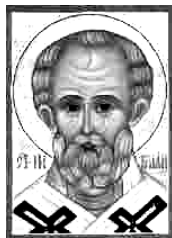


January 25, 2009
New Martyrs of Russia

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*

Thirty-second Sunday after Pentecost

Schedule of Services and Activities

Wednesday, January 28th – 6:30 PM	Daily Vespers
Wednesday, January 28th – 7:00 PM	Bible Study
All are welcomed to attend. No experience or prior knowledge necessary!	
Saturday, January 31st – 5:00 PM	Great Vespers
Sunday, February 1st – 10:00 AM	Divine Liturgy

Our Annual Meeting will be held today following Divine Liturgy. Members who are 18 years of age, are sacramental participants in the Church, and are financial stewards of the work of the Church, are eligible to vote.

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

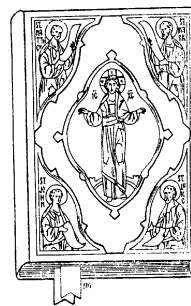
It's time again to update the Church directory! Please see Kristie Mertz if any changes have been made to your contact information. Additionally, we would like everyone to have their picture taken so that we can publish a new church directory for 2009. Photographs will be taken soon.

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

The next Church School will be held on Saturday, February 7th.

Thank you to the Hoagie Heroes who supported January's Hoagie/Wrap Sale. January's profit was \$272.63 based on 139 orders.

Vigil Light Donations (Please remember the following people in your prayers): **From Marsha Wasilko** for the health of the Wasilko family and Carol Kowalcheck. **From Charles A. Wasilko** for the departed servant, Uncle Mike Dyczko; for the health of Carol Kowalcheck, sisters, Doris & Marsha and Helen March Shancey. **From Doris M. Wasilko** for the departed servants (parents), Charles & Mary; for the health of the Wasilko family and Carol Kowalcheck. **From Helen Cobb** for the departed servants, Ray Cobb, Fr. Vladimir & Mat. Olga; for the health of George, Ruth, Vic, Todd, Aleisha, Dick, Jared, Helen Shancey, Stephanie Kowal, the Tichy, Fuller, Kasnot, Speth, Wasilko, Barsom, Soroka and Mell families. **From Garnette Kerchum** for the departed servant, Mat. Olga Soroka; for the health of Michael Lopez, Jr., and David Zeronki. **From Chuck Conrad** for the health of Barb Fitzgerald, please heal her. **From Alexandria Tirpak** for the departed servants, (parents & grandparents) Amelia & John, Marie & Nicholas, Ann & Frank, (brother & nephew) Nicholas, Nicholas, Waslow and Mat. Olga; for the health of Amelia, Andrea, Richard & families, Carol, Reader Michael, Nancy, John, Fr. Tom & family, Olga & Chuck, Mary, Mildred, Justin, Steve, Leslie, Helen Sonia, Theodore and JoAnn; community of St. Nicholas Parish; men & women serving our country; special intentions. **From Vaughn Hollowood** for the health and happiness of my Baba, Donya Yewisiak, on the occasion of her birthday! **From Marina Petrov** for the departed servant, Anastasiya Paramonova; for the health of Raisa, Yevgeniy, Vladimir, Roman and Polina. **From Paul & Lois Fuller** for the health and safety of (son) Soldier Justin.



The written record of God's revelation is the **Bible**, which means the book, or the books. The Bible is also called the **Holy Scriptures**. Scripture as a word simply means writings.

The Bible was written over thousands of years by many different people. It is divided into two **testaments** or **covenants**. These words signify agreements, pacts, or we might say, "deals." The two basic covenants are the old and the new; each has its own scriptures. As a book, the Bible contains many different kinds of writings: law, prophecy, history, poetry, stories, aphorisms, prayers, letters and symbolical visions.

For the Orthodox, the Bible is the main written source of divine doctrine since God Himself inspired its writing by His Holy Spirit (see 2 Tim 3:16 and 2 Pet 1:20). This is the doctrine of the inspiration of the Bible, namely that men inspired by God wrote the words which are truly their own human words -- all words are human! -- but which nevertheless may be called all together the Word of God. Thus, the Bible is the Word of God in written form because it contains not merely the thoughts and experiences of men, but the very self-revelation of God.

The center of the Bible as the written Word of God in human form is the person of the Living Word of God in human form, Jesus Christ. All parts of the Bible are interpreted in the Orthodox Church in the light of Christ since everything in the Bible leads up to Christ and speaks about Him (Lk 24: 44). This fact is symbolized in the Orthodox Church by the fact that only the book of the four gospels is enthroned on the altars of our churches and not the entire Bible. This is so because everything in the Bible is fulfilled in Christ.

St Nicholas Orthodox Church

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A parish of the Orthodox Church in America
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January 25, 2009

Thirty-second 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 (I Timothy 1:15-17)

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Gospel (Matthew 15:21-28)

Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed." But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she cries out after us."

But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, help me!"

But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table."

Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

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.*