

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church



American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese

903 Ann Street

Homestead, PA 15120

Rectory Office Phone: (412) 461-3264

Church Office & Auditorium: (412) 461-9437

Web Site: www.stnichomestead.org

E-mail Address: stnic@stnichomestead.org

E-mail Address: frmzak@gmail.com

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, December 4, 2016

24th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & FEAST OF THE ENTRANCE OF THE MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD INTO THE TEMPLE

Service of the Third Hour: 8:20 A.M.

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: Ephesians 2:14-22 (Sunday) Tone: 7 Gospel: Luke 12:16-21 (Sunday)
Hebrews: 9:1-7 (Feast) Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28 (Feast)

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 99-101; 118-122 / Red Book: 114-117; 134-139

Bulletin Sponsor: **Bob Bartko's** Birthday, offered by the Family.

Altar Flowers' Sponsor: **Christa Pingor's** Birthday, offered by Thomas Pingor (father).

Birthday prayers extended to: **Noah Thorn** (12-10), offered by Godmother, Deborah Harris.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, **+Andrew Janicko**, offered by his daughters, Helen Revak and Mary Janicko.

Tuesday, (Dec. 6)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, **+John & +Helen Pido**, offered by the Family.

Wednesday, (Dec. 7)... 7:00 P.M. Prayer (Moleben) Service of Thanksgiving and Stewardship.

Saturday, (Dec. 10)... 11:00 A.M. – 12 Noon: Hearing of Confessions.

Sunday, December 11, 2016

25th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Matins: 8:00 A.M.

Divine Liturgy: 9:00

Epistle: Ephesians 4:1-7 Tone: 8 Gospel: Luke 13:10-17

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 102-104 / Red Book: 117-119

Altar Candles' Sponsor: **+Mildred Sukal's** 9th Anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord, and **+Michael Tomko's** 47th Anniversary of his falling asleep in the Lord, offered by Cheryl & Michele.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, **+John Koreny** (Husband), offered by Mildred Koreny.

Luke 12:16-21 –

12:20 – Whose will those things be which you have provided? Is the key to understanding the saving up of materials goods. Saint John Chrysostom writes that the only barns we need we already have: "the stomachs of the poor." Saint Basil the Great taught that the bread in our cupboard belongs to the hungry man; the coat hanging unused belongs to the one who needs it; the shoes rotting in our closet belong to the one who has no shoes; and the money we hoard belongs to the poor. Saint Ambrose teaches, "The things which we cannot take with us are not

ours. Only virtue will be our companion when we die.” Even when Joseph stored up grain in Egypt (Genesis 41), it was for the benefit of the whole nation. These teachings apply to parishes as well as to each person.

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.

PROCRASTINATION

By Abbot Tryphon of The Morning Offering

There is a story of a young monk who confessed to his elder that he was always struggling with procrastination. His elder told him his lack of faith made it impossible for him to see God everywhere and in all things, and for this reason he was careless and lazy about everything having to do with his salvation.

The Apostle Paul said, “My (Christ’s) grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore most gladly I will rather boast of my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me” (2 Cor. 12:9). In our weakness, we tend to put things off, especially those things that pertain to our salvation. We know the importance of keeping a prayer rule, of spending time each day with the reading of Holy Scriptures, and of being productive in our spiritual lives. We know the importance of frequent church attendance, yet we put it off. Tomorrow, we tell ourselves, will be the day we will begin to take our spiritual life seriously. Tomorrow we will set our priorities – and keep to them. But tomorrow never comes.

Let me be clear that I am not addressing the form of procrastination caused by depression, as depression and procrastination often go hand in hand. I am referring to laziness but also to fear of failure, in which we fear we will not be good enough at a task at hand, so we put it off.

We only need to take that first step, remembering, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” Phil. 4:13. Procrastination has power over our lives only if we let it.

Procrastination stands in the way as we combat habitual sins that keep us from making spiritual progress. It can keep us from reconciling with family members or friends who’ve been estranged for years. It can keep us from making a good confession, thus unburdening ourselves of guilt that has been weighing us down.

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

THREE WAYS TO KEEP THE FEAST OF THE ENTRY OF THE BIRTH-GIVER OF GOD INTO THE TEMPLE AT HOME...

Dedicate this day to God. As we celebrate the Virgin Mary fully dedicating her life to God on this day, we are provided with an opportunity to do the same. Perhaps we are not going to go and live in the church all day, but maybe instead of watching television or playing video games we can make an extra effort to pray more, or read from the Sacred Scriptures or another spiritual book.

Do something at your church. When Mary was in the Temple, each day she worked cleaning and performing other tasks. On this day, you could try to think of something you could do to help at church. You may not be able to do it this day for one reason or another but you could call your priest and let him know you would like to help clean, or work at a fundraiser, or do something during services you have not done before, such as read the Third Hour or chant the Epistle.

Consider your vocation in the Church. This is a good day to consider your vocation with the Church. Remember, this goes beyond, potentially, becoming a priest, monk, or nun. In the Orthodox Church, we all have a shared vocation to become saints (Romans 1:7), to be holy as God is holy (2 Peter 1:15), and to be perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect (Matthew 5:48). Some will be sanctified in the married life, some will be single, some will be clergy or monastic, and others will be laity. Some may work physically, others intellectually, as artists, scientists, business people, or professionals. Whatever line of work, as

His Grace, Bishop Gregory has shared repeatedly with the young people of our Diocese, "Be the best Orthodox Christian in your field."

