

June 14, 2009  
Prophet Elisha

## St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

320 Munson Avenue  
McKees Rocks, PA 15136

412-331-1053

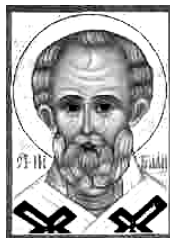
Rev. Thomas Soroka, *Rector*  
(412) 299-3942

Rev. Dn. Joseph Mell, *Attached*

Ms. Doris Wasilkko, *Choir Director*

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### First Sunday after Pentecost – Sunday of All Saints

Christ is in our midst! He is and always shall be!

#### Schedule of Services and Activities

\*\*\*No Daily Vespers or Bible Study this Wednesday\*\*\*

Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> – 5:00 PM

Great Vespers

Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup> – 9:30 AM

Divine Liturgy

**A note on kneeling:** While it is the custom of some to kneel on Sundays (and they are not forbidden to do so in this parish) all are reminded of the ruling given to the entire Church by the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council in 325 AD which states: ***“Forasmuch as there are certain persons who kneel on the Lord’s Day (Sunday) and in the days of Pentecost (the 50 days after Pascha), therefore, to the intent that all things may be uniformly observed everywhere (in every parish), it seems good to the holy Synod that prayer be made to God standing.”*** The reasons for standing on Sunday are clear: Because it is the Lord’s Day and every Sunday is a little celebration of the Resurrection.

Therefore it is appropriate that the faithful do not kneel on Sundays, because kneeling is a penitential act and is not appropriate for such a joyous day (in other words, there are six days which we ought to kneel, but not on Sundays). So, to be clear, those who grew up in the Church and were taught from a young age to kneel on Sundays, and who wish for personal reasons of conscience to maintain the practice of kneeling on Sundays, are not forbidden to do so in this parish. However, new Orthodox Christians and those who wish to follow the more Traditional practice, are encouraged to stand on Sundays in deference to the Resurrection of Christ.

**Our annual Father’s Day dinner** sponsored by the Sisterhood will be held next Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>. Everyone is welcomed to attend this free event after the Divine Liturgy. All available Sisterhood members are reminded to support this effort.

**Your generous financial donations** are imperative during the summer months. Please make sure to give regularly and consistently to the Church to allow us to meet expenses and keep our plans to grow in the future. May God richly bless you for your generosity.

**The Episcopal Consecration** of Archimandrite Melchisedek (Pleska) to be Bishop of the Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania will be held on **Saturday, June 27, 2009** at St Alexander Nevsky Cathedral. Everyone is encouraged to attend this “once in a lifetime event”. A **Grand**

**Banquet** will be held at the Hilton Hotel in downtown Pittsburgh beginning at 2:00 PM, with a Social Hour at 1:30 PM. Banquet tickets are \$40 per person with a choice of fish (orange roughy) or vegetable lasagna. **Deadline for reservations is today.**

**Our next hoagie/wrap sale** will be held this Wednesday/Thursday, June 17/18, 2009. Prices remain the same...\$5 for an Italian Hoagie or Wrap and \$5.50 for a Turkey Hoagie or Wrap. Orders need to be called in to 412 771-0176, faxed to 412 771-2444 or emailed to [m.bittner@comcast.net](mailto:m.bittner@comcast.net) by 7 p.m. Monday, June 14. Thank you.

**Mark your calendars! Our Annual Wal-Mart Bake Sale** will be held on Saturday, June 27, 2009 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Wal-Mart at the Pointe. We need bakers and purchasers to make this event successful. Baked goods need to be wrapped and priced for sale. Details will follow in the next two bulletins as to drop off of goods and sales people needed to make this event successful.

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the Repose of Archbishop Kyrill** will be held this Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at Holy Transfiguration Monastery. Divine Liturgy begins at 10:00 AM.

**A Youth Day Retreat** (ages 6-18) will be held at Holy Transfiguration Monastery in Elwood City on Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM (Liturgy) to closing prayer at 3:30 PM. Theme will be the Holy Angels. Lunch is included. There is no fee for the retreat but donations may be made to support the work of the Monastery. If you are planning to attend, please call the monastery at (724) 758-4002 or send an email message to [omt1@losch.net](mailto:omt1@losch.net) by Thursday, June 25.

**Thank you to Nick Kowalcheck** who has been cutting the grass around the Church property. May God bless him for his faithfulness!

**The Apostle’s Fast begins tomorrow** and lasts until Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\***McKees Rocks Bridge Westbound Lane CLOSED**\*\*\*

The lane from Route 65 (Ohio River Boulevard) going toward Island Avenue will be closed for most of the summer. This includes the Helen Street Exit on that side. The Eastbound lane (heading from Island Avenue to Route 65) will remain open

**For those coming to Church from the Route 65 Side:** *If you come through downtown*, cross the West End Bridge, then turn right and take the exit into McKees Rocks. *If you’re closer to the Sewickley area*, you can cross the river by taking I-79 South and exiting at Neville Island, then take Neville Road into McKees Rocks.

*Don’t let road construction detour your spiritual life this summer!*

**FOCA Family Night Out – Wild Things Baseball** at Consul Energy Park, Washinton, PA, August 20<sup>th</sup>. Game begins at 7:05 PM. For more information, contact Patty Lear at [pnlear@verizon.net](mailto:pnlear@verizon.net).



**The Annual Archdiocesan Family Day** will be held on Sunday August 16<sup>th</sup> beginning at 3:00 PM at the Archdiocesan Center in Cranberry Township.

**We are in need** of coffee hour sponsors this Summer! Please see Melissa Graