

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, June 18, 2017

2ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: SYNAXIS OF ALL SAINTS OF CARPATHO-RUSS AND FATHER'S DAY

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

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M. with special petitions intoned for all the fathers and men of the parish; Panachida service for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, all the deceased fathers of St. Nicholas Church.

Bulletin Sponsor: **Dave & Andrea Urban's** 49th Wedding Anniversary, offered by the Family. Wedding Anniversary prayers intoned for: **Michael & Kira Fischer** on their 14th Anniversary (June 7), offered by their children.

Birthday prayers intoned for God-daughter, **Susan J. Miller** (June 13), offered by Joan Ribovich

Epistle: Romans 2:10-16

Resurrection Tone: 1

Gospel: Matthew 4:18-23

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 81-83 / Red Book: 95-99

WEDNESDAY, (June 21)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, **+John Sr., +Suzanna, +Suzanna, +John Jr., +Mary, +Helen, & +Anna Mihalik**, offered by Catherine & Emma Mihalik.

FRIDAY, (June 23)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, **+George & +Mary Fedorko**, offered by Mary Rusnak, daughter.

SATURDAY, (JUNE 24)... 7:00 P.M. Vespers.

Sunday, June 25, 2017

3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE GRADUATES' SUNDAY

Matins: 8:00 A.M.

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Altar Candles' Sponsor: In memory of **+Andy Talarovich** on the second anniversary (June 27) of his falling asleep in the Lord, offered by friends.

Epistle: Romans 5:1-10

Resurrection Tone: 2

Gospel: Matthew 6:22-34

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

Matthew 4:18-23

4:18-22 – These first disciples had already heard the preaching of John the Baptist and were prepared to accept Christ **immediately**. Though illiterate and unlearned in religion, these "people of the land" whom Jesus calls will be revealed at Pentecost to be the wisest of all.

4:23-25 - Note that the crowds do not swarm Jesus when He commands repentance (v. 17), but only when He begins to heal and work miracles. This fact shows that the people misunderstand the true nature of His Kingdom. It also shows Christ's concession "to give credibility to what He teaches" among the fickle **multitudes** (St. Theophanes).

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.

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>

WHY ASK THE SAINTS?

By Abbot Tryphon of The Morning Offering

Most Protestant churches reject all saintly intercession, citing passages such as 1 Timothy 2:1-5, which says that Jesus is the sole mediator between God and humankind, as well as Deuteronomy 18:10-11, which seems to forbid invoking departed souls.

Yet the Bible indeed directs us to invoke those in heaven and ask them to pray with us. In Psalm 103:20 we pray, "Bless the Lord, you His angels," and in Psalm 148 we pray, "Praise Him all His angels; praise Him all His hosts!" (vv. 1-2).

Those in heaven not only pray with us, they also pray for us. In the Book of Revelation, we read, "(An) angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar (in heaven). He was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand" (Rev. 8:3-4).

And those in heaven who offer our prayers to God aren't only angels, but humans as well. John sees that "the twenty-four elders (the leaders of the people of God in heaven) fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints" (Rev. 5:8). The simple fact is, as this passage shows, the saints in heaven offer to God the prayers of the saints on earth.

Yes, we have Christ as our only Intercessor before the throne, but that doesn't stop our Protestant brethren from asking fellow believers to pray for them. We all, both those in heaven and those still on this earth, pray before the same sole mediator between God and humankind, Jesus Christ. It is Christ through whom we approach the throne of the Father.

Why would we not want to ask for the prayers of those who have already won their place in Paradise, and are already standing before the throne of God, worshipping the Holy Trinity?

ALL MEN OF ST. NICHOLAS, WORSHIPERS AND "STILLERS" ARE INVITED TO THE AUDITORIUM THIS MORNING FOR A SCRUMPTIOUS REPAST IN HONOR OF FATHER'S DAY! All parishioners and guests are implored to join us at this free-will offering luncheon, sponsored by our Mothers & Daughters Guild. Along with a delicious meal, all fathers will receive a ticket for several Steeler, Pirate and Penguin raffle items. Enjoy a parish dinner, as we render due honor to the "Dads" and men of our church on this festive holiday of the year.

COME AND HELP US MAKE PIROHI ON THIS TUESDAY (JUNE 20) AT 6 P.M. FOR THE "CHRISTMAS IN JULY" CRAFT SHOW! We pray, hope and anticipate that our talented culinary personnel will assemble in the parish hall this week to make a variety of this irresistible Slavic delicacy that "people cannot get enough of" and showcase this delectable Lenten food at our Craft Show on Saturday, July 22. Our men, women and teen-agers are encouraged to spend a few hours in the church auditorium advancing their own

skills in producing this ethnic dish of St. Nicholas Church that is simply rated "The Best" in the Mon Valley!" Call Jean Colantoni at (412) 462-0847 and let her know if you can help.

