



# 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. We want to get to know you! God bless you!

# This Week

## Today after the Divine Liturgy Trisagion for the Departed

In memory of Bessie Florence McEwan,  
the mother of Edith Humphrey

## Wednesday, November 28

6:30 pm Daily Vespers  
7:00 pm Bible Study

## Saturday, December 1

5:00pm Vespers and Cathedral Vigil

## Sunday, December 2

9:00 am Adult Christian Education

9:30 am Yolka Practice for Church School

10:00 am Divine Liturgy  
Church School after Divine Liturgy

## Church School Yolka Practice Schedule

Sun. Dec 9 – Yolka Practice after Liturgy  
Sun, Dec 16 – Pre-performance Preparation

**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*

## Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA  
OrthodoxPittsburgh.org November 25, 2018

# Announcements

➤ **Our iconography project continues** this week with of Fr Theodore Jurewicz along with his son, John and his family. He, along with his crew, will be painting the two front window wells, the front side walls behind the kiots, the arch above the iconostasis and the middle of the back wall of the altar (the remainder of the altar will be painted next year).

➤ **Parish Christmas Card Project:** This year's project will run from now until Noon on December 2. We are asking everyone to participate by making a \$10 donation to have your/your family's name listed on the card. Cards will be mailed to parishioners and sister parishes in early December. **100% of this year's proceeds will benefit the new St Nicholas community meal ministry to be held at our parish on the last Saturday of the month beginning in January 2019.** See Jan Widel or Marsha Wasilko today!

➤ **Our November hoagie sale** is being held on Wednesday, November 28. Italian Hoagies and wraps are \$6.50 each and the Turkey hoagies and wraps are \$7.00 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, November 25. Orders can be picked up between noon and 1 pm November 28 at the church hall.

# Thank you

➤ to **Matushka Nancy Mell and Greg Mell** for donating all November donor categories in loving memory of Deacon Joseph Mell.

# Prayers

➤ **Ill and infirm:** *Known to be Hospitalized; (None). Home:* Georgiann Robes. *Shut in, Rehabilitation, or Nursing Home:* Olga Bednar, Garnette Kerchum, 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 Charles A. Wasilko** for the departed servants, (grandfather) Theodore Dyczko, (aunt) Mary Hollenbach, and Carol Kowalcheck. **From John & Olga** for the departed servant, Carol Ann Kowalcheck; for the health of Anatoly & Galina Vilkov, Olga Cozza, Elizabeth Kowalcheck & son, Dmitri. **From Marsha Wasilko** for the departed servants, (Godmother) Mary Hollenbach (11/18/80), Carol Kowalcheck (11/18/10) and (grandfather) Theodore Dyczko (11/23/67). **From Doris Wasilko** for the departed servants, (grandfather) Theodore Dyczko, (aunt) Mary Hollenbach, and Carol Kowalcheck. **From Albena Ivanova** for the departed servant, Dimita R. **From Alexandria Tirpak** for the health of my family; special intentions. **From Tatyana Sechler** for the departed servants, Polina, Slava, Bruce, Galina, Valentina, Gina, Andrei and Daniel; for the health of Diana, Tatyana, Veronika, Kristofer, Adrianna, Thomas, Daniel, Michelin and Sergei.

## What can you do during the Nativity Fast?

We're encouraged to do the following things with God's help and through our effort:

- Eat less and give that money to the poor.
- Increase our prayer, scripture reading, silence and church attendance.
- Make a sincere confession and receive communion as often as possible.
- Fast from meat, (fish with backbones on weekdays), dairy, olive oil and wine (fish with backbones, wine, and olive oil are permitted every Saturday and Sunday before Dec 20, and on Nov 16 & 30, Dec 4, 6, 12 & 20.)

**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.**

# Our Angel Tree

Our annual Angel Tree Project, benefitting those in need in the McKees Rocks area, is now available downstairs.

Gifts are distributed by the Holy Family Institute. When you choose an ornament from the tree, please bring the **unwrapped, new gifts** back to Church by Sunday, December 9. If you have any questions please contact project coordinator Donya Yewisiak at 412-848-7513.



Holy Family Institute has requested the following:

- No plush items or stuffed animals.
- No VHS tapes of any kind or any media that promotes violence (video games or DVD). No toy guns of any kind including water guns.
- No edible gifts or holiday treats.
- No clothing with company logos.

