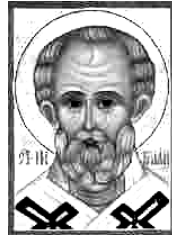


October 5, 2008
Martyr Charitina (304 AD)

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

320 Munson Avenue
McKees Rocks, PA 15136
412-331-1053
<http://www.stnicholas-oca.org>
info@stnicholas-oca.org



Rev. Thomas Soroka, *Rector*
(412) 299-3942
Rev. Dn. Joseph Mell, *Attached*
Ms. Doris Wasilko, *Choir Director*

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Schedule of Services and Activities

Today after the Divine Liturgy

In memory of Melissa Torok from David and Marsha Namisnak

Wednesday, October 8th – 10:00 AM

Wednesday, October 8th – 10:30 AM

“Seeking Truth, Finding Love: My Journey to the Orthodox Church”

Wednesday, October 8th – 6:30 PM

Wednesday, October 8th – 7:00 PM

*****No Great Vespers this Saturday*****

Sunday, October 12th – 10:00 AM

Trisagion for the Departed

Prayer Service and Pastor's Breakfast

Talk by Matthew Gallatin

Daily Vespers

Talk by Matthew Gallatin

“How to Experience God”

Divine Liturgy

An extraordinary parish meeting will be held after the Divine Liturgy today for the sole purpose of electing a lay delegate and alternate to the All-American Council of the Orthodox Church in America to be held in Pittsburgh from Monday, November 10th to Thursday, November 13th. Please see the insert in today's bulletin for more detailed information.

Our Christmas Stocking fundraiser to help children in need will once again be led by Helen and Sasha Henry. This year they will offer raffle tickets for a basket filled with wonderful items. Please see them to support this worthy effort.

The Parish Council will hold their monthly meeting today after the Parish Meeting.

The Weeping Icon of St Anne, mother of the Theotokos (this icon resides in Philadelphia, PA) will be at St Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church in McKees Rocks on Friday, October 10th at 7:00 PM, where an Akathist will be served, followed by anointing of the faithful with the tears from the icon. On Saturday morning, October 11th, at 9:00 AM a Divine Liturgy will be served, followed by anointing. At 11 AM, another Akathist will be served, followed by anointing. For further information, please contact Father Tim at 412-331-2362.



The \$1,000 Fall Raffle Tickets are now available. Please see Margie Speth for your tickets. Tickets are \$2 each. The winning number will be based on the daily (evening) PA Lottery Number drawn on Friday, October 17, 2008. Ticket money and completed ticket stubs need to be returned to Margie Speth. Thanks for your help with this major fundraiser for our parish.

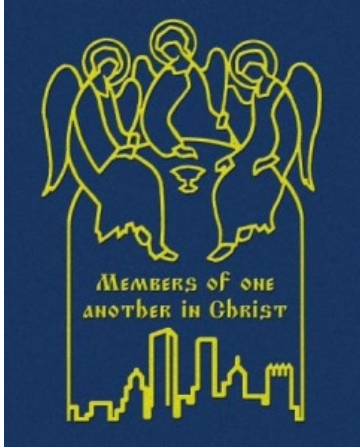


Orthodox author and speaker, Matthew Gallatin, author of “Thirsting for God in a Land of Shallow Wells” and Ancient Faith Radio podcaster **will be speaking at our parish this Wednesday, October 8th at 7 PM!** See the flier in today's bulletin for details. Tell your friends and family! We are hoping that all parishioners will seriously consider attending this important event so that they may grow in their faith.

St John Ukrainian Catholic Church, 204 Olivia Street, McKees Rocks, will hold a Spaghetti dinner on Sunday, October 19th from 12 Noon to 5:00 PM \$6 for Adults and \$3 for Children 12 and under.

St George Antiochian Orthodox church, 610 Dewey Ave, Bridgeville, will hold a Mediterranean Food Festival this weekend, October 10-12 will various Middle Eastern foods. Friday 4 to 8 PM, Saturday Noon to 8 PM, and Sunday Noon to 6 PM.

