

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

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Sunday, June 21, 2020

2ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, SYNAXIS OF THE SAINTS OF CARPATHO-RUS AND FATHER'S DAY

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M. with special prayers of good intention for the health of all fathers of the parish and of our parishioners, and Panachida Service for all departed fathers of the church and of her members.

Epistle: Romans 2:10-16; Resurrection Tone: 1; Gospel: Matthew 4:18-23

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

Altar Flowers' Sponsor: **Father's Day**, offered by Saint Nicholas Church.

Altar Candles' Sponsor: In honor and memory of **Father's Day**, offered by Cheryl & Michele.

Panachida Service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +**John Sr.**, +**Suzanna**, +**Suzanna**, +**John Jr.**, +**Mary**, +**Helen** and +**Anna Mihalik**, offered by Catherine and Emma Mihalik.

Tuesday, (June 23)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +**George & +Mary Fedorko**, offered by Mary Rusnak (Daughter).

Saturday, (June 27)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, +**Andrew Talarovich**, offered by St. Nicholas Church Choir, and of good intention for the health of **Michael & Marion Lavra**, celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary, offered by Joan, George, Darlene and Joe Lavra, and for the deceased, +**Eleanor Konar**, on the 40th day of her falling asleep in the Lord and +**Elmer Konar**, on the 1st Year Anniversary of his falling asleep in the Lord, offered by the Children.

Sunday, June 28, 2020

3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST AND "GRADUATE" SUNDAY

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: Romans 5:1-10; Resurrection Tone: 2; Gospel: Matthew 6:22-33

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 84-86 / Red Book: 99-102

Altar Candles' Sponsor: In memory of Reader, Choir Director & Cantor, +**Andrew Talarovich**, offered by: Friends.

Birthday prayers intoned for: **Dacia Paganico**, offered by the Family.

Panachida Service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, +**Andy Talarovich**, offered by Friends.

Matthew 4:18-23 –

4:18-22 – These first disciples had already heard the preaching of John the Baptist and were prepared to accept Christ **immediately**. Though illiterate and unlearned in religion, these "people of the land" whom Jesus calls will be revealed at Pentecost to be the wisest of all.

4:22-25 – Note that the crowds do not swarm Jesus when He commands repentance (v. 17), but only when He begins to heal and work miracles. This fact shows that the people misunderstood

the true nature of His Kingdom. It also shows Christ's concession "to give credibility to what He teaches" among the fickle **multitudes** (St. Theopholus).

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/acroddioecese> Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/acrodnews> You Tube: <https://youtube.com/acroddioecese>

THE YEAR OF GRACE OF THE LORD

By a Monk of the Eastern Church

"They immediately left the ship and their father"

The second Sunday after Pentecost shows us the practical application of the great call to renunciation formulated by Jesus in the gospel for the first Sunday. Today's "Good News" tell of the calling of the first apostles. On the shore of Lake Galilee, Christ sees Simon and Andrew fishing. He says to them: "Follow Me". He wants to make them fishers of men. Further on, Jesus meets James and John, also fishermen, in the company of their father, Zebedee. Christ calls them. The new disciples abandoned their nets and their ships. Jesus sometimes asks us to renounce our profession, our instruments of work, whatever we possess. But some sons, at the call of Christ, abandon their father too: sometimes He wants us to abandon family affections, human friendships, created love. This is not a purely negative attitude. Jesus' call has a very positive aspect: one must follow the Master. But the first apostles could not have followed the Master if they had not first of all left their boats, and their nets, and their father. And what have I abandoned in order to follow Christ? What does He want me to leave?

The epistle deals with themes of the law and of faith. Today, we hear St. Paul compare the state of the Jews and of the Gentiles in relation to the law. The Jews have received the law; they will be judged by it. But the Gentiles, who do not know the mosaic law, nevertheless are not without law. The apostle pays homage to whosoever does good, whatever (as one would say today) his 'persuasion or 'denomination' might be. Paul resolves this problem with great breadth of spirit. We can apply what he says of the Greeks and the pagans to those who do not know the Gospel of Christ. They will be judged according to the measure of their faithfulness to the inner light which has been granted to them. They have a law to which their conscience bears witness. Do not let us be too quick, therefore, either to exclude from the kingdom of God those who do not share our faith, or to think that our faith dispenses us from doing good. Let us rather give thanks to God that no man is left entirely in darkness, and examine in ourselves our own faithfulness to the light.

ST. NICHOLAS CEMETERY – CEMETERY TURNAROUND! At the 2020 Annual Cemetery Association Meeting in January 2020, the membership approved a motion to install an 80' diameter turnaround at the end of the existing roadway and repair the roadway from the grotto to the new turnaround. This was a much-needed venture. The cost of this project was \$22k. After a few delays related to the Coronavirus situation, the turnaround paving project has been completed. If you are interested in helping, please donate to our cemetery. Your contribution will be greatly appreciated. Thank You! Tom Pingor.

