



# 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

## Today

No Adult Education or Church School

## Tuesday, November 28

7:00 pm – Virtual Catechism #4 (via Skype)

## Wednesday, November 29

6:30 pm – Great Vespers

7:00 pm – Bible Study

## Saturday, December 2

11:00 am – Pan Orthodox Choir Rehearsal

5:00 pm – Great Vespers

## Sunday, December 3

9:15 am – Adult Education

10:00 am - Divine Liturgy

After 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*  
Mat. Janet Mihalick, *Choir Director*

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA  
OrthodoxPittsburgh.org Nov 26, 2017

# Announcements

➤ **We are in need of men to help** near the end of coffee hour today to help move pews to prepare for the iconographic work that will take place during the next three weeks. Please see Fr Thomas or any Parish Council member. We only need 15 minutes!

➤ **Iconography project continues this week!** Fr Theodore Jurewicz will return beginning tomorrow to continue work on the side walls. 8 large icons @\$825 each (Sts Constantine and Helena, John of Damascus, Ephraim the Syrian, Mary Magdeline, Mary of Egypt, Herman of Alaska and Innocent of Alaska) and 8 smaller medallion icons @\$375 (TBD) will be painted. **We are in need of sponsors for most of these icons. Please see Fr Thomas immediately if you can make a donation.**

➤ **Our Christmas Angel Tree** annual project, benefiting those in need in the McKees Rocks area, is available downstairs. This wonderful annual charitable tradition in our parish is coordinated by Donya Yewisiak and gifts are distributed by the Holy Family Institute. When you choose an angel from the tree, please bring the **unwrapped, new gifts** back to Church by Sunday, December 10.

➤ **“Orthodox Perspectives on the Reformation: A Symposium”** will be held at our parish on **Saturday, December 16** beginning with Divine Liturgy at 9:00 am. Five respected and knowledgeable speakers will present on topics relevant to Orthodox views of Protestant themes. We'll be hosting people from all over Pittsburgh and we'll need help organizing the breakfast, lunch, a bookstore, and the talk venue. Please see Fr Thomas for more information or Heidi Lewis if you can help.

➤ **2017 Parish Christmas Card:** It's time again for our annual Christmas Card Project which will run thru December 3, 2017. For a \$10 donation, you/your family's name will be listed on the Christmas card which will be sent in early December to parishioners and friends of St. Nicholas. Proceeds of the project will benefit our 2018 FOCUS ministry of serving meals. See Marsha Wasilko or Jan Widel to sign-up today! Thank you!

➤ **Our November hoagie sale** will be held on Wednesday, Nov 29. Italian Hoagies and wraps are \$6.00 each and the Turkey hoagies and wraps are \$6.50 each. Orders can be placed by calling 412-974-9912, faxing 724-926-4052 or emailing rjmbmsam1@verizon.net. Orders are due on Sunday evening, Nov 26. Orders can be picked up between noon and 1 pm Nov 29 at the church hall

➤ **Our Annual St Nicholas Day Dinner** will be held next Sunday, December 3. **Advance Ticket Purchase is required.** Prices are \$12 for adults, \$5 for ages 5-12, and ages 4 and under are free. **No tickets will be available the day of the dinner.** See Sandi Tirpak for tickets!

➤ **A special parish meeting** will be held on Sunday, December 10, 2017 after the Divine Liturgy for the purpose of discussing a proposal to sell the St Mark's School and Convent building (next to our Church) which we currently own. Any questions about the proposed sale may be directed to Fr Thomas, Mary Hughes Kutnansky, or Jonathan Skowron. Only parish members in good standing may participate and vote in the meeting.

➤ Please bear in mind that, as Orthodox Christians, **we are in the midst of the Nativity Fast.** Please remember to keep this time as an appropriate preparation for celebration of the Lord's Nativity! Increase your prayer,

# Prayers

➤ **Ill and infirm:** *Known to be Hospitalized (none)*  
*Home:* Jack Saban, Georgiann Robes, George Shaytar. *Shut in, Rehabilitation, or Nursing Home:* Olga Bednar, Stephanie Kowal, John Shaytar, Olga Tryszyn, Mary Zapp.