Blessed Saviour, I rest in Your abiding presence, releasing every care and anxiety, receiving more and more of Your healing life in every part of my being: Proto. Ronald Hazuda Proto. Lawrence Barriger

Very Rev. James Gleason	Proto. John Gido	Very Rev. Thomas Kadlec	Rev. John Zboyovski
Matushka Larissa Hutnyan	Ann Arendas	Mark Bodnar	Denise Yenchek
Infant, Nathaniel Salio	Rose Jordanoff	Aurelia Abaray	Sandy Babbie
Mary Ribic	Stephanie Reinsell	Margaret Stempler	Mary Regdon
Margaret Banyas	Gary Clements	Janice Kerr	Valeria Bayurova
Curtis Miller	Emma Yuhasz	Mary Waselko	Esther Trumpower
Joanne Bodnar	Stephen Fucsko, III	Olga Grimes	Mary Ann Cherep
Deacon Thomas Yawkey	Ron Becker	Mary Ann Vasil	Charlene Atkinson
Helen & Mike Beres	Elmer Konar	Donna Patsen	Dolores Wasosky
Evelyn Dzvonic	Thomas Tihey	Margaret Yawkey	Wendy Stahl
Olivia O'Neill	Cathy Collett	John Michael Flaherty	Linda Hazelback
Ernie J. Vasil	Sandy Johnson	Peter & Pete Iaquina	William Lasobik
Matilda Benson	Mary Popovich	Pani Anna Marie Slovesko	Jean Rohaly
Anna Marie Kline	Evelyn Tihey	Leslie Sochka	Enzo Colantoni
Anna Toczek	Bill & Shirley Majernak	Eddie Urban	Ron Moxson
Ann Timko	Proto. Deacon Mike Sochka	George Pettinger	Marilyn Myers
Emma Lazorchik	Dorothy Broadright	Valencia Smith	Mary Dander
Leone Hawke	Candice Smith	Donna Touhey	Elmer Bakaysza
Barbara Wisnosky	Frannie Zatorsky	Mary Kalansky	Bob Toboz
Dorothy Lasobik	Michael Lavra	George Lavra	Rose Karpach
Henry Beben	Cynthia Dzvonic	Jami Botti	Eleanor Konar
Mary Ann Grossett	Mitch Teprag	Maria & Sophia Urban	Michael Dzvonic

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU TODAY AT THE PITTSBURGH DEANERY "ST. NICHOLAS CHARITY DINNER," BENEFITING CHRIST THE SAVIOUR SEMINARY! Doors will open at 2:30 P.M.

and a superb buffet-style dinner shall commence at 3:00 P.M. at Banquets Unlimited, located at 200 Bridge Street in Wilmerding, PA. The price of tickets are: \$30 for Adults; \$10 for Children under 12 years of age. Buy the ducats from the church office downstairs and come enjoy this festive gathering in the spirit of Saint Nicholas, the Patron Saint of our people. A Special Guest will appear at the Repast; a Carol Sing-A-Long is being planned and ornate Nativity-related decorations and gifts will be awarded lucky ticket holders in a Holiday Raffle Drawing. Our faithful members have already offered lovely prizes for this popular activity; submit a last-minute holiday gift to enhance the attractive display of awards!

COME AND SEE WHAT'S NEW AT THE BOOKSTORE... All occasions and Nativity cards, children's books and gifts, icons, jewelry, nesting dolls, books and more! Special orders can be made with a nominal deposit... Reserve a couple of the newly published **Keeping the Feasts at Home: In the Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Tradition**. The book is a spiritual and educational full-color reference for all to share the faith and traditions of our Diocese... Toddler Toy Box... for infants and toddlers too young for Sunday School. Please donate gently used infant/toddler toys to the bookstore. The toys will be available during Coffee Social/Sunday School.

GIVE TO THE ICON FUND, TODAY! We humbly seek the monetary gifts of additional faithful members to finance the additional artwork, such the Christian symbols, Scriptural verses, and crosses in the nave.

ST. NICHOLAS MEDOVNIKI COOKIE SALE! St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, 903 Ann Street, Homestead, PA 15120. Senior A.C.R.Y. Chapter #11. \$2.00 each; \$10.00/half dozen. Cookies will be individually wrapped with a special treat from St. Nicholas himself! Please contact Aaron Zak with orders: aaronzak@gmail.com or 724-910-9719. Pre-orders should be placed by Friday, December 9th. Cookies will be available for pickup starting Saturday, December 17th.

THE YEAR IS COMING TO AN END, SOON; ARE YOU CHURCH DUES FOR 2016 PAID IN FULL? Just one month remains in this present calendar year. Are your financial obligations to the parish still incomplete? If you have any questions regarding this matter, speak with Susan Semancik or Cheryl Tomko.

VISIT OF THE KARDIOTISSA "THE TENDER HEART" MYRRH-STREAMING ICON OF THE MOTHER OF GOD TO SAINT NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH, 70600 BARTON ROAD IN ST. CLAIRSVILLE, OH 43950 ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2016! Service to the Most Holy Mother of God at 6:30 P.M.

Presentation by Father Mark Leasure. Anointing of all present. This icon of the Mother of God from Saint George Orthodox Church in Taylor, PA has been streaming sweet-smelling myrrh for 5 years! Come and Pray with us! No media coverage or Photography in church, please!

CHRISTMAS CHORAL CONCERT – SUNDAY, DEC. 11, 2016 AT 5:30 P.M. IN HOLY CROSS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH IN MT. LEBANON, PA! Songs and Hymns of the Nativity shall be presented,

featuring Orthodox Choirs from the surrounding community. Free-will offering to support the work of FOCUS Pittsburgh. A reception following the concert will be offered by the Holy Cross Philoptochos.

[Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church](#)