

January 4, 2008  
Synaxis of the Seventy Apostles

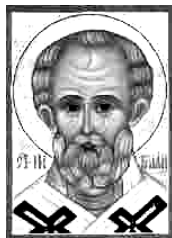
## St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

320 Munson Avenue  
McKees Rocks, PA 15136

Rev. Thomas Soroka, *Rector*  
(412) 299-3942

Rev. Dn. Joseph Mell, *Attached*  
Ms. Doris Wasilko, *Choir Director*

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### Sunday Before the Baptism of Christ (Theophany)

#### Schedule of Services and Activities

##### Today - after the Divine Liturgy

In memory of Nicholas Yurkowski from his wife, Julia, and their children

##### Trisagion for the Departed

##### Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup> - 6:00 PM

##### Evening Divine Liturgy

with Great Blessing of Water  
Great Feast of Theophany

##### Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup> – 1:00 PM – 5:30 PM

##### Church School

##### Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup> - 5:00 PM

##### Great Vespers

##### Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup> - 10:00 AM

##### Divine Liturgy



We will celebrate an evening Divine Liturgy for the feast of the Epiphany on Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup> (tomorrow) beginning at 6:00 PM with the Great Blessing of Water. Please bring an appropriate container in which to take Holy Water. There will be no Divine Liturgy on Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>.

The next Church School will be held on Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>. All parents are encouraged to bring their children to Church School!

The next Bible Study will be on Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>.

The 2009 Calendars and Envelopes are now available at the candle kiosk.

It's time again to update the Church directory! Please see Kristie Mertz if any changes have been made to your contact information. Additionally, we would like everyone to have their picture taken so that we can publish a new church directory for 2009. Photographs will be taken starting in 2009.

**March for Life** -January 22, 2009 in Washington, D.C. The Pittsburgh/Youngstown Orthodox bus will leave from the Park 'n Ride in Cranberry at 5:30AM, and return around 9PM. Cost is \$40 per person. Breakfast will be provided; Pack your own lunch, and they will stop for dinner on the way back. Thousands attend every year, and this is an opportunity to travel with fellow-Orthodox and stand up for the sanctity of human life. For more information, and to make reservations, contact Jim Tsikouris at [JamesTsikouris@live.com](mailto:JamesTsikouris@live.com) or 330-519-1122, or Emmanuel Maginas at

[CampNazFanatic@verizon.net](mailto:CampNazFanatic@verizon.net) or 724-251-9355 as soon as possible. **Orthodox Christianity is Pro – Life! Abortion stops a beating heart! Speak for the unborn who cannot speak for themselves!**

Anyone who wishes to have their home blessed should see Fr Tom to schedule an appointment.

Our gracious thanks to parishioner Steve Meno and the staff of **Della Robbia Flowers and Gifts of Distinction** for providing the beautiful decorations and flowers which adorn our temple for the feast of the Nativity of Christ. Please support this worthy business! Della Robbia, 842 Gill Hall Road, Clairton, PA 15025, phone 412-650-4200.

#### Special Donations:

**Soroka and Yewisiak Families** (\$1,500) in memory of Matushka Olga (to be used for a new icon).

**Mike and Mary Jane Del Verne** (\$50) (parents of Teresa Robes) in memory of George Porvaznik

**Vigil Light Donations** (Please remember the following people in your prayers): **From Marsha Wasilko** for the departed servant, Mat. Olga Soroka; for the health of the Wasilko family and Carol Kowalcheck; Happy & Healthy 2009 to all! **From Charles A. Wasilko** for the departed servant, Nick Yurkowski; for the health of Carol Kowalcheck and sisters, Doris and Marsha. **From Doris M. Wasilko** for the departed servants (parents), Charles & Mary and Mat. Olga; for the health of the Wasilko family and Carol Kowalcheck. **From Donya Yewisiak** for the departed servants, Mat. Olga, Fr. Vladimir and Paul Yewisiak, Sr.; for the health of Carol Kowalcheck and Dolly Lyle. **From Susan Sipes Stroehlen** for her departed husband, Jon. **From Carol Kowalcheck** for God's grace & mercy. **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, Joseph Kovacs, Ann Hruch, Steve Gulewicz; for the health of George, Ruth, Vic, Todd, Aleisha, Dick, Jared, Kowal, Fuller, Kasnot, Speth, Wasilko, Barsom, Shancey, Soroka and Mell families. God bless all our service men & women. God bless America. **From Peter & Garnette Kerchum** for the departed servant, Mat. Olga Soroka (1 year); for the health of Grandson, Michael Lopez, Jr., Reader Michael Soroka, Diane Zeroni and David Zeroni. **From Mat. Joni Soroka** for the departed servants, Mat. Olga (1 year) and Beth Hill (6 month). **From Nancy Shaytar** for the departed servants, (father) Michael Kraynak and (brother) John M. Kraynak; for the health of George Shaytar. **From Georgiann Robes** for the departed servants, (newly departed) George Porvaznik, Johanna & Beverly Porvaznik; for the health of Tom & Ron Robes; birth of beloved Anna. **From Raisa Burd** for the health of Polina, Roman, Marina, Vlad, Yevgeniy, Raisa, Tatyana, Alexandra, Valentina, Ludmila and all our relatives and friends. **From David Namisnak** for all departed servants; for the health of all Orthodox Christians. **From Helen M. Shancey** for the departed servants, her beloved husband, Richard Shancey, Norma Jean Evans, Joyce Duster, Ray Cobb, Joseph Kovacs, Ann Hruch, Steve Gulewicz & wife, 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, Carol Kowalcheck family, Garnette & Peter Kerchum, Michael Lopez, Jr., Robes family, Pravlochak family, Kowal family, Steve Meno, Reader Michael Soroka, Fr. Thomas, Rev. Dn. Joseph Mell and all their families and all parishioners. God bless all our service men & women. God bless America.

# St Nicholas Orthodox Church

320 Munson Avenue  
McKees Rocks, PA 15136  
A parish of the Orthodox Church in America  
www.stnicholas-oca.org  
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January 4, 2009

## Sunday Before the Baptism of Christ (Theophany)

### **Tone 4** *Troparion of the Resurrection*

When the women Disciples of the Lord learned from the Angel  
the joyous message of the Resurrection,  
they cast away the ancestral curse  
and elatedly told the Apostles:  
“Death is overthrown!  
Christ God is risen,  
granting the world great mercy!”

### **Tone 4** *Troparion of the Forefeast*

Prepare O Zebulon, be beautiful O Nephtali,  
Stop your flow O River Jordan, receive the Master with Joy,  
Rejoice with Eve O Adam, do not hide as of old in paradise;  
For the One who beheld you naked, has now appeared to enrobe you anew;  
Christ has come desiring to renew all of creation.

### **Tone 4** *Kontakion of the Resurrection*

My Savior and Redeemer as God  
rose from the tomb and delivered the earthborn from their chains.  
He has shattered the gates of hell,  
and as Master  
He has risen on the third day!

### **Tone 4** *Kontakion of the Forefeast*

Today hath the Lord appeared in the courses of the Jordan,  
Crying to John and saying,  
Do not be dismayed at my baptism,  
For I have come to save Adam the first to be created.

### **Tone 6** *Prokeimenon of the Forefeast (Psalm 27:9)*

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

### *Epistle of the Sunday Before the Theophany (2 Tim 4:5-8)*

But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

### *Gospel of the Sunday Before the Theophany (Mark 1:1-8)*

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the Prophets: “Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You. The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the LORD; Make His paths straight.”

John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, “There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

### **Communion Hymn (Psalm 148)**

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

*Welcome to our visitors!*

*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.*