

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church



American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese

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Pastor – Very Rev. R. Michael Zak, Cell phone:(412)-804-8865

Deacons: Fr. Deacons Artemius Stienstra & Dr. Marc Wisnosky

Sub- Deacon: Andrew Halapin, Jr.

Cantor/Choir Director: Danielle Bartko

Weekday Cantors – Donald Bodnar Jr. & Michele Tomko

Parish Council President: Tom Pingor

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Sunday, July 3, 2016

2nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – SYNAXIS OF ALL SAINTS OF CARPATHO-RUS

Matins: 8:00 A.M.

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: Romans 2:10-16

Tone: 1

Gospel: Matthew 4:18-23

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 81-83 / Red Book: 95-99

Birthday prayers intoned for: **Dacia Paganico (7/2)**, **Kaitlyn Thorn (7/5)**, and **Kylie Fischer (7/9)**, offered by Trona and Family.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, **+Julia Rak**, **+Anna Czesnocha**, **+Olga Latta** and **+Mary Latta**, offered by Majorie Pekular.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, **+Theodore Sotak**, offered by the Lipscak & Sotak Families.

Wednesday, (July 6)... 7:00 P.M. Vespers on the Feast of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John.

Thursday, (July 7)... 9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy on the Feast of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John.

Saturday, (July 9)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, **+Andrew** and **Anna Hreha**, offered by Anna Hreha (wife).

7:00 P.M. Vespers.

Sunday, July 10, 2016

3rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Matins: 8:00 A.M.

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: Romans 5:1-10

Tone: 2

Gospel: Matthew 6:22-33

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 84-86 / Red Book: 99-102

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, **+Helen Panichelli** (Birthday remembrance:7/4) and on the 2nd Anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord (7/10), offered by Susan Miller (Daughter).

Matthew 4:18-23 –

4:18-22 – These first disciples had already heard the preaching of John the Baptist and were prepared to accept Christ **immediately**. Though illiterate and unlearned in religion, these “people of the land” whom Jesus calls will be revealed at Pentecost to be the wisest of all.

4:23-25 – Note that the crowds do not swarm Jesus when He commands repentance (v. 17), but only when He begins to heal and work miracles. This fact shows that the people misunderstand

the true nature of His Kingdom. It also shows Christ's concession "to give credibility to what He teaches" among the fickle **multitudes** (St. Theophilus)

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS are 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Monday thru Friday.

EMERGENCY SICK CALLS can be made anytime. Please notify your Pastor when someone is taken to the hospital; Sacred Scriptures remind us to call the presbyter to anoint the sick.

MARRIAGES are celebrated on Saturdays and Sundays. Consult the Pastor at least 6 months in advance and before wedding reception plans have been made. Marriages cannot be celebrated during Lent or Advent, or on Fridays.

BAPTISMS are scheduled on Saturdays and Sundays at 11 A.M. Two God-parents are required; at least one of whom must be an Orthodox Christian by Faith, and the other a practicing Christian. An infant's first or middle name must be a saint's name.

CHURCH FUNERALS are provided for parishioners who are current in their spiritual and financial obligations to the Parish. Otherwise, burial is from the funeral home. The Church does not permit cremation.

SUFFERING IS FOR OUR SALVATION

By Abbot Tryphon of The Morning Offering

The Lord does not allow anything beyond our power of endurance to afflict us. Whenever difficulties come our way, we sin only if we are unwilling to endure. Suffering is meant to be salvific, for the Apostle Paul tells us, "God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able" (1 Cor. 10:13).

We must humbly and with patience labor under the trials and temptations God allows, lest we squander the opportunity put before us and fall back into our fallen nature. When we joyfully receive every trial and temptation, knowing the Lord is with us, we become victorious in the battle. And we are ever drawn closer to the Lord, whom we love and serve.

Without suffering and trials, there can be no victory. Without the Cross, there can be no resurrection. When we trust in Christ and do not give in to despair, we share in His victory, and His life becomes ours. If, however, we attempt to go it alone, struggling against temptations and difficulties without seeking God's help, we will ultimately fail, and victory will have been vanquished.

FOLLOW OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE! Diocesan Website: <http://www.acrod.org> Camp Nazareth: <http://www.campnazareth.org> Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/acroddioocese> Twitter: <https://twitter.com/acrodnews> You Tube: <https://youtube.com/acroddioocese>

ONE NATION UNDER GOD!

America became a free country on July 4, 1776, however, what many may not know – or forget – is that America is also a nation under God founded on Christian principles. Fifty-four of the fifty-six signers of the Declaration of Independence were Christians, 27 held theology degrees. Many went on to form Bible societies. The signers intended the document to officiate the separation between America and Great Britain. However, they based the Declaration which has served as a foundation to the beginnings of the American nation upon a greater foundational belief that God, or as written in the Declaration, "Creator", was the source for men's irrevocable rights.

Samuel Adams, who signed the historic document and writer of the Rights of the Colonists (November, 1772), once said, "Just and true liberty, equal and impartial liberty, in matters spiritual and temporal is a thing that all men are clearly entitled to by the eternal and immutable laws of God and nature, as well as by the laws of nations and all well-grounded and municipal laws, which must have their foundation in the former."

Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration, also believed "God who gave us life, gave us liberty.

