

# 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

Vol. 5; No. 31

**Sunday, August 6, 2017**

## 9<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 3:9-17      Resurrection Tone: 8      Gospel: Matthew 14:22-34

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 102-104 / Red Book: 117-119

Bulletin Sponsor: **Kataryna Bartko's** 3<sup>rd</sup> Birthday, offered by the Family.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, **+Andrew Zatorsky, +Florence Lang & +Brandon Trimmer**, offered by Audrey Rajakovich.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, **+Michele Dzvonic** on her birthday (August 6), offered by her Family.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, **+John Ribovich** (Aug. 11) and **+Susan Ribovich** (Aug. 3) on their birthdays, offered by Joan Ribovich, Daughter.

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**WEDNESDAY, (August 9)...** 7:00 P.M. Moleben (Prayer) Service of Saint Nectarios with the Anointing of the sick, in body and soul.

**FRIDAY, (August 11)...** 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, **+Helen Mochnach**, offered by Albert & Jackie Maurer.

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**Sunday, August 13, 2017**

## 10<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Matins: 8:00 A.M.

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 4:9-16      Resurrection Tone: 1      Gospel: Matthew 17:14-22

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

Altar Flowers' Sponsor: **+Dolores Pingor's** 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord, offered by the Family.

Birthday prayers are extended to: **Robert Paganico** on his 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday, offered by his Family.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, **+Dolores Pingor** on the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord, offered by the Family.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, **+Ann Timko**, offered by Trona & Family.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, **+Michael Harris, Sr., +Susanna Harris, & +Mary Dandar**, offered by Grand-daughter Trona & niece.

**Matthew 14:22-34** – Only God has dominion over nature; thus, this miracle confirms the divinity of Christ. The Lord's mastery over creation is another sign that He is the Messiah and is divine. Commands to the **sea** and **waves** (8:24) can only be issued by God (Job 38:8-11; Psalm 65:5, 6; 106:29). Jesus **was asleep** because, as a man, he needed rest. In His Incarnation, He assumed all the natural actions of the flesh, of which sleep is one. The image of Christ and His disciples in a boat is traditionally-used to illustrate the Church. God both permits storms and

delivers us through them, so that we can see His protection more clearly. Christ's rebuke of the storm is also an illustration of His calming the tempests in the human soul. Christ deliberately permits the **windstorm** to arise while He is sleeping in order to perfect the disciples' faith and rebuke their weaknesses, so they would eventually be unshaken by life's temptations. Here their faith is still mixed with unbelief. They showed faith when **they came to Him**, but unbelief when they said, "**We are perishing.**"

**14:27** – This is the second time Christ permits His disciples to be caught in a storm. The first time He was with them; here He had left them alone. In this way, Christ strengthens their faith that He will always be with them in the midst of the storms of life. **It is I** is literally translated, "I Am," which is the divine Name of God. Christ reminds the fearful disciples of His absolute and divine authority over their lives.

**14:28-30** – Peter's faith allows him to walk **on the water**. Note that Peter does not ask to walk on water per se, but to come to Jesus; His desire is not to perform miracles but to be with the Lord. Peter is able to participate in this divine miracle as long as he keeps his focus on Christ. As soon as he is distracted, he begins **to sink**.

**14:31** – The Greek term for **doubt** here means "wavering" or "hesitation." The cause of Peter's sinking was not the storm, but the doubt, thus Christ does not rebuke the wind, but Peter.

**14:33** – This is the first time the disciples confess that Jesus is **the Son of God**. Knowing that only God can be worshiped, they confess Christ's divinity by worshipping Him. **The boat** is symbolic of the Church.

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**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.**

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**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>**

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## **WALKING ON THE WATER**

Today's Gospel reading contains precious information that applies to our own spiritual life. The wind-tossed waters on which Peter wants to walk could be compared to our difficulties and, especially, to our temptations. Why does Peter sink? Is it a sign that he was too bold or daring, and should not have attempted to walk on the water? But Peter had asked Jesus for permission. He did not leave the boat without a positive invitation from the Lord: "Come!". We can learn from this that we should never undertake anything extraordinary without a call, an order from the Master. But the center of gravity of this episode lies elsewhere. As long as Peter goes towards Jesus, as long as his attention remains fixed on that goal, he is able to walk on the sea. It is when his attention is distracted from his goal, when he notices the storm surrounding him that he starts to be afraid and, so, to drown. Thus, in our moments of temptation, we must look directly, constantly, at the person of Jesus. We must fix in our minds the image of the Saviour and pay no attention to the surrounding storm. If we look back at our spiritual defeats, we will see that it is always at the instant when we stopped looking at Christ and going straight towards Him that we have begun to be beaten. As soon as we allow our attention to be distracted by the wind and the waves, as soon as we delay in order to consider the temptation and discuss it, instead of

going straight towards Jesus, we are lost – for we always find ourselves weaker than the adversary. We are saved from temptation (and all distress) only when we make up our minds to look at Jesus alone, and not at the obstacles. Briefly, instead of facing the temptation and fighting it head-on, what matters is, instead, to face the Saviour, and to substitute His person for the temptation. Many storms surround and threatens us. “Lord..., command me to come to You on the water.”