ATTENTION FATHERS: FOUR WAYS TO CONNECT MORE DEEPLY WITH YOUR CHILDREN: + **Spend more time together:** This can mean talking, playing, laughing, dancing, whatever! Just spend more time eye-to-eye and heart-to-heart.

- **Really listen to them:** Often as parents, when we "listen" to our children we aren't actually listening, but rather we are planning our response. Listening requires us to be fully present with our minds and hearts, trying to understand our children's world.

Discipline rather than punish: The word "discipline" shares its root with the word "disciple" – one who is a student or pupil. We should look at our children as learners. This doesn't mean we don't set clear consequences, but all behavior challenges should be considered opportunities for our children's growth and our own growth as fathers.

Pray for them: "You don't need to say a lot to children. Words hammer at the ears, but prayer goes to the heart. Prayer is required, with faith and without anxiety, along with a good example." – St. Porphyrios

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE DRIVE! The Church Board is seeking new members to participate on the By-Laws Committee. As presented at the Annual Church Meeting in February, we intend to evaluate and update our parish by-laws to ensure that they are in line with the new Diocesan By-Laws, passed at the SOBOR last fall (2016). If you are interested in being a member of the By-Laws committee, please communicate your interest to a church board member as soon as possible. Thank you! Tom Pingor

ATTENTION: CLASS OF 2017! To our High School and College graduates and Parents: Please supply Fr. Michael with the following information, in order to be published in next Sunday's bulletin. High School Students: your High School, any academic and/or athletic awards, where you will attend college in the fall and your intended major in college (or undecided at this time). College Students: Graduate and Post-Graduate: your college/university, your field of study and degree you have earned. St. Nicholas Church will recognize our graduates on Sunday, June 25th. Attend the Divine Liturgy on that Lord's Day so that a group photo may be taken.

OUR YOUNG WOMEN ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ENCOUNTER THIS MONTH! The Annual Young Women's Encounter is quickly approaching and is scheduled for June 25-28 at Saints Peter and Paul Church in Windber, PA. The staff excitedly looks forward to again spend time nurturing the faith of the young women of our diocese. As the final plans are now being arranged, our church encourages the young women (ages 12-18) to register for this event ASAP as space is limited and filling up quickly. Below is a link that is shared directly with the parents of the young women of St. Nicholas to register online. Thank you for your cooperation. In Christ, Pani Eleni Stagon.

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07ee2rpmnw1fb7244b&llr=oblwu7zab>

KEEP OUR YOUNG CHILDREN CONNECTED TO THE CHURCH BY SENDING THEM TO CAMP NAZARETH THIS SUMMER! Our Pittsburgh Deanery Diocesan Camping Week at "our home, away from home" is scheduled for July 23-29. Offer a campership to our young people of age, "who are the present leaders of our parish," and enable them to live for a week or two or three their Orthodox Christian faith amongst their peers who share their sacred beliefs and become "friends forever." Submit whatever financial gift that you can sacrificially offer and permit our precious youths to experience "the time of their young lives" in an environment where "you'll find God everywhere." Our Sunday School children will always remember the generosity of the "People of God."

GARAGE SALE AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH IN NORTH SIDE PITTSBURGH –FRIDAY (AUGUST 25) AND SATURDAY (AUGUST 26) FROM 9 A.M. TO 3 P.M. EACH DAY! Save the date! St. John the Baptist (2688 California Ave., Pgh., PA 15212) will have their Annual Garage Sale. The Ethnic Kitchen will be open for Eat-In or Take-Out. Tax-deductible clean donations for the garage sale will be accepted beginning on Sunday, May 21st.

DURING THE RETREAT, DIOCESAN ALTAR BOYS WILL ENJOY A SPAGHETTI AND MEATBALL DINNER AT OUR CHURCH (JUNE 27) AND SEE A PIRATES' GAME AT P.N.C. PARK! "Encounter 2017" takes place from Sunday evening, June 25th (Registration is from 6 P.M. till 8 P.M.) until Wednesday, June 28th. The Retreat takes place at our Christ the Savior Seminary, Cathedral, and Education Center in Johnstown and SS. Peter & Paul Church facilities in Windber, PA. St. Nicholas Church is underwriting the cost for the parish "Knights," so if parents are registering their sons, they can just check the "pay by check" option.

CONGRATULATIONS, ANNA PYSNIK (STIENSTRA)! Anna was the lucky winner of \$50 at last Sunday's Annual Family Raffle Drawing. Much thanks to all our considerate parishioners & church organizations who purchased all of the 135 tickets that were allotted us. Your stewardship of the Camp is commendable!

[Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church](#)