

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church



American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese

903 Ann Street

Homestead, PA 15120

Rectory Office Phone: (412) 461-3264

Church Office & Auditorium: (412) 461-9437

Web Site: www.stnichomestead.org

E-mail Address: stnic@stnichomestead.org

E-mail Address: frmzak@gmail.com

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
Assistant Cantors – Donald Bodnar Jr. & Michele Tomko
Parish Council President: Tom Pingor

Vol. 5; No. 45

Sunday, November 12, 2017

23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (6TH LUKAN SUNDAY)

Matins: 8:00 A.M.

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: Ephesians 2:4-10

Resurrection Tone: 6

Gospel: Luke 8:26-39

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 96-98 / Red Book: 111-114

Birthday prayers intoned for: **Michael Fischer** on his 41st birthday on Nov. 11, offered by Kira Fischer & Children.

Panachida Service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, **+Helen Beres** on the 40th day of her falling asleep in the Lord, and **+Michael Beres** on the 80th day of his falling asleep in the Lord (Nov. 17), offered by the Beres 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, **+Peter Mochnach, +Helen Mochnach, +Charles B. Gilchrist & +Mary Lou Gilchrist**, offered by Chuck & Robin Gilchrist.

TUESDAY, 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.

WEDNESDAY, 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.

THURSDAY, NOV. 16... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, **+Michael and +Susan Hresko**, offered by Mary Bake (Daughter).

SATURDAY, 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.

Sunday, November 19, 2017

24th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (7th LUKAN SUNDAY)

Service of the 3rd Hour: 8:20 A.M.

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: Ephesians 2:14-22

Resurrection Tone: 7

Gospel: Luke 8:41-56

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 99-101 / Red Book: 114-117

Altar Candles' Sponsor: **Diane Lacock's** 60th Birthday, offered by the Family.

Panachida Service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, **+Michelle Dzvonik & +Sophie Virostek**, offered by the Family.

Panachida Service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, **+Robert Lenart** on the 1st Year Anniversary of his falling asleep in the Lord, offered by Mary Lou Lenart (wife),

Luke 8:26-39 –

Math. 8:28-34 – The demons recognizing Jesus as the **Son of God**, 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 shows the incomparable value of human beings, whose salvation is worth every sacrifice.

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,

Math. 4:15 – The term **Galilee of the Gentiles** indicates that many non-Jews lived in the region. Having a mixed population, it was not considered a genuinely Jewish land, even though many Gentiles residents had converted to Judaism during the Maccabean period. Because many of the Jews there had been influenced by the Greek culture and its customs, they were generally considered second-class citizens by the Jews of Judea.

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 was 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.

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>

THE GADARENE SWINE

In today’s Gospel reading, Jesus asks the possessed man: “What is your name?” There is more in this than a simple question, for these words themselves already initiate therapy. Jesus wishes to bring the man, who had spoken as if he identified himself with the demons, back to awareness of his own identity. He wants to restore to him a sense of his own personality and independence. Whenever a sinner is so sunk in habit that it seems as if he is driven by the power of evil, Jesus, above all, wants him to disassociate himself from these powers and to remember his own name – the name given him by God: “I called you by your name; for you are Mine” (Is. 43:1). In this name by which God calls us, is found our true liberty and our true vocation. The possessed man answers Jesus: “Legion”, and the gospel explains, “because demons had entered him.” Perhaps the man had seen a Roman legion, that unrelenting force, which is both a multitude and a unity. In the same way, if we give in to sin, we become “legion”; our instincts, our mental images, all our psychic elements take on a chaotic independence; the will, weakened by each successive fall, is in no state to regain possession of them and to co-ordinate them; our whole personality becomes disassociated and breaks up. God alone can gather these broken fragments and mend them. “Gladden my heart so as to fear Your name” we ask of Him in Psalm 86:11. Later, when the possessed man is healed, he begs Jesus to let him stay with Him; but Jesus tells him to return to his house and to show what God has done for him. “And he went his way and proclaimed throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.” The majority of Christians are not called to follow Jesus in the literal sense of the Word and to become itinerant disciples;

but they all have an ordinary apostleship to practice in their immediate and daily surroundings in the circles of their family and their work. This apostleship does not consist of “preaching”, it consists rather of bearing personal witness, of sharing with others an authentic experience, of “declaring” and “publishing” what Jesus has done for them. Neither eloquence nor great intelligence are needed for this ministry. It is open to the humblest – for all it calls for us is a spirit of sincerity and devotion.

