



# 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, October 6

- 11:00 am Pan-Orthodox Choir Rehearsal
- 4:30 pm Confessions
- 5:00pm Vespers and Cathedral Vigil

## Sunday, October 7

- 9:15 am Adult Education
- 10:00 am Divine Liturgy
- Church School after Communion



# Slavic Food Fest Saturday, October 13 We need your support!

**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*

## Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA  
OrthodoxPittsburgh.org September 30, 2018

# Announcements

➤ Congratulations to **Heidi and Patrick Lewis on the birth of their son, Andrew Benjamin**. Andrew was born on Saturday, September 29 at 8:15a, weighing 7lbs 8oz and is 19 and a 1/4 inches tall. Mom and son are healthy and doing well, and Dad and big brother Jack are thrilled! Many years to the Lewis family.

# Slavic Food Fest 2018

➤ **We are seeking financial donors and supporters** for our upcoming **Slavic Food Fest**. Please consider sponsoring one of these Festival items

- Advertising: \$300
- Halupki: \$250
- Kolbassi and Kraut: \$200
- Chicken Shashlik: \$150
- Pierogi: \$150
- Noodle Halushki \$75
- Soups (made by food committee): \$100
- Beverages (soda, water, ice): \$100
- Miscellaneous donations will also be deeply appreciated.

Please see Donya Yewisiak today to see how you can help. Thank you!

➤ **Your Basket Auction donations** are well underway! Thank you to all who have donated thus far. For those seeking ideas, Gift Cards of ANY type are a perfect idea! Your Basket Committee thanks you in advance!

➤ We are in need of **baked goods** for the Slavic Food Festival Bake Sale. A sign-up sheet for the bake sale will be located on the bulletin board in the church basement. See Sasha Gajewski with any questions. alexandra.mihalick@gmail.com or (814) 341-6827

# Prayers

➤ **Ill and infirm: Known to be Hospitalized; (None).** Home: Georgiann Robes. Alexandra Summers (40 days). 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 Marsha Wasilko** for safe travel. **From Charles A. Wasilko** for the health of (sisters) Doris & Marsha. **From Doris Wasilko** for the departed servants from the Wasilko and Dyczko families; for the health of the Wasilko family. **From Lily & Stela** for the health of Sergei, Stela and Lily. **From Alexandria Tirpak** for the health of Archpriest Basil & Mat. Julie Ann on their anniversary ~Many Years; special intentions.



# Thank you

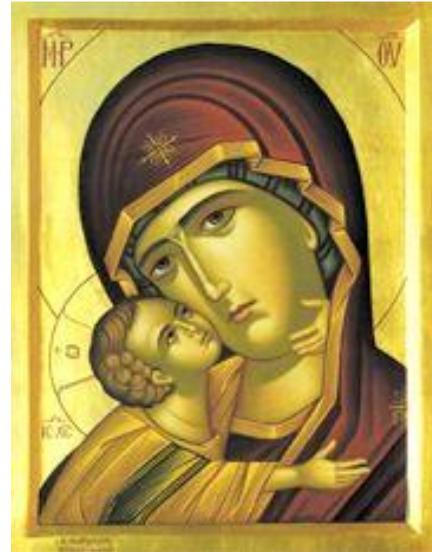
➤ to **Sandi Tirpak** for donating all of the September monthly categories of Bulletin (\$60), Holy Bread (\$50), Communion Wine (\$40); Altar Candles (\$25) and Incense (\$10).