Vigil Light Donations (Please remember the following people in your prayers): **From Peter & Garnette Kerchum** for the departed servant, Mat. Olga Soroka; for the health of grandson, Michael Lopez, Jr., Reader Michael Soroka, Tom Robes and David Zeronski. **From Marsha Wasilko** for the health of the Wasilko family, Carol Kowalcheck and Tom Robes. **From Charles A. Wasilko** for the health of Carol Kowalcheck, Tom Robes and Carol Daniels. **From Doris M. Wasilko** for the departed servants (parents) Charles & Mary; for the health of the Wasilko family, Carol Kowalcheck, Valentina Barsom, Carol Daniels and Tom & Georgiann Robes. **From Helen M. Shancey** for the departed servants, her beloved husband, Richard Shancey, Norma Jean Evans, Joyce Duster, Ray Cobb, Ann Hruch, Steve Gulewicz, Mat. Olga, Fr. Vladimir and all deceased members of the Halajcio & Shancey families; for the health of Dr. Chris Baxter & family, Shancey & Halajcio families, Jim & Leslie Wokutch, Helen Cobb, Olga Novak & son, Bittner family, Hruch family, Wasilko family, Kasnot family, Namisnak family, Barsom family, Kovacs family, Kowalcheck family, Robes family, Steve Meno, Michael Soroka, Fr. Thomas, Rev. Dn. Joseph Mell and all their families and all parishioners. God bless Jim Gavin. God bless all our service men & women. **From Alexandria Tirpak** for the departed servants, John & Amelia, Nicholas & Marie, Frank & Ann, Nicholas & Nicholas-Memory Eternal; for the health of Amelia, Andrea, Richard & their families, Reader Michael Soroka, Carol and Valentina, the community of St. Nicholas, the men & women serving our country; special intentions. **From David Namisnak** for the departed servants from the Namisnak family, Melissa, Frank & Anna, John & Julia Ann, John & Mary Ann, Steve & Catherine, Pete & Margaret and Eugene & Julia. **From Susan Sipes Stroehlen** for the departed servant, husband, Jon. **From Carol Kowalcheck** for God's mercy & grace. **From John A. Kowalcheck** for the health of Carol Kowalcheck. **From John & Carol Kowalcheck** for the health of Reader Michael, Valentina, Nancy, Thomas, Leslie, Marsha & Mark. **From Georgiann Robes** for the departed servants, Johanna & Beverly Porvaznik and Victor Robes (on the anniversary of his passing); for the health of Tom Robes. **From Donya Yewisiak** for the health of Carol Kowalcheck, Tom & Georgiann Robes, Valentina Barsom and Reader Michael Soroka. **From Charles & Natasha Tichy** for departed servants, Aleksandra, Ilya, Praskovia, Anna and Vladimir; for the health of Valentina Barsom; safe travel



On Sunday, October 5th, we will have a parish meeting for the sole purpose of electing a lay delegate and alternate to attend the 15th triennial All-American Council of the autocephalous Orthodox Church in America to be held Monday, November 10th through Thursday, November 14th at the Hilton Hotel in downtown Pittsburgh. At this Council, among other items, the assembly will elect a new Metropolitan to lead the church and to be the first among equals of the Holy Synod.

Any lay candidates that wish to be considered for election must be “members in good standing” of the parish (that is, they must have shown themselves to be committed to the faith, attend church, participate in the sacramental life of the church, and participate in the financial stewardship of the parish according to their means).

