



Welcome!

Whether you're searching for a new church home or just visiting, we're glad you're with us today. If you have a prayer request, are looking for more information about the Orthodox Faith, would like to join our parish, or would like to speak with Fr Thomas, we invite you to fill out a visitor's card and drop it in the offering basket as your offering today. We want to get to know you! God bless you!

This Week

Today

After the Liturgy – Trisagion for the Departed
In memory of Peter Kerchum

Saturday, June 2

NO GREAT VESPERS

Sunday, June 3

10:00 am - Divine Liturgy

Please Note: Due to Fr Thomas's summer speaking engagements, the following Saturday Vespers are cancelled: June 2, 9, 16, and 30.



To our Visitors: Holy Communion is reserved for Orthodox Christians who prepare themselves by prayer and fasting. Non-Orthodox visitors are welcome to come forward to venerate the cross and receive the Antidoron (blessed bread) at the conclusion of the service.

Archpriest Thomas Soroka, *Rector*
Deacon Luke Loboda, *Attached*
Mat. Janet Mihalick, *Choir Director*

Holy Pentecost: The Descent of the Holy Spirit

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA
OrthodoxPittsburgh.org

May 27, 2018

Announcements

➤ **Congratulations to Genevieve Chaney and Lindy Hamilton** who were received today into the Orthodox Church through the sacraments of Confession, Chrismation, and Eucharist. May God grant them good health, peace, and all of God's blessings as they live out their Orthodox Christian lives. Please welcome them as fellow Orthodox Christians into the family of faith.

➤ **Change in Divine Liturgy Start Time for Summer:** In consultation with the Parish Council and after ad hoc discussions with various parishioners, **we have decided to remain on the 10:00 am schedule for Divine Liturgy start time during the Summer.** While our parish had summer Sunday Liturgy at 9:30 am in the past, the historical rationale was, our Church School began at 9:15 am during the school year, the church was not air-conditioned, and parishioners generally lived in close proximity to the church. **This will be on a trial basis this summer** and we will re-evaluate next year.

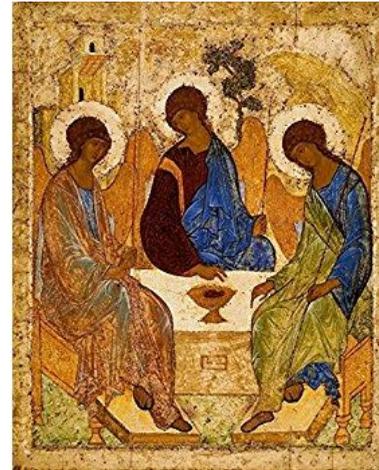
➤ **Our May hoagie sale** will be held on Wednesday, May 30. Italian Hoagies and wraps are \$6.50 each and the Turkey hoagies and wraps are \$7.00 each. Orders can be placed by calling 412-974-9912, faxing 724-926-4052 or emailing rjmbmsam1@verizon.net. Orders are due on Sunday evening, May 27. Orders can be picked up between noon and 1 pm May 30 at the church hall.

➤ **If you're going on vacation** this summer, please visit www.orthodoxyinamerica.org for a comprehensive listing of Orthodox churches near your destination. Don't forget to add worship to your "to do" list when you're away!

Prayers

➤ **Ill and infirm:** *Known to be Hospitalized; (None).* Home: Valentina Barsom, Georgiann Robes, Autumn Heath (40 days), George Shaytar. *Shut in, Rehabilitation, or Nursing Home:* Olga Bednar, Olga Tryszyn, Mary Zapp.

➤ **From Mat. Nancy K. Mell and Gregory Mell** for the departed servant, Dn. Joseph Mell; for the health of family. **From Nancy Shaytar** for the health of (husband) George. **From John & Olga** for the health of Anatoly & Galina Vilkov, Elizabeth Kowlachek and expected child. **From Donya Yewisiak** for the health of Reader Leonard Soroka. **From Dawna Petkash** for the health of Pearl Petkash. **From Alexandra Tirpak** for the health of my family; special intentions. **From Marsha Wasilko** for the departed servants, (mother) Mary (5/26/69), (grandfather) Andrew (5/22/54) and (aunt) Ann Panik (5/21/91). **From Charles A. Wasilko** for the departed servants, (mother) Mary, (aunt) Ann Panik and (grandfather) Andrew Wasilko. **From Doris M. Wasilko** for the departed servants, (grandfather) Andrew Wasilko, (aunt) Ann Panik, (mother) Mary.



St Nicholas Church will strive to glorify God through Orthodox Christian worship, sincere love and care for one another, and service to those in need around us.

On the Holy Spirit

He therefore who possesses the Holy Spirit is in the Church, which speaks in the tongues of all nations. Whosoever is without this Church, has not the Holy Spirit. For this reason the Holy Spirit deigned to reveal Himself in the tongues of all nations, that each may understand, that he possesses the Holy Spirit who is nourished within the unity of the Church, which speaks in every tongue. One body, says Paul the Apostle, one body and one Spirit (Eph.4:4).

