



Welcome!

Whether you are searching for a new church home or just visiting, we are 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 –40-day in memory of Marina Kluter from her daughter, Stephanie Rael

Wednesday, August 28 – Beheading of the Forerunner and Baptist John

6:15 pm – Great Vespers with Litiya

7:00 pm – Bible Study

Saturday, August 31

5:00 pm Great Vespers with Cathedral Vigil

Sunday, September 1 – Church New Year

10:00 am 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*
Mat. Janet Mihalick, *Choir Director*

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA
OrthodoxPittsburgh.org August 25, 2019

Announcements

➤ We warmly welcome **Fr Theodore and son, John Jurewicz**, along with John's wife Irina and their daughter Anastasia, who are with us until September 23 to continue with painting the icons for our iconography project. This year we are focusing on the altar. Please see the article in today's bulletin on how you can help.

➤ **Slavic Food Fest News:** Did you bring a basket item, gift card or completed basket today to donate to the Slavic Food Fest Basket Auction? If so, we thank you! **If not, we have just two more Sundays to bring your donated items to the church.** Please consider a donation! Your Basket Committee thanks you in advance! See Suzy Polyn today!

➤ **Our August hoagie sale** will be held on Wednesday, June 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@verizion.net. Orders are due on Sunday evening, August 25. Orders can be picked up between noon and 1 pm August 28 at the church hall.

➤ If anyone is interested in **teaching or co-teaching Church School** this coming school year, please see Matushka Joni Soroka immediately. **Church School begins on Sunday, September 8.**



Prayers

➤ **Ill and infirm:** *Known to be hospitalized (none).* Home: Helen Billak, Jack Saban *Shut in, Rehabilitation, or Nursing Home:* Olga Bednar, Garnette Kerchum, Georgiann Robes, Olga Tryszyn, Mary Zapp.

➤ **Vigil Lights From Mat. Nancy K. Mell and Gregory Mell** for the departed servant, Dn. Joseph Mell; for the health of family and Michelle Bittner. **From George & Nancy Shaytar** for the departed servant, (brother) John Kraynak; for the health of Michelle Bittner. **From Doris Wasilko** for the departed servants, (parents) Charles & Mary; for the health of the Wasilko family. **From Charles A. Wasilko** for the health of (sisters) Doris & Marsha, Helen Billak and Michelle Bittner. **From Michelle Bittner** for the health of Sarah, Greg, Ryan and Doug. **From Alina** for the departed servant, Gennadii.

Thank You

➤ to our August donors! **Donya Yewisiak** for Holy Bread (\$50) and Altar Candles (\$25) in memory of father, Fr Vladimir Soroka. **Fr Thomas and Matushka Joni Soroka** for Incense (\$10) for the health of daughter, Natalie, on her 18th birthday.

➤ to all those who donated to the **Orthodox Teen Fellowship's Backpacks for Students in Need** drive. 27 backpacks were donated which were filled with school supplies. Our OTF participated in distributing the backpacks at the FOCUS center in the Hill District. May God bless all those who supported this worthwhile project and our teens who are learning to help those in need.

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.

Iconography Project

We are continuing our Iconography Project a little earlier this year. We are fortunate to have one of the foremost iconographers in the world, Fr Theodore Jurewicz, who is painting the icons all on the walls of our church. This project will distinguish our temple as one of the foremost examples of classical Russian iconography in America.

This year, we are adding icons to the walls and apse of our altar. **We are in need of donors for the work. Your pledge for the icons can be fulfilled immediately or over up to three years.** The following icons are being added: (Those crossed out have been donated)

In the Apse:

● ~~Mother of God "More Spacious Than the Heavens" \$5,000~~

On the Walls:

● ~~Four Liturgy Writers (Sts John Chrysostom, Basil the Great, James the Brother of the Lord, and Gregory Dialogus) \$3,000~~

● Feeding of the 5,000 \$2,000

● Eucharist on the Road to Emmaus \$2,000

● ~~Abraham Sacrificing Isaac \$1,750~~

● Manna in the Wilderness \$1,750

● Melchisedek \$1,500

● Prophet Isaiah and the Burning Coal \$1,500

Additionally they are completing other unfinished work started last time. The icons of on the left behind the kiot as well as the decorative border work there and behind the iconostasis as well as the toweling underneath he icons in the altar, and the side wall window borders in the choir loft.

Hymns and Readings for Today

August 25, 2019

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 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 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 (Psalm 33) Tone 1

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

Epistle of the Sunday (I Corinthians 4:9-16)

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 of the Sunday (Matthew 17:14-23)

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 Hymns of the Sunday

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest. Alleluia!

Lives of the Saints

In the Lives of the Saints it is clearly and obviously demonstrated: **There is no spiritual death from which one cannot be resurrected by the Divine power of the risen and ascended Lord Christ**; there is no torment, there is no misfortune, there is no misery, there is no suffering which the Lord will not change either gradually or all at once into quite, compunctionate joy because of faith in Him. And again there are countless soul-stirring examples of how a sinner becomes a righteous man in the lives of the Saints: how a thief, a fornicator, a drunkard, a sensualist, a murderer, and adulterer becomes a holy man—there are many, many example of this in the Lives of the Saints; how a selfish egoistical, unbelieving, atheistic,

proud, avaricious, lustful, evil, wicked, depraved, angry, spiteful, quarrelsome, malicious, envious, malevolent, boastful, vainglorious, unmerciful, gluttonous man becomes a man of God—there are many, many example of this in the Lives of the Saints.

By the same token in the Lives of the Saints there are very many marvelous examples of how a youth becomes a holy youth, a maiden becomes a holy maiden, an old man becomes a holy old man, how an old woman becomes a holy old woman, how a child becomes a holy child, how parents become holy parents, how a son becomes a holy son, how a daughter becomes a holy daughter, how a family becomes a holy family, how a community becomes a holy community, how a priest becomes a holy priest, how a bishop becomes a holy bishop, how a shepherd becomes a holy shepherd, how a peasant becomes a holy peasant, how an emperor becomes a holy emperor, how a cowherd becomes a holy cowherd, how a worker becomes a holy worker, how a judge becomes a holy judge, how a teacher becomes a holy teacher, how an instructor becomes a holy instructor, how a soldier becomes holy soldier, how an officer becomes a holy officer, how a ruler becomes a holy ruler, how a scribe becomes a holy scribe, how a merchant becomes a holy merchant, how a monk becomes a holy monk, how an architect becomes a holy architect, how a doctor becomes a holy doctor, how a tax collector becomes a holy tax collector, how a pupil becomes a holy pupil, how an artisan becomes holy artisan, how a philosopher becomes a holy philosopher, how a scientist becomes a holy scientist, how a statesman becomes a holy statesman, how a minister becomes a holy minister, how a poor man becomes a holy poor man, how a rich man becomes a holy rich man, how a slave becomes a holy slave, how a master becomes a holy master, how a married couple becomes a holy married couple, how an author becomes a holy author, how an artist becomes a holy artist *St Justin Popovic*