

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. 5; No. 35

Sunday, September 3, 2017

13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

Hierarchical Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 16:13-24 Resurrection Tone: 4 Gospel: Matthew 21:33-42

Tropar & Kondak: Blue Book: 90-92 / Red Book: 105-107

Bulletin Sponsor: **National A.C.R.Y. Conventions**, offered by St. Nick's Sr. & Jr. ACRY Chapters.

Altar Flowers' Sponsor: **National A.C.R.Y. Conventions**, offered by St. Nick's Sr. & Jr. ACRY Chapters.

Altar Candles' Sponsor: **National A.C.R.Y. Conventions**, offered by St. Nick's Sr. & Jr. ACRY Chapters.

Birthday prayers extended to **Anna Bartko** on her 7th Birthday, offered by the Family.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants: deceased +**Members of the National A.C.R.Y. Organization**.

WEDNESDAY, (Sept. 6)... 7:00 P.M. Moleben (Prayer) Service of Thanksgiving and Stewardship.

THURSDAY, (Sept. 7)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +**Theresa & +Andrew Timko**, offered by Mary Godish and Margaret Fedor.

SATURDAY, (September 9)... 9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, +**Rosalia Fesz**, offered by Mary Soffel (Daughter).

11:00 A.M. Mysteries of Baptism, Chrismation & Holy Communion administered to: **Craig Joseph Goughnour, Jr.**, son of Jennifer Pingor of our parish.

7:00 P.M. - Vespers

Sunday, September 10, 2017

14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Matins: 8:00 A.M.

Divine Liturgy: 9:00 A.M.

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4 Resurrection Tone: 5 Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

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

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant: +**James Morgan III**, offered by God Mother, Mary Ann Grossett.

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the souls of God's departed servants, +**John & +Mary Yarina**, offered by Mary Ann Kelch (Daughter).

Panachida service conducted for the repose of the soul of God's departed servant, +**Ann Timko**, offered by Trona & Family.

7:00 P.M. Vespers on the Holy Day of the

Beheading of the Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John.

Matthew 21:33-42

Luke 20:9-16 – In this **parable**, the **man** represents God the Father, and the **vineyard** refers to God’s people. The **vinedressers** are the leaders of the Jews entrusted to care for the people. Each **servant** (vv. 10-12) **sent** by the owner stands for an Old Testament prophet who comes to call people back to God, while the **beloved son** (v. 13) refers to Christ Himself. When the Son is cast **out of the vineyard** (v. 15) to be **killed**, this is understood on two levels: (1) that Jesus was killed outside Jerusalem; and (2) that Jesus was crucified by foreign soldiers, not by those of His own vineyard. The **others** (v. 16) who later receive the vineyard are the Gentiles brought into the Church.

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 VINEYARD AND THE HUSBANDMEN

The gospel for the 13th Sunday after Pentecost consists of the parable of the vineyard and the wicked husbandmen. A man who had planted a vineyard and dug a winepress in it went into a far country, leaving it in the care of the husbandmen. Several times he sent servants to receive its fruits, but the husbandmen ill-treated or killed them. Then the owner decided to send his son; the husbandmen, eager to get hold of the inheritance, killed the son. What can the lord of the vineyard do but destroy these wicked men and let out the vineyard to others? Jesus intends this parable primarily for the Jews, who, like the wicked husbandmen, have killed those sent by the owner, and will kill the son himself (one notices how well the words “they caught him, and cast him out of the vineyard, and slew him” apply to Jesus’ Passion, when He was taken and crucified outside the holy city), so that the work in the vineyard – that is to say in the establishment of the messianic kingdom – will be entrusted to the Gentiles. But the parable also applies to us personally. Have we, who are His husbandmen, worked selflessly in the Father’s vineyard? Have we not all too often despised the repeated Word itself, and the ministry of the angels, and the example of the saints? Each time we sin, do we not share the guilt of the Jews in the murder of the Son? Have we not deserved to be excluded by God from His service and His Kingdom? This is the severe warning that the gospel brings us.

In the epistle for this Sunday, St. Paul speaks with praise of the house of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Archaicus: he mentions the church which is in the house of Aquila and Priscilla. These Greek fellow workers of the apostle show us, by contrast with the wicked husbandmen in the gospel, what good laborers in the vineyard can be like. Finally, we are left with these words, as the central message of the epistle for this Sunday: “Let all your things be done with charity”. All that really matters is the quality of love in our actions.

WE, THE PASTOR AND FAITHFUL MEMBERS OF ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, HOMESTEAD, ARE HONORED TO HOST THE NATIONAL A.C.R.Y. CONVENTIONS! It is always a joy to welcome His Grace, Bishop Gregory to his parish of St. Nicholas in Homestead, PA. And, it is a privilege to welcome the

distinguished Diocesan clergy, National Senior & Junior A.C.R.Y. Officers, A.C.R.Y. delegates and members, guests and friends to our parish. Not only our dedicated Senior & Junior A.C.R.Y. chapter members, but the entire congregation has anxiously looked forward & prepared for this spiritually-minded and meaningful gathering. We welcome you in brotherly love and genuine hospitality. And, we pray that the Holy Spirit descend upon your deliberations, granting you the wisdom from above to commit all of your actions for the Glory of Almighty God, Forever Forward and Heavenward! We commend Cathy Pawlik, President of the Senior A.C.R.Y. Chapter #11, Co-Chairmen of the Convention: Aaron Zak & Bob Bartko, and Coordinators: Jessica Krchmar & Alisha Zak, diligent Sr. & Jr. A.C.R.Y. members of Saint Nicholas/Homestead, Officers of the Church & devout members of this God-saved parish for their unified and charitable efforts in hosting this year's fruitful conventions of the A.C.R.Y.

BISHOP GREGORY'S 5TH EPISCOPAL ANNIVERSARY – MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH IN

JOHNSTOWN, PA! We are happy to hear that the Diocese will honor His Grace, Bishop Gregory on the 5th anniversary of his ordination to the Episcopate. The evening event will take place on Monday, November 27th in Johnstown, PA. Please mark this date on your calendar. Complete information will be provided at a later time.

APPRECIATIVE WORDS FROM ONE OF OUR BELOVED PARISHIONERS: Cynthia Dzvonic is grateful to all members of our parish for remembering her in their church/private prayers for the sick, in submitting get-well cards and gifts to her residence and hospital stay; in phoning her with words of encouragement and hope, and by your gracious visits to her home and at the hospital to pray with her and cheer her up. Your concern and thoughtfulness will never be soon forgotten!

SAVE THE DATES: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 FOR THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AT CAMP NAZARETH; Divine Liturgy, followed by Luncheon, slideshow, presentations, tours, etc.; **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2017 FOR THE ANNUAL ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH PICNIC** – Susan Miller will be handling the Chinese Auction again this year for the picnic. She will be accepting any donations, starting today following the Divine Liturgy. Volunteer your talents to serve on the picnic committee and assist Jessica Krchmar, Chairperson for this event. Sign your name to the list downstairs of Picnic participants and to the papers listing the side dishes and refreshments you'll be bringing; **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 FOR THE FOOD FESTIVAL!** We desire all parishioners to sign their names to the papers in the auditorium highlighting the designated areas of the Festival, where they can be good stewards of giving their time, talents, and treasures toward this annual fund-raising activity of the parish.

PLEASE RETURN THE GLASS CANDLES FOR RECYCLING PURPOSES! Our parish of St. Nicholas has gone to using the glass 6-7 day candles for liturgical use in the church and at home. If you buy one to light in your home-church residence, please bring back the empty glass container after the wax has all melted. Eastern Oil Company recycles the glass bottles, and our church gets credit on its next order to the Bridgeville, PA-based company.

ST. MICHAEL'S ORTHODOX CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN WOOD, PA ON SATURDAY, SEPT. 23, 2017! As part of their celebration, they will have a 100 Year Anniversary Banquet the RW&BT Vol. Fire Co. Hall in Robertsdale following The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy being celebrated at St. Michael's in Wood, beginning at 10:00 A.M. The deadline to order tickets is Sept. 1, 2017.

NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS GREEK ORTHODOX MONASTERY DINNER BANQUET ON SATURDAY, SEPT. 9TH AT ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL IN PITTSBURGH AT 4 P.M.! With the Blessings of His Eminence Metropolitan Savas, Gerontissa Theophano & her Sisterhood warmly welcome you to: The 4th Annual Dinner Banquet in Memory of Gerontissa Taxiarchia. New Caterer! This year's event catered by George Loutsion. 3:00 P.M. Vesper Service. RSVP Online Now: 2017DinnerBanquet.eventbrite.com RSVP Deadline: September 1, 2017. Fish and Chicken entrees: \$100 per ticket. The Monastery is located at: 121 St. Elias Lane, Saxonburg, PA. Phone: (724) 352-3999

PITTSBURGH ORTHODOX YOUNG ADULTS WILL BE MEET ON SUNDAY, SEPT. 10 AT 6:30 P.M. AT THE SHARP EDGE BEER EMPORIUM IN SHADYSIDE! Bishop Thomas of the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese is scheduled to be the guest speaker on Sunday, September 10. Young adults (ages 21-39) are invited to attend these "Orthodoxy on Tap" encounters.

COME, HELP US MAKE PIROHI ON TUESDAYS, SEPT. 12TH & SEPT 19TH, AT 6 'O CLOCK! It is time to get ready for our fall food festival. Lend us your culinary talents for an evening of fun and work. Let's make October's festival one of the best we have ever had! With your help, we can do it! Let Jean Colantoni know if you are willing to give us a helping hand. Phone her at (412) 491-7090.

CALLING ALL CHURCH OFFICERS, CLERGY AND STEWARDSHIP COORDINATORS TO THE PROGRAM ENTITLED "IGNITING THE FLAME OF TRUE STEWARDSHIP" AT CAMP NAZARETH ON SATURDAY, SEPT. 23RD FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 5:30 P.M.! Breakfast & Lunch will be provided at no cost. Church Board members should inform Fr. Deacon Artemius or Father Zak today if they plan to attend.

[Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church](#)