

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

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Sunday, September 2, 2018

14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4

Resurrection Tone: 5

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 93-95, 169-172 / Red Book: 108-110, 192-195

Wednesday, (Sept. 5)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, **+Anna Vranai**, offered by Mary (Daughter), and for the deceased, **+Rose Evancho**, offered by +Martha Adams.

Friday, (Sept. 7)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, **+Theresa** and **+Andrew Timko**, offered by Mary Godish and Margaret Fedor.

Sunday, September 9, 2018

15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Matins: 8:00 A.M.

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4:6-15

Resurrection Tone: 6

Gospel: Matthew 22:35-46

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 96-98 / Red Book: 111-114

Panachida Service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, **+Mary Yarina** on the 25th Anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord and for: **+John Yarina**, offered by Mary Ann Kelch (Daughter).

Panachida Service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, **+Rosalia Fesz**, offered by Mary Soffel (Daughter).

Matthew 22:1-14 – Like the preceding parables, this one also proclaims the transfer of the Kingdom from the faithless Jews to the Gentiles. It is set as a joyful wedding banquet (v. 2), for Christ is often called the "Bridegroom" (9:15; John 3:29), and St. Paul uses a marriage analogy for the Kingdom (Eph. 5:21-33).

The repeated sending out of **servants** shows the Father's great desire to have His people with Him in the Kingdom. The first group (v. 3) is interpreted to be Moses and those with him, while the second group (v. 4) is composed of the prophets. These groups call those initially invited – the Jews. The third group (v. 9) represents the apostles sent to the Gentiles, those not initially invited, but now called.

22:4 – The **oxen** represent the sacrifices of the Old Covenant, while the **fatted cattle** represent the eucharistic bread of the New Covenant. (Fatted is better translated "wheat-fed," or even more literally "formed from wheat." Thus, both the Old and New Covenants are fulfilled at the wedding of Christ and His Church.

22:7 – **Burned up their city:** St. John Chrysostom teaches that Christ is prophesying the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in AD 70, and thus attributes this destruction to an act

of God rather than simply to that of men. Nevertheless, God showed His patience by waiting some 40 years from the time of Christ, giving the entire generation a chance to repent.

22:11-13 – The **wedding garment** would have been provided by the king, and therefore the man had no excuse for not wearing one; thus he is **speechless**. His refusal to wear the garment that was provided is an illustration of those who refuse God’s hospitality, or who want His Kingdom on their own terms. Specifically, the garment refers to the baptismal garment, and by extension, a life of faith, repentance, virtue, and charity. Without these, a person will ultimately **be cast into outer darkness**.

22:14 – **For many**: is an Aramaic expression meaning “for all.”

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>

SUBMITTING TO THE WILL OF GOD By Abbot Tryphon in “The Morning Offering”

Pride keeps us from living according to the will of God, and it causes us to focus only on self. Without submission to God, we wallow in the darkness of our fallen world, and our true self remains dormant. We cannot submit to God without humility, and when we do, we gain true freedom and are able to be triumphant over the powers of darkness that attack us. “Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you” (James 4:7).

Our submission to the will of God begins when we submit as children to our parents and as adults to lawful authority, be it civil or ecclesiastical. The Apostle Peter wrote, “You younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for ‘God resists the proud, / But gives grace to the humble” (1 Peter 5:5). Submission to lawful authority builds humility, for self-will is by necessity set aside.

Submission begins with trust. We trust that God loves us and that our submission to His commandments will return us to our inheritance, which is God’s Kingdom. In our submission, we permit His grace to transform our fallen nature and return us to full worship in our Father’s Kingdom. In submitting to the will of God, the Lord Himself begins to lead us, and we are healed of our sickness and made whole.

When we submit to God, our soul is filled with the Holy Spirit. His Kingdom is actualized in our heart; and we become living tabernacles of the Most High. The soul that submits to the will of God fears nothing. And whatever should happen, it says, “It is God’s will.” When the body is ill, such a person thinks, “God has seen fit to send me this illness for my salvation; otherwise I would not be ill.” When such a person is persecuted, he is not disturbed, for he knows that God is with him. And so his soul remains at peace.

ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH – MONTHLY BOARD MEETING! Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church shall conduct its monthly Church Officers’ Session on Monday, September 24, 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.

MOTHERS & DAUGHTERS' TAILGATE PARTY ON SUNDAY, SEPT. 9TH DURING THE FELLOWSHIP HOUR!

“Are you ready for some football?” With the start of the NFL season only one week away, the women’s organization is planning a “pigskin” event on the second Lord’s Day in September when you can purchase a “Hot Dog” Game time meal with baked beans, potato chips and other sweet or salty “munchies” to enjoy in the parish hall or take home for the Steelers’ game. The cost for the repast is only: \$6.00. Sign-up for the “goodies” on the request list in the auditorium. Also, a Steelers Gear (10 prizes) raffle will be staged on that date, so you’ll want to purchase plenty of ducats to increase your odds of winning. Plus, 2 tickets for the Pittsburgh vs Atlanta (home) game on Sunday, Oct. 7th at 1:00 P.M. will be secured by some lucky ticket-holder. Chances are \$10.00 each and only 100 will be solicited. See Jean Colantoni for tickets.

ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH – ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC – Our annual church picnic will be on Sunday, September 16, 2018 at the Park in West Mifflin. There will be no Coffee & Fellowship Hour that Lord’s Day following the Divine Liturgy, so that faithful members can quickly drive directly to the Park, off of Bettis Road. Tickets for the picnic are on sale. Adult - \$8, Students 6-18 - \$5, Children 5 and under FREE. Please purchase your tickets as soon as possible from Thomas Pingor, Church Council President. Also, please consider bringing a dessert. Thank you!

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.

COME AND HELP US MAKE A VARIETY OF PIROHI ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH 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. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH – ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL MEETING - There will be a meeting of the Annual Fall Food Festival committee on Wednesday, September 12th at 6:00 P.M., prior to the Saint Nectarios service at 7:00 P.M. All interested persons should attend this session to support our festival.

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

WORK AT KENNYWOOD PARK DURING THE FRIDAYS AND SATURDAY’S “FRIGHT NIGHTS” IN OCTOBER, PERMITTING OUR CHURCH TO REAP A FINANCIAL TOKEN!

You must be an adult, at least 18 years of age to participate in these two areas: Costumed Actors or Actresses lending their skills and talents to “scare” patrons in frightening encounters with the customers, or working in the food or concessions’ stands soliciting refreshments for the frenzied crowds. Depending on the hours that you labor in either of these areas, a monetary check will be sent to your place of worship. Consider this means of employment as a stewardship venture for St. Nicholas Church. Inform our church president, Tom Pingor, if you and other parishioners would be willing to engage in these amusement park activities.

FALL BAZAAR AT SAINT MICHAEL’S ORTHODOX CHURCH IN RANKIN, PA ON SUNDAY, OCT. 14TH FROM 11:00 A.M. UNTIL 5:00 P.M.!

The parish is located at 146 Third Avenue. There will be a variety of foods including Slavic Specialties for eat-in or take-out, Bake Sale, Children’s Games, Beverages, Raffles, Crafts and Bingo. Plenty of parking is available. For additional information please call Fr. Nik at (412) 271-2725.

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL 7-K WALK FOR MISSIONS AT SOUTH PARK, SPONSORED BY THE ORTHODOX CLERGY BROTHERHOOD, ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2018!

2018 Walk Proceeds earmarked for the Guatemalan Mission – Catechetical Training Center. Walker with the highest collected funds at walk will receive Fleet Feet Shoes certificate. Register at Walk: 1:00 P.M. Oct. 14 at South Park’s Children’s Playground Pavilion, (Corrigan & Brownsville Rd., 15129). Complimentary Refreshments before the Walk and Lunch after the Walk. Super Holy Oil Blessing, Pinata at 1:30 P.M.; Walk begins at 2:00 P.M.

Free T-shirt for children 8 years and under who raise \$50 or others who raise \$100 or more. Mail balances by Oct. 30 to: Walk for Missions, C/O Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church, 123 Gilkeson Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15228.

[Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church](#)