



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, September 1

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, September 3

9:00 am Daily Matins

9:30 am to 12:00 pm Office Hours

Wednesday, September 4

6:30 pm Vespers

7:00 pm Bible Study (*instead of Sept 11*)

Thursday, September 5

9:00 am Daily Matins

9:30 am to 12:00 pm Office Hours

7:00 pm Men's Night

Saturday, September 7

4:30 pm Confessions

5:00 pm Festal Vigil

Sunday, September 8: Nativity of the Theotokos

10:00 am Festal 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

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA

OrthodoxPittsburgh.org

September 1, 2024

Announcements

➤ All the men of our parish are invited to join in **Men's Night** this Thursday in the main room of the Educational Building. Bring some snacks to share!

➤ **Church School will begin on Sunday, September 8.** Our excellent Church School offers meaningful education to students from PreK to Grade 12. Please submit the names and grades of your students to Matushka Joni Soroka (jonisoroka@yahoo.com) TODAY. Additionally, we are seeking additional teachers for our growing number of students.

➤ Anyone adults that might be interested in a **short term bowling league** (approx 15 weeks), feel free to contact Fr Thomas. Days we're considering are Friday, Sunday or Monday evening, or Saturday morning or early afternoon. Location isn't decided, but would likely be either at Bowlero on Noblestown Rd or AMF in the South Hills.

➤ Our annual **Church Picnic will be held on Sunday, September 22** at Clever Park in Robinson Township. Liturgy begins at 10:30 am at the park.

➤ Our **Slavic Food Fest** is scheduled for **Saturday, October 11.**

➤ Last year, the parishioners extended a hand of financial support to Alex **Listvinsky for his studies at St Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary** in the three-year Master of Divinity program. We ask that you once again **consider making an offering to help defray the costs of his education** and make an investment in the future of Orthodox clergy in America. Please earmark your gift as "Seminary." Thank you and may God bless you!

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 the Wasilko family. From **Charles A. Wasilko** for the health of sisters, Doris & Marsha, and cousin, Cynthia. From **Dawna Beckett** for the health of Michael Beckett on his 27th birthday! From **M/M Richard Blaha** for the newly departed, Leo, Shirley, and Kera; for the departed, parents and grandmother, Alma, Aunt Martha, and Kum Nick; for the health of family, friends, siblings, and serving soldiers for their birthdays, anniversaries, special intention, and peace. From **John & Olga** for the health of Galina Vilkova and for the health and salvation of our families. From **John Mahalchak family** for the health of friends & family, John, Cheryl, Daniel, Mary, Gregory, Cindy, Kayla Elizabeth, and Margaret. From **Alexandria Tirpak** for the departed servants, memory eternal- my mother Amelia (8/26/54) and newly departed, Diane (Hanich); for the health of Andrea and Nicholas, and their families; God Bless America; special intentions.

Thank You

➤ to our **September donors: Mertz family** (Altar Candles \$25) for the health and salvation of Annaliese on the occasion of her birthday. **John Mahalchak Family** (Incense \$10) for the health of family and friends and in memory of departed family and friends.

The Year of the Lord

These words having been read to the assembled people, all eyes focused on Jesus, wondering perhaps how he could read without having been taught. The Israelites used to say that the prophecies concerning Christ were fulfilled, either in the persons of some of their more glorious kings or at least in the holy prophets. They did not correctly understand what was written about him, so they missed the true direction and traveled down another path. He carefully guards against error by saying, "This day is this prophecy fulfilled in your ears," that they might not again misinterpret the present prophecy. He expressly set himself before them in these words, as the person spoken of in the prophecy. It was he who preached the kingdom of heaven to the heathen. They were poor, having nothing—not God, not law, not prophets. Rather, he preached it to all who were without spiritual riches. He set the captives free; having overthrown the apostate tyrant Satan, he shed the divine and spiritual light on those whose heart was darkened. This is why he said, "I come as a light in this world." It was he who took the chains of sin off of those whose heart was crushed by them. He clearly showed that there is a life to come, and sinners denounced in just judgment.

What does preaching the acceptable year of the Lord mean? It signifies the joyful tidings of his own advent, that the time of the Lord—yes, the Son—had arrived. For that was the acceptable year in which Christ was crucified on our behalf, because we then were made acceptable to God the Father as the fruit borne by him. That is why the Lord said, "When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men to myself."

St Cyril of Alexandria

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, September 1

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 2 Troparion (Church New Year)

O Creator of the Universe, Thou didst appoint times by Thine own power; bless the crown of this year with Thy goodness, O Lord!
Preserve in safety Thy rulers and Thy cities:// and through the intercessions of the Theotokos, save us!

Tone 1 Troparion (St. Simeon)

Thou wast a pillar of patient endurance, having imitated the Forefathers, O Venerable One:
Job in suffering and Joseph in temptations. Thou didst live like the bodiless ones while yet in the flesh, O Simeon, our Father.//
Beseech Christ God that our souls may be saved!

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!”

Tone 2 Kontakion (St. Simeon)

Seeking the things of the Highest, and having made a fiery chariot, thou wast joined to the heights.
Therefore, thou hast become a companion to the angels, O venerable Simeon,// and with them thou art praying incessantly to Christ God for us all.

Tone 4 Kontakion (Church New Year)

O Creator and Master of time and the ages, Triune and Merciful God of all:
grant blessings for the course of this year, and in Thy boundless mercy save those who worship Thee and cry out in fear://
“O Savior, grant blessings to all mankind!”

Tone 3 Prokeimenon (Church New Year)

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power, / His understanding is beyond measure. (*Ps. 146:5*)

Tone 7 Prokeimenon (St. Simeon)

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

Epistle 1 Timothy 2:1-7 (Church New Year)

Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time, for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle—I am speaking the truth in Christ and not lying—a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Epistle 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 (Sunday)

For I think that God has displayed us, the apostles, last, as men condemned to death; for we have been made a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ’s sake, but you are wise in Christ! We are weak, but you are strong! You are distinguished, but we are dishonored! To the present hour we both hunger and thirst, and we are poorly clothed, and beaten, and homeless. And we labor, working with our own hands. Being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we endure; being defamed, we entreat. We have been made as the filth of the world, the offscouring of all things until now.

I do not write these things to shame you, but as my beloved children I warn you. For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel. Therefore I urge you, imitate me.

Gospel Luke 4:16-22 (Church New Year)

So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me,
Because He has anointed Me
To preach the gospel to the poor;
He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives
And recovery of sight to the blind,
To set at liberty those who are oppressed;
To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.”

Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” So all bore witness

to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth. And they said, “Is this not Joseph’s son?”

Gospel Matthew 17:14-23 (Sunday)

And when they had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying, “Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water. So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him.”

Then Jesus answered and said, “O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me.” And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour.

Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “Why could we not cast it out?”

So Jesus said to them, “Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.”

Now while they were staying in Galilee, Jesus said to them, “The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and the third day He will be raised up.” And they were exceedingly sorrowful.

Communion Hymn

Thou shalt bless the crown of the year with Thy goodness, O Lord! (*Ps. 64:12a*) The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance! He shall not fear evil tidings! (*Ps. 111:6*) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!