

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church



American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese

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Pastor – Very Rev. R. Michael Zak, Cell phone:(412)-804-8865
Deacons: Fr. Deacons Artemius Stienstra & Dr. Marc Wisnosky
Sub- Deacon: Andrew Halapin, Jr.
Cantor/Choir Director: Danielle Bartko
Weekday Cantors – Donald Bodnar Jr. & Michele Tomko
Parish Council President: Tom Pingor

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Sunday, November 13, 2016

21TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Matins: 8:00 A.M.

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: Galatians 2:16-20

Tone: 4

Gospel: Luke 8:26-39

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 90-92 / Red Book: 105-107

Bulletin Sponsor: Helen Revak, in memory of husband, +**Andrew Revak**.

Birthday prayers extended to: **Michael Fischer** on his 40th Birthday (Nov. 11), offered by the Family.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, +**Virginia Morgan**, offered by Agnes Kane & Mary Ann Grossett.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, +**Wilson Henderson**, offered by Olga Henderson.

Monday, (Nov. 14)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +**Charles & +Olga Romanchuk**, offered by Mary Ann Vasil.

Tuesday, (Nov. 15)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, +**Andrew Revak**, offered by Wife, Helen & Children, Dan & Patricia.

Wednesday, (Nov. 16)... 9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, +**Mary Kindya**, offered by Mrs. Agnes Smith, and for the deceased servants, +**Michael & +Susan Hresko**, offered by Mary Blake (Daughter).

Friday, (Nov. 18)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +**Clifford & +Marlene Price**, offered by the Family.

Saturday, (Nov. 19)... 11:00 A.M. until 12:00 Noon: Hearing of Confessions.

Sunday, November 20, 2016

22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Service of the Third Hour: 8:20 A.M.

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18

Tone: 5

Gospel: Luke 8:41-56

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 93-95 / Red Book: 108-110

Altar Candles' Sponsor: +**Martha Opsitos**' 1st Anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord, offered by Ann Marie Kline & Family, and George Opsitos & Family. +**Michelle Dzvonik**, on the 1st Anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord, offered by the Family.

Altar Flowers' Sponsor: +**Michelle Dzvonik**, on the 1st Anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord, offered by the Family.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +**Michelle Dzvonik** on the 1st Anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord and for: +**Sophie Virostek**, offered by Michael Dzvonik & Family.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, +**George Rohaly** on the 2nd Anniversary of his falling asleep in the Lord (Nov. 19), offered by wife, Jean.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +**Peter & Helen Mochnach** and +**Charles & Marylou Gilchrist**, offered by Chuck & Robin Gilchrist.

7:00 P.M. Vespers on the Synaxis of the Honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven, with the Blessing of bread, wheat, wine & oil.

Luke 8:26-39 –

Math. 8:28-34 – The demons, recognizing Jesus as the **Son of Man**, are surprised that their power is being terminated **before the time** of the last judgment. Though the malice of the demons is great, they can do nothing against the will of God, and thus can only enter the **swine** at Christ's command. The immediate destruction of the **herd** shows that the men had been protected by God's care; otherwise, they would have perished under the demonic influence. Further, it reinforces that swineherding was not lawful for the Jews, and the shows the incomparable value of human beings, whose salvation is worth every sacrifice.

Luke 8:33 – Some teach that the presence of **swine** indicates a Gentile population. However, since our Lord forbade His disciples to go to the Gentiles (Math. 10:5) and was Himself reluctant to seek out the Gentiles (Math. 15:24), likely these were Jews engaged in a sinful occupation.

The destruction of the entire **herd** reveals: (1) while animals are a venerable part of creation, man is of far greater value; (2) Christ removes a source of sin, for swine herding as an abomination to the Jews (Dt. 14:8); (3) **demons** have no power over creation, but are subject to the will of God – they could only enter the swine at Christ's command; (4) people are protected under God's providence – otherwise, the demon-possessed man would have come to the same end as the swine; (5) the magnitude of the economic loss would remain as a sign for the hardhearted people who fled that region (v. 34)

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS are 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Monday thru Friday.

EMERGENCY SICK CALLS can be made anytime. Please notify your Pastor when someone is taken to the hospital; Sacred Scriptures remind us to call the presbyter to anoint the sick.

MARRIAGES are celebrated on Saturdays and Sundays. Consult the Pastor at least 6 months in advance and before wedding reception plans have been made. Marriages cannot be celebrated during Lent or Advent, or on Fridays.

BAPTISMS are scheduled on Saturdays and Sundays at 11 A.M. Two God-parents are required; at least one of whom must be an Orthodox Christian by Faith, and the other a practicing Christian. An infant's first or middle name must be a saint's name.

CHURCH FUNERALS are provided for parishioners who are current in their spiritual and financial obligations to the Parish. Otherwise, burial is from the funeral home. The Church does not permit cremation.

PRIDE AND THE QUEST FOR HUMILITY

By Abbot Tryphon of The Morning Offering

Struggling with his pride, the monk focuses on bringing his own will into conformity with the will of God through monastic obedience. This obedience is not limited to obeying the directives of his abbot, but involves taking up a standard of humility that takes seriously his adherence to the 102 canons of the Sixth Ecumenical Council, including the garb he wears and refraining from cutting his hair and beard. The monk places his own will aside, taking up the tradition of the Church and making it his own.

