

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: STNICKHOMESTEAD@GMAIL.COM

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

Assistant Cantors – Donald Bodnar Jr. & Michele Tomko

Parish Council President: Tom Pingor

Vol. 6; No. 24

Sunday, June 17, 2018

3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST AND FATHER'S DAY

Matins: 8:00 A.M.

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M. with Special Petitions intoned for all the Fathers of the Church & Memorial (Panachida) Service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +All of the Deceased Fathers of Saint Nicholas Parish.

50th Wedding Anniversary Service for Dave & Andrea Urban.

Epistle: Romans 5:1-10

Resurrection Tone: 2

Gospel: Matthew 6:22-33

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

Bulletin Sponsor: **Dave & Andrea Urban's** 50th Wedding Anniversary (June 16), offered by the Family.

Wedding Anniversary petitions intoned for **Dave & Andrea Urban** on their 50th Anniversary in holy Matrimony.

Father's Day Luncheon served in the parish auditorium following the Liturgy.

Thursday, (June 21)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +**John Sr.**, +**Suzanna**, +**Suzanna**, +**John Jr.**, +**Mary**, +**Helen & Anna Mihalik**, offered by Catherine & Emma Mihalik.

Saturday, (June 23)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +**George & Mary Fedornock**, offered by Mary Rusnak (Daughter).

6:15-6:45 P.M.: Hearing of Confessions.

7:00 P.M.: Vespers

Sunday, June 24, 2018

4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: Romans 6:18-23

Resurrection Tone: 3

Gospel: Matthew 8:5-13

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 87-89 / Red Book: 102-105

Altar Candles' Sponsor: In memory of +**Andy Talarovich**, on the 3rd Anniversary of his falling asleep in the Lord, offered by Friends.

Panachida Service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +**Michael Labik, Jr.** and +**Helen Beres**, offered by Andrea Labik.

Panachida Service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +**George Pacolt**, +**Ann Ondrejcek**, +**Helen Maurer**, +**Grace Ondrejcek**, & +**Olga Simmers**, offered by Andrew & Lucy Tomko.

Matthew 6:22-33 –

6:22, 23 – The mind (Greek "nous") is the spiritual **eye** of the soul; it illuminates the inner man and governs the will. Keeping the mind wholesome and pure is fundamental to the Christian life.

6:24 – As slaves serving **two masters**, people attempt to maintain an attachment to both earthly and heavenly things. But this is impossible, since both demand full allegiance. Jesus calls **mammon** (“riches”) a master not because wealth is evil by nature, but because of the control it has over people.

6:25-27 – Jesus is warning against anxiety, not against thoughtful planning. Our physical well-being is directly dependent on God, and only indirectly on **food, drink, and clothing**. Anxiety over earthly things demonstrates a lack of faith in God’s care.

6:32 – Because **the Gentiles** served pagan idols, they remained consumed by dependence on earthly **things**. Those who follow God can be freed from this dependence.

6:33 – **The kingdom of God** is the central theme of Jesus’ teaching, and **His righteousness** is the subject of the Sermon on the Mount. Calling us to be free from anxiety about earthly things, Jesus directs us to look to heaven, secure in the faith that God will provide needed earthly blessings.

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/acroddiocese> Twitter: <https://twitter.com/acrodnews> You Tube: <https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>

THE BEST BASIS FOR OUR PRIORITIES
(The Morning Offering by Abbot Tryphon)

The Apostle Paul taught us in 1 Timothy 3:15 that the Church is the “pillar and ground of the truth,” and it is to this Church that the Apostles entrusted the Faith “once for all delivered to the saints” (Jude 3) as its guardian and protector. Thus, the Church services, liturgies, prayers, and sacraments are all essential if we are to be authentic as people of faith.

St. Athanasius the Great said, “In accordance with the apostolic faith delivered to us by tradition from the Fathers, I have delivered the tradition, without inventing anything extraneous to it. What I have learned, that I inscribed, conformably with the Holy Scriptures.

It is through this Tradition that we bind ourselves to Christ, serving only Him. All else must be secondary. When the Lord says, “You cannot serve God and mammon,” He is referring to things of a material nature (Matt. 6:24); mammon is the Aramaic word for “god of wealth”. He asks us all to declare whom we serve: God or mammon? And the way to determine whom or what you love the most is to see where your loyalties lie. When you face a choice between God and anything else, what is your choice? Do you choose to attend church on Sunday, or do you choose to sleep in? Do you prioritize your life around your relationship with God, or do sporting events, vacations, family outings, entertainment, or friends take center stage? Do prayer, reading the Bible, serving others, financially supporting the Church and its mission, and giving alms serve as your central theme, or do you choose personal gain and pleasure as central in your life?

GOD IS A FATHER!

What a tremendous challenge Christ made to all fathers when He said that God is a “Father.” One thing this means is that youngsters will get their first idea of what God is

like from what their own fathers are like! What a great responsibility this alone places on every father! Another thing it means is that fathers must treat their children the way Almighty God treats all His people. Of course, the one great way God treats us is in pure love.

