

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

Assistant Cantors – Donald Bodnar Jr. & Michele Tomko

Parish Council President: Tom Pingor

Vol. 6; No. 8

Sunday, February 25, 2018

SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

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

Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26; 32-40; 12:1-2; Resurrection Tone: 5 Gospel: John 1:43-51

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 93, 179-180 / Red Book: 108, 201-203

Altar Candles' Sponsor: In memory of +**Dennis Ducan**, offered by the Family.

Children's Procession carrying the holy icons and Recitation of the Passage from the Synodikon of the Seventh Ecumenical Council.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, +**Mary Frances** on the 7th Anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord, offered by husband, Andrew Skero.

4:30 P.M. Triumph of Orthodoxy Vespers and Procession with Icons at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church, 123 Gilkeson Road, Pittsburgh, (Mt. Lebanon) PA 15228. His Grace, Bishop Iriney, Bishop of Eastern America The Serbian Orthodox Church, Presiding Hierarch shall deliver the homily. Light Lenten refreshments served in the parish hall, afterwards.

TUESDAY, FEB. 27... 9:00 A.M. Panachida service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, +**Peter Mochnach**, offered by Albert & Jackie Maurer.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28... 9:00 A.M. Panachida service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +**Elizabeth** and +**John Janosko**, offered by Florence Vehec (Daughter). 7:00 P.M. Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts (3-hr. Fast of food or drink before partaking of Holy Communion).

FRIDAY, MARCH 2... 7:00 P.M. Akathist Hymn to the Most Holy Mother of God.

SATURDAY, MARCH 3... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy on the 2nd Soul Saturday with Panachida and the Reading of the Parish Diptychs (names of all the departed).

Sunday, March 4, 2018

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST: ST. GREGORY PALAMAS

Matins: 8:00 A.M.

Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-14; 2:1-3 Resurrection Tone: 6 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 96, 181-182 / Red Book: 111, 203-204

Bulletin Sponsor: In memory of +**Edward Pingor** on the 19th Anniversary of his falling asleep in the Lord, offered by his Family.

Altar Candles' Sponsor: In memory of +**Mildred Sukal**, offered by Cheryl & Michele.

Panachida Service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, +**Edward Pingor** on the 19th Anniversary of his falling asleep in the Lord, offered by his Family.

Panachida Service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, +Ann Timko on her birthday (3-1-'18), offered by Trona & Family.

4:00 P.M. Syrian Relief Prayer Service and 5:00 P.M.

Dinner at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 419 South Dithridge Street in Pittsburgh (Oakland), PA.

John 1:43-51 –

1:35-45 – The Lord's first **disciples** had been followers of **John** the Baptist. They were **Andrew** (v. 40); **Simon**, who was also known as Peter, or **Cephas** (vv. 41, 42); **Philip** (v. 43); **Nathanael** (v. 45), who was also known as Bartholomew; and an unnamed disciple (vv. 35-40), who some Fathers say was John, the author of this Gospel. It was a common literary device for a writer not to give his own name.

1:47 – No deceit means both having a pure heart and being straightforward with others.

1:48-50 – What exactly occurred **under the fig tree** is not stated. St. John Chrysostom teaches this was the meeting place of Philip and Nathanael (vv. 45, 46), and that Jesus was praising Nathanael for being so diligent and careful in his search for the Messiah. Christ's foreknowledge and His ability to see into Nathanael's heart stir him to this confession of faith (v. 49).

1:51 – The title **Son of Man** is a title of the Messiah that had a level of mystery in its meaning, indicating a man of heavenly origin who would usher in the Kingdom of God (Dan. 7:13, 14). In an Old Testament prophecy, Jacob dreamed of a ladder connecting earth to heaven, upon which **the angels of God** were **ascending and descending** (Gen. 28:12-15). Jesus is this "ladder" who unites earth to heaven, and therefore is this Son of Man.

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>

GREAT LENT

Service as Almsgiving

Metropolitan Nicolae, Romanian Orthodox Metropolia of the Americas

As we begin our journey once more to Pascha, the celebration of our Lord Jesus Christ's trampling down death by death, I invite you to enter this holy season with reflection. We are called during this time to devote additional effort to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving – thus, we mark Great Lent as a season apart. Let us carefully examine our thoughts, words, and deeds, seeking to make them reflections of God's mercy, so generously bestowed on us.

These pages offer considerations written by IOCC board members, past and current. They offer thoughts on the services we each offer to Christ through IOCC, directly and indirectly, as we care for the physical and emotional needs of people who have survived disasters or who face adversity every day. Those who have seen their lives disturbed, whether by floods or hurricanes or conflict or poverty, are those whom Christ calls His Church to lovingly serve. And when we do, we offer hope for renewed life, despite hardship.

As we journey through Great Lent in the hope of Resurrection, let us look to this call to service, and consider ways that service might be alms. Let us keep always before us

the example of Christ, the One who washed His disciples' feet that we may humbly serve wherever we are able.

