

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 25, 2017

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

Service of the Third Hour: 8:20 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

THURSDAY, (June 29)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +**Fred & +Mary Bonach**, offered by wife, Mary.

Sunday, July 2, 2017

4th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Matins: 8:00 A.M.

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Birthday prayers intoned for: **Dacia Paganico** (July 2) and **Kaitlyn Thorn** (July 5), offered by Trona and Family.

Epistle: Romans 6:18-23

Resurrection Tone: 3

Gospel: Matthew 8:5-13

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 87-89 / Red Book: 102-105

Matthew 6:22-34

6:22, 23: The mind (Gr. nous) is the spiritual **eye** of the soul; it illuminates the inner man and governs the will. Keeping the mind wholesome and pure is fundamental to the Christian life.

6:24: As slaves serving **two masters**, people attempt to maintain an attachment to both earthly and heavenly things. But this is impossible, since both demand full allegiance. Jesus calls **mammon** ("riches") a master not because wealth is evil by nature, but because of the control it has over people.

6:25-27: Jesus is warning against anxiety, not against thoughtful planning. Our physical well-being is directly dependent on God, and only indirectly on **food, drink, and clothing**. Anxiety over earthly things demonstrates a lack of faith in God's care.

6:32: Because **the Gentiles** served pagan idols, they remained consumed by dependence on earthly **things**. Those who follow God can be freed from this dependence

6:33: **The kingdom of God** is the central theme of Jesus' teaching, and **His righteousness** is the subject of the Sermon on the Mount. Calling us to be free from anxiety about earthly things, Jesus directs us to look to heaven, secure in the faith that God will provide needed earthly blessings.

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>

DIVIDED LOYALTIES

By Abbot Tryphon of The Morning Offering

“No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.”

Matthew 6:24

As you continue your participation in the Church liturgical year, be mindful of where you place your priorities. Are you of Christ, or are you of the world? Do you serve God, or do you submit to this temporal world, which shall one day come to an end?

Do you think you can divide your loyalties in this life, serving you spouse or boss during the week and serving God only on weekends or perhaps just on major holy days? Do you think of God only when in church or with religious people? Are you disconnected from your spiritual life because you've compartmentalized it? Jesus says this is impossible, because “no one can serve two masters” (Matt. 6:24).

Are you overly concerned about money, your popularity, or the home you own, or do these things take a back seat to Jesus Christ? If God is your Master, you will be able to say honestly that none of these worldly things is anywhere near as important to you as your relationship with Christ.

Christ said, “Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him” (Matt. 6:8). If we serve only God as our Master, all else that we need will be provided.

SAVE THE DATE: JULY 22, 2017 FOR THE 3RD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS IN JULY VENDOR & CRAFT SHOW IN ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH AUDITORIUM FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.!

Tables are available for direct sales and craft sales. Contact Andrea Zober at (412) 461-6215. Visit your favorite Vendors and start your holiday shopping early. Have lunch at Café Nikolai where your favorite Slavic foods will be served to satisfy hungry patrons. A Bake Sale and raffles shall complement the exciting show. As this is a parish fund raiser, we are kindly asking donations from our beloved congregation for the bake sale. Please notify your relatives, friends, neighbors and co-workers of this attractive event at our church on Ann Street in Homestead and invite them to come and participate in this pleasing activity. Your word-of-mouth is our best advertising tool! We're expecting a huge turn out!

FIRST BANS OF MARRIAGE ARE ANNOUNCED for ANGELA SUDIK of our parish and BRIAN LUCHINI of Pittsburgh who will be united as husband & wife at the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony on Sunday, July 15, 2017 at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Pittsburgh (Oakland) at 3 P.M. If anyone has an objection to this wedding taking place, please, notify Rev. R. Michael Zak, immediately and state your reason(s) for the cancellation of this Mystery!

PURCHASE TUPPERWARE SUPPLIES NEXT MONTH AND PERMIT OUR CHURCH TO REAP 40% OF THE PROCEEDS!

Andrea Zober will be doing the Tupperware Fund Raiser for the month of July. She will have flyers and brochures available in the parish hall, starting in July. The fund raiser line earns 40% for the church and 10% from the full line. Andrea Zober (Phone: 412-461-6215). Visit her at www.andreahandiandi.com Tupperware – Products that last a lifetime!

COME AND HELP US MAKE PIROHI ON TUESDAY (JULY 11) 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 in two weeks 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.

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

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." Since the beginning of January of this year through Sunday, June 19th, Camperships have been generously offered by the ACRY (\$315), Men's Club (\$315), Mothers & Daughter Guild (\$315), and David Urban (\$100). Have your name appear on this distinguished list in this year proclaimed by His All-Holiness, Bartholomew I as the "Year of Protection of the Sacredness of Childhood." Nowhere will our young people be as safe than at Camp Nazareth!

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." Speak with Melissa Ditmore who is the Chairperson for Tuesday's "Italian repast" for the Diocesan priests and altar boys at 5 P.M. and offer your culinary talent, skill and time!

THANK YOU, FOR THE GENEROUS MONETARY GIFTS TO THE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN PRISON MINISTRY!

Parishioners of St. Nicholas contributed \$100 to this vital Apostolate of the Church and our parish matched the sum with another donation of \$100 towards this sacred ministry of the Orthodox Church. May Christ bless you immensely for thinking of "the least of His brethren"!

WE ARE PROUD OF OUR SCHOLARS WHO GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE THIS YEAR OF 2017!

BRITTANY WILLIAMS – She graduated from Temple University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. She made the Dean's List and is preparing to take her medical school entrance exams.

BRIANNA WILLIAMS – She graduated from West Mifflin High School with High Honors. She was in the National Honor Society, Titan Leaders in the Community, music honor society, and the marching band where she was the drum major. She also attended the pre college program at Pittsburgh Musical Theater. She is going to Oklahoma City University to study Music, with a concentration in Voice.

JOHNNY FEDORNOCK – This "Knight of the Altar" graduated from Penn Trafford High School. Attained the highest honor in the Boys Scouts Organization becoming an Eagle Scout. Has received a Black Belt in Karate. Johnny will be enrolling at Westmoreland County Community College in the fall. He is undecided on his Major.

NOAH THORN – This recent altar boy of St. Nicholas graduated from Penn Hills High School and shall enter Masonry School very soon.

ALEX RAJAKOVICH – A former altar boy and present member of the church choir, Alex graduated from Central Catholic High School, where he received high honors every semester for all 4 years. Member of the National Honors Society. President of the Spanish Club. President of the Culture Club. Member of "Masque" Drama Club and a participant in all 8 possible musicals. Author and editor of the school newspaper. Alex has been accepted into the Boler School of Business at John Carroll University with the \$24,000/year Magis Scholarship. He plans on majoring in some field of business.

CLARENCE VITAL – This "Knight of the Altar" graduated from PA Cyber High School and is planning to enroll in a business school or college in the very near future.

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