



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 23

5:00 pm Great Vespers

Sunday, June 24

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Vacation Church School 2018

4 years old to Grade 5

Monday, July 9

through

Thursday, July 12

10 am to 1 pm

Pool Day Friday, July 13

See Matushka Joni

or Missy Wenger to register

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*

Third Sunday after Pentecost

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA
OrthodoxPittsburgh.org

June 17, 2018

Announcements

➤ We want to thank **His Eminence, Archbishop Melchisedek** for leading us in the Divine Liturgy this morning. He was very gracious to join us "at the last minute" when Fr David Vernak, who was scheduled to be here, was suddenly stricken with an eye ailment and had to have emergency surgery. Please remember Archbishop Melchisedek and Fr David in your prayers for their good health and strength.

➤ **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.

➤ **Rob and Teresa Robes** invites St Nicholas parishioners to celebrate the graduation of Nick Robes from Moon Area High School. A party will be held on Saturday June 23rd at Moon Park, Rotary Pavilion, from 2-6pm. Nick will be attending Penn State Beaver in the fall.

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 Nancy Shaytar** for our departed fathers, Andrew Shaytar and Michael Kraynak; for the health of George Shaytar. **From John & Nancy Pravlochak** for the departed servant, Dn. Joseph Mell; for the health of Mat Nancy Mell on her birthday and Doris Wasilko on her surgery. **From Irina** for the departed servants, Anna and Olga; for the health of Marina, William, Artur, Andrei, Alla, Grigoriy, Elena, Victor and Alex. **From Tatyana Sechler** for the departed servants, Polina, Galina, Slava, Bruce, Andrei, Gina, Lida, Valentina and Victor; for the health of Christopher, Diana, Andriana, Tatyana S., Tatyana F., Sergey, Ilene and Veronika. **From Marsha Wasilko** for the health of the Wasilko family; Happy Birthday & Many Years to Mat. Nancy Mell; special intention. **From Charles A. Wasilko** for the health of (sister) Doris. **From Doris M. Wasilko** for the health of Larry & Suzy on their Wedding Anniversary-Many Years; special intention. **From Irene Kulchock** for the departed servant, Richard Kulchock. **From the Robes Family** for the health of Georgiann Robes on the occasion of her birthday—Many Years! Stay Strong! **From John & Olga** for the health of Anatoly & Galina Vilkov and Seraphima, Christopher & Ruth on their birthdays! **For** the health of Elaine Hamilton.

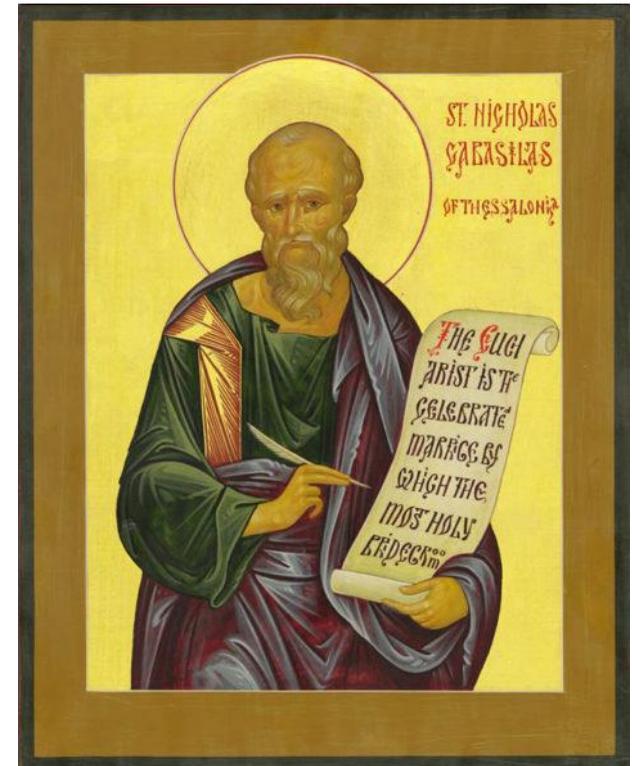
Thank you

➤ 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 Cabasilas

St Nicholas Cabasilas asks 'when Christ dwells in us, what else is needed, or what benefit escapes us? When we dwell in Christ, what else will we desire? He dwells in us, and He is our dwelling place. How blessed are we by reason of this dwelling place, how blessed are we that we have become a dwelling for such a one as He!'

