

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church



American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese

903 Ann Street

Homestead, PA 15120

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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

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Sunday, January 19, 2020

FEAST OF THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST

Matins: 8:00 A.M.

Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7;

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 144-148 / Red Book: 164-168

Birthday Prayers intoned for: **Rachael Hubert** on her 18th Birthday (Jan. 18), offered by Parents: Raymond & Michele Hubert.

Bulletin Sponsor: **Nick Ditmores**'s 14th Birthday, offered by the Family.

Altar Flowers' Sponsor: In memory of the deceased members of the +**Antolovich Family**, offered by John Antolovich.

Panachida Service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, deceased members of the +**Antolovich Family**, offered by John Antolovich.

MONDAY, JANUARY 20... 9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy on the Synaxis of St. John the Baptist.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, "Aunt"+ **Frannie Zatorsky, offered by Gary & Kathy Maclicco.**

Sunday, January 26, 2020

32nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST AND SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY

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

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-13;

Resurrection Tone: 7

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-17

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 99-101, 150 / Red Book: 114-117, 169-170

Matthew 3:13-17–

3:15 – Jesus does not need purification. By making the purification of humanity His own, He would wash away humanity's sin, grant regeneration, and reveal the mystery of the Holy Trinity. Thus, His baptism was necessary for the fulfillment of God's righteous plan of salvation. "Jesus enters the filthy, sinful waters of the world and when He comes out, brings up and purifies the entire world with Him." St. Gregory of Nyssa

3:16 – The **Spirit of God** hovered over the water at the first creation (Gen. 1:2). Now, the Holy Spirit comes in the form of a **dove** to anoint the Messiah, the Son of God, at the beginning of the new creation. Jesus does not become the Son of God this day; rather, He is revealed to all as the Son of God on this day. The Holy Spirit has always rested on Him. The feast day of Epiphany (a manifestation or revelation) or Theophany (a manifestation of God), celebrated on January 6, commemorates this day, and points to the age to come.

3:17 – This quotation is from Psalm 2:7, “You are My Son, /Today I have begotten You.” Note how the Baptism of Jesus reveals the great mystery of the Trinity: the Father speaks; the Holy Spirit descends; the Incarnate Son is baptized.

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>

JESUS HIMSELF DID NOT NEED BAPTISM!

In being **baptized**, our Lord accomplished several things: (1) He affirmed John’s ministry; (2) He was revealed by the Father and **the Holy Spirit** to be the Christ, God’s **beloved Son**; (3) He identified with His people by descending in the waters with them; (4) He prefigured His own death, giving baptism its ultimate meaning; (5) He entered the waters, sanctifying the water itself; (6) He fulfilled the many types given in the Old Testament when Moses led the people from bondage through the Red Sea (Exodus 14) and when the ark of the covenant was carried into the Jordan so the people could enter the Promised Land (Jos. 3; 4); and (7) He opened **heaven** to a world separated from God through sin.

THE WILDERNESS JOURNAL
365 Days with the PHILOKALIA
Angela Doll Carlson
DAY 43

You will recall how Christ did not reject the window’s mites (cf. Mark 12:44), but accepted them as greater than the rich gifts of many others.

Evagrius the Solitary, “On Prayer,” p. 57

ENOUGH

WHATEVER YOU HAVE, IT’S ENOUGH. I say this, but I don’t believe it easily. I must remind myself all the time because so many messages I get from the world around me contradict this. I am tempted, when I am at my worst, to withdraw any support I could offer. I’ll use the excuse, “well, it’s not much” or “it’s not enough.” But something is better than nothing to someone who has so little.

Or I take the having-enough lie deep inside. I fold in on myself and translate the message to read, “I am not enough.” No longer am I concerned with what I must give, what I must offer, but with whom I am. I am not good enough, strong enough, wise enough, talented enough. And not being “enough” means that I am bad, I am weak, I am foolish, I am worthless. There is no middle ground – I am enough or I am nothing.

For as long as we see ourselves as profoundly lacking, we will not offer ourselves to another person. We won’t give, we won’t reach out. What is at risk in knowing that in Christ, I am enough – not perfect, but enough?

THE NEXT ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH BOARD MEETING! The Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church Board Session is scheduled for Monday, January 20th at 7:00 P.M. Auditors will meet at 6:30 P.M. and all parishioners have the privilege to attend the meeting.

PREPARATION FOR THE BLESSING OF HOMES! The sanctification of residences will be conducted from Monday to Friday each week during the afternoon hours of 1-5 P.M. and the evening hours 7-9 P.M. If you have a preference for an afternoon or evening visit, please notify Fr. Michael. Your priest shall begin blessing homes of parishioners living in the Munhall and West

Mifflin areas, proceeding to the city of Pittsburgh and concluding in outlying areas (north, south, east and west).

