



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

Wednesday, October 23

6:30 pm Daily Vespers

7:00 pm Bible Study (Acts 27 and 28)

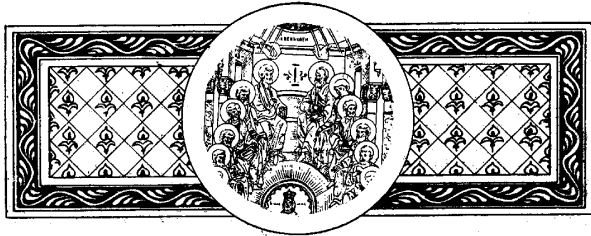
Saturday, October 26

No Services

Sunday, October 27

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

After Services 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*

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA

OrthodoxPittsburgh.org

October 20, 2019

Announcements

➤ **St. Nick's Corner Sale:** Stop by the showcase in the hall to take advantage of this **big sale**. Prices have been slashed on all items. Some items are FREE! See Marsha Wasilko for assistance.

➤ **Our October hoagie sale** will be held on Wednesday, September 23. 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, October 20. Orders can be picked up between noon and 1 pm October 23 at the church hall.

➤ Remember, our **Sunday morning Adult Education** is held on the first and third Sundays of every month at 9:15 am. All are welcome!

➤ **The women of our parish** are invited to attend the Ancient Faith Women's Retreat, Thursday, November 14 to Sunday, November 17 at Antiochian Village Conference Center in Bolivar PA. Speakers this year to include: Dr. Jeannie Constantinou, Dr. Roxanne Louh, Molly Maddex Sabourin, and Mother Christophora of Holy Transfiguration Monastery. For more information, visit ancientfaith.com/events or talk to Mat. Ashley Loboda. Registration closes on 10/15/19.

➤ **Mark your calendars:** Archdiocesan Advent Retreat on Saturday, Nov 16 at St John Orthodox Church in New Kensington beginning at 11am.

Prayers

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

➤ **Vigil Light From Mat. Nancy K. Mell and Gregory Mell** for the departed servant, Dn. Joseph Mell; for the health of family and Michelle Bittner. **From Doris Wasilko** for the health of the Wasilko family and Michelle on her birthday. **From Charles A. Wasilko** for the departed servants, (Uncles) John Wasilko and Steve Panik; for the health of Michelle on her birthday. **From Marsha Wasilko** for the health of Michelle on her birthday. **From George & Nancy Shaytar** for the health of Michelle Bittner and (brother) Steve Shaytar. **From Lindy Hamilton** for the health of Elaine Hamilton. **From Mat. Joni Soroka** for the health of (father) John and our daughters. **From Irene Kulchock** for the departed servants, Richard Kulchock, Bridget Kulchock, Frank Kulchock and George Pravlochak; for the health of Robyn Allen.

Thank You

➤ to our October donors! The Robes Family (Bulletin \$60, Holy Bread \$50, Communion Wine \$40); Donya Yewisiak (Altar Candles \$25) in memory of Matushka Olga Soroka; the Soroka family (Incense \$10) for the health of Melanie.



On Giving to God

(Deuteronomy 16:17) "Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God which He has given you."

ST IRENAEUS OF LYON (C. 130-202 AD)
"The Jews were constrained to a regular payment of Tithes (a tenth); Christians who have liberty assign all their possessions to the Lord bestowing freely not just the lesser portions of their property since they have the hope of greater things."

TERTULLIAN (C. 155-240 AD)
"We would ask God for material goods if we considered them to be of use; without a doubt, He to whom the whole belongs would be able to concede us a portion. But we prefer to hold possessions in contempt than to hoard them: it is rather innocence that is our aspiration, it is rather patience that is our entreaty; our preference is goodness, not extravagance."

ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM (C. 349-407 AD)
"Woe to him, it is said, who does not give alms." If this was the case under the Old Covenant, much more is it under the New. They gave tithes (a tenth), and tithes again upon tithes for orphans, widows, and strangers, whereas someone was saying to me in astonishment at another, 'Why does such a one give tithes?' What a load of disgrace does this expression imply, since what was not a matter of wonder with the Jews has come to be so in the case of the Christians? If there was danger then in omitting tithes, think how great it must be now!"

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 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 of the Sunday (Psalm 33) Tone 1

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

Epistle of the Sunday (II Cor 9:6-11)

But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever."

Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.

Gospel of the Sunday (Luke 16:19-31)

The Lord said this parable: 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 Hymns of the Sunday

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

"And here we must remark what fearful sufferings are heaped upon the rich man in flames. For in addition to his punishment, his knowledge and memory are preserved. He knew Lazarus whom he despised, he remembered his brethren whom he left. For that sinners in punishment may be still more punished, they both see the glory of those whom they had despised, and are harassed about the punishment of those whom they have unprofitably loved." St Gregory the Great, Pope of Old Rome

Today in Church School

Today's lesson: St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

Verse (younger classes): "ut on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." (*Eph 6:11*)

Questions to ask/review (younger classes):

- Who is Satan? How did he become our adversary?
- How can Satan try to trick us?
- Who has already defeated Satan? How?
- What armor has God given us to defeat Satan?

Verse (older classes): "...that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height – to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." (*Eph 3:18-19*)

Questions to ask/review (older classes):

- Where was Paul when he wrote the letter to the Ephesians?
- Describe how you spend the hours of a normal day? How much time does the Lord get?
- Do we allow God to fill our day? Or do we make other things a "god"?
- What parts of your day can be redirected towards God? How?
- There are parts of the day that you cannot control (school, sleep). How can we let God fill this time also?

Suggested Activities at home:

- Build out of cardboard or other material some armor: Loins of Truth, Breastplate of Righteousness, Shoes of Peace, Shield of Faith, Helmet of Salvation, Sword of the Spirit.
- Create a daily schedule for the family and/or your child. Discuss and schedule times that can be intentionally set aside for prayer, Scriptures, or other holy activities. Keep each other accountable!
- Prayer: Lord, grant me your protection today and always, Amen. or Lord, give me the wisdom to allow you to fill my life, Amen.