Recognizing that false humility is almost wholly the product of self-righteous hypocrisy, the monk dedicates himself to a truth that is absolute and that transcends his personal opinion. It is precisely this humility that St. Paul reveals to us when, boasting of his sufferings and exploits, he tells us that they have meaning only in Jesus Christ.

The monks fights off the temptation to make his faith a form of ideology, for he knows that if the knowledge of Jesus Christ is transformed into an ideological and moralistic knowledge, it closes the door to others and turns Christianity into a list of requirements. This reduces the message of the Church to yet another worldly political force.

The monk refuses to let his Christian faith distance him from others because he knows the monastic life is not a withdrawal from others but an embracing of all humanity through his intimate relationship with Christ through whom all are united.

It is only through his immersion in a life of prayer that the monk's faith becomes something other than an ideology. Through uniting himself with the prayer of the Church, the monk loses himself, becoming one with Christ and with all Christians. His quest for humility comes through his having united himself to the humility of Christ, who condescended to take on our flesh in order to unite His divinity with our humanity.

FOLLOW OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE! Diocesan Website: <http://www.acrod.org> Camp Nazareth: <http://www.campnazareth.org> Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/acroddioocese> Twitter: <https://twitter.com/acrodnews> You Tube: <https://youtube.com/acroddioocese>

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE DOWNSTAIRS FOR THE PITTSBURGH DEANERY "ST. NICHOLAS CHARITY DINNER," BENEFITING CHRIST THE SAVIOUR SEMINARY ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH! Doors will open at 2:30 P.M. and a superb buffet-style dinner shall commence at 3:00 P.M. at Banquets Unlimited, located at 200 Bridge Street in Wilmerding, PA. The price of tickets are: \$30 for Adults; \$10 for Children under 12 years of age. Please order your tickets by November 30th and come enjoy this festive gathering in the spirit of Saint Nicholas, the Patron Saint of our people. A Special Guest will appear at the Dinner; a Carol Sing-A-Long is being planned and ornate Nativity-related decorations and gifts will be awarded lucky ticket holders in a Holiday Raffle Drawing. Our faithful members are encouraged to offer prizes for this popular activity; inform Fr. Michael of your willingness to submit an item or two for the Drawing.

HAVE YOUR NAME APPEAR IN THE DIOCESAN "YEARBOOK" – THE 2017 A.C.R.Y. ANNUAL THIS YEAR! Enable the National A.C.R.Y. Organizations to help those in need by sponsoring an ad in this informative publication which is filled with innumerable photos of parish life throughout our God-saved Diocese and spiritually-rich written articles concerning our precious Orthodox Christian Faith. Patrons are \$6.00 per name; Boosters are \$3.00 per single identification; Memorial Listings can be submitted for \$6.00 per name of the departed. Andrea Zober is currently receiving the ad finances and sponsors' names for next year's journal; make certain that your name is listed in this "Who's who of Diocesan personnel!"

A GRACIOUS PARISHIONER IS THE FIRST TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THE ICON OF CHRIST THE PANTOCRATOR! A devout member of St. Nicholas has conveyed to Fr. Michael the desire to donate the considerable sum of \$1,400-\$2,000 towards the magnificent "window to heaven" that will be written on the center of the nave ceiling. We commend this steward for the notable financial offering and humbly seek the monetary gifts of additional faithful members to finance the total church artwork expense of: \$8,400. Through the generosity of our beloved laity, special donations' accounts already exist for the painting and iconography which would completely pay for the coloring and scaffolding of the ceiling area of the nave. As all of our parishioners have been good stewards in beautifying our sacred temple, we pray that you welcome this opportunity to give freely of your treasures to enable this sacred image of Jesus Christ, "The Just Judge" to appear as we look heavenward in God's House of Prayer. Give to the Icon Fund today!

OUR PARISH IS SEEKING A MAINTENANCE PERSON! St. Nicholas Orthodox Church of Homestead, PA is currently seeking a maintenance person. Candidates should submit a letter of interest along with qualifications/experience to the church office immediately for consideration. Thank You, Tom Pingor.

OFFER YOUR IOCC ENVELOPES FOR THE SUNDAY COLLECTION AS WE CELEBRATE IOCC SUNDAY – A DAY OF SHARING ON SUNDAY, NOV. 20TH! Contribute towards the ministry of love and compassion for our brothers and sisters in need around the globe.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ANNUAL TURKEY BINGO ON SUNDAY, NOV. 22ND IN NORTHSIDE PITTSBURGH! The parish will also have a Steeler Ticket Raffle (2 tickets for the Steelers vs Browns on Sunday, Jan. 1st, scheduled for 1 P.M.), a Chinese Auction, a Food Raffle and a variety of homemade baked goods available. Please RSVP at fr.sleepless@gmail.com or at 412-766-4691.

THE YEAR IS COMING TO AN END, SOON; ARE YOU CHURCH DUES FOR 2016 PAID IN FULL? Just two months remain in this present calendar year. Are your financial obligations to the parish still incomplete? If you have any questions regarding this matter, speak with Susan Semancik or Cheryl Tomko.

ACRY CANDY ORDERS ARE DUE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH! The sweets will be delivered by Dec. 11

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