➤ **From Mat. Nancy K. Mell and Gregory Mell** for the departed servant, Dn. Joseph Mell; for the health of family. **From John Kowalcheck & Olga Cozza** for the health of Anatoly & Galina Vilkov; for the health and salvation of our families. **From John Kowalcheck** for the departed servant, Carol Ann Kowalcheck. **From Marsha Wasilko** for the departed servant, (grandfather) Theodore Dyczko (11/23/67); for the health of the Wasilko family. **From Mat. Joni Soroka** for the departed servant, (mother) Barbara; for the health of our children and family. **From Charles A. Wasilko** for the departed servant, (grandfather) Theodore Dyczko. **From Doris Wasilko** for the departed servant, (grandfather) Theodore Dyczko; for the health of the Wasilko family. **From Tatyana Sechler** for the departed servants, Polina, Valentina, Slava, Bruce and Galina; for the health of Diana, Veronica, Sergei, Tatyana, and Kristofer. **From Alexandria Tirpak** for the health of Fred and Mat. Martha-safe travels; for special intentions. **From Nancy Shaytar** for the health of (husband) George.



# Thank You

➤ Thank you to our November bulletin donors: **Matushka Nancy Mell and Gregory Mell** given in blessed memory of Deacon Joseph Mell.

**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 Today

## **Troparion of the Resurrection Tone 8**

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.

## **Troparion of St Nicholas Tone 4**

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.

## **Kontakion of the Resurrection Tone 8**

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.

## **Kontakion of the Theotokos Tone 6**

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.

## **Prokeimenon of the Sunday (Psalm 76) Tone 8**

Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!

## **Epistle of the Sunday (Ephesians 4:1-6)**

I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you  
to walk worthy of the calling with which you were  
called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with  
longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,  
endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the  
bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were  
called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one

faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who  
is above all, and through all, and in you all.

## **Gospel of the Sunday (Luke 13:10-17)**

Now He was teaching in one of the synagogues on  
the Sabbath. And behold, there was a woman who  
had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was  
bent over and could in no way raise herself up.

But when Jesus saw her, He called her to Him and  
said to her, "Woman, you are loosed from your  
infirmity." And He laid His hands on her, and  
immediately she was made straight, and glorified  
God.

But the ruler of the synagogue answered with  
indignation, because Jesus had healed on the  
Sabbath; and he said to the crowd, "There are six  
days on which men ought to work; therefore come  
and be healed on them, and not on the Sabbath  
day."

The Lord then answered him and said, "Hypocrite!  
Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his  
ox or donkey from the stall, and lead it away to  
water it? So ought not this woman, being a  
daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound—  
think of it—for eighteen years, be loosed from this  
bond on the Sabbath?"

And when He said these things, all His adversaries  
were put to shame; and all the multitude rejoiced  
for all the glorious things that were done by Him.

## **Communion Hymns (Ps 148:1)**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the  
highest! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



*Glory to God in the Highest  
and on earth peace,  
goodwill toward men!*

FOCUS  
+  
PITTSBURGH

## HOSTS SING ALLELUIA

PAN-ORTHODOX CHOIRS IN PERFORMANCE

## 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NATIVITY CONCERT

*Come experience the Joy!*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2017 – 5:30 PM

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church

123 Gilkeson Road (Across from the Galleria)

Mt. Lebanon (Pittsburgh), Pennsylvania 15228

*Audience Communal Singing during concert*

Free-will offering to support the work of FOCUS Pittsburgh

*An Urban Center of FOCUS NA*



## Services for the Nativity of Christ



Friday, December 22 10:00 am – Royal Hours

Saturday, December 23 5:00 pm – Great Vespers

Sunday, December 24 10:00 am – Divine Liturgy

Sunday, December 24 8:00 pm – Vigil of the Nativity

Monday, December 25 10:00 am – Nativity Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, December 26 9:30 am – Synaxis Divine Liturgy