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**KEEP OUR YOUNG CHILDREN CONNECTED TO THE CHURCH BY SENDING THEM TO CAMP NAZARETH THIS SUMMER!**

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 19<sup>th</sup>, Camperships have been generously offered by the ACRY (\$315), Men’s Club (\$315), Mothers & Daughter Guild (\$315), Tom Pingor (\$300), M/M Dave Urban (\$600), M/M Steve Fucsko (\$50), Trona Paganico (\$100), Helen Revak (\$150), Cheryl Tomko (\$200), Joan Ribovich (\$100), Andrea Labik (\$315), and Candy for Campers Sale (\$110). Have you 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!

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**ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE AT THE ORTHODOX MONASTERY OF THE TRANSFIGURATION IN ELLWOOD CITY, PA ON AUG. 5 AND 6!**

A picnic lunch will be served at noon, today. A Speakers’ Program at 2:00 will include a Dramatic Monologue by Archpriest Daniel Ressetar and Oratorical Presentations by teens. Then, the Mystery of Holy Unction will follow at 3:00, with closing Vespers at 6:00.

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**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 21<sup>st</sup>.

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**SCIENCE AND NATURE CAMP @ CAMP NAZARETH – SUNDAY, AUGUST 6 TO SATURDAY, AUGUST 12!**

Camp Nazareth is pleased to announce its FIRST EVER Science and Nature Camp. Camp participants will learn all about Astronomy, Biology, Earth Science, Geology, Meteorology and SO MUCH MORE! Presentations and activities will be given and led by the Carnegie Science Center, the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, the Jennings Environmental Center, as well as local high school teachers and college professors. Participants will have the opportunity to use telescopes, microscopes, and water quality management technology as well as explore the trails, waterfalls, streams and geography of the Camp. Special emphasis will be placed on appreciating the beauty of nature and the wonder of the fields of science they will study. The Science and Nature Camp is a resident (sleepaway) Camp for ages 8-18. It will take place on the 289 beautiful acres of Camp Nazareth property, located at 339 Pew Road, Mercer, PA. Visit [campnazareth.org](http://campnazareth.org) to register for the Science and Nature Camp. Email [campnazareth@acrod.org](mailto:campnazareth@acrod.org) or call 724-662-4840 for more information. Learn more... In addition to the Science and Nature program, participants will enjoy the many amenities Camp Nazareth has to offer including a Junior Olympic-size swimming pool, the new High and Low Ropes Course, including a 750 foot Zip Line, climate-controlled cabins, sports fields and basketball courts, a large Rec. Room, a volleyball court and more.

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**SAVE THE DATES: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2017 FOR THE ANNUAL ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH PICNIC; FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 FOR THE FOOD FESTIVAL!**

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**ST. MICHAEL’S ORTHODOX CHURCH 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN WOOD, PA ON SATURDAY, SEPT. 23, 2017!**

As part of their celebration, they will have a 100 Year Anniversary Banquet the RW&BT Vol. Fire Co. Hall in Robertsdale following The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy being celebrated at St. Michael’s in Wood, beginning at 10:00 A.M. The deadline to order tickets is Sept. 1, 2017.

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**PITTSBURGH ORTHODOX YOUNG ADULTS WILL BE MEET ON SUNDAY, AUG. 13<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:30 P.M. AT THE SHARP EDGE BEER EMPORIUM IN SHADYSIDE!**

Guest speaker will be Father Thomas Soroka, pastor of St. Nicholas Church in McKees Rocks, who will speak on “Orthodoxy and Islam”. Bishop Thomas of the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese is scheduled to be the guest speaker on Sunday, September 10. Young adults (ages 21-39) are invited to attend these “Orthodoxy on Tap” encounters.

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**COME, HELP US MAKE PIROHI ON TUESDAY, AUG. 15<sup>TH</sup> AT 6 ‘O CLOCK!** It is time to get ready for our fall food festival. Lend us your culinary talents for an evening of fun and work. Let’s make October’s

festival one of the best we have ever had! With your help, we can do it! Let Jean Colantoni know if you are willing to give us a helping hand. Phone her at (412) 491-7090.

## [Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church](#)