**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.**

# Love Thy Neighbor

"In times of peaceful relationships do not recall what was said by a brother when there was bad feeling between you, even if offensive things were said to your face, or to another person about you and you subsequently heard of them. Otherwise you will harbor thoughts of rancor and revert to your destructive hatred of your brother." **St. Maximos the Confessor**, *Four Hundred Texts on Love 4.34, The Philokalia: The Complete Text (Vol. 2)*

"There is the case of a man minding his own business, sitting at peace and quiet; and when a brother comes up and says an annoying word to him, he is put out by it. And from the circumstances he thinks that he is justifiably angered, and he speaks against the one who troubled him, saying, 'If he had not come and spoken to me and annoyed me I should not have been at fault.' This is a delusion: this is false reasoning! It was not the one who spoke that put him in a bad mood. He only showed that it already existed in him; so that he could, if he chose, make reparation for his fault. But the man referred to above is like clean-looking winter wheat, externally good and ready to use; but when someone crushes it, its corruption is revealed. He was sitting at peace but he had this anger inside him and he did not know it. One word to him from the other and the corruption hidden inside him leapt out." **St. Dorotheos of Gaza**, *Discourses and Sayings*



# 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 St Nicholas Tone 4

You appeared to your flock as a rule of faith, an image of humility, and a teacher of abstinence. Because of your lowliness heaven was opened to you! Because of your poverty riches were granted to you! O holy Bishop Nicholas, pray to Christ our God to save our souls.

## 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 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 33) Tone 1

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

## Epistle of the Sunday (II Cor 9:6-11)

But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever."

Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.

## Gospel of the Sunday (Luke 6:31-36)

And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise.

But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

## Communion Hymn (Ps 148)

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!



# Today in Church School

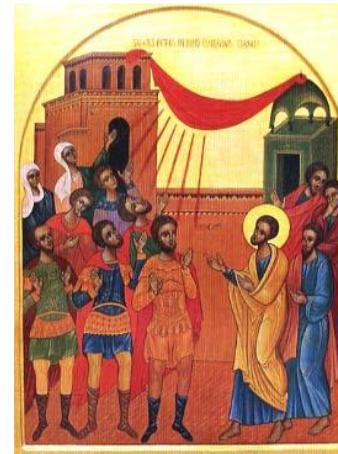
Today's lesson: Peter and Cornelius

## Questions to ask/review:

- What is a "Jew"? What is a "Gentile"?
- What did Jews believe about themselves and their relationship with God?
- What did most Jews believe about Gentiles?
- How did Jesus treat Gentiles (consider the Samaritan women or the centurion)?
- Who was Cornelius? What did the angel tell him?
- What animals were considered clean or unclean?
- Describe Peter's vision. What was God teaching Peter?
- What happened when Peter met Cornelius? What surprised Peter? (the Holy Spirit came upon the Gentiles gathered there)

## Suggested Activities at home:

- Read the story of Peter and Cornelius in Acts 10.
- Read Leviticus 11 together and pick which animals were clean/unclean.
- Discuss how Christ is the Savior of all people, regardless of background.
- Prayer: Lord Jesus, help me to love all Your people just as You do. Amen.



# On Being Generous

"Everything will happen suddenly. It may even happen tonight. Maybe it has begun already? Don't you see that your crops have failed and your animals have died? The rivers and springs have dried up. Today you are deprived of one thing, tomorrow another. God is giving it to us a little at a time, and we stupid people don't understand.

I say this to you and I counsel you, even if the sky were to fall down, even if the earth would rise up, even if the whole world were destroyed, as it is due to do so, today, tomorrow, don't be concerned with what God is going to do. Let them burn your body, let them fry it, let them take your possessions – don't concern yourself. Give them away – they are not yours. You need your soul and Christ. Even if the whole world were to fall apart, no one can take these two things away from you against your will. Guard these two, and don't lose them."

**St. Kosmos Aitolos,**  
*The Life of St. Kosmas Aitolos Together with an English Translation of His Teaching and Letters*



"Human beings have accumulated in their coffers gold and silver, clothes more sumptuous than useful, diamonds and other objects that are evidence of war and tyranny; then a foolish arrogance hardens their hearts; for their brothers in distress, no pity. What utter blindness! . . . Attend not to the law of the strong but to the law of the Creator. Help nature to the best of your ability, honor the freedom of creation, protect your species from dishonor, come to its aids in sickness, rescue it from poverty . . . Seek to distinguish yourself from others only in your generosity. Be like gods to the poor, imitating God's mercy. Humanity has nothing so much in common with God as the ability to do good." **St. Gregory of Nazianzus,** *On Love of the Poor*