Attend to this, you who are our members. A body is composed of many members, and one spirit gives life to all the members. By the human spirit, by which I am myself a man, I join together all my members: I command my members to move, I direct the eye to see, the ears to hear, the tongue to speak, the hand to work, the feet to walk. The duties of each member are different, but one soul joins all together. Many things are commanded, many done, but one commands, one is obeyed. What our spirit, that is, our soul, is to our own members, this the Holy Spirit is to the members of Christ, to the Body of Christ, which is the Church.

And so, where the Apostle speaks of it as a body, let us not think of it as a dead body without life. One body, he says. But, I ask you, is this a living body? It is living. By what does it live? By one spirit. And one Spirit. Be watchful therefore, brethren, within our own body; and grieve for those who are cut off from the Church. As long as we live, while we are in our senses, let all members fulfil their duties among our own members. Should one member suffer anything, let all the members suffer with it (1 Cor. 12:26). Yet, though it may suffer, because it is in the body, it cannot die. For what does to die mean but to lose the spirit? Now if a member be cut off from the body, does the soul follow it? It can still be seen what member it is: it is a finger, a hand, an arm, an ear; besides substance, it has form; but it has no life. So is it with a man separated from the Church. Seek if he has the sacrament. You learn he has. Look for baptism. You find it. The creed? You find it. This is the outward form; but unless inwardly you live by the Spirit, in vain do you glory in the outward form. (St Augustine)

Hymns and Readings for Today

First Antiphon (Psalm 19)

v. The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

v. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

v. Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe.

v. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Second Antiphon (Psalm 20)

v. The Lord answer you in the day of trouble; the name of the God of Jacob protect you!

Refrain: O Gracious Comforter, save us who sing to Thee: "Alleluia!"

v. May He send you help from the sanctuary and give you support from Zion!

v. May He remember all your offerings, and fulfill all your plans!

v. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

(Only-begotten Son...)

Third Antiphon (Psalm 21)

v. In Thy strength the king rejoices, O Lord, and exults greatly in Thy salvation.

Refrain: Troparion

v. Thou has given him his heart's desire, and has not withheld the request of his lips.

v. For Thou dost meet him with goodly blessings; Thou dost set a crown of fine gold upon his head.

Little Entrance

Be exalted, O Lord, in Thy strength! We will sing and praise Thy power!

Troparion of Pentecost Tone 8

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God Who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit; through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net. / O Lover of Man, Glory to Thee!

Kontakion of Pentecost Tone 8

When the Most High came down and confused the tongues

He divided the nations;

But when He distributed the tongues of fire, He called all to unity.

Therefore, with one voice, we glorify the All Holy Spirit!

Instead of Holy God

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia!

Prokeimenon (Psalm 19) Tone 8

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe!

Epistle (Acts 2:1-11)

When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God."

Gospel (John 7:37-52; 8:12)

On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Therefore many from the crowd, when they heard this saying, said, "Truly this is the Prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ."

But some said, "Will the Christ come out of Galilee? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the seed of David and from the town of Bethlehem, where David was?" So there was a division among the people because of Him. Now some of them wanted to take Him, but no one laid hands on Him.

Then the officers came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why have you not brought Him?" The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this Man!"

Then the Pharisees answered them, "Are you also deceived? Have any of the rulers or the Pharisees believed in Him? But this crowd that does not know the law is accursed." Nicodemus (he who came to Jesus by night, being one of them) said to them, "Does our law judge a man before it hears him and knows what he is doing?"

They answered and said to him, "Are you also from Galilee? Search and look, for no prophet has arisen out of Galilee."

Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

Hymn to the Theotokos of Pentecost

Rejoice, O Queen! Glory of mothers and virgins!
No mouth, however sweet or fluent
is eloquent enough to praise you worthily!
Every mind is overawed by your childbearing.
Therefore with one voice we glorify you!

Communion Hymn of Pentecost

Let Thy good Spirit lead me on a level path.
Alleluia.

Through the Holy Spirit comes our restoration to paradise, our ascension into the kingdom of heaven, our return to the adoption of sons, our liberty to call God our Father, our being made partakers of the grace of Christ, our being called children of light, our sharing in eternal glory, and, in a word, our being brought into a state of all "fullness of blessing," both in this world and in the world to come, of all the good gifts that are in store for us, by promise hereof, through faith, beholding the reflection of their grace as though they were already present, we await the full enjoyment. (St. Basil the Great, On the Holy Spirit)

As it is impossible to verbally describe the sweetness of honey to one who has never tasted honey, so the goodness of God cannot be clearly communicated by way of teaching if we ourselves are not able to penetrate into the goodness of the Lord by our own experience. (St. Basil the Great, Conversations on the Psalms, 29)