

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: STNICKHOMESTEAD@GMAIL.COM

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

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Sunday, May 27, 2018

PENTECOST - TRINITY SUNDAY: DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT UPON THE APOSTLES AND DISCIPLES (GREEN SUNDAY)

Matins: 8:00 A.M.

**Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M. with the Kneeling Prayer intoned at the end of the service.
BEGIN FAST-FREE WEEK**

Apostolic Reading: Acts 2:1-11

Gospel: John 7:37-52; 8:12

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 213-216 / Red Book: 237-239

Altar Flowers' Sponsor: Senior A.C.R.Y. Chapter #11

Altar Candles' Sponsor: Senior A.C.R.Y. Chapter #11

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant: **+Shirley M. Brugos** on the 12th Anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord, offered by Edward Brugos & Daughters: Cheryl Williams & Deborah Daniels.

Monday, (May 28)... 9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy on **PENTECOST MONDAY: DAY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**, with Outdoor Procession (weather permitting) and Reading of the Four Gospels.

1:00 P.M. Memorial Day Services at St. Nicholas Church Cemetery in West Mifflin and abbreviated Panachida services at the individual graves upon request.

Friday, (June 1)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for repose of the souls of God's departed servants, **+Jenny & +John Pingor**, offered by the Family, and for the deceased, **+Mary Rudosky**, offered by Rose Marie Roscoe (Daughter).

Saturday, (June 2)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, **+Joann Bodnar** on her birthday, offered by the Family and Donna Lournavich.

Sunday, June 3, 2018

1st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS AND FEAST OF SAINTS CONSTANTINE & HELEN

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

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: Hebrews 11:33-12:2 Resurrection Tone: 8 Gospel: Math. 10:32-34; 37-38; 19:27-30

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 217-218 / Red Book: 240-242

Altar Candles' Sponsor: **Michael & Kira Fischer's** 15th Wedding Anniversary, offered by children: Kylie & Emma.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, **+John & +Mary Rusnak**, offered by Margaret Rusnak

John 7:37-52; 8:12 –

7:37-39 – The **last day, that great day of the feast** was the eighth day of the Feast of Tabernacles. The ceremony of the drawing of water provides the context for the Lord’s words, **“If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.”** The **Feast of Tabernacles** (Hebrew: Succoth) is an eight-day autumn harvest festival commemorating the time when Israel wandered in the wilderness of Sinai and the people lived in tents, or tabernacles. Along with Passover and Pentecost, this was one of the three most important festivals of the ancient Jews; it included numerous sacrifices and celebrations (Lev. 23:33-43). In later times, the final day of this feast also included drawing water from the pool of Siloam to be mixed with wine and poured at the foot of the altar, both a purification and in remembrance of the water flowing from the rock that Moses struck (Ex. 17:1-7). It further included the lighting of great lamps in the outer court of the temple.

7:40 – **The Prophet** refers to the expected Messiah, the Savior Moses foretold would come (Dt. 18:15-19).

7:41-43 – **Bethlehem** was the **town** from which **the Christ** was expected to come (Mic. 5:2). The crowds are mistaken, both in an earthly sense and in a divine sense. Humanly speaking, they think of Jesus as being from Nazareth of Galilee; they are not aware that He was actually born in Bethlehem. Beyond this, they cannot comprehend that He has come from the Father in Heaven, eternally begotten before all ages, and thus His divine “origin” remains unknown to them as well.

7:45-49 – The **chief priests** had sent **officers** of the temple to arrest Jesus in the middle of the Feast (v. 32). By the time the last day had arrived (v. 37), no arrest had been made, because these officials had been converted by the Lord’s teaching. The **Pharisees** and the scribes who had “witnessed the miracles and read the Scriptures derived no benefit” from either. These officers, on the other hand, even though they could claim none of this learning, were “captivated by a single sermon.” When the mind is open, “there is no need for long speeches. Truth is like that.” (St. John Chrysostom).

7:50-52 – **Nicodemus** had spoken with **Jesus** (3:1-21) and had increased in faith. Yet his defense of Christ was still based on **our law** and was not yet a public profession of faith. According to the law, Jesus must be given a hearing before He can be judged. (Ex. 23:1; Dt. 1:15-17).

No prophet has arisen out of Galilee: The Pharisees show their blind hatred and their ignorance of the Scriptures, for the prophet Jonah came from Galilee, from the town of Gath Hopher, which was only three miles from Nazareth (4Kgs. 14:25)

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>

CHIEF OF SINNERS

By Abbot Tryphon of “The Morning Offering”

We cannot give Christ to others unless we have welcomed Him into the central place in our own hearts. We must know and love Christ personally before others can see Him in us. When we are willing to sacrifice self for the sake of Christ and to live according to the Gospels, we will become living temples of the Most High, and the whole world will be changed.

