



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, July 7

5:00 pm Great Vespers

Sunday, July 8

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*

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA
OrthodoxPittsburgh.org

July 1, 2018

Announcements

➤ **During 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.

➤ **Community Outreach Opportunity: Welcome to the Table**, Wednesday, July 11th @ 5:30-7:00 pm. Saint Nicholas Church sponsors, prepares, and serves a meal to the surrounding McKees Rocks community on the second Wednesday of each month. The meal is served at Christ Community Church, 900 Chartiers Ave, McKees Rocks, 15136. Help is needed with food preparations, serving the meal, and in greeting the community. Please contact Mat. Ashley (412-715-2163, Ashley.loboda@gmail.com) or Sasha Gajewski (814-341-6827, Alexandra.mihalick@gmail.com) if you would like to help with this ministry.

➤ **The Sisterhood will have their Pelmeni Fundraiser** on July 22nd during coffee hour. Please place your order by July 15th. See Flyer for more info. We will need volunteers to help make the pelmeni. No experience necessary. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board in the church hall. Please see Sasha Gajewski with any questions.

➤ **St. Nicholas will now have a "Bus Fund" to support members of the community that need small amounts of cash for bus fare or other basic necessities.** If someone is seeking assistance that you are unable to provide, please direct them to a parish council member or Kate Skowron. Likewise, please see a parish council member or Kate Skowron if you would like to make a small monetary donation to this worthy cause. Thank you for your assistance with this new ministry of our parish!

Prayers

➤ **Ill and infirm: Known to be Hospitalized; (None). Home:** Valentina Barsom, Bob Madalinsky, Sandi Tirpak, Georgiann Robes, George Shaytar. **Doris Wasilko. Shut in, Rehabilitation, or Nursing Home:** Olga Bednar, Olga Tryszyn, Mary Zapp.

➤ **From Mat. Nancy K. Mell and Gregory Mell** for the departed servant of God, Deacon Joseph Mell, and for the health of their family. **From John Kowalcheck and Olga Cozza** for the health of Anatoly and Galina Vilkov and for Adam Kowalcheck on his birthday. **From John Kowalcheck** for the health of Olga Cozza. **From Marina Petrov** for the health of Laureen, Raisa, Yevgeniy, and Jack. **From Donya Yewisiak** for the health of Georgiann Robes. **From Charles Wasilko** for the health of Doris Wasilko. **From Marsha Wasilko** for the health of Doris Wasilko.



Thank you

➤ **to Paul and Lois Fuller** for donating all categories [Bulletin (\$60), Holy Bread (\$50), Communion Wine (\$40), Altar Candles (\$25), Incense (\$10)] in memory of deceased family and friends.

➤ **Doris Wasilko** would like to thank everyone for their cards, prayers, and get well wishes during her recent surgery. She appreciates your kindness and concern.

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.

Reading Scripture

If a man should come here with earnestness – even though he does not read the Scriptures at home – and if he pays attention to what is said here, within the space of even one year he will be able to obtain a considerable acquaintance with them. For we do not read these Scriptures today, and tomorrow others that are quite different, but always the same section and consecutively.

However, in spite of this, many have such an apathetic attitude that after such reading they do not even know the names of the books. And they are not ashamed, nor do they shudder with dread, because they have come so carelessly to the hearing of the word of God.

On the other hand, if a musician, or a dancer, or anyone else connected with the theater should summon them to the city, they all hurry eagerly, and thank the one who invited them, and spend an entire half-day with their attention fixed on the performer exclusively. Yet when God addresses us through the prophets and apostles, we yawn, we are bored, we become drowsy. (**St. John Chrysostom, Homily 58 on the Gospel of John**)

A monk complained to St. Arsenius that while reading Holy Scripture he does not feel, neither the power of the words read nor gentleness in his heart.

To that the great saint will reply to him: "My child, just read! I heard that the sorcerers of serpents, when they cast a spell upon the serpents, the sorcerers are uttering the words, which they themselves do not understand, but the serpents hearing the spoken words sense their power and become tamed.

An so, with us, when we continually hold in our mouths the words of Holy Scripture, but even though we do not feel the power of the words, evil spirits tremble and flee for they are unable to endure the words of the Holy Spirit." My child, just read!

The Holy Spirit Who, through inspired men, wrote these divine words, will hear, will understand and will hasten to your assistance; and the demons will understand will sense and will flee from you. That is: He Whom you invoke for assistance will understand, and those whom you wish to drive away from yourself will understand. And both goals will be achieved. (**St. Nikolai Velimirovich, Prologue of Ochrid**)

Hymns and Readings for Today

Troparion of the Resurrection Tone 4

When the women Disciples of the Lord learned from the Angel the joyous message of the Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the Apostles: "Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!"

Kontakion of the Resurrection Tone 4

My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earthborn from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell, and as Master He has risen on the third day!

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 104) Tone 4

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

Epistle of the Sunday (Romans 10:1-10)

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

For Moses writes about the righteousness which is of the law, "The man who does those things shall live by them." But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down from above) or, "'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Gospel of the Sunday (Matthew 8:28-9:1)

When He had come to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, there met Him two demon-possessed men, coming out of the tombs, exceedingly fierce, so that no one could pass that way. And suddenly they cried out, saying, "What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?"

Now a good way off from them there was a herd of many swine feeding. So the demons begged Him, saying, "If You cast us out, permit us to go away into the herd of swine." And He said to them, "Go." So when they had come out, they went into the herd of swine. And suddenly the whole herd of swine ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and perished in the water.

Then those who kept them fled; and they went away into the city and told everything, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men. And behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus. And when they saw Him, they begged Him to depart from their region.



*Pelmeni are bite-size Russian dumplings that are filled, and wrapped in thin unleavened dough.
Think pierogis, but smaller!*

Savory

- **Traditional-** beef & onion \$6/Dozen
- **Loaded Baked Potato-** potato, cheese, caramelized onion, chives, & bacon \$6/Dozen

Sweet

- **Apple Pie-** apple, sugar, cinnamon, & nutmeg \$6/Dozen

*1 serving is approximately 1 dozen. All pelmeni will be made from scratch in our church kitchen, and will be sold frozen. *

Place order in advance by Sunday, July 15th to ensure availability. There will be a limited supply available the day of the sale. Email stnicholassisterhood@gmail.com or call 814-341-6827.

Pick-up Sunday, July 22nd 11:30am -1pm in the church hall. Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church, 320 Munson Ave. McKees Rocks, PA 15136.