



## 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!

## Schedule This Week

### Sunday, May 14

10:00 am Divine Liturgy/Church School

### Tuesday, May 16

9:00 am Daily Matins

9:30 am to Noon Office Hours

### Thursday, May 18

9:00 am Daily Matins

9:30 am to Noon Office Hours

### Saturday, May 20

4:30 pm Confession

5:00 pm Great Vespers/Cathedral Vigil

### Sunday, May 21

10:00 am 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

Deacon John Skowron, Attached

Rdr James Wargo and Danielle Bartko, Choir Dirs

### Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA

OrthodoxPittsburgh.org

May 14, 2023

## Announcements

➤ Everyone is cordially invited downstairs for a free **Mother's Day Luncheon** honoring all the women of the parish! We want you to know that you are loved and appreciated for everything that you do and for all the sacrifices you make! This luncheon is sponsored by the men of the parish (who are asked to donate at least \$10 each - please see Fr Tom). Thank you to Tom Hoffman, Clayton Harris, and everyone else in the kitchen crew. May God bless all of our women, and on this Mother's Day, especially those who nurture us in life and faith!

➤ The **St Nicholas Women** (all are welcome!) will be meeting on Saturday, May 20 at Oya Sushi Grill (325 Mt Lebanon Blvd, 15234) at 6:30 pm. Please RSVP to Jessica Krchmar by Wednesday May 17 412-290-3526.

➤ The **St Nicholas Regional Synaxes** are upcoming on Tuesday, May 23 and Friday, May 26. Check your email for details about your regional gathering! We hope you'll join us!

➤ **Pro-Life Ministry Drive:** The mom and baby gift bags are due on May 21. We are also in need of a few other donors. Please see Matushka Joni or Mary Hoffman for more info. Thank you for your generosity!

➤ **Help Needed:** This coming Friday, May 19, we'll welcome the Cone Family to the Pittsburgh area and to our parish as they begin their ministry to lead the new St Constantine School in Pittsburgh. Fr Tom will send out an email with the time and location. We hope you can join us to lend a hand and move them into their new home in Greentree.

## Prayers

➤ **Ill and infirm:** Known to be hospitalized: John Mahalchak (son), Home: (none). Shut in, Rehabilitation, or Nursing Home: Eleanor Kovacs, Natalie Popovich, Michael Soroka.

➤ **Vigil Lights** From **Mat. Nancy K. Mell & Gregory Mell** for the departed servant, for Dn. Joseph Mell; for the health of family. From **Lindy Hamilton** for the health of Elaine Hamilton. From **Charles A. Wasilko** for the departed servant, Godfather, Joseph Dichko. From **Marsha Wasilko** for the departed servant, Uncle Joe Dichko; the health of Doris. From **John & Olga** for the health of Galina Vilkovala and Elena Kowalcheck on her 10<sup>th</sup> birthday. From **Richard & Sonia Blaha** for the departed servants, parents, brother, Judy, Grandma Lynd and newly departed, Gregory & Ludmilla; for the health of Debbie on her birthday, family, friends, siblings & serving soldiers-for special intention and peace. From **Nancy Shaytar** for the departed servant, husband, George. From **the Pravlochaks** for the departed servant, George Shaytar; for the health of brother, David and granddaughter, Christina. From **George M. Shaytar** for the departed servant, my dad, George. From **the John Mahalchak family** for the health of friends and family-John, Cheryl, Daniel, Mary, Gregory, and Cindy.

## Thank You

➤ to our **May** donors: from Sandi Tirpak (Bulletin \$60) for the health of Fr Basil and Matushka Juliana, (Wine \$40) for the departed servant John and the health of Andrea and David, (Altar Candles \$25) for Fr Thomas; from Mat Joni (Incense \$10) for Fr Thomas.

**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.**

## Today's Church School Lesson

**Today's lesson:** Orthodoxy in America Part I

### Questions to ask/review:

- How did the Orthodox faith come to America?
- Who was St. Herman of Alaska? How did he share the Gospel with the native people? What miracles did St. Herman perform?
- Who was St. Innocent of Alaska? What did he do to help natives learn the Scriptures?
- What challenges were faced by missionaries to America?

### Suggested Activities at home:

- Learn more about the Diocese of Alaska today. A video at <https://oca.org/media/video/19th-aac-diocese-of-alaska> shows Alaskan churches and footage of those building up the church today.

**Prayer:** Lord, strengthen and enlighten us to spread your Word in all of America.

**Everywhere, beloved, we have need of faith,** faith the mother of blessings, the medicine of salvation; and without this it is impossible to possess any one of the great doctrines. Without this, men are like to those who attempt to cross the open sea without a ship, who for a little way hold out by swimming, using both hands and feet, but when they have advanced farther, are quickly swamped by the waves: in like manner they who use their own reasonings, before they have learned anything, suffer shipwreck... That this be not our case, let us hold fast the sacred anchor by which Christ brings over the Samaritan woman now... Believe Me, woman, that the hour comes, when you shall neither in Jerusalem, nor yet in this mountain, worship the Father. An exceedingly great doctrine He revealed to her, and one which He did not mention either to Nicodemus or Nathaniel.

*-St John Chrysostom*

# Hymns and Readings for Sunday, May 14

## **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!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

## **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!

*Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

## **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** (Pentecostarion)

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

## **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 of the Feast**

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace: “Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: ‘Rejoice, your 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 you. Exult now, and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O pure Theotokos, in the Resurrection of your Son!

## **Communion Hymn of the Sunday**

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality! Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (Ps. 148:1) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!