

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church



American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese

903 Ann Street

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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, July 19, 2020

6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: Romans 12:6-14;

Resurrection Tone: 5;

Gospel: Matthew 9:1-8

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 93-95, / Red Book: 108-110;

Panachida Service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +**George Pacolt**, +**Olga Simmers**, +**Helen Maurer**, and +**Ann** & +**Grace Ondrejask**, offered by Andrew & Lucy Tomko.

Monday, (July 20)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +**Father Peter** and **Pani Emily Molchany**, offered by Father Peter and Pani Emily.

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

Sunday, July 26, 2020

7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE FIRST SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS

Matins: 8:00 A.M.

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: Romans 15:1-7 (Sunday); Resurrection Tone: 6; Gospel: Matthew 9:27-35 (Sunday)

Hebrews 13:7-16 (Fathers)

John 17:1-13 (Fathers)

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 96-98; 164 / Red Book: 111-114; 185-186

Matthew 9:1-8 –

9:1 – Jesus' own city is Capernaum (4:13).

9:2-8 – As shown by the healing of the **paralytic**, faith is an indispensable condition for salvation. Faith is collective as well as personal, for the faith of the paralytic's friends helped in his healing (v. 2). Three signs of Jesus' divinity are shown: (1) He knows the secrets of hearts. According to Saint Cyprian, God's judgment will not be merely of outward appearances, but will penetrate much deeper into the heart of man. He sees the heart and mind of every person, and He will judge not only our deeds, but even our words and thoughts. ... for You know his heart, since You alone know the hearts of the sons of men, so that they may fear Your ways as long as they live in the land You gave our fathers (2 Ch. 6:30); (2) He forgives sins, a power which belongs to God alone; and (3) He heals by the power of His word.

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 YEAR OF GRACE OF THE LORD
By a Monk of the Eastern Church**

Healing of the Paralytic

The gospel for the sixth Sunday after Pentecost describes Jesus healing the man sick of the palsy (paralysis is part of the body, often with tremors). It throws light on the relationship between the forgiveness of sins and physical healing. Jesus, who is able to heal the man's palsy therefore also has, despite the indignation of the scribes, the right to forgive sins.

Some of the scribes said within themselves, "This Man blasphemes!" But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? "For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise and walk'? "But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" – then He said to the paralytic, "Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." And he arose and departed to his house.

The central theme of this episode is the power of both pardon and healing that the Lord Jesus possesses. Then there is the affirmation – even more, the demonstration – that healing and the forgiveness of sins cannot be separated. The man sick of the palsy, lying on his bed, has been put down at the feet of Christ. Now Jesus' first words are not: 'Be healed', but: 'Your sins are forgiven you'. In our physical illnesses, before imploring actual relief, we must ask for inner purification and to be absolved from our offenses. Finally, Jesus tells the man who was sick of the palsy to take up his bed and to go to his house. On the one hand, the crowd will be more fully convinced of the reality of the miracle if this man is now seen to be strong enough to carry his pallet, and, on the other, he who has been forgiven, and inwardly changed by Jesus Christ, must show those of his house, by some unmistakable sign (not only by carrying his straw bed, but by words, action, behavior), that he is a new man resuming life in his own surroundings.

ST. NICHOLAS CEMETERY – CEMETERY TURNAROUND! The Cemetery Association would like to thank all the parishioners who have already donated to the Cemetery Turnaround Project. We hope you have had an opportunity to visit the cemetery and view the new turnaround and roadway repairs beyond the grotto. It is our content to continue to maintain and make improvements so that everyone can be proud of our cemetery. Your continued donations and support would be greatly appreciated. Thank You! Tom Pingor, Cemetery Association President.

CAMPERS: REGISTER FOR THE VIRTUAL DIOCESAN CAMPING WEEK OF THE PITTSBURGH DEANERY NOW; THE DEADLINE IS PAST! 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.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR SISTER NYMPHODORA ON SATURDAY, JULY 25TH AT 12:00 NOON! All are invited to a memorial service for the 40th day of the falling asleep of Sister Nymphodora, known to many as Eleanor Dussling, on Saturday, July 25th at the Nativity of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Monastery, 121 St. Elias Lane, Saxonburg, PA 16056 at 12:00 noon. There will be a light luncheon after the memorial service. Please call (724) 352-3999 if you plan to attend.

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!

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.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR LENTEN SELF-DENIAL COIN BOX TO THE CHURCH IN ORDER FOR OUR PARISH TO SUBMIT A NOTABLE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN MISSION COMMISSION! Perhaps the sacrificial bank is still in your home ready to be offered to the Orthodox Christian missionaries traveling to all parts of the earth empowered to spread the “True Faith” to all humanity.

[Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church](#)