



Archpriest Thomas Soroka, *Rector*  
Deacon Luke Loboda, *Attached*  
Mat. Janet Mihalick, *Choir Director*

**4<sup>th</sup> Saturday/5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pascha**

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA  
OrthodoxPittsburgh.org May 16/17, 2020

## 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

**Saturday, May 16**

10:00 am Divine Liturgy (A-N)

**Sunday, May 17**

10:00 am Divine Liturgy (O-Z)

**Tuesday, May 19**

9:00 am Matins (Morning Service)

9:30 am-12:00 pm Office Hours/Church Open

**Wednesday, May 20**

7:00 Bible Study (online only)

**Thursday, May 21**

9:00 am Matins (Morning Service)

9:30 am-12:00 pm Office Hours/Church Open

**Saturday, May 23**

10:00 am Divine Liturgy (O-Z)

5:00 pm Vespers with Cathedral Vigil

**Sunday, May 24**

10:00 am Divine Liturgy (A-N)

**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.**

## Temporary Practices

➤ Welcome! Since we continue under certain pandemic health restrictions, **we ask that you observe the following temporary practices:**

- Please maintain social distance (6 ft) from each other. Same household members do not need to observe this from one another.
- You may show honor to persons depicted in icons by bowing before the icon, or you may choose to venerate (kiss) the icon. If you do venerate, please use a disinfectant wipe in the area you venerated, and then a paper towel to wipe off the residue.
- Please approach one row at a time for Communion. The Eucharist will be distributed by an individual (single use) spoon for each person. Please receive the precious body and blood directly from the spoon – please do not open your mouth wide or tilt your head back.
- Antidoron will be provided in individual cups.
- Before you leave, if you would be so kind as to clean up your area. Use a sanitizing wipe and wipe the areas where you sat and touched and do not leave any papers.
- At the end of the Divine Liturgy, we will come forward to receive a blessing by bowing our heads before the holy cross and Fr Thomas will bless us.

➤ Unfortunately, during this “Yellow” status, we will not be permitted to have coffee hour, in-person meetings or classes, or dinners. We appreciate your understanding and patience.

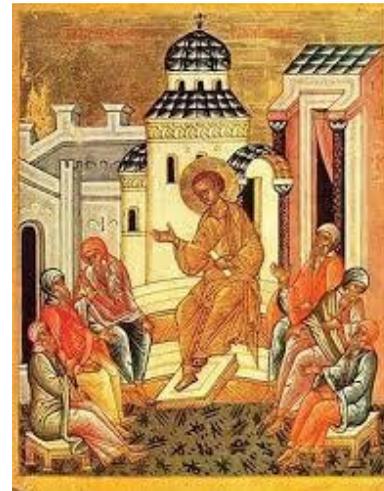
## Prayers

➤ **Ill and infirm:** *Known to be hospitalized:* (none) *Home:* Geroge Shaytar, Paul Yewisiak, *Shut in, Rehabilitation, or Nursing Home:* Garnette Kerchum, Eleanor Kovacs, Olga Tryszyn, Mary Zapp.

## Thank You

➤ to our April donors, **Jim and Leslie Wokutch**, for donating all the categories (Bulletin \$60, Holy Bread \$50, Communion Wine \$40, Altar Candles \$25, Incense \$10) in loving memory of Deacon Joseph Mell (brother) and Olga Mell (mother).

➤ to our May donors, **Matushka Nancy Mell and Gregory Mell**, for donating all the categories (Bulletin \$60, Holy Bread \$50, Communion Wine \$40, Altar Candles \$25, Incense \$10) in loving memory of Deacon Joseph Mell (husband, father) and for the health of Matushka Nancy 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.**

## Peace

“There is nothing better than peace in Christ, for it brings victory over all the evil spirits on earth and in the air. When peace dwells in a man’s heart it enables him to contemplate the grace of the Holy Spirit from within. He who dwells in peace collects spiritual gifts as it were with a scoop, and he sheds the light of knowledge on others. All our thoughts, all our desires, all our efforts, and all our actions should make us say constantly with the Church: “O Lord, give us peace!” When a man lives in peace, God reveals mysteries to him..” – St. Seraphim of Sarov

“The soul that loves God has its rest in God and in God alone. In all the paths that men walk in in the world, they do not attain peace until they draw nigh to hope in God.” – St. Isaac the Syrian, Homily 56, 89

“If the Holy Spirit is peace of soul, as He is said to be, and as He is in reality, and if anger is disturbance of heart, as it actually is and as it is said to be, then nothing so prevents His presence in us as anger.” – St. John Climacus, Ladder of Divine Ascent, Step 8.14

“Take heed often to come together to give thanks to God and show forth His praise. For when you assemble frequently in the same place, the powers of Satan are destroyed, and the destruction at which he aims is prevented by the unity of your faith. Nothing is more precious than peace, by which all war, in heaven and earth, is brought to an end.” – St. Ignatius of Antioch, The Ante-Nicene Fathers Vol. 1

# Hymns and Readings for Saturday, May 16

## At the beginning of the Divine Liturgy

**Priest:** Christ is risen from the dead... (2x) *then the third time:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death...

**People:** ...and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

## Tone 3 Troparion (Resurrection)

Let the heavens rejoice!

Let the earth be glad!

For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.

He has trampled down death by death.

He has become the first born of the dead.

He has delivered us from the depths of hell,

and has granted to the world//

great mercy.

