

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church



American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese

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Homestead, PA 15120

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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

Vol. 4; No. 36

Sunday, September 4, 2016

11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Deacon's Service with the distribution of Holy Communion: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 9:2-12

Tone: 2

Gospel: Matthew 18:23-35

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 84-86 / Red Book: 99-102

On this final day of the Feast of the Dormition of the Most Holy Mother of God, we affirm through this Holy Day as we journey toward our heavenly abode that the Blessed Virgin Mary intercedes for us. Through Christ she has become the mother of all of the children of God, embracing us with divine love.

Wednesday, (Sept. 7)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the souls of God's departed servant, **+Theresa & +Andrew Timko**, offered by Mary Godish and Margaret Fedor.

7:00 P.M. Service of Thanksgiving and Stewardship.

Friday, (Sept. 9)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, **+Rosalia Fesz**, offered by Mary Soffel (Daughter).

Saturday, (Sept. 10)... 7:00 P.M. Vespers on the Feast of the Beheading of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John.

Sunday, September 11, 2016

12th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & FEAST OF THE BEHEADING OF THE HOLY PROPHET, FORERUNNER, AND BAPTIST JOHN (Fast Day when no meat or meat products are eaten)

Matins: 8:00 A.M.

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Blessing of the monument for the Reader, **+Andrew Talarovich, Jr.** at St. Nicholas Church Cemetery and Panachida Service conducted at: 1:00 P.M.

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 15:1-11 (Sunday) Tone: 3

Gospel: Matthew 19:16-26 (Sunday)

Acts 13:25-32 (Feast)

Mark 6:14-30 (Feast)

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 87-89; 172-173 / Red Book: 102-105; 195-197

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, father, **+John Yarina** and mother, **+Mary Yarina**, offered by daughter, Mary Ann Kelch.

Matthew 18:23-35

18:21-35 – Seventy times seven: Symbolic of an unlimited amount. This parable illustrates the need for unlimited forgiveness. **Ten thousand talents** (v. 24) is an impossible sum, more than a laborer could earn in several lifetimes. **A hundred denarii** (v. 28) is a significant amount from the earthly perspective (about three months' wages), yet it is pittance when compared to the debt owed the **king**. God not only stays the punishment we deserve, but forgives us the entire

debt as well (v. 27). Because God forgives us, we in turn are required to grant the gift of forgiveness to others.

18:25 – Certain Fathers give a spiritual interpretation to the punishment described here. The man represents the soul, the wife represents the body, and the children represent a person’s deeds. Thus, the body and the deeds are given over to slavery, that is, to Satan, so that the soul might possibly be saved.

1 Corinthians 5:5 – In the Church is protection from the destructive power of **Satan** (Math. 16:18). This protection is here removed through excommunication in the hope that, having experienced the difference between God’s rule and Satan’s, this offender may repent and in the end **be saved**. **The flesh** (Greek sarx) is not synonymous with “body” (Greek soma). St. Paul is calling for the **destruction** not of the body but rather of the lusts of the flesh.

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.

“AS WE FORGIVE THEM”

Let us underline two very striking points in the parable of today’s gospel lesson. God does not forgive our debts because we forgive those of our debtors. Certainly, there is a continuity, a sequence, a parallel (“as we forgive...”) between the forgiveness which we receive from God and that which we accord to men, but the second is not the cause of the first. God, in His generosity, takes and keeps the initiative of forgiveness. When we ourselves forgive others, it is not “our” own forgiveness we grant them. We allow the divine forgiveness which we ourselves have received to “pass through” and beyond us, we make ourselves its instruments: for all forgiveness comes from God. And also, we do not only forgive others because they are men, just as we are, but because we are all servants of the same King. Let us, today, examine every fold of our heart, every corner of our mind, lest some trespass, some injustice that we have not forgiven lies there. We have no right to try to bring to a halt in ourselves the forgiveness that flows freely, we can make it flow on to others, and especially on to those who may have harmed us. If I do not, how shall I dare to say the Lord’s Prayer through to its end? The forgiveness that God grants me, I can send on beyond myself. May it reach those to whom I would extend it, and then come back and remain with me.

