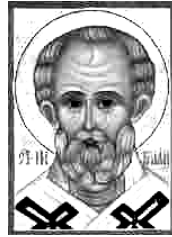


October 19, 2008
Prophet Joel

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*

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Schedule of Services and Activities

Today after the Divine Liturgy In memory of Aleksandra, Ilya, Charles, and John from Charles and Natasha Tichy	Trisagion for the Departed
Wednesday, October 22nd – 6:30 PM	Daily Vespers
Wednesday, October 22nd – 7:00 PM	Bible Study
Saturday, October 25th – 5:00 PM	Great Vespers
Sunday, October 26th – 10:00 AM	Divine Liturgy

We are pleased to report the Hoagie/Wrap Sale profit for October was \$647.85. Thank you to everyone who helped in the preparation and selling of our products. The next hoagie sale will be held on November 19 and 20, 2008.

As you know, the 15th All-American Council will be held at the Pittsburgh Hilton Hotel. On Wednesday, November 12th, the assembly will elect a new metropolitan. In the evening, a banquet will be held celebrating the event. Everyone is welcomed to attend; however, reservations must be made by **this Friday, October 24th**. Adult tickets are \$65 and a cash bar will be open at 6:30 PM. Entrée choices are Orange Roughy or Vegetarian Pasta. Reservations may be made through Fr Tom. A check made payable to "15 AAC" must accompany your reservation. For more information, contact Matushka Myra Oleynik at 724-941-5645 or myra.oleynik@gmail.com.

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 two baskets filled with wonderful items (Steelers and Fall Items)! Please see them to support this worthy effort. \$5 donation is requested for each ticket.

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 Ukrainian Catholic church, 3455 California Ave, will hold a Flea Market and Food Fest on Saturday and Sunday, Oct 25 (9-3) and 26 (12-4). Eat in or take out available.

Vigil Light Donations (Please remember the following people in your prayers): **From Marsha Wasilko** for the departed servant, Aunt Isa Wasilko; for the health of the Wasilko family; Happy Birthday and Many Years to Helen Shancey! **From Charles A. Wasilko** for the health of Carol Kowalchek, Tom Robes and the Reader Michael Soroka; Happy Birthday to Helen Shancey. **From Doris M. Wasilko** for the departed servants (parents) Charles & Mary; for the health of the Wasilko family and Carol Kowalcheck. **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, Melissa Torok 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, Jim Garvin, Fr. Thomas, Rev. Dn. Joseph Mell and all their families and all parishioners. God bless all our service men & women. God bless America. **From John & Nancy Pravlochak** for the departed servants, (parents) Steve & Anna Herko; for the health of the Pravlochak family and Robes family. **From Alexandria Tirpak** for the departed servants, John & Amelia, Nicholas & Marie, Frank & Ann, Nicholas and Nicholas; for the health of my children, Amelia, Andrea, Richard & their families, Reader Michael Soroka, Carol, Valentina and the community of St. Nicholas, the men & women serving our country; special intentions. **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 Ann Kowalcheck. **From Helen Cobb** for the departed servants, Ray Cobb, Mat. Olga, Richard Shancey, Darius, Melissa Torok, Joseph Kovacs, Ann Hruch and Steve Gulewicz; for the health of George, Ruth, Vic, Todd, Aleisha, Dick, Jared, Kasnot family, Helen M. Shancey & family, Dr. Chris Baxter & family, Barsom family, Kowal family, Wasilko family, Speth family, Tichy family, Fuller family, Bittner family, Kowalcheck family, Hruch family, Robes family, Steve Meno, Fr. Soroka, Dn. Joseph Mell and their families and all parishioners. God bless Michael Soroka. God bless all our service men & women.

'Sing the psalms with understanding,' says the psalmist (Ps 47:7); and the Lord says, 'Search the Scriptures' (Jn 5:39). He who pays attention to them is illumined, while he who pays no attention is filled with darkness. For unless a person attends to what is said in divine Scripture, he will gather but little fruit, even though he sings or reads them frequently. 'Devote yourself to stillness and know,' it is written (Ps 46:10), because such devotion concentrates the intellect: even if it is attentive for only a short time, none the less it knows 'in part,' as St Paul puts it (I Cor 13:12). This is especially true of the person who has made some progress in the practice of the moral virtues, for this teaches the intellect many things related to its association with the passions. Nevertheless, he does not know all the mysteries hidden by God in each verse of Scripture, but only as much as the purity of his intellect is able to comprehend through God's grace. This is clear from the fact that we often understand a certain passage in the course of our contemplation, grasping one or two of the senses in which it was written; then after a while our intellect may increase in purity and be allowed to perceive other meanings, superior to the first. As a result, in bewilderment and wonder at God's grace and His ineffable wisdom, we are overcome with awe before 'the God of knowledge,' as the prophetess Hannah calls Him (cf. I Sam 2:3).

-St Peter of Damaskos

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Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Tone 1 *Troparion of the Resurrection*

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,
while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body,
Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior,
granting life to the world.
The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life:
Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ!
Glory to Thy Kingdom!
Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou who lovest mankind!

Tone 1 *Kontakion of the Resurrection*

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory,
raising the world with Thyself.
Human nature praises Thee as God for death has vanished,
Adam exults, O Master!
Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage, and cries to Thee:
Thou art the giver of resurrection to all, O Christ!

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 1 *Prokeimenon* (Psalm 33)

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee!

Epistle (II Corinthians 9:6-11)

But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever."

Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.

Gospel (Luke 8:5-15)

"A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. 8 But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold." When He had said these things He cried, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

Then His disciples asked Him, saying, "What does this parable mean?" And He said, "To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that 'Seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.'"

"Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience."

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.*