



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 use the QR Code as your offering today. Please join us downstairs following the service. We want to get to know you! God bless you!

This Week

Sunday, August 11

10:00 am Typika (no communion)

Tuesday, August 13

No Services or Office Hours

Thursday, August 15: Dormition of the Theotokos

9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy

10:30 am to 12:00 pm Office Hours

Saturday, August 17

5:00 pm Parish Vigil

Sunday, August 18

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Although all suffering is a tragedy which God never desired, a horrific manifestation of the fallenness of the world which we have disfigured through our sins, nevertheless this is not the end of the story. Because Christ our God has come to this earth, taken on flesh, and by enduring the Cross and rising again from the dead He has filled all things – even suffering, even death – with Himself.

Perhaps we do not understand why it must be this way. Perhaps we ask ourselves why God could not choose some other way to save us, some other way to heal us. Well, St. Isaac the Syrian gives us a clear and simple answer: *God could have chosen some other way to save us. But He chose the way of the Cross precisely because no other way could so perfectly reveal to us the greatness of His love.* As our Lord Himself said: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13).

Archpriest Thomas Soroka, *Rector*

Deacon Luke Loboda, *Attached*

Deacon John Skowron, *Attached*

Rdr James Wargo and Danielle Bartko, Choir Dirs

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA

OrthodoxPittsburgh.org

August 11, 2024

Announcements

➤ We are grateful to **Deacon Luke Loboda and Deacon John Skowron** for leading our worship today in the **Typika** (Typical Psalms) **service**. The Typika service is prayed in absence of the Divine Liturgy and can be prayed by any lay person. Please participate in the service using the printed order. Though we were unable to secure the presence of an Orthodox priest today, we still honor the Lord's Day and gather together to worship God, regardless of our ability to offer the Divine Liturgy and receive communion. God is worthy of our worship and thankful offering of psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs.

➤ We will serve the **Festal Divine Liturgy for the Great Feast of the Dormition** (Falling Asleep) of the Theotokos on Thursday, August 15 at 9:30 am. The faithful may **bring flowers and herbs to be blessed** on that day. *(No Vigil will be served on Wednesday evening.)*

➤ **Fr Thomas** is on a short vacation through Wednesday. If there are any emergencies, please text him at 412-206-5012.

Prayers

➤ **Ill and infirm:** *Known to be hospitalized (none); Home:* John Mahalchak (son). William Warnak, Nancy Shaytar, Natalie Toooh. *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 health of Cynthia & Gary Bottomly, and the Wasilko family. From **Charles A. Wasilko** for the health of sisters, Doris & Marsha, and cousin, Cynthia. From **Marsha Wasilko** for special thanks. From **M/M Richard Blaha** for the newly departed, Mat. Annice, Thomas, Kera and Daria; for the departed, parents, Leo & Betty, Pete & Dorothy, brother, Robert, Laura, and Mary; for the health of family, friends, siblings, and serving soldiers for their birthdays, anniversaries, special intention, and peace. From **John & Olga** for the departed servant, John Belovsky; for the health of Galina Vilko. From **Alexandria Tirpak** for the departed servants, Fr. Joseph Nakajima, Fr. Vladimir, Mat. Olga, Daniel, Stephen, and Julia; for the health of Elaine and my family; special intentions. From **John Mahalchak family** for the health of friends & family, John, Cheryl, Daniel, Mary, Gregory, Cindy, Kayla Elizabeth, and Margaret. From **the Pravlochaks** for the departed servant, Regis Hogan; for the health of brother, David Herko, Marilyn Maiello, and family.

Thank You

➤ to our **August donors:** **Mertz Family** (\$25 Altar Candles) for the health of Christoph on his birthday. **Fr Thomas and Mat Joni Soroka** (\$10 Incense) for the health of daughter, Natalie, on her birthday. **Donya Yewisiak** (\$50 Holy Bread) in memory of (father) Fr Vladimir Soroka.

Today's Readings

Epistle of the Sunday (Romans 15:1-7)

We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification. For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached You fell on Me." For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God.

Gospel of the Sunday (Matthew 9:27-35)

When Jesus departed from there, two blind men followed Him, crying out and saying, "Son of David, have mercy on us!"

And when He had come into the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord."

Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith let it be to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them, saying, "See that no one knows it." But when they had departed, they spread the news about Him in all that country.

As they went out, behold, they brought to Him a man, mute and demon-possessed. And when the demon was cast out, the mute spoke. And the multitudes marveled, saying, "It was never seen like this in Israel!" But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the ruler of the demons."

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

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.