The Gospel of Christ is imparted by word and example, and the love of Christ shines forth by our witness. We love and please God by following the commandments and proclaiming the Good News. That is our vocation.

We are not called to minimal holiness, but to a full expression of holiness. We are empowered for the transformed life by the action of the Holy Spirit. God's sanctifying grace is not merely the absence of evil or sin, but the presence of divine love in the soul.

We are called to holiness, for the Scriptures say, "Be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect" (Matt. 5:48). We were created by God to share in His divinity, and we will never be completely happy until we have died to self and been mad alive in Christ.

ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH – MONTHLY BOARD MEETING! Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church shall conduct its monthly Church Officers' Session next month on Monday, June 25, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. Auditors will meet at 6:30 P.M. All parishioners are welcome to attend these monthly board meetings, and, although only parish leaders can vote, anyone can participate and express their opinions.

PURCHASE A "FAMILY DAY" RAFFLE TICKET OR TWO AND ENABLE OUR CAMP NAZARETH TO IMPLEMENT A MEMORABLE DIOCESAN CAMPING SESSION FOR OUR YOUTHS THIS SUMMER!
Our parish has received her allotment of the \$20 ducats and plans to pay for all (135) tickets, with the proceeds returned to our Diocesan Apostolate for Youths. See Cathy Pawlik today to secure the ducats in hope of winning the Grand Prize of \$10,000, plus, other cash awards and (1) week Diocesan Summer Camping Week Reservations for a child of your choice. Family Day at Camp Nazareth shall be celebrated next Sunday, June 3rd. Plan to be in Mercer, PA that weekend, and participate in the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, beginning at 10:00 A.M. A bountiful luncheon meal shall be served to all worshipers at 12 Noon in the Main Lodge. The High & Low Ropes courses, the Junior-size Olympic swimming pool and Gift Shop will be open for activities. The Gala Raffle Drawing is also set for the afternoon hours.

ST. NICHOLAS CEMETERY – MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES! Father R. Michael Zak will conduct a Panachida service for the repose of the souls of our parish's departed Veterans on Monday, May 28th at 1:00 P.M. at St. Nicholas Church Cemetery in West Mifflin. Please note: this is an afternoon service (1 p.m.) and we encourage all faithful members to pay their respects to the deceased on this holiday. In addition, Fr. will intone abbreviated prayers and bless individual gravesites of parishioners upon request.

"PAINT A PICTURE PARTY" AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH IN RANKIN ON SUNDAY, JUNE 3 AT 1 P.M. Has been CANCELED.

ATTENTION CLASS OF 2018! To our High School and College graduates and Parents: By Sunday, May 20, please email Fr. Michael the following information: **High School Students:** name of your High School, any academic and/or athletic awards, where you will attend in the fall and your attended major in college (or undecided at this time). **College Students, Graduate and Post Graduate:** name of your college/university, your field of study and degree you have earned. We will recognize our graduates on Sunday, June 10th. Please be in church on that Lord's Day so that we can take a group photo.

OFFER A CAMPSHIP (\$315) OR ANY GENEROUS SUM OF FINANCES TO SEND ALL OF OUR CHILDREN OF CAMPER AGE TO NAZARETH THIS SUMMER FOR THE DIOCESAN CAMPING SESSIONS! The youths make "friends forever" at Camp and live an authentic Orthodox Christian life-style.

HOSPITAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! A variety of meaningful volunteer opportunities are available with Jefferson Hospital. Whether you would enjoy working directly with patients in the surgery center, volunteering in the Gift Shop, behind the scenes in an office or as a caring presence for patients who may be dying alone, volunteering at Jefferson is a wonderful way to give to others. To learn more, contact Janet O'Brien at 412-469-5885. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Janet at (412) 469-7038.

ALTAR BOYS' RETREAT IN JOHNSTOWN, PA AND YOUNG WOMEN'S ENCOUNTER IN WINDBER, PA – JULY 1-4, 2018! "Encounter 2018" for the boys begins with registration from 6 pm till 8 pm at our Christ the Saviour Seminary. The Retreat takes place at the theological school, Cathedral and Ed. Center, plus, SS. Peter & Paul Church facilities in Windber. For the outing this year, we will be traveling to TEEN QUEST in Somerset, PA. All registration will be electronic this year and must be made no later than, Friday, June 15th. The Young Women's Encounter includes spiritual discussions and special events. The YWE is an opportunity for our young women, ages 12 to 18, to have fellowship with their Orthodox sisters in Christ while learning to love God and serve the Church with their own unique gifts. For registration, check www.acrod.org Space is limited! Questions? Contact Pani Eleni Stagon at acrodywe@gmail.com

[Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church](#)