INVOKING THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THANKFUL FOR THE CHURCH SCHOOL CHILDREN'S PHOTO!

Church Children: May the Holy Spirit be with you and your families, Today, Tomorrow and Always! Whatever your endeavor or difficulty that you're up against, pray and do the best that you can. Thank you for taking time to arrange the Group Photo that is on my tote bag. It is deeply appreciated! Danielle: May

the Holy Spirit Be With You and Your Family! Thank you for organizing the Photo & tote. God Bless You and always keep you folks in His loving care! Ms. Norma (Sotak)

ALTAR BOYS & YOUNG WOMEN (AGES 12-18) REGISTER FOR THE VIRTUAL RETREAT AND ENCOUNTER THIS YEAR – SUNDAY, JUNE 28 TO WEDNESDAY, JULY 1!

Saint Nicholas Church will pay your registration fees which shall entitle you to various materials for the events, as well as a commemorative t-shirt. Go to the Diocesan Website to register on-line, and inform Father Michael or Cheryl Tomko, Church Treasurer, of you planned participation.

CAMPERS: REGISTER FOR THE VIRTUAL DIOCESAN CAMPING WEEK OF THE PITTSBURGH DEANERY BY THE END OF JUNE; JULY 1ST IS THE DEADLINE!

Our parish shall, once again, finance your registration fees. Once you register online at the Diocesan Website, pamphlets concerning your week-long activities (July 26-August 1) will be mailed to you, plus, a commemorative Camp Nazareth tee-shirt. The code for St. Nicholas Church campers is: **Homestead 30**. Use this code in place of any monetary stipend submitted. And, notify your Pastor, or the Church Treasurer, Cheryl Tomko of your participation this year.

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!

ATTENTION CLASS OF 2020: To all High School and College Graduates of 2020:

Please notify Fr. Michael by Father's Day (June 21) of your graduation information. High School Students: 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: your college/university, your field of study and degree you have earned. We will recognize our graduates on Sunday, June 28. Please be in church that Sunday so that we can take a group photo.

FIRST CONFESSION CLASS SUNDAY AT 9:00 A.M. – POSTPONED UNTIL A LATER DATE!

Children of our church school Mystery of Penance class shall confess their sins before the priest on Saturday at 11 A.M. in Saint Nicholas Church. And the following Lord's Day they will come forward and receive the Body and Blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ in Holy Communion. It is a joyous occasion for the entire congregation to welcome these youths in the full sacramental life of the Church and rejoice in their attaining the age of reason and progress in their maturity level.

PROVIDE A SCHOOL SUPPLIES-FILLED BACKPACK FOR A STUDENT IN THE DUQUESNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT THIS YEAR!

Working with FOCUS North America for a new season of Back to School Backpacks, the Orthodox Christian organization will reconfigure the program in a way that offers our parish members an opportunity to support classrooms, grades, or a school of students by sending backpacks filled with school supplies to our church from supply houses where quarantining of products and hands-on processes are not pressures that interfere with getting resources to the students they serve. George Matey and Jean Colantoni shall, once again, serve as our parish coordinators for this project, and we encourage all faithful members or families of St. Nicholas to donate \$25.00 to help the young children in a financially-depressed school district these (48) "bags of materials" that will aid them in their pursuit of education. Please submit your monetary donation to the church financial officers and help our precious children in their early years of scholastic achievement.

GOD IS AT WORK IN THE MISSION FIELD!

Mission Teams have been described as "time spent in a cross-cultural community where God crosses into the culture of our souls." It is a way for us to respond to Christ's last words before His Ascension: "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you" (Matthew 29:18-20). Apply NOW for an OCMC Mission Team and be part of making disciples of all nations. Visit www.ocmc.org or email teams@ocmc.org.

A FATHER'S PRAYER: Build me a son, O Lord, who will be strong enough to know when he is weak; and brave enough to face himself when he is afraid; one who will be proud and unbending in honest defeat, and humble and gentle in victory. Build me a son whose wishbone will not be where his backbone should be; a son who will know You and that to know himself is the foundation stone of knowledge. Lead him, I pray, not in the path of ease and comfort, but under the stress and spur of difficulties and challenge. Here let him learn to stand up in the storm; here, let him learn compassion for those who fail. Build me a son whose heart will be clear, whose goal will be high; a son who will master himself before he seeks to master other men; one who will learn to laugh, yet never forget to weep; one who will reach into the future yet never forget the past. And after all these things are his, add, I pray, enough of a sense of humor, so that he may always be serious, yet never take himself too seriously. Give him humility, so that he may always remember the simplicity of true greatness, the

open mind of true wisdom, the meekness of true strength. Then I, his father, will dare to whisper, "I have not lived in vain."
General Douglas MacArthur

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