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>

Help me, O Lord, that as I walk through these valleys of my life, I can walk without fear. Help me to believe that You are at my side, ready to comfort and aid me: Proto. John Gido Proto. Ronald Hazuda			
Proto. Lawrence Barriger	Fr. John Zboyovski	V. Rev. Thomas Kadlec	Pani Donna Smoley
Very Rev. James Gleason	Ann Arendas	Mark Bodnar	Denise Yenchek
Aurelia Abaray	Rose Jordanoff	Mary Ann Grossett	Sandy Babbie
Mary Ribic	Stephanie Reinsell	Margaret Stempler	Mary Regdon
Margaret Banyas	Gary Clements	Janice Kerr	Valeria Bayurova
Curtis Miller	Emma Yuhasz	Mary Waselko	Esther Trumpower
Joanne Bodnar	Stephen Fucsko, III	Olga Grimes	Mary Ann Cherep
Deacon Thomas Yawkey	Ron Becker	Mary Ann Vasil	Charlene Atkinson
Helen & Mike Beres	Elmer Konar	Donna Patsen	Dolores Wasosky
Paul Hreha	Thomas Tihey	Margaret Yawkey	Wendy Stahl
Olivia O’Nell	Cathy Collett	John Michael Flaherty	Linda Hazelback
Ernie J. Vasil	Sandy Johnson	Peter & Pete Iaquinta	William Lasobik
Matilda Benson	Mary Popovich	Pani Anna Marie Slovesko	Jean Rohaly
Anna Marie Kline	Eleanor Konar	Leslie Sochka	Enzo Colantoni
Anna Toczek	Bill & Shirley Majernak	Eddie Urban	Ron Moxson

Ann Timko	Proto-Deacon Mike Sochka	George Pettinger	infant: Nathaniel Salio
Marilyn Myers	Emma Lazorchik	Dorothy Broadright	Valencia Smith
Mary Dander	Leona Hawke	Candice Smith	Donna Touhey
Michael Nicholas	Barbara Wisnosky	Frannie Zatorsky	Mary Kalansky
Bob Toboz	Dorothy Lasobik	Michael Lavra	George Lavra
Marion Lavra	Henry Beben	Cynthia Dzvonic	Jami Botti

THIRD BANNS OF MARRIAGE ARE ANNOUNCED: for Emilie Jones of our parish and Roy McDonald IV, who will be united as husband and wife at the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony in St. Nicholas Church on Saturday, Sept. 17 at 3 P.M. If anyone has a valid reason why this wedding cannot take place, then, let this objection be brought to the attention of the Pastor, Fr. R. Michael Zak, immediately.

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.

PLEASE COME AND HELP MAKE PIROHI FOR THE FALL FESTIVAL THIS TUESDAY (SEPT. 6TH) AT 6:00 P.M.! We need your assistance this week to prepare the popular Slavic delicacy for the Food Festival in October. All male & female parishioners are welcomed to manifest their stewardship. If you have any questions regarding this labor of love, see Jean Colantoni or phone her at (412) 491-7090.

ANY DIOCESAN MEMBER MAY ATTEND THE 23RD DIOCESAN COUNCIL-SOBOR GRAND BANQUET ON TUESDAY, OCT. 11TH IN JOHNSTOWN, PA AT 7 P.M.! Besides all the clergy and voting delegates from parishes throughout our Diocese, faithful members have the privilege to attend the Grand Banquet which will be served on Tuesday, October 11th at 7 P.M. in the Holiday Inn Downtown, located at 250 Market Street in Johnstown, PA. You have a Banquet Choice of Filet Mignon or Salmon. The cost for this elegant dining experience is: \$50.00. You should make out the check to: St. Nicholas Church and submit it to the financial officers in the auditorium church office no later than next Sunday, September 4, 2016.

