

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

Assistant Cantors – Donald Bodnar Jr. & Michele Tomko

Parish Council President: Tom Pingor

Vol. 6; No. 29

Sunday, July 22, 2018

8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Resurrection Tone: 7

Gospel: Matthew 14:14-22

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

Birthday Prayers are extended to **Stephen Fucsko (7/23)** and **Carol Fucsko (7/27)**, offered by the Family; and to **Brian Smoley** on his 36th Birthday on July 23.

Monday, (July 23)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +**John**, +**Margaret** & +**Johnny Harris**, offered by Deborah Harris.

Saturday, (July 28)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +**Andrew** & +**Mary Drabant**, offered by Mary Drabant.

7:00 P.M. Vespers.

Sunday, July 29, 2018

9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST AND THE SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIRST SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS

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 (Sunday)

Hebrews 13:7-16

John: 17:1-13 (Fathers)

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 102-104; 164 / Red Book: 117-119; 185-186

Birthday prayers are intoned for: **Frannie Zatorsky (7/29)**, offered by the Family.

Panachida Service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants: +**Andrew Zatorsky**, +**Flo Lang** & +**Brandon Trimmer**, offered by the Rajakovich Family.

Matthew 14:14-22

14:14-21 – This miracle, reported by all four evangelists, shows **Jesus feeding a great multitude** of His people as He fed the Israelites in the desert (Ex. 16). The Church Fathers see in this an image of the Eucharist, an idea made clear in John 6. In 15:32-39, another miracle is mentioned in which Jesus feeds four thousand people with seven loaves and a few small fish. While certain modern scholars have attempted to say that these are merely the same story, the witness of the gospel is clear that they are two distinct accounts, with Christ Himself referring to both of them separately (16:8-10). **Moved with compassion** is used frequently concerning the Lord (20:34; Mark 1:41; 6:34; Luke 17:13), showing that His power and authority are extended to those who suffer.

A spiritual interpretation given by the Fathers teaches that the **five loaves** indicate the five books of the Law (Genesis through Deuteronomy), which are broken open in Christ and thus fed the universe. The **two fish** represent the Gospel Book and the Epistle Book, the teaching of the

fishermen. The gathering of the leftovers by the apostles (v. 20) shows that the teachings of the faithful are unable to grasp are nevertheless held in the consciousness of the Church.
14:22-33 – Only God has dominion over nature, this miracle on the lake of water confirms the divinity of Christ.

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>

**PARTAKE OFTEN OF THE SOURCE OF LIFE
By Abbot Tryphon in "The Morning Offering"**

There is the true story of a priest-monk – the renowned Starets Alexis of Goloseyevsky Hermitage – who was conducting the re-vesting of the relics of St. Theodosius of Chernigov. The starets (elder) became tired, fell asleep, and saw before him the saint, who told him, "I thank you for laboring with me, I beg you also, when will you serve the Liturgy, to commemorate my parents, the priest Nikita and Maria."

Startled by the request, Starets Alexis asked, "How can you, O Saint, ask my prayers, when you yourself stand at the heavenly throne and grant to people God's mercy?" St. Theodosius responded with these words: "Yes, that is true, but the offering at the Liturgy is more powerful than my prayers."

As a priest, I am a servant of the altar and a slave of Christ. I take this role very seriously. Heaven, the ultimate goal of all Christians, is the eternal Kingdom whereas the Heavenly Banquet (the Eucharist) is eternally celebrated, eternally offered, in worship of the Holy Trinity.

As Orthodox Christians, we find life in this celebration, for the Eucharist is not only an offering to God, but the source of life for us. Christ said, "Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life" (John 6:54). It is not a symbol or a memorial of something that took place in the past, but a place where we meet eternity. Within the celebration of the Divine Liturgy we enter into the Heavenly Kingdom, where the Church Triumphant (in heaven) unites with the Church Militant (on earth), We enter into the communion of saints!

I am a proponent of frequent Communion, as are the fathers of the Holy Mountain of Athos, because we need the Eucharist. It sustains us, encourages us, fortifies us, heals us, transforms us. The early Christians receive whenever they gathered together, for they knew the communal participation in the Eucharistic banquet was life-giving.

ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH – MONTHLY BOARD MEETING! Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church shall conduct its monthly Church Officers' Session this month on Monday, July 23, 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.

CHECK THE BLUE-COLORED DIVINE LITURGY BOOKS IN YOUR PEW AND RETURN TO THE CHURCH OFFICE ANY OF THE PUBLICATIONS WHERE THE PAGES ARE COMING OUT OF THE BOOKLET! Our parish financial officers desire to correct this situation with the hymnbooks.

OFFER A CAMBERSHIP (\$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. Camperships generously offered this year have been graciously received from: Dave & Andrea Urban - \$300; Sue Semancik - \$300; Sr. A.C.R.Y. Chapter - \$315; Tom Pingor - \$300; Leslie & Michael Sochka - \$300; Andrea Labik - \$315; Men’s Club - \$315; Dave Urban - \$100.

