

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. 32

Sunday, August 12, 2018

11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Service of the Third 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 Flowers' Sponsor: In memory of +**Dolores Pingor**, on the 11th 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, +**Dolores M. Pingor**, on the 11th Anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord, offered by the Family.

Tuesday, (August 14)... Dormition Fast Begins (No meat products are to be eaten on this day).

Wednesday, (August 15)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy of Special Intention for the health of **Ronald Joseph Zak & Adam Richard Zak** on their birthdays, offered by the Zak Family.

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

Sunday, August 19, 2018

12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & FEAST OF THE HOLY TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD, WITH THE BLESSING OF GRAPES AND OTHER FRUITS

Matins: 8:00 A.M.

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Resurrection Tone: 3

Gospel: Matthew 19:16-26 (Sunday)

2 Peter 1:10-19

Matthew 17:1-9 (Feast)

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 87-89, 166-169 / Red Book: 102-105, 187-191

Matthew 18:23-35 –

18:21-35 – Seventy times seven. Symbolic of an unlimited amount. This parable illustrates the need for unlimited forgiveness. **Ten thousand talents** (v. 24) is an impossible sum, more than a laborer could earn in several lifetimes. **A hundred denari** (v. 28) is a significant amount from an earthly perspective (about 3 months' wages), yet it is a pittance compared to the debt owed the **king**. God not only stays the punishment we deserve, but forgives us the entire debt as well (v. 27). **Because God forgives us**, we in turn are required to grant the gift of forgiveness to others.

18:25 – Certain Fathers give a spiritual interpretation to the punishment described here. The man represents the soul, the wife represents the body and the children represents a person's deeds. Thus, the body and the deeds are given over to slavery, that is as to Satan, so that the soul might possibly be saved.

1 Co. 5:5 –In the Church there is protection from the destructive power of **Satan** (Mt. 16:18). This protection is here removed through excommunication in the hope that, having experienced the difference between God’s rule and Satan’s, this offender may repent and in the end **be saved**. **The flesh** (Gr. sarx) is not synonymous with “body” (Gr. soma). St. Paul in verse 3 is calling for the **destruction** not of the body but rather of the lusts of the flesh.

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>

PUT ASIDE RESENTMENT

By Abbot Tryphon in “The Morning Offering”

The decision to forgive another person a wrong done to us begins when we let go of resentment and thoughts of revenge. Forgiving someone does not mean we forget what they did to us, for that may be impossible. The memory of the hurt may always remain with you, but when you decide to forgive the person who wronged you, the grip of resentment is put aside. When you forgive someone, it is even possible to find yourself filled with compassion and empathy for the person, for an act of forgiveness opens a heart to God’s grace.

When we forgive people, we are not denying their responsibility for hurting or offending us, nor are we justifying their act. We can forgive them without approving or excusing their transgression against us. The act of forgiving another opens our hearts to the peace that brings closure to hurt and pain, and it opens us up to the love and peace that comes from living a life without resentment.

If we find ourselves struggling to forgive, it is a good reminder to recall hurtful things we’ve done to others and to remember when we’ve been forgiven. It is especially good to recall how God has forgiven us and to call upon Him to give us the grace needed to put aside our resentment and truly forgive the other person. Being quick to forgive and putting aside all thoughts of revenge will open our heart to a joyful and peaceful life.

Finally, if we pray for those who’ve offended us, we open the door to all kinds of possibilities. When we ask God to help the person who has been unkind and hurtful, our own hearts receive healing, for when we’ve forgiven others, grace abounds.

As Peter wrote, we should do good to others, “not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.” (I Peter 3:9).

ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH – MONTHLY BOARD MEETING! Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church shall conduct its monthly Church Officers’ Session this month on Monday, August 20, 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 CAMPSHIP (\$315) OR ANY GENEROUS SUM OF FINANCES AND OUR “LEADERS OF TODAY” WILL NEVER FORGET THE CHARITY THAT YOU MANIFESTED FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF OUR CHURCH! The youths make “friends forever” at Camp and live an authentic Orthodox Christian

life-style. Camperships generously offered this year have been graciously received from: Dave & Andrea Urban - \$500; Sue Semancik - \$300; Sr. A.C.R.Y. Chapter - \$315; Tom Pingor - \$300; Leslie & Michael Sochka - \$300; Andrea Labik - \$315; Men's Club - \$315; Helen Revak - \$150, Cheryl Tomko - \$100; Mothers & Daughters Guild - \$315.

ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH – ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC – Our annual church picnic will be on Sunday, September 16, 2018 at the Park in West Mifflin. Parishioners are already volunteering to help with all of the activities necessary to have a successful social outing, however, we are seeking someone to act as a chairperson of the picnic committee. This is an important position and we need a capable leader to assume this responsibility. If you want to serve our church and demonstrate your leadership abilities, here is your opportunity. Please see our church president, Thomas Pingor if you are interested.

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 entrées 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.

ON BEHALF OF FOCUS – NORTH AMERICA: Jean Colantoni and George Matey would like to thank the Saint Nicholas Mothers and Daughters Guild and the following individuals for their financial contributions toward the back-to-school backpack program: Fr. and Pani Zak, Richard & Andrea Babbie, Jean Colantoni, Carole Dunn, Mary Janicko, Pam Kimbrell, Mildred Koreny and John Koreny, Andrea Labik, Michael Lakatos, Mary Lou Lenart, George J. Matey, Al and Jackie Maurer, Tom Pingor, Helen Revak and Pat Buck, Joan Ribovich, Alex and Ruth Salio, Cheryl Tomko, Michele Tomko, Alex and Betty Wuchevich, Barb Yuhasz and Adam Zak. Thank you! Without your support, this project would not have been a success!

COME AND HELP US MAKE A VARIETY OF PIROHI ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 21ST AT 6:00 P.M. We want to get an early start on the Fall Food Festival with the making of the Slavic delicacy. Exhibit your wonderful stewardship traits for the Lord's Bride (The Church) and enjoy the fellowship of believers who share our precious faith. Commit yourself to the Annual Fall Food Festival (Oct. 12 & 13). Sign-up sheets will be posted in the parish hall shortly, so please sign up. Be involved! Be engaged! Thank You!

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST 26TH ANNUAL GARAGE SALE – AUGUST 24-25 IN NORTHSIDE PITTSBURGH! There will be baby items, home accessories, kitchenware, books, CD's, DVD's, clothing and much more! There will be hundreds of items under a buck! Our ethnic food kitchen will also be open (eat-in or take-out). Come Friday, August 24th & Saturday, August 25th from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M. each day. Cash only – rain or shine – no early birds – "look for the gold-domes" at 2688 California Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15212 – Please call 412-748-0148 with any questions.

MISSION WORK IN KENYA AND ALBANIA! Help the Orthodox mission work in **Kenya** and **Albania** with focused outreaches to women and youth. Clergy wives and women lay leaders Teams to Albania (Sept. 17-27) and Kenya (Nov. 19-28) to offer encouragement, education and guidance to women in their roles to strengthen the church's witness. Team opportunities in Kenya – Nairobi (Nov. 28 – Dec. 8) and Kisumu (Nov. 28 – Dec. 8) – to participate in the church's outreach to youth and young adults. Participate in the unending work of Orthodox missions. Apply today to serve on an Orthodox Mission Team at www.ocmc.org!

E-WASTE COLLECTION THIS SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 2018 FROM 10 A.M. TO 2 P.M. AT HOMESTEAD FRICK PARK, CORNER OF 9TH AVE. & AMITY STREET! Do you have old electronics that you want to get rid of? Don't throw them away! Homestead Borough has teamed up with Republic Services, so you can dispose of your old electronics easily, responsibly and for FREE! Just drop them off at Frick Park, Saturday, August 18, from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M! Materials Collected: Maximum 2 tube TV's or monitors, Unlimited e-waste material, Computers, Printers, Fax Machines, Keyboards, DVD players, CD players. This activity is for residents only. Valid ID will be required.

SAVE THE DATE – COME & SEE – SEPTEMBER 22ND 2018 – NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS GREEK ORTHODOX MONASTERY - With the Blessings of His Eminence Metropolitan Savas, Gerontissa Theophano & her Sisterhood warmly welcome you to: **5th ANNUAL DINNER BANQUET** in memory of Gerontissa Taxiarchia at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral. 3:30 Vespers; 6:00 Dinner. Salmon or Chicken Entrees: \$100 per ticket. RSVP Online Now: 2018MonasteryBanquet.Eventbrite.com 121 St. Elias Lane – Saxonburgh, PA 16056 724-352-3999 www.nativityofthetheotokosmonastery.org

WITNESS THE BLESSING OF GRAPES AND OTHER FRUITS AND PARTAKE OF THEM NEXT SUNDAY (August 19) on the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord!

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church