



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

Saturday, June 16

NO GREAT VESPERS

Sunday, June 17

10:00 am - Divine Liturgy

Father's Day Brunch after the Divine Liturgy

Stichera for All Saints of North America – Tone 2

*As the brightest sun, as the brilliance of the morning star,
the precious feast of the Saints of North America has dawned for us,
to illumine us and to set our hearts on fire,
to imitate their godly lives,
and to follow their example of zeal for God.*

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*

2nd Sunday after Pentecost: All Saints of America

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA
OrthodoxPittsburgh.org

June 10, 2018

Announcements

➤ **As we enter into the summer months**, let us continue to offer worship and praise to God in thanksgiving for the continued blessings He richly pours out on us. In this way, God is glorified, we sustain our faith, and we become an example to others. **Traveling this summer?** Seek out a church to visit at orthodoxyinamerica.com.

➤ We have entered into the **Apostles Fast** and it goes through Wednesday, June 28. The reason for the Apostles Fast is, after having received the Holy Spirit (Pentecost), we are **preparing us to undertake the mission given to all of us – to witness to the truth of Christ to the entire world.** It is a very ancient fast, and was already well known in the 3rd century. Please try your best to refrain from meat and dairy (fish is permitted on the weekends and feast days).

➤ **Our June hoagie sale** will be held on Wednesday, June 27. 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, June 24. Orders can be picked up between noon and 1 pm June 27 at the church hall.



Prayers

➤ **Ill and infirm: Known to be Hospitalized; (None).** Home: Valentina Barsom, Bob Madalinsky, Sandi Tirpak, 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 Marina Petrov** for the health of Raisa, Yevgeniy, Roman, Polina, Vladimir, Boris, Raisa, Alla, Sergey, Alexey and Michael. **From Donya Yewisiak** for the health of Bob Madalinsky & Sandi Tirpak as they recover from surgery. **From Irina** for the departed servants, Anna and Olga; for the health of Marina, Artur, Andrei, Alla, Grigoriy, Elena and Alex. **From Tatyana Sechler** for the departed servants, Polina, Galina, Slava, Bruce, Andrei, Gina, and Marina; for the health of Christopher, Diana, Adriana, Tatyana S., Tatyana F., Sergey and Veronika. **From Marsha Wasilko** for the departed servants, fallen members of the Armed Forces; for the health of current & future members of the Armed Forces. **From Charles A. Wasilko** for the health of Olga Kasnot & Nancy Mell on their birthdays. **From Doris M. Wasilko** for the health of (sister) Marsha and Olga Kasnot & Mat. Nancy Mell on their birthdays~ Many Years!

Thank you

➤ to **Matushka Nancy Mell and Gregory Mell** for donating all of our June monthly donations in memory of the departed servant of God, Deacon Joseph Mell. Bulletin (\$60), Holy Bread (\$50), Communion Wine (\$40), Altar Candles (\$25). Incense (\$10)

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.

Orthodox Evangelism

An evangelist is one who proclaims the Good News of Christ's coming to earth and reconciling us to the Father through His life, death and resurrection. (The word "angel" also comes from the same root. Angel means "one who announces.")

As baptized Orthodox Christians, all of us are called to be evangelists, in the sense that we are called to bear witness to the fullness of the Gospel, the Good News of Christ (which is the treasure of the Orthodox Church) and proclaim it to those who would hear it. Orthodox history is full of men and women who were evangelists.

For many Orthodox in North America, however, evangelism might very well be a new concept. In the past (in some cases, the present) many of our communities were more concerned about maintaining various ethnic identities rather than actively evangelizing. The thought of bringing in "outsiders" was not a priority. It was even discouraged in some places. Some even had/have the notion that the Americans had/have their own churches to go to (i.e. any non-Orthodox church), that they should leave the Orthodox Church to "our kind."

On a positive note: we are seeing a number of new Orthodox parishes being formed throughout United States and older parishes being revitalized. This is due to the calling of the Holy Spirit. In recent times we seem to be witnessing an astounding fruition of this work. Individuals as well as whole congregations of non-Orthodox people are converting to Orthodoxy; people who have left the Orthodox Church are returning; "cradle Orthodox" are thrilled to learn "new things" about the Church of their ancestors; and Orthodoxy is finally becoming a Church that is being recognized by others.

Let us give thanks to God for all the wonderful things He is doing in our midst and ask Him that we may be accounted worthy of being good and diligent evangelists to those who are seeking the Truth of Orthodoxy.

Hymns and Readings for Today

Troparion of the Resurrection Tone 1

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body,

Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world.