## Tone 8 Troparion (Midfeast)

In the middle of the feast, O Savior, fill my thirsting soul with the waters of piety, as Thou didst cry to all:

“If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink!”//

O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to Thee!

## Tone 3 Kontakion (from the Pentecostarion)

By Thy divine intercession, O Lord, as Thou didst raise up the Paralytic of old, so raise up my soul, paralyzed by sins and thoughtless acts;

so that being saved I may sing to Thee://

“Glory to Thy power, O compassionate Christ!”

## Tone 8 Kontakion (Pascha)

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, Thou didst destroy the power of death.

In victory Thou didst arise, O Christ God, proclaiming, “Rejoice!” to the Myrrhbearing

Women,//

granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

## Tone 1 Prokeimenon

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee! (*Ps 32/33:22*)

## Epistle of the Saturday (Acts 12:1-11)

Now about that time Herod the king stretched out his hand to harass some from the church. Then he killed James the brother of John with the sword. And because he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to seize Peter also. Now it was during the Days of Unleavened Bread. So when he had arrested him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four squads of soldiers to keep him, intending to bring him before the people after Passover.

Peter was therefore kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church. And when Herod was about to bring him out, that night Peter was sleeping, bound with two chains between two soldiers; and the guards before the door were keeping the prison. Now behold, an angel of the Lord stood by him, and a light shone in the prison; and he struck Peter on the side and raised him up, saying, “Arise quickly!” And his chains fell off his hands. Then the angel said to him, “Gird yourself and tie on your sandals”; and so he did. And he said to him, “Put on your garment and follow me.” So he went out and followed him, and did not know that what was done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they were past the first and the second guard posts, they came to the iron gate that leads to the city, which opened to them of its own accord; and they went out and went down one street, and immediately the angel departed from him.

And when Peter had come to himself, he said, “Now I know for certain that the Lord has sent His angel, and has delivered me from the hand

of Herod and from all the expectation of the Jewish people.”

## Gospel of the Saturday (Jn 8:31-42)

Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

They answered Him, “We are Abraham’s descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can You say, ‘You will be made free?’”

Jesus answered them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

“I know that you are Abraham’s descendants, but you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you. I speak what I have seen with My Father, and you do what you have seen with your father.”

They answered and said to Him, “Abraham is our father.”

Jesus said to them, “If you were Abraham’s children, you would do the works of Abraham. But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this. You do the deeds of your father.”

Then they said to Him, “We were not born of fornication; we have one Father—God.”

Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me.

## Hymn to the Theotokos

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace:

“Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: Rejoice,

thy Son is risen from His three days in the tomb! With Himself He has raised all the dead.”  
Rejoice, O ye people!

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem!  
The glory of the Lord has shone on thee.  
Exult now, and be glad, O Zion!  
Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,  
in the Resurrection of thy Son!

## Communion Hymn (Ps 148:1)

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality!

## Instead of “We have Seen the True Light”

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

*Then: Let our mouths be filled...*

## At the Dismissal

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! (3x)

## and at the end...

And unto us He has given eternal life. Let us worship His Resurrection on the third day!



# Hymns and Readings for Sunday, May 17

## At the beginning of the Divine Liturgy

**Priest:** Christ is risen from the dead... (2x) *then the third time:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death...

**People:** ...and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

## Tone 4 Troparion (Resurrection)

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of thy Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: “Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen,// granting the world great mercy!”

## Tone 8 Troparion (Midfeast)

In the middle of the feast, O Savior, fill my thirsting soul with the waters of piety, as Thou didst cry to all: “If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink!”// O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to Thee!

## Tone 8 Kontakion (Pentecostarion)

The Samaritan Woman came to the well in faith; she saw Thee, the Water of wisdom and drank abundantly.// She inherited the Kingdom on high, and is ever glorified!

## Tone 4 Kontakion (Midfeast)

Christ God, the Creator and Master of all, cried to all in the midst of the feast of the Law: “Come and draw the water of immortality!” We fall before Thee and faithfully cry:// “Grant us Thy mercies, for Thou art the Fountain of our life!”

## Tone 3 Prokeimenon

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing praises to our King, sing praises! (*Ps 46/47:6*)

## Epistle of the Sunday (Acts 11:19-26, 29-30)

Now those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but the Jews only. But some of them were men from

Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord.

Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord.

Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul. And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.

Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea. This they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

## Gospel of the Sunday (John 4:5-42)

So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob’s well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour.

A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give Me a drink.” For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.

Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, “How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?” For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.

Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.”

The woman said to Him, “Sir, You have nothing to

draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?”

Jesus answered and said to her, “Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.”

The woman said to Him, “Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw.”

Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.”

The woman answered and said, “I have no husband.”

Jesus said to her, “You have well said, ‘I have no husband,’ for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly.”

The woman said to Him, “Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.”

Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

The woman said to Him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When He comes, He will tell us all things.”

Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am He.”

And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, “What do You seek?” or, “Why are You talking with her?”

The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into

the city, and said to the men, “Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?” Then they went out of the city and came to Him.

In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, “Rabbi, eat.”

But He said to them, “I have food to eat of which you do not know.”

Therefore the disciples said to one another, “Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?”

Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, ‘There are still four months and then comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this the saying is true: ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors.”

And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, “He told me all that I ever did.” So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His own word.

Then they said to the woman, “Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world.”

## Hymn to the Theotokos

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace: “Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: Rejoice, thy Son is risen from His three days in the tomb! With Himself He has raised all the dead.” Rejoice, O ye people!

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on thee. Exult now, and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O pure Theotokos, in the Resurrection of thy Son!