FREE COMPUTER CLASSES IN HOMESTEAD! If you're applying for a job – or doing almost anything – in 2020, you need basic computer skills. (No, Facebook and texting aren't enough!) Mon Valley Initiative offers free, self-paced computer classes covering keyboard and web basics, sending and managing email, creating files, using Microsoft Office applications (Word, Excel and Power Point), using the Internet to search and apply for jobs, and other skills. Classes are held three days per week (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings) at 305 E. Eight Avenue (corner of Ann Street) in Homestead. MVI's office is accessible from the 61C, 53F, 56E, 59A, 59U and 61F buses. To enroll or get more information, call Deb at 412-464-4000, ext. 4001.

ST. NICHOLAS CEMETERY – ANNUAL MEETING – 2nd NOTICE! The St. Nicholas Cemetery Association will hold its 2020 Annual Cemetery Association Meeting on Sunday, January 26, 2020 at 11:45 A.M. All Cemetery Association members and parishioners of St. Nicholas are encouraged to attend.

HEALTH KIT DRIVE AND ASSEMBLY – FEBRUARY 8, 2020 FROM 11:30 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M. AT HOLY CROSS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH IN MT. LEBANON! Youth Volunteers and Monetary Donations Needed! Kit assembly will take place during the International Soup Sampling to benefit IOCC. The Orthodox church is located at 123 Gilkeson Road (Mt. Lebanon), Pittsburgh, PA 15228. All Orthodox Youth Groups are asked to participate. Students, please bring you volunteer forms for school credit. Our goal is to assemble one thousand health kits. Donations are needed to purchase bulk health kit supplies. To donate please make checks payable to "Holy Cross Agape Fund" with "IOCC Health Kit Project" in the memo, and mail to Nick Terezis, c/o IOCC, 306 Marberry Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15215. Please contact Deno at 412-833-8771 or dmpappas22@gmail.com to coordinate your youth group attendance.

LOOKING TO MAKE A LITTLE EXTRA MONEY DURING THIS SEASON OF ALMS-GIVING? D car Transportation, operating out of the Northside Pittsburgh area, is looking for part-time drivers who have A clean driving record, a PA driver's license, and are dependable and customer friendly. Having a CDL is a bonus. Anyone looking to make a little extra money driving some high-end clientele around Pittsburgh and back-and-forth to the airport, please call Denny at (412)725-3345. Thank you, Peggy Rusnak, a parishioner of St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church on California Avenue in North Side Pittsburgh,

THE SENIOR ACRY THANKS YOU FOR PURCHASING A LOTS OF LUCK CALENDAR!

INTERNATIONAL SOUP SAMPLING TO BENEFIT IOCC ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2020 FROM 11 A.M. TO 2 P.M. AT HOLY CROSS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH IN MT. LEBANON! Experience tastes from around the world! Sample five homemade soups for \$10, and take your favorite quart home for a \$10 donation. The Greek Orthodox parish is located at: 123 Gilkeson Road, (Mt. Lebanon), Pittsburgh, PA 15228. Register at ioccc.org/pittsburgh. For questions or to pre-order soup (by January 25), contact Marianne at 412-668-0420 or marianne.carmack@gmail.com. Youth groups & children's ministries from all jurisdictions will assemble health kits. All area youth are invited! Donations are needed to purchase bulk health kit supplies. To sponsor kits, call Nick Terezis at 740-282-5198.

EMAIL ADDRESSES NEEDED! We are looking to become more connected as a parish by sending out important announcements, updates, death and sickness notices, and other pertinent information via email. Our high school Sunday School class has volunteered to collect these email addresses. If you have not already provided your email address, we invite you to do so. Email addresses can be submitted by writing it on the sheet in the vestibule, giving it to any high school Sunday School student, or by emailing Bob Bartko at RABartko@gmail.com. Thank you for your participation!

HELP SPREAD THE GOSPEL AS PART OF AN ORTHODOX MISSION TEAM! We believe that God is doing some amazing things in the world. This year Orthodox Mission Teams will travel to **Alaska, Albania, Columbia, Ghana, Guatemala, Indonesia and Kenya** to share the love of Christ with others. By God's design, each of us must be engaged in spreading the Gospel. This is part of our identity as Orthodox Christians. Everyone has skills to offer and you can be a witness around the world (Acts 1:8) so that others may come to know Christ and deepen their relationship with Him. Through OCMC Teams, there are opportunities for you to participate in this amazing work of spreading our Orthodox faith around the world. Information on ways you can be involved in changing lives can be found by calling: **904-829-5132 ext 142**. Apply today. Orthodox Christian Mission Center.

TAKE AS MUCH BLESSED WATER AS YOU DESIRE FROM THE SANCTIFIED LIQUID CONTAINERS IN THE CHURCH PROPER! Holy Water Bottles are on sale in the Gift Shop of the auditorium. Please remember when disregarding old blessed H2O to pour the liquid around indoor or outdoor plants, shrubs, trees, even on the outdoor lawn or greenery. Never ever spill the holy water down the kitchen sink or down any sink in the residence.

Moses baptized but it was in water... John also baptized... not only in water, but also “unto repentance.” Still it was not wholly spiritual, for he does not add “And in the Spirit.” Jesus also baptized, but in the Spirit. This is the perfect Baptism.
– St. Gregory the Theologian

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