Thank you for your generosity and support!

# St Clement

The virtuous life, charitable works and prayerful activity of Saint Clement converted many to Christ. He once baptized 424 people on the day of Pascha. Among the baptized were people of all social classes: slaves, officials, and even members of the imperial family.

The pagans, seeing the success of his apostolic preaching, denounced Saint Clement to the emperor Trajan (98-117), accusing the saint of insulting the pagan gods. The emperor banished Saint Clement from the capital, sending him to the Crimea, to work at a stone quarry near the city of Cherson. Many of the saint's disciples followed after him voluntarily, preferring to go into exile rather than live without their spiritual Father. *(continued below)*

# Hymns and Readings for Today

Nov 25, 2018

## **Troparion of the Resurrection Tone 1**

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!

## **Troparion of the Feast Tone 4**

Today is the prelude of the good will of God, of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. the Virgin appears in the Temple of God, in anticipation proclaiming Christ to all. Let us rejoice and sing to her: "Rejoice, O Fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation!"

## **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 1**

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!

## **Kontakion of the Feast Tone 4**

The most pure Temple of the Savior; the precious Chamber and Virgin; the sacred Treasure of the glory of God,

is presented today to the house of the Lord. She brings with her the grace of the Spirit, therefore, the Angels of God praise her: "Truly this woman is the abode of Heaven!"

## **Prokeimenon (Psalm 33) Tone 1**

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee!

## **Prokeimenon for the Feast (Lk 1:46-47) Tone 4**

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

## **Epistle of the Sunday (Ephesians 5:9-19)**

(for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore He says:

"Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light." See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

## **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.

## **St Clement, Pope of Rome continued**

In exile, Saint Clement prayed together with the condemned, and the Lord appeared to him in the form of a lamb and revealed the location of a spring, from which gushed forth a veritable river of water. This miracle attracted a multitude of people to Saint Clement. Hearing the zealous preacher, hundreds of pagans were converted to Christ. Each day 500 or more men were baptized. And there in the stone quarry, a church was built, in which he served as priest.

The apostolic activity of the saint aroused the wrath of the emperor Trajan, and he ordered that Saint Clement be drowned. They threw the martyr into the sea with an anchor tied to his neck. This occurred in the year 101.

The saint's faithful disciples Cornelius and Fibiis asked the people to pray that the Lord would permit them to see the martyr's body. The sea drew back a distance of three miles from the shore and the people walked out on the seabed until they found a marble cave shaped like a church. There they found the incorrupt body of their archpastor in this "Angelic Church" formed by God. After this, each year on the anniversary of Saint Clement's martyric death the sea receded, and for seven days Christians were able to venerate his holy relics.

# Awake, Sleeper!

*Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light." See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil.* " (Eph 5:14)

The wish to have more than one's share arises from no other source than recklessness, misanthropy, and arrogance toward others. Look at the earth, how wide is its extent? How far greater than we can use the expanse of the sky and the heaven? It is that He might put an end to your covetousness, that God has thus widely extended the bounds of the creation. And are you then still grasping and even thus? And do you hear that covetousness is idolatry, and not shudder even at this? Do you wish to inherit the earth? Then have you no inheritance in heaven. Are you eager to leave an inheritance to others, that you may rob yourself of it? Tell me, if any one were to offer you power to possess all things, would you be unwilling? It is in your power



now, if you will. Some, however, say, that they are grieved when they transmit the inheritance to others, and would fain have consumed it themselves, rather than see others become its masters. Nor do I acquit you of this weakness; for this too is characteristic of a weak soul. However, at least let as much as this be done. In your will leave Christ your heir. It were your duty indeed to do so in your lifetime, for this would show a right disposition. Still, at all events, be a little generous, though it be but by necessity. For Christ indeed charged us to give to the poor with this object, to make us wise in our lifetime, to induce us to despise money, to teach us to look down upon earthly things. It is no contempt of money, as you think, to bestow it upon this man and upon that man when one dies, and is no longer master of it. You are then no longer giving of your own, but of absolute necessity: thanks to death, not to you. This is no act of affection, it is your loss. However, let it be done even thus; at least then give up your passion. (**St John Chrysostom**)