FAITH NIGHT AT PNC PARK IS FRIDAY, JULY 27TH AT 7:05 P.M.! Our Pittsburgh Pirates will battle the New York Mets. Our sister parish of St. John the Baptist on the North Side is organizing a group plan of ticket sales in section 204 of the ballpark. For \$30 you will have a discount on concessions and all-you-can-eat-snacks. Please contact Wendy Martellotti at 412-583-6254 or martellotti11@verizon.net to reserve your ticket by **today**. Let’s Go Bucs!

RESERVE THE DATE OF SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, ON YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE PITTSBURGH DEANERY PICNIC IN SCHENLEY PARK (OAKLAND SECTION OF PITTSBURGH)

FROM 12 NOON UNTIL 5 P.M. It will be a covered-dish format where faithful of the five parishes in the Pittsburgh District will sign their names as participants and list what food entrées they will be offering for the picnic. A children’s playground is close to the site, and we hope to have entertaining “Rovin’ Musicians” offering plenty of good songs and delightful music to dance to.

LET’S FILL THE BACKPACKS FOR THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PUPILS IN THE DUQUESNE SCHOOL DISTRICT THIS SUMMER TO GIVE TO THE STUDENTS WHEN THEY START BACK IN

AUGUST! Our parish is working with F.O.C.U.S. America to supply needy elementary & middle school students backpacks, filled with specific school supplies, to further their education, in financially-depressed districts. Ask our projector coordinator, George Matey and assistant, Jean Colantoni, how you can help! The cost of the contents needed for 1 backpack is approximately \$20.00. Tell George or Jean that you would like sponsor a backpack for an elementary student in the Duquesne School District this fall and give from “the bottom of your heart.”

ST. JOHN’S (EAST PITTSBURGH) OPEN – AUGUST 11, 2018!

It’s that time of year again! Time for the often imitated, never duplicated, St. John’s Open. We hope you can join us for our “43rd Anniversary”. On Saturday, August 11, 2018 we to gather at Valley Green Golf Course in Greensburg to enjoy the fellowship, the weather, and the golf, no matter what score we shoot. FUN is the name of this game and we want everyone to have some. So mark that date on your calendar so you don’t forget and be left out. This year’s tournament will be a team event. We will also have a SHOT GUN START, with all golfers teeing off at the same time. This will also help reduce the length of time spent at the course. The fee this year will be \$89.00/golfer – as long as you pay by August 1, 2018. After that date, the fee will be \$95.00. But, in either case all monies must be paid by August 7, 2018. Additionally, due to the high number of golfers that participate in the St. John’s Open, WE CAN ONLY ACCOMMODATE THE FIRST 80 PAID GOLFERS! So get your group together and mail your check, made out to: St. John’s Orthodox Church and send to: Denny Harms, 200 Dundee Drive, West Mifflin, PA 15122. REMEMBER, the fee pays for the green fees, carts, drinks, snacks, steak dinner, and prizes. DON’T DELAY – ACT TODAY! Pick your foursome or threesome or twosome or just yourself and we will team you up with some great people dedicated to good, clean fun. We will award a cash prize to the winning team. Winning team is determined by the Lowest Gross Score. In the event of a tie, the First Tie-Breaker used will be determined by lowest number of putts for 18 holes. If necessary, Second Tie-Breaker will be determined by cutting a 52 deck of cards (one card per team). Highest Card Wins. Come and enjoy a great time with great people. Call Bob Pervuznik at:412-952-6962.

CRAFT BEER TASTING (To Benefit International Orthodox Christian Charities) ON THURSDAY, JULY 26 FROM 6-8 PM AT THE RUSTY GOLD BREWING COMPANY!

Small-batch beer tasting, and brewery tours with the head brewer are on tap! The company is located at 43 W. Pike Street in Canonsburg, PA 15317. Tickets are: \$10 (Includes 4 Beer Samples). Food will be available a la carte. Or make checks payable to IOCC and mail to: Kevin Reck at 105 Sycamore Dr., McMurray, PA 15317. Contact Kevin Reck at (724) 344-5610. kevinsreck@gmail.com with any questions. Please RSVP by July 19. Sponsorships are available. For more on Rusty God and their meticulously brewed drafts, visit www.facebook.com/rustygoldbrewery or call 724-485-2332.

HAVE YOUR NAME APPEAR AS A PATRON OR BOOSTER IN THE 74TH NATIONAL SENIOR A.C.R.Y. AND 35TH NATIONAL JUNIOR A.C.R.Y. CONVENTION BOOKLET.

Held over the Labor Day Weekend (Aug. 31 – Sept. 3), Holy Ghost Senior A.C.R.Y. Chapter of Phoenixville, PA will host this year’s conventions at the Crowne Plaza Philadelphia – King of Prussia, PA. An attractive journal will be published for these gatherings and you are encouraged to offer your support with an advertisement, which shall also include a Memorial Listing for you departed loved ones. Our Senior A.C.R.Y. President Cathy Pawlik is presently receiving donations for the publication. Kindly submit your monetary gift to her before the Sunday, July 29 deadline.

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