

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, August 13, 2017

10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Matins: 8:00 A.M.

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 4:9-16

Resurrection Tone: 1

Gospel: Matthew 17:14-22

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

Altar Flowers' Sponsor: +**Dolores Pingor's** 10th Anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord, offered by the Family.

Birthday prayers are extended to: **Robert Paganico** on his 70th Birthday, offered by his Family and to: **Jeremy Jones** (Aug. 3), **Reagan Beauchamp** (Aug. 13), **Ernie Pido** (Aug. 20), **Albie Pido** (Aug. 20), **Claudia Pido** (Aug. 29), **E.J. Pido** (Aug. 29), & **Felicia Merritt** (Sept. 1), offered by Gaylene Merritt.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, +**Dolores Pingor** on the 10th Anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord, offered by the Family.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, +**Ann Timko**, offered by Trona & Family.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +**Michael Harris, Sr.**, +**Susanna Harris**, & +**Mary Dander**, offered by Grand-daughter Trona & niece.

MONDAY, (August 14)... Beginning of the Dormition Feast through Aug. 27 – No meat products are to be eaten on this first day of the fast.

TUESDAY, (August 15)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, +**Barbara Coe**, offered by the Zak Families.

FRIDAY, (August 18)... 7:00 P.M. Great Vespers on the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, with the Blessing of bread, wheat, wine & oil.

SATURDAY, (August 19)... 9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy on the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, with the Blessing of Grapes & fruits.

Sunday, August 20, 2017

11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Service of the 3rd Hour: 8:20 A.M.

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 9:2-12

Resurrection Tone: 2

Gospel: Matthew 18:23-35

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

Altar Candles' Sponsor: In loving memory of father, +**Thomas N. Yawkey**, mother, +**Yawkey (Hoven)** and wife, +**Dr. Margaret Yawkey**, offered by Fr. Deacon Thomas Yawkey & Family.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, +**Dr.**

Margaret Yawkey, offered by Fr. Deacon Thomas Yawkey, husband.

Matthew 17:14-22 –

17:14-16 – Sickness in Scripture is often connected to demonic activity. By **kneeling**, this father shows humility, but he lacks faith. While the **disciples** also lacked faith (v. 20), Christ rebukes the man for placing the blame on the disciples when it was his greater lack of faith that prevented the boy's healing. In effect, Jesus defends His disciples in front of the multitudes but later rebukes them privately (vv. 19-21), teaching us that we ought first to correct people in private.

17:19-21 – St. John Chrysostom notes this rebuke is directed at the nine disciples who could not cast out the demon, whereas “the pillars” of faith – Peter, James and John (Gal. 2:9) – were not included in the rebuke, as they had been on the mountain with Christ (v. 1).

This kind (v. 21) refers to all powers of darkness, not simply those that cause a particular illness. The banishment of demons requires **faith** (v. 20), **prayer**, and **fasting** (v. 21) for there is no healing and no victory in spiritual warfare without all three. Beginning with the Didache, the Fathers have taught that both the person in need of healing and the person performing the healing must believe, pray, and fast. On moving a mountain, while it is not recorded that an apostle literally moved a **mountain**, the Fathers are clear that they had this authority if the need had arisen (certain saints did make crevices appear in mountains). Furthermore, not everything the apostles accomplished was written down. Beyond the literal meaning, this promise is also an illustration of the power of faith and prayer in all areas of life. “Whatever we ask, without hesitation and believing in God's power, we shall receive” when we ask for spiritually profitable things (St. Theophilus).

17:22, 23 – Jesus predicts His death and Resurrection a second time to show that He is going to His Passion freely and not being taken against His will.

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.

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>

LIVING IN EXPECTATION OF MIRACLES

By Abbot Tryphon of The Morning Offering

While just a little boy in the Lutheran Church, I asked the pastor why we didn't see miracles in the church like those in the Bible. He told me miracles had been used in New Testament times to jumpstart the church and were not needed now. I remember feeling cheated, for I wanted to see miracles; I felt we still needed them.

A Coptic man in Irvine, California, prayed for help from St. George the Great Martyr, and the saint appeared before him and gave him a wooden cross. Within a short time, this cross was gushing forth holy myrrh, which healed those who were anointed with it.

The Myrrh-Streaming Icon of the Mother of God of Hawaii and The “Kardiotissa” Icon of the Theotokos and the Christ-Child of St. George's Church in Taylor, PA also performs miracles of healing, both physical and spiritual. Before bypass surgery, I anointed myself with myrrh from The Myrrh-Streaming Icon of the Mother of God of Hawaii, and the cardiologist canceled the surgery right in the operating room because it was no longer necessary.