The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life:

Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ!

Glory to Thy Kingdom!

Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou who lovest mankind!

Troparion of All Saints of North America Tone 8

As the beautiful fruit of Thy sowing of salvation, the lands of North America offer to Thee, O Lord, all the Saints who have shown in them..

By their prayers keep the Church and our land in abiding peace through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One.

Kontakion of the Resurrection Tone 1

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Thyself.

Human nature praises Thee as God for death has vanished,

Adam exults, O Master!

Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage, and cries to Thee:

Thou art the giver of resurrection to all, O Christ!

Kontakion of All Saints of North America Tone 3

Today the choir of Saints who were pleasing to God in the lands of North America now stands before us in the Church and invisibly prays to God for us.

With them the Angels glorify Him,

and all the Saints of the Church of Christ keep festival with them; //

and together they all pray for us to the Pre-eternal God.

Prokeimenon (Psalm 33) Tone 1

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee!

Epistle (Rom 2:10-16)

...but glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God.

For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law (for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified; for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them) in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

Gospel (Matthew 4:18-23)

And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.

America's Newest Saint

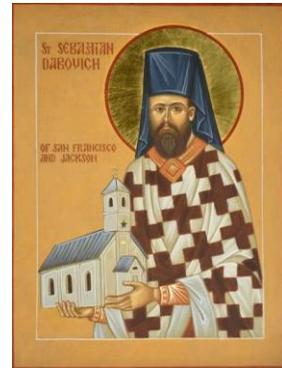
St Sebastian of Jackson

Born to Serbian immigrants in San Francisco in 1863, Archimandrite Sebastian Dabovich has the distinction of being the first person born in the United States of America to be ordained as an Orthodox priest, and also the first native-born American to be tonsured as an Orthodox monk. His greatest distinction, however, lies in the tremendous apostolic, pastoral, and literary work that he accomplished during the forty-eight years of his priestly ministry. Known as the "Father of Serbian Orthodoxy in America," he was responsible for the founding of several of the first Serbian churches in the New World. This, however, was only one part of his life's work, for he tirelessly and zealously sought to spread the Orthodox Faith to all peoples, wherever he was called. He organized parish communities of Orthodox Christians of varied ethnic backgrounds; took part in the work of St. Alexis Toth of Wilkes-Barre to bring former Uniates more fully into the Orthodox ethos and way of life; and labored to bring Episcopalians into the saving enclosure of the Orthodox Church. He was an Orthodox apostle of universal significance.



Describing the vast scope of Fr. Sebastian's missionary activity, Bishop Irinej (Dobrijevič) of the Serbian Orthodox Diocese of Australia and New Zealand has written: "Without any outside funding or organizational support, he carried the gospel of peace from country to country.... Concentrating much of his work in the United States, he ceaselessly traveled back and forth across the American continent, using every available mode of transportation—from stagecoach to railroad to foot. His wider ministry stretched from the Aleutian Peninsula of Alaska, to Russia and Japan, to small Balkan towns on the coasts of the Black and Adriatic Seas.

"By every report Sebastian Dabovich was not one to ask about jurisdictional or national affiliation before setting out on long journeys to minister to Orthodox Christians in mining communities, lumber camps, or far-distant towns or villages. He offered his pastoral services with a free hand to anyone who was in need. Just as he gave no thought to his own comforts as a youth, caring more for the needs of others than for his own concerns, Fr. Sebastian denied himself all worldly comforts of home, family, or earthly possessions, so that he could provide for the spiritual needs of the Russian, Serbian, Bulgarian, Greek, Syrian, or Arab Orthodox Christians who required his aid."



It is said that Fr. Sebastian baptized more people than any other Serbian priest of the Western Hemisphere. St. Nikolai (Velimirovič) of Zhicha, Serbia, who buried Fr. Sebastian at the Zhicha Monastery when the latter reposed there in 1940, called him "a viceless man" and fittingly designated him "the greatest Serbian missionary of modern times."

Ten years after Fr. Sebastian's repose, St. Nikolai wrote of him: "Here is a man who indebted all the Serbian race, especially all the Serbs and all the Serbian organizations in America. Should that man remain without a monument or any sign of honor on American soil? He does not need it. He did not wish it. All he wished to his last breath was the Kingdom of Heaven, which I believe he has obtained by the grace of his Lord. But his people need it; his posterity needs it. The Serbian people always cultivated the noble virtue of gratitude. Let them express their traditional gratitude to this remarkable Serbian—Father Sebastian Dabovich."

He was canonized a Saint along with St Mardarije of Libertyville on September 5, 2015.