For St Nicholas 'this is the virtue and grace of the Eucharistic meal for those who draw near it with a clean heart, and who keep themselves from all evil afterwards; with those who are thus prepared and well disposed, nothing prevents Christ from uniting Himself intimately.' He writes elsewhere that 'this is a great mystery, for this is the celebrated wedding, during which the divine Bridegroom unites himself with His Church as with His virgin bride.'



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.

Hymns and Readings for Today

Troparion of the Resurrection Tone 2

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal,
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead!
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out:
O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!

Kontakion of the Resurrection Tone 2

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior,
seeing the miracle of Thy resurrection from the tomb!
The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this
and rejoiced with Thee!
And the world, O my Savior, praises Thee forever!

Kontakion of the Theotokos Tone 6

Steadfast protectress of Christians,
constant advocate before the Creator,
do not despise the cry of us sinners,
but in your goodness come speedily to help us who
call on you in faith.
Hasten to hear our intercessions and to intercede
for us, O Theotokos
For you always protect those who honor you.

Prokeimenon (Psalm 118) Tone 2

The Lord is my strength and my song. He has become my salvation!

Epistle (Romans 5:1-10)

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good

man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

Gospel (Matthew 6:22-33)

The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?

So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

So Do Not Worry

Met Anthony of Sourozh

If we want to live as Christ says, seeking only the Kingdom of Heaven and its righteousness in the hope that everything else will be added thereto, we must radically change our whole attitude to life, and stop living in the way we do.

When we read the words of the Saviour which speak of the simple and carefree way in which we could live, not considering about food and drink, not bothering about how to clothe our bodies — we are filled with two conflicting feelings. On the one hand we think: yes, how simple that would be, and why not live like that? Why not cast off responsibility, why not cast off worry which constantly torment us? On the other hand, the opposite view: but that is impossible! Then we are faced with the question: can something that Christ says really be impossible? Surely His commandments are a way of life?

It seems to me that we can reconcile the opposing reactions in our souls by taking account of the stringent conditions that this freedom imposes. If we want to live as Christ says, seeking only the Kingdom of Heaven and its righteousness in the hope that everything else will be added thereto, we must radically change our whole attitude to life, and stop living in the way we do. The righteousness of the Kingdom of Heaven consists in loving God with our whole heart, with all our mind, with all our strength, and our neighbour as ourselves. That means that nothing, absolutely nothing, must remain in our lives that cannot be called love of God and love of our neighbour. It means that all our thoughts, all our powers, our whole heart must be devoted not to ourselves but to another — to God and to our neighbour. It means that everything that we possess, which gives us comfort and joy, belongs to God and our neighbour; it means that whatever we make use of over and above strict necessity, we are taking away from God and our neighbour.

Nothing that we have belongs to us; whatever we make use of, beyond bare necessity, we have stolen from someone else; whatever we do not part with of our free will, lovingly, we are seizing away from the miracle of God's kingdom of love. If this were to become our attitude, it would be easy to live by faith in God and the mercifulness of one's neighbour, for it would mean living in spiritual poverty and physically in such uncovetousness as we cannot conceive of.

Here we see what lies behind the easy words of Christ: forget everything, the Father will look after you. They mean: have only the cares which are God's, the crucified care of the living God on Golgotha, and then you will enter that Kingdom, where you need nothing, and God will indeed provide everything.