



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, October 20**

10:00 am Divine Liturgy / Church School

**Tuesday, October 22**

9:00 am Daily Matins

9:30 am to 12:00 pm Office Hours

**Wednesday, October 23**

6:30 pm Daily Vespers

7:00 pm Bible Study

**Thursday, October 24**

9:00 am Daily Matins

9:30 am to 12:00 pm Office Hours

**Saturday, October 26**

9:30 am Men to Help at Archdiocesan Chancery

....4:00 pm Community Food Pantry

4:30 pm Confessions

5:00 pm Great Vespers

6:00 pm Social Hour

**Sunday, October 27**

10:00 am Divine Liturgy / Church School

**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

### Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA

OrthodoxPittsburgh.org

October 20, 2024

## Announcements

➤ **Calling all men!** The Archdiocese of Pittsburgh is asking for our assistance this coming **Saturday morning, October 26** at the property in Cranberry Township beginning at **9:30 am**. We will be moving a large mosaic of the Theotokos and mounting it under a porch of the chancery building. Please contact Fr Thomas if you can give a few hours of work to help. Thank you in advance!

A gala benefitting  
The Saint Constantine School  
of Pittsburgh

MIRACLES  
OF THE HARVEST

November 16, 2024  
6:00pm - 8:30pm

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox  
Cathedral  
419 South Dithridge St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Purchase tickets at [tinyurl.com/mvsvra42](http://tinyurl.com/mvsvra42)

## Prayers

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

➤ **Vigil Lights** from From **Mat. Nancy K. Mell & Gregory Mell** for the departed servant, Dn. Joseph Mell, and recently departed, Thomas Kindling; for the health of family. From **Doris Wasilko** for the health of brother, Chuck. From **Marsha Wasilko** for the health of the Wasilko family; for safe travels. From **Charles A. Wasilko** for the health of sisters, Doris & Marsha; special intentions. From **John Mahalchak family** for the departed servants, mother, Veronica on her birthday and father, John; for the health of friends & family, John, Cheryl, Daniel, Mary, Gregory, Cindy, Margaret, Jospeh, and Kayla Elizabeth and Priya. From **Dawna Beckett** for the departed servant Don Petkash (24 years); for the health of mother, Pearl Petkash. From **Paul Kaczmarek** for the departed servants, Donna Kaczmarek and Donald Kraniak; for the health of Dorothy Kraniak. From **Nancy Shaytar** for the departed servant, husband, George.

## Thank You

➤ to our **October** donors: Altar Candles (\$25) from **Donya Yewisiak** in memory of Matushka Olga Soroka (mother) on the occasion of her birthday. Incense (\$10) from **Fr Thomas and Matushka Joni Soroka** for the health of daughter Melanie on the occasion of her birthday.

## This Week in Church School

**Today's lesson:** Isaac

**Scripture reference:** Genesis 21-25

**Questions to ask/review:**

- Who were Ishmael and Isaac? Who are the sons of Ishmael today? The sons of Isaac?
- What does the Apostle Paul teach about Isaac and Ishmael in the book of Galatians? What does it teach us?
- How did God test Abraham's faith through his son Isaac? What does this event foreshadow?
- How did Isaac find a wife? Who was his wife?
- What qualities did Rebekah show?

**Suggested Activities at home:**

- For families, make a list about challenges that come with having siblings. Discuss what it would feel like to feel less important than another sibling. Compare this to the story of Isaac and Ishmael.

**Prayer:** Lord, thank You that we are wonderfully made, even as the baby Isaac.

**L**et us not turn from the table to the couch, but to prayer, that we become not more irrational than the beasts.

I am aware that many will condemn that which is said, as leading to a new and strange manner of living. But I the more condemn the evil customs that are now prevalent amongst us. For that when we rise from food, and from the table, we ought to proceed, not to sleep and the couch, but to prayers and the reading of the Holy Scriptures; this is made most clear by Christ.

*St John Chrysostom on Lazarus and the Rich Man*

**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, October 20

## **Tone 8 Troparion** (Resurrection)

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One!

Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//

O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

## **Tone 4 Troparion** (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 4 Troparion** (St. Artemius)

Thy holy martyr Artemius, O Lord, through his sufferings has received an incorruptible crown from Thee, our God.

For having Thy strength, he laid low his adversaries,

and shattered the powerless boldness of demons!//

Through his intercession, save our souls!

## **Tone 8 Kontakion** (Resurrection)

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam.

Eve exults in Thy Resurrection!//

and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

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

## **Tone 2 Kontakion** (St. Artemius)

Let us gather to sing worthy hymns in honor of Artemius,

the pious and victorious martyr who defeated his enemies.

He is great among martyrs

and generous in performing miracles!// and he intercedes with the Lord on behalf of us all.

*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 8 Prokeimenon** (Resurrection)

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God! (Ps. 75:10a)

## **Epistle** 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1 (Sunday)

And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said:

“I will dwell in them  
And walk among them.

I will be their God,  
And they shall be My people.”

Therefore

“Come out from among them  
And be separate, says the Lord.

Do not touch what is unclean,  
And I will receive you.”

“I will be a Father to you,  
And you shall be My sons and daughters,  
Says the Lord Almighty.”

Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the

flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

## **Gospel** Luke 16:19-31 (Sunday)

“There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

“Then he cried and said, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.’ But Abraham said, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented. And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.’

“Then he said, ‘I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father’s house, for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.’ Abraham said to him, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.’ And he said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ But he said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.’ ”

## **Communion Hymn**

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

**H**oly Great Martyr Artemius of Antioch was a prominent military leader during the reigns of the emperor Constantine the Great (May 21), and his son and successor Constantius (337-361). Artemius received many awards for distinguished service and courage. He was appointed viceroy of Egypt. In this official position he did much for the spreading and strengthening Christianity in Egypt.

The emperor Constantius was succeeded on the throne by Julian the Apostate (361-363). Julian in his desire to restore paganism was extremely antagonistic towards Christians, sending hundreds to their death. At Antioch he ordered the torture of two bishops unwilling to forsake the Christian Faith.

During this time, Saint Artemius arrived in Antioch and publicly denounced Julian for his impiety. The enraged Julian subjected the saint to terrible tortures and threw the Great Martyr Artemius into prison. While Artemius was praying, Christ, surrounded by angels, appeared to him and said, “Take courage, Artemius! I am with you and will preserve you from every hurt which is inflicted upon you, and I already have prepared your crown of glory. Since you have confessed Me before the people on earth, so shall I confess you before My Heavenly Father. Therefore, take courage and rejoice, you shall be with Me in My Kingdom.” Hearing this, Artemius rejoiced and offered up glory and thanksgiving to Him.

On the following day, Julian demanded that Saint Artemius honor the pagan gods. Meeting with steadfast refusal, the emperor resorted to further tortures. The saint endured all without a single moan. The saint told Julian that he would be justly recompensed for his persecution of Christians. Julian became furious and resorted to even more savage tortures, but they did not break the will of the saint. Finally the Great Martyr Artemius was beheaded.