ACQUIRE A GOOD SUPPLY OF DUCATS FOR YOUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS TO BUY AND WIN THE GRAND PRIZE OF 4 TICKETS TO THE KANSAS CITY CHIEFS VS. PITTSBURGH STEELERS FOOTBALL GAME ON OCT. 2, 2016 AT 8 P.M.! See any of our Sr. ACRY members for the \$10 raffle tickets and support the organization as it prepares to host next year's Convention in Homestead. The lucky individual holding the winning ticket will also receive a parking pass and hotel lodging at the Marriott Pittsburgh Airport. The Drawing Date is Sunday, Sept. 18, 2016. The 2nd Prize is \$500.00, with the Drawing on Monday, Sept. 19. And the 3rd Prize is \$250.00, with the Drawing on Tuesday, Sept. 20. This exciting fund-raising project is based on the PA lottery 1st Evening Pick 3. All unclaimed prizes are the property of Homestead's Sr. ACRY Chapter #11.

ANNUAL FALL FOOD FESTIVAL – OCTOBER 21-22, 2016! Attention all church members: Please sign up to participate in the annual church fundraiser – The Fall Food Festival. Sign-up sheets are in the hall. Volunteers are needed to prepare food such as pirohi, stuffed cabbage, soup and haluski. Look for times to come down to the parish hall and lend your support. Also, we need volunteers to work in the kitchen during the festival, help with the bingo, basket raffle, 50/50 raffle and bake sale. So please sign-up as soon as possible. This is a great way for you to give back to our church and raise much needed funds.

ASSIST JOHN FEDORNOCK IN HIS EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT MAINTAINING OUR CHURCH CEMETERY! Hello, my name is John Fedornock of troop 230 in Harrison City. For my Eagle Scout project, I am painting the fence and entry gate, as well as the brush around the fence, at our church cemetery. I am asking for donations in financial support, and later will be seeking your time and labors as well, as I attempt to complete my project. On a Saturday (tbd) we will be looking for volunteers to help with painting. Students will be able to earn service hours for school as well. Please see me for more information or if you would like to make a donation. Thank you for your support in this worthwhile project.

SIGN YOUR NAME TO THE LIST OF FAITHFUL ATTENDING THIS YEAR'S CHURCH PICNIC WHILE BRINGING SIDE DISHES OR DESSERTS FOR THE MEAL! Last year's summer outing was such an enjoyable affair that we'll be returning to the same facility: West Mifflin Park on Bettis Road, Shelter #1. Fun-filled games, Bingo, 50/50 Raffle and Door Prizes are on the agenda and the appetizing menu consists of: Kielbasa, Hamburgers and Hot Dogs on the grill, plus, homemade Holupki and Haluski. Cost for participants: \$8.00 for Adults; \$5.00 for Children 6-18 years; Free for kids 5 yrs. and younger. Susan Miller will be collecting for a Chinese Auction, and anyone who wishes to donate an item or two for this activity can see her. May our worshipping community enjoy the fellowship of all at this pleasing social event.

LEARN TO READ/TRANSLATE OLD CHURCH SLAVONIC! Father John Brancho will offer classes in Old Church Slavonic at the Seminary in Johnstown, PA on Fridays from 1-3:30 P.M. Classes begin on September 12th, through December 19th. The fee is \$200 for the fall semester for the 3-credit course. To enroll, please contact Fr. Brancho at (814) 539-5043. Danielle Bartko has signed up for this course and you can carpool with her to Johnstown for the classes.

FATHER MICHAEL WILL BE RETURNING FROM THE NATIONAL A.C.R.Y. CONVENTIONS IN POTOMAC, MD ON LABOR DAY! In case of an emergency where a priest is needed, please phone Very Rev. Jonathan Tobias at (412) 824-0246.

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