



## 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, July 7

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

### Monday through Thursday, July 8-11

10:00 am – 1:00 pm Vacation Church School

### Tuesday, July 9

No Services or office hours

### Thursday, July 11

No services or office hours

### Saturday, July 13

5:00 pm Parish Vigil

### Sunday, July 14

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

*\*Please note that in the month of July, some daily services, regular classes and activities, and office hours will be curtailed. Check the online calendar on the website for the latest schedule.*

**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*

### Sunday of All Saints of North America

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA

OrthodoxPittsburgh.org

July 7, 2024

## Announcements

➤ **Vacation Church School** 2024 is this week. Thank you to Matushka Joni Soroka and Rachel Hauenschild who will be assisted by many parents and volunteers during this week's Vacation Church School from 10 am to 1 pm on Monday through Thursday.

➤ **The Archdiocese will sponsor** a retreat featuring noted Orthodox speaker and author Frederica Mathewes-Green. This will take place at St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral (Allison Park) on Saturday, September 7. More info to come soon.

➤ 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!

Please consider helping **The Saint Constantine School Pittsburgh by participating in the EITC (Educational Improvement Tax Credits) program**. Any individual or any corporation who pays PA income tax is eligible. However, there are a finite number of credits available through this program which benefits tuition-based PreK through 12 schools in Pennsylvania. Donors will receive a 90% state tax credit for their donation. A donation of \$10,000 will result in a \$9,000 state tax credit. The 10% that cannot be used as a state credit can be used as a charitable donation deduction on the donors federal tax return. See Jesse Cone for details. Time is of the essence.

## 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 and Natalie Tooch. From **Doris Wasilko** for the departed servants, Carol Daniels and Eleanor Kovacs. From **Charles A. Wasilko** for the departed servant, Godmother, Carolyn Daniels. From **Marsha Wasilko** for the departed servant, Carolyn Daniels. From **John & Olga** for the departed servant, Joshua Olaf; for the health of Galina Vilkova; for the strength and comfort for Joshua's wife, Crysta Catherine, their three children and unborn child. From **Deb Burgess** for the health of Elizabeth Lewis on her 1<sup>st</sup> birthday. From **Katarina Mertz** for the health of Elizabeth, Brian, and their baby girl. From **M/M Richard Blaha**

## Thank You

➤ to our **July** donors, the **Robes family** (all categories) in loving memory of Thomas V Robes, Sr.



**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.**

## American Saints

On the second Sunday after Pentecost, each local Orthodox Church commemorates all the saints, known and unknown, who have shone forth in its territory. Accordingly, the Orthodox Church in America remembers the saints of North America on this day.

Saints of all times, and in every country are seen as the fulfillment of God's promise to redeem fallen humanity. Their example encourages us to "lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily besets us" and to "run with patience the race that is set before us" (Hebrews 12:1). The saints of North America also teach us how we should live, and what we must expect to endure as Christians

Although it is a relatively young church, the Orthodox Church in America has produced saints in nearly all of the six major categories of saints: Apostles (and Equals of the Apostles); Martyrs (and Confessors); Prophets; Hierarchs; Monastic Saints; and the Righteous. Prophets, of course, lived in Old Testament times and predicted the coming of Christ.

The first Divine Liturgy in what is now American territory (northern latitude 58 degrees, 14 minutes, western longitude 141 degrees) was celebrated on July 20, 1741, the Feast of the Prophet Elias, aboard the ship Peter under the command of Vitus Bering. Hieromonk Hilarion Trusov and the priest Ignatius Kozirevsky served together on that occasion. Several years later, the Russian merchant Gregory I. Shelikov visited Valaam monastery, suggesting to the abbot that it would be desirable to send missionaries to Russian America. ([orthodoxtacoma.com](http://orthodoxtacoma.com))

# Hymns and Readings for Sunday, July 7

## **Tone 1 Troparion** (Resurrection)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: “Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom!// Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!”

## **Tone 8 Troparion** (All Saints of America)

As the bountiful harvest of Thy sowing of salvation, the lands of North America offer to Thee, O Lord, all the saints who have shone in them. By their prayers keep the Church and our land in abiding peace// through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One!

## **Tone 1 Kontakion** (Resurrection)

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Thyself. Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished. Adam exults, O Master! Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee:// “Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

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

## **Tone 3 Kontakion** (All Saints of America)

Today the choir of Saints who were pleasing to God in the lands of North America now stands before us in the Church and invisibly prays to God for us. With them the Angels glorify Him, and all the Saints of the Church of Christ keep festival with them;// and together they all pray for us to the Pre-eternal God.

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

## **Tone 6 Kontakion** (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 1 Prokeimenon** (Resurrection)

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee! (Ps. 32:22)

## **Tone 7 Prokeimenon** (All Saints of America)

Precious in the sight of the Lord / is the death of His saints. (Ps. 115:6)

## **Epistle** of the Sunday (Rom 2:10-16)

...but glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God.

For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law (for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified; for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them) in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

## **Epistle** of the American Saints (Heb 11:33-12:2)

... who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the

mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again.

Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.

And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

## **Epistle** of the Sunday (Mt 4:18-23)

And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom,

and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.

## **Gospel** of the American Saints (Mt 4:25-5:12)

Great multitudes followed Him—from Galilee, and from Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan.

And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

## **Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (Ps 148:1) Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! (Ps. 32:1) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