The scriptures tell us we can move mountains if we only have the faith of a mustard seed, yet many don't expect to see a miracle, even when they pray for one. I suspect it is because they don't think their faith is strong enough. We go about our lives as though there probably is a God out there, but He can hardly be interested in us.

If we begin to live each day with the expectation that God is not only there, but is actually interacting with us in a real way, we soon experience the truth of this. We begin to see with new eyes and hear with new ears how much God enters into each and every moment of our lives.

Faith must be built up little by little, much as a painter puts on layers of paint until one day, after layer upon layer, a beautiful painting is resting on the easel. Faith is formed through layers of learning to trust, so that one day we recognize the miracles that have been happening around us all along.

BECOME DISTINGUISHED, AGAIN, THIS YEAR! The Distinguished Diocesan Donors program strives to provide the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese with the necessary resources to bring a resurgence of life and an abundance of growth to its apostolates and ministries. Some of the active Apostolates and Ministries of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese include: **YOUTH** – The Apostolate for Youth serves as a catalyst for effective youth ministry on the Diocesan, Deanery and local parish levels. **CAMP NAZARETH** – As an Apostolate of our Diocese, Camp Nazareth serves as its Youth Camp, Retreat & Conference Center and strives to offer a peaceful and safe environment in which all users can deepen their relationship with God. **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATION** – The Apostolate for Information technology and communication oversees all Diocesan technologies and provides support to parishes wishing to implement similar technologies. **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** – The Apostolate for Christian Education provides resources that foster the spiritual growth of those seeking to teach and learn about our Orthodox Faith. **CHRIST THE SAVIOUR SEMINARY** – As an Apostolate, Christ the Saviour Seminary educates and trains Orthodox men for the priesthood and provides theological and spiritual formation for those who are interested in learning more about the Orthodox Faith. **MISSION & EVANGELISM** – The Apostolate for Parish Growth, Mission and Evangelization oversees missionary outreach, assists mission parishes and helps support the spiritual renewal and growth of the existing parishes of the Diocese. We invite YOU to be a part of the abundant growth!

GARAGE SALE AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH IN NORTH SIDE PITTSBURGH – FRIDAY (AUGUST 25) AND SATURDAY (AUGUST 26) FROM 9 A.M. TO 3 P.M. EACH DAY! Save the date! St. John the Baptist (2688 California Ave., Pgh., PA 15212) will have their Annual Garage Sale. The Ethnic Kitchen will be open for Eat-In or Take-Out. Tax-deductible clean donations for the garage sale will be accepted beginning on Sunday, May 21st.

SAVE THE DATES: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2017 FOR THE ANNUAL ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH PICNIC – Susan Miller will be handling the Chinese Auction again this year for the picnic. She will be accepting any donations, starting today following the Divine Liturgy; **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 FOR THE FOOD FESTIVAL!**

ST. MICHAEL'S ORTHODOX CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN WOOD, PA ON SATURDAY, SEPT. 23, 2017! As part of their celebration, they will have a 100 Year Anniversary Banquet the RW&BT Vol. Fire Co. Hall in Robertsdale following The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy being celebrated at St. Michael's in Wood, beginning at 10:00 A.M. The deadline to order tickets is Sept. 1, 2017.

PITTSBURGH ORTHODOX YOUNG ADULTS WILL BE MEET TODAY AT 6:30 P.M. AT THE SHARP EDGE BEER EMPORIUM IN SHADYSIDE! Guest speaker will be Father Thomas Soroka, pastor of St. Nicholas Church in McKees Rocks, who will speak on "Orthodoxy and Islam". Bishop Thomas of the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese is scheduled to be the guest speaker on Sunday, September 10. Young adults (ages 21-39) are invited to attend these "Orthodoxy on Tap" encounters.

COME, HELP US MAKE PIROHI THIS TUESDAY, AUG. 15TH, AT 6 'O CLOCK! It is time to get ready for our fall food festival. Lend us your culinary talents for an evening of fun and work. Let's make October's festival one of the best we have ever had! With your help, we can do it! Let Jean Colantoni know if you are willing to give us a helping hand. Phone her at (412) 491-7090.

BRING GRAPES AND FRUITS FOR SANCTIFICATION ON SATURDAY'S FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD AT THE 9:30 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY! The blessing of grapes, as well as other fruits and vegetables on this day is the most beautiful and adequate sign of the final transfiguration of all things in Christ. It signifies the ultimate flowering and fruitfulness of all creation in the paradise of God's unending Kingdom of Life where all will be transformed by the glory of the Lord.

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