Two of the Continental Congress' first actions were to hire military chaplains and to purchase 20,000 Bibles to remedy a national shortage. Although America was already a free nation during the presidency of George Washington, the first president of the United States, he suggested that only religion could uphold its morality. During his farewell address he said, "And let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle."

Even if America's roots were traced back to its primitive stages, the marriage between the early inhabitants of the land and Christianity are inseparable. The Pilgrims clearly stated the purpose for their voyage even before stepping off the Mayflower: "undertaken for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith..."

The U.S. Supreme Court also identified America as a Christian nation in 1892, after 10 years of examining hundreds of documents on the foundation of the country. The justices came to the unanimous conclusion that the documents undeniably "add volume of unofficial declarations to the mass of organic utterances that this is a religious people, a Christian nation."

John Quincy Adams, the sixth president of the United States, summed up the historic event that led to America's independence best when he said, "The highest glory of the American Revolution was this: that it connected in one indissoluble bond the principles of civil government with the principles of Christianity." The conviction that God cannot, and should not be moved from the social and governmental construct of America continues to echo in the voice off the USA's more recent leaders.

According to the late Ronald W. Reagan, the 40th President of the United States, "Without God there is no virtue because there is no prompting of the conscience... without God there is a coarsening of the society; without God democracy will not and cannot long endure... If we ever forget that we are one Nation Under God, then we will be a Nation gone under."

Katherine T. Phan, Ecumenical Press

CAMPERSHIP DONORS TO DATE: Helen & Michael Beres: \$300; Thomas Pingor: \$300; Dave & Andrea Urban: \$300; Joan Ribovich: \$100; Trona Paganico: \$100; Pani Debbie Zak: \$150; Sue Semancik: \$300; Mothers' & Daughters' Guild: \$300; Senior A.C.R.Y. Chapter: \$300; Proceeds from Candy for Campers: \$161 (\$1 per bar); Helen Revak: \$100; Ruth Krenicky: \$100. The children of our parish desiring to participate in the Diocesan Camping Session this summer have already registered. The fee for a Diocesan camper has been increased to \$300 this year. May all parishioners donate towards the Campership Fund this year, enabling our youths of camper age the opportunity to live the faith on a daily basis among their "friends, forever" who share their

YOUR EFFORTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS INSURE SUCCESS AT OUR PARISH'S 2ND CHRISTMAS IN JULY CRAFT/VENDOR SHOW ON SATURDAY, JULY 23, 2016! This summer fund-raising event is being staged in conjunction with the Homestead "Community Day" celebration and we hope to draw many people to our St. Nicholas Church auditorium to add to the festivities taking place in Frick Park. A bake sale is on the agenda, so we implore all of our talented bakers to offer a luscious dessert of their choice to entice customers. Café Nikolai will be re-created, featuring appetizing foods and ethnic delicacies, such as Pirohi. We're seeking those special crews of parishioners and their friends to make the irresistible potato-cheese dumplings. Call Jean Colantoni at 412-491-7090 and inform her of your availability in making the pirohi. All faithful members are kindly asked to share their time, talents and treasures for this pleasing activity of the church and to increase the parish treasury during the summer months.

THE MEN'S CLUB IS IN NEED OF YOUR MAINTENANCE SKILLS! The Men's Club meeting will start at 8 P.M. on Monday, July 11 (since Vespers are scheduled for 7 P.M.). Also, the Men's Club will be rebuilding the wall between the church and Sunday school building on Saturday, July 16th. The men will be gathering at the church between 7:30-8:00 A.M. All are welcome to help. If the wall project is physically too much for someone, then, we could use additional people to help pull the weeds behind the Sunday school building. The Men's Club will provide lunch for all the workers. Interested individuals should see Brian Smoley, George Matey or Dave Urban. Thank you! Brian.

ANNUAL FALL FOOD FESTIVAL – OCTOBER, 2016! The Church Board is seeking one or two persons to volunteer as chairperson or co-chairpersons of the Annual Fall Food Festival, to be held one weekend in October, 2016. This fund-raiser is an important activity to generate much needed funds for the church. If you are interested, please communicate your interest to a parish officer as soon as possible. Also, if you would like to be a member of the Fall Food Festival Committee, please inform the parish board members as well. Thank you, Tom Pingor, Church President.

ASSIST JOHN FEDORNOCK IN HIS EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT MAINTAINING OUR CHURCH CEMETERY! Hello, my name is John Fedornock of troop 230 in Harrison City. For my Eagle Scout project, I am painting the fence and entry gate, as well as the brush around the fence, at our church cemetery. I am asking for donations in financial support, and later will be seeking your time and labors as well, as I attempt to complete my project. On a Saturday (tbd) we will be looking for volunteers to help with painting. Students will be able to earn service hours for school as well. Please see me for more information or if you would like to make a donation. Thank you for your support in this worthwhile project.

TUPPERWARE FUNDRAISER! From the exclusive Tupperware Fund Raising Catalog, 40% of the total sale will be given to our church. Please share this catalog with all of your friends, family, neighbors and co-workers. Tupperware makes a great gift. Use an individual order form for each customer, return with payments on or before Sat., July 23, 2016. See Andrea Zober for the booklet and return all orders to her.

POYA GATHERING AT THE SHARP EDGE ON S.ST.CLAIR ST. ON SUN. JULY 10 AT 6:30 P.M. (\$10)!

[Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church](#)