Article III, Section 6 states of the Statutes of the Orthodox Church in America states:

The lay delegates and alternates to the All-American Council must meet the following requirements to be validly elected, qualified, and accredited:

- a. *Be elected by a parish meeting;*
- b. *Be a voting member of the parish in good standing (Cf. Article X, Section 5), at least eighteen years of age, having received the Sacraments of Confession and Communion at least annually for the past three years at his home parish. (Like holders of all offices in the Church, he may not be a person under ecclesiastical interdict, who is in violation of moral standards, who is married outside the Church, who is a member of anti-Church and/or secret societies.)*
- c. *The lay delegate or delegates will personally receive from their parish a uniform document supplied by the Central Church Administration. The parish rector shall forward to the Pre-Conciliar Commission the name and the address of the elected lay delegate or delegates and alternates two months prior to the All-American Council. The document of accreditation must be signed by the parish rector, or Dean in case of a vacancy in the parish, and the parish secretary, and sealed with the parish seal. In case of a vacant parish, the parish is entitled to one lay delegate. The delegates from a theological seminary, if laymen, shall be accredited by a similar letter to the Pre-Conciliar Commission by the dean of the theological seminary, immediately after their appointment.*

Article X, Section 5 states:

- a. *Parishioners are those who, by virtue of their Baptism and Chrismation, are members of the Body of Christ and strive to live in accordance with their high calling (Eph. 4:1) as Orthodox Christians. No one can be a member of the parish if he openly betrays the teaching of the Orthodox Church, or if he leads a life or acts in a manner condemned by the Holy Canons as incompatible with the name of Orthodox Christian.*
- b. *A "voting member" of the parish is a member [as defined in Article X, Section 5(a)] at least eighteen years of age, who partakes of the Sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion in his home parish at least once a year; has belonged to the parish for a period as may be fixed by the parish; and regularly fulfills such financial obligations as may be established by the All-American Councils, Diocesan Assemblies, and parish.*

It should be noted that it is commonly interpreted for the purposes of the All-American Councils that, although commonly considered clergy, Deacons are eligible to be elected as lay delegates for the All-American Council since they are not represented as clergy at the Council.

Additionally, those who are considering election should bear in mind that Tuesday through Thursday's sessions will be held during the day, and will need to make arrangements with their work or obligations to attend important sessions. There may also be some evening sessions.

The parish will pay all reasonable expenses for those who are elected as delegates (or in the case that a delegate cannot fulfill their duties, as alternates) including registration and fees for all events, mileage, parking and a *per diem* for food. Hotel expenses will not be paid since this is a local event.

Information about this Council may be found at <http://www.oca.org/15aac> . The full, detailed schedule has not yet been released as of today.

Questions about qualifications or the election should be directed to Fr Thomas.

Thank you to our September donors!

Communion Wine (\$40) from the Petrov and Burd families for the health of Roman on the occasion of his 18th birthday.

Incense (\$10) from Marsha Wasilko in memory of Mary Wasilko.

Thank you to our October donors!

Altar Candles (\$65) from the David Namisnak family in memory of Melissa Torok.

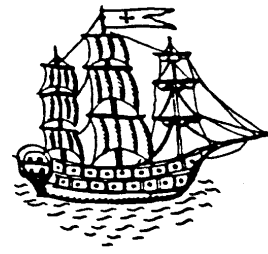
Holy Bread (\$50) from the David Namisnak family in memory of Frank and Anna Namisnak and John and Julia Grbach.

Communion Wine (\$40) from the David Namisnak family for the health of Aaron and Michelle Torok and Marsha Namisnak.

Incense (\$10) from Fr Thomas and Matushka Joni Soroka for the health of Melanie on her 15th birthday.

St Nicholas Orthodox Church

320 Munson Avenue
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A parish of the Orthodox Church in America
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October 5, 2008

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Tone 7

Troparion of the Resurrection

By Thy cross, Thou didst destroy death!
To the thief, Thou didst open paradise!
For the myrrh-bearers, Thou didst change weeping into joy!
And Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God
to proclaim that Thou art risen,
granting the world great mercy.

Tone 7

Kontakion of the Resurrection

The dominion of death
can no longer hold men captive,
for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers!
Hell is bound, while the prophets rejoice and cry:
The Savior has come to those in faith,
Enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!