HAVE YOUR NAME APPEAR IN THE ACRY ANNUAL, OUR DIOCESAN YEAR BOOK, AS A PATRON (\$6), BOOSTER (\$3), OR MEMORIAL LISTING (\$6)! This informative journal represents the activities of the past year and important calendar and contact information for you in the coming year. By supporting this publication, you enable the National ACRY to reach out to those in need. Please submit your finances toward this Yearly issue that should occupy a space in your home library. See Cathy Pawlik!

ACRY TIDBIT: Lots O’ Luck Calendars are here; they are \$25.00. Please see Carol Dunn to buy the item which makes a perfect gift for the Nativity feast.

PITTSBURGH P.O.Y.A. WILL NEXT MEET TODAY AT 6:30 P.M.! The Pittsburgh Orthodox Young Adults (POYA) will meet for their next “Orthodoxy on Tap” on Sunday, November 12 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will again be held at the Sharp Edge Beer Emporium, South St. Clair Street, Shadyside. Special guest will be His Eminence, Archbishop Melchisedek of the Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania who will speak on “Monastic Spirituality for Everyday Life”.

HELP CREATE GIFT BASKETS FOR EACH CLASSROOM AT BARRETT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN HOMESTEAD BEFORE THANKSGIVING! On the advice of one of the first grade teachers at Barrett (Beth Caterall), the following items would be most appreciated by the teachers: **Tissues** (need 28 boxes), **Clorox Wipes** (need 28), **Glue Sticks** (several in a package) (need 15), and **Vitamin C Drops** (need 15). The Tutors will assemble these baskets on the last day of Reading Club before Thanksgiving, which is Nov.15. Please donate any of these items & place the supplies on the table of the stage area in the hall.

EXHIBIT THE GENEROSITY OF ST. NICHOLAS BY ATTENDING THE CHARITY DINNER ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3RD, BENEFITING CHRIST THE SAVIOUR SEMINARY! Sponsored by the Pittsburgh Deanery, the holiday feast will take place at the Edgewood Country Club, located at 100 Churchill Drive in Pittsburgh, PA. Doors open at 2:30 P.M.; Dinner is at 3:00 P.M. and ticket prices are \$30.00 for Adults; \$10.00 for Children under 12 years of age. See Jean Colantoni to secure your ducats. A gala St. Nicholas Day raffle drawing shall be held after the repast. Please consider donating a holiday gift for this Prize selection. And, inform Father Michael of the Nativity present that you will offer.

SEARCH FOR CUSTODIAN(S) FOR THE SUNDAY SCHOOL! The St. Nicholas Church Board is seeking one or more parishioners to help keep the Sunday School building clean for our children. If you are willing and able to help clean one day per month, please contact a board member as soon as possible. This duty is a good way to demonstrate your stewardship and to give back to our church and only requires minimal time and effort if we can get a few people to volunteer their time and energy to assist.

THE SENIOR ACRY CHAPTER #11 IS APPRECIATIVE OF YOUR SUPPORT! The Sr. ACRY sends a Thank You to everyone for supporting our Pancake and Sausage Breakfast for Veterans’ Day! And, a Heartfelt Thank You to all of our Veterans. Thank You for Serving our Country!!!

PITTSBURGH STEELERS VS. GREEN BAY PACKERS THANKSGIVING WEEKEND 2017 BLOCK POOL! Our church is conducting a Thanksgiving Weekend Block Pool for the football game between the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Green Bay Packers on Sunday, November 26, 2017. Each block will be offered at a price of \$10/block. Prizes will be awarded for the end of the 1st and 3rd Quarter at \$50. Half-Time price is \$100, and the Final Score prize is \$300. Please stop by the church hall after Sunday services or contact Tom Pingor to purchase a block or two to support this fundraiser for our church. Thank you for your support!

LEARN TO DANCE GREEK ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1ST AT THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST’S OLYMPIA HALL – EAST PITTSBURGH! Bring your friends and family to engage in this social activity, taught by the world famous, “Grecian Odyssey Dancers.” The Dance Lesson is from 7:00-8:00 P.M. Open Dance is from 8:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. Learn the Kalamatiano (Traditional Greek Wedding Dance) and the Ikarian. OPAY! All Ages and Skill Levels: Welcome. Doors Open at 6:30 P.M. Pizza and Drinks Served! RSVP at dancegreek101@gmail.com or telephone: (412) 824-9188.

DAILY VITAMINS (Good for a humble heart. Take one-a-day!) Do you fancy that the invocation of the name of Jesus is of no benefit? But it is not possible to be saved in any other than in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

St. Paisius Velichkovsky

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