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world.”

## **Hymn to the Theotokos of the Feast**

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace: “Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: ‘Rejoice, your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb! With Himself He has raised all the dead.’” Rejoice, O ye people! Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on you. Exult now, and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O pure Theotokos, in the Resurrection of your Son!

## **Communion Hymn of the Sunday**

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality! Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (Ps. 148:1) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!