It is interesting to compare the relationship of God to Mankind and father to his children. God is the creator; it is from Him that all life comes. So, in the family, a man becomes a father when he passes on life to a child. God is the great provider; it is from Him that mankind receives the necessities of life. So, in the family, the father is foremost the provider of food and clothing and shelter for the children. God is the law-giver, it is from Him that we have received the great rules for living. So, in the family, the father represents authority and law as he acts in God's behalf. God is the great lover of man; it is He who sent His Son to suffer and die for us. So, in the family, the father is to so love his children that he often expends his very life in behalf of them.

Our Lord once said, "He that has seen Me, has seen the Father." What Jesus is, that's what the Father is, too. Like Father like Son. If this is so, then surely every father in our church today will strive to be the finest Christian parent he can possibly be, for his children shall be like him. Amen.

- +Very Rev. Protoperbyter Stephen Sedor

ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH – MONTHLY BOARD MEETING! Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church shall conduct its monthly Church Officers' Session this month on Monday, June 25, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. Auditors will meet at 6:30 P.M. All parishioners are welcome to attend these monthly board meetings, and, although only parish leaders can vote, anyone can participate and express their opinions.

OFFER A CAMPERSHIP (\$315) OR ANY GENEROUS SUM OF FINANCES TO SEND ALL OF OUR CHILDREN OF CAMPER AGE TO NAZARETH THIS SUMMER FOR THE DIOCESAN CAMPING SESSIONS! The youths make "friends forever" at Camp and live an authentic Orthodox Christian life-style.

HOSPITAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! A variety of meaningful volunteer opportunities are available with Jefferson Hospital. Whether you would enjoy working directly with patients in the surgery center, volunteering in the Gift Shop, behind the scenes in an office or as a caring presence for patients who may be dying alone, volunteering at Jefferson is a wonderful way to give to others. To learn more, contact Janet O'Brien at 412-469-5885. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Janet at (412) 469-7038. Sincerely, Janet M. O'Brien, Director, Community Outreach and Volunteer Resources.

ALTAR BOYS' RETREAT IN JOHNSTOWN, PA AND YOUNG WOMEN'S ENCOUNTER IN WINDBER, PA – JULY 1-4, 2018! "Encounter 2018" for the boys begins with registration from 6 pm till 8 pm at our Christ the Saviour Seminary. The Retreat takes place at the theological school, Cathedral and Ed. Center, plus, SS. Peter & Paul Church facilities in Windber. For the outing this year, we will be traveling to TEEN QUEST in Somerset, PA. All registration will be electronic this year and must be made no later than, Friday, June 15th. The Young Women's Encounter includes spiritual discussions and special events. The YWE is an opportunity for our young women, ages 12 to 18, to have fellowship with their Orthodox sisters in Christ while learning to love God and serve the Church with their own unique gifts. For registration, check www.acrod.org Space is limited! Questions? Contact Pani Eleni Stagon at acrodywe@gmail.com

ALL FATHERS OF THE CHURCH AND DISTINGUISHED MEN OF THE PARISH ARE KINDLY ASKED TO PROCEED DOWNSTAIRS AFTER THE LITURGY THIS MORNING FOR A SCRUMPTIOUS LUNCHEON MEAL, HOSTED WONDERFULLY BY THE MOTHERS & DAUGHTERS' GUILD!

CHRISTMAS IN JULY VENDOR/CRAFT SHOW IN ST. NICHOLAS PARISH HALL ON SATURDAY, JULY 21, 2018 FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M. This exciting mid-summer event will feature over (20) of your favorite vendors and crafters. Plus, a Russian Auction (filled with fascinating and unique prizes), Caf e Nikolai (well-stocked with our parish's irresistible pirohi) and Raffles galore where all participants are bound to win something. Invite your family members, neighbors and friends at work to stop over at our church auditorium for a lively affair that appeals to everyone!

RESERVE THE DATE OF SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, ON YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE PITTSBURGH DEANERY PICNIC IN SCHENLEY PARK (OAKLAND SECTION OF PITTSBURGH) FROM 12 NOON UNTIL 5 P.M. It will be a covered-dish format where faithful of the five parishes in the Pittsburgh District will sign their names as participants and list what food entr ees they will be offering for the picnic. A children's playground is close to the site, and we hope to have entertaining "Rovin' Musicians" offering plenty of good songs and delightful music to dance to.

LET'S FILL THE BACKPACKS FOR THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PUPILS IN THE DUQUESNE SCHOOL DISTRICT THIS SUMMER TO GIVE TO THE STUDENTS WHEN THEY START BACK IN AUGUST! Our parish is working with F.O.C.U.S. America to supply needy elementary & middle school

students backpacks, filled with specific school supplies, to further their education, in financially-depressed districts. Ask our projector coordinator, George Matey and assistant, Jean Colantoni, how you can help!

[Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church](#)