THE SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

First Sunday of Lent

Very Rev. Leonid Kishkovsky, Orthodox Church in America

He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." – John 1:43

Christ's call to those who seek salvation is straightforward: Follow Me. And the remarkable thing is that so many did: they chose to leave what they knew and accompany a charismatic stranger along a path they could not imagine. They believed Him, and they acted on that conviction by following Him.

Follow Me. I think it is worthwhile, as we begin the journey of Great and Holy Lent, to hear these words with fresh ears.

To follow Christ – and Holy Scripture makes this clear – is to serve our neighbor. Christ, through Whom all things were made, became a human being and served others with deep compassion. He fed the hungry, He healed the sick, He washed His followers' feet.

As we follow Christ toward the Cross this Lent, let us renew our commitment to serving wherever and whenever we can, in ways small or large, because this is our offering to Christ.

Most Holy Trinity, give me strength for the journey that lies ahead, and give me the heart of a servant, that I may humbly offer myself to You.

SARRIS CANDY FOR PASCHA DELIVERY DATE IS EXPECTED 3/25/'18! Your support is appreciated!

TWO DIOCESAN CLERGY BOOKS ARE OFFERED AT HALF-PRICE FROM THE SEMINARY

BOOKSTORE! Lives of the Seventy Apostles (Fr. Leonty Durkit) (former Diocesan priest). 1997 – sale price: \$3.00.. Sermons from Sundays (late Fr. Stephen Sedor) 1963 – sale price: \$2.00. These two excellent clergy publications can be purchased at the Gift Shop in the lower level of the church, today.

DECLARE YOUR ENTRY INTO A MARCH MADNESS BLOCK POOL THIS YEAR!

The Saint Nicholas Church Men's Club is selling tickets for their 2018 NCAA Men's Basketball March Madness Block Pool. Tickets are \$25 each, with 31 chances to win cash prizes of \$25 up to \$500. A flyer is posted on the bulletin board. For additional information or to purchase a ticket, please see Brian Smoley or Aaron Zak.

COME AND HELP US MAKE PIROHI ON TUESDAY, FEB. 27TH AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE PARISH HALL!

Multitudes are asking when our St. Nicholas parish will be selling the irresistible Slavic delicacy. Thus, we need your support and assistance to make a variety of these "favorites of Lent". Come to work and socialize with our talented culinary personnel on Tuesday, Feb. 27 at 6 P.M. in the auditorium. We work, communicate and have fun at the same time!

SEE AND HEAR BISHOP GREGORY'S VIDEO MESSAGE FOR LENT!

His Grace is offering another challenge to all the beloved members of our Diocese. Here is the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3coy-kRxPL4> It is also posted on the Diocesan Website.

AS BISHOP GREGORY PRESENTS "OUR CALLING AS DISCIPLES AND EVANGELISTS" AT THE DIOCESAN LENTEN RETREAT ON SATURDAY, MARCH 17 AT 12 NOON, WE ARE IMPORED TO SIGN OUR NAMES TO THE PARTICIPANTS' LIST IN THE AUDITORIUM!

All parishioners of St. Nicholas reap the spiritual benefits that come from spending time in retreat, even if only for a day. Make certain that you are a participant in this Lenten encounter for sake of your immortal soul. Prioritize that day! The Schedule is also follows: 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy on All-Souls' Saturday; 11:00 A.M. Coffee Social; 12:00 Noon: First Session of the Hierarch's Presentation; 1:30 P.M. – Lunch; 2:30 P.M. Bishop's Second Session, with a Question & Answer Segment; 4:00 P.M. Vespers. This Central Region Diocesan Lenten Retreat at our church includes a Continental Breakfast and a Light Lunch. Cost: Free-will Offering. Registration deadline is: March 10th. Speak with Cathy Pawlik in person if you have any questions regarding this "venture into the desert for spiritual renewal". Or, you may email her at cmpawlik@verizon.net or phone her at (412) 461-2110 residence; (412) 889-6702 (Cell Phone).

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE SYRIAN RELIEF DINNER & PRAYER SERVICE ON SUNDAY, MARCH 4TH AT THE 4 P.M. SERVICE AND LENTEN DINNER AT 5 P.M.!

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral, located at 419 South Dithridge Street in Pittsburgh (Oakland) PA is the host site. Tickets are \$50 (Adult); \$20 for Students (age 7-18) and Free for Children 6 yrs. old and younger. You may purchase the ducats from Robert Ruschak, our parish IOCC Rep. Or, you can register online at iocc.org/pittsburgh Or register with Zelfa at 412-417-4706 or Mari at 412-915-7380 or Stephanie at 412-414-5588. Make checks payable to IOCC c/o Nick Terezis, 306 Marberry Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15215. Tickets held at the door, not mailed. Tables for groups of 8-10 only. Purchase tickets by March 2. For info. or to volunteer at the meal, call Zelfa at 412-417-4706. A supervised children playroom will be available.

CHURCH OFFICERS SHALL CONDUCT THEIR REGULAR MONTHLY SESSION ON MONDAY, FEB. 26TH AT 7 P.M. IN THE PARISH HALL! Auditors will meet at 6:30 P.M. All parishioners are welcome to attend these monthly board meetings, and although only board members can vote, anyone can participate and express their opinion.

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