Tone 6

Kontakion of the Theotokos

Steadfast protectress of Christians,
constant advocate before the creator,
do not despise the cry of us sinners,
but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith.
Hasten to hear our intercessions and to intercede for us, O Theotokos
For you always protect those who honor you.

Tone 7

Prokeimenon (Psalm 29)

The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

Epistle (II Cor 6:1-10)

We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain.
For He says:

“ In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you.”

Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed. But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings; by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as chastened, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

Gospel (Luke 5:1-11)

And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise.

But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!

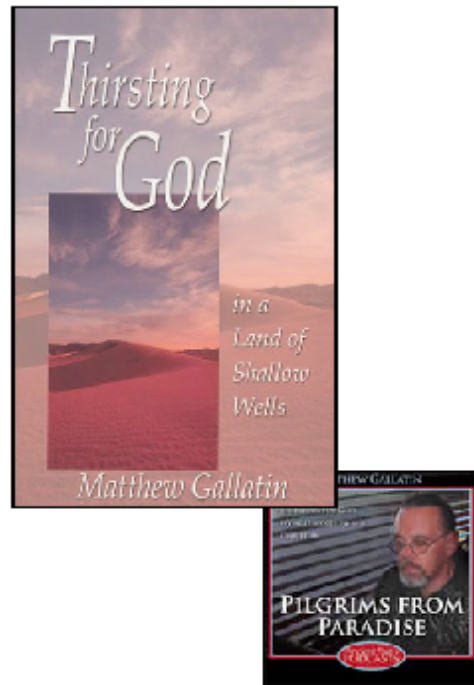
*While Holy Communion is reserved for Orthodox Christians
who prepare themselves by prayer and fasting,
non-Orthodox visitors are welcome to come forward to venerate the cross
and receive the Antidoron (blessed bread) at the conclusion of the service.
Please join us downstairs for coffee hour following the Divine Liturgy.*

Thank you to all our dedicated Church School teachers and parents who made our Church School yesterday a wonderful success. Attendance was excellent in the elementary grades. Middle and High School parents and students are strongly encouraged to make the Christian education of their children a priority. All the students who attended received excellent, engaging and meaningful instruction and activities. We are blessed to have an outstanding Church School program with very committed teachers! Please make the monthly commitment to educate your children in the Faith. Ensure that your children are grounded to meet the challenges in the world and make choices as informed Orthodox Christians.

Matthew Gallatin

Author of the popular book "Thirsting for God in a Land of Shallow Wells"
will speak on the subject

Seeking Truth, Finding Love: My Journey to the Orthodox Church A Pastor's Forum



Wednesday, October 8th, 2008

10:00 AM Prayer Service / Continental Breakfast
10:30 AM Forum

St Nicholas Orthodox Church
320 Munson Avenue
McKees Rocks, PA

Only three minutes from downtown Pittsburgh!

*Come and hear the story of an
Evangelical pastor who embarked upon
a challenging and life-changing
journey of discovery.*

This event is free and open to all pastors, teachers,
and ministry leaders who desire to learn more about
the ancient Christian faith
as experienced in the Orthodox Church.

For more information, write
info@stnicholas-oca.org

Hear Matthew's podcast
"Pilgrims from Paradise" on Ancient Faith Radio
AncientFaith.com

Matthew Gallatin

Author of the popular book "Thirsting for God in a Land of Shallow Wells"
will speak on the subject

How to Experience God

Wednesday, October 8th, 2008

6:30 PM Vespers
7:00 PM Presentation

St Nicholas Orthodox Church
320 Munson Avenue
McKees Rocks, PA

Only three minutes from downtown Pittsburgh!

*Can we really experience God?
Hear this gifted author and speaker
reveal the ancient Christian teaching
for powerfully experiencing God
in our daily lives.*

This event is free and open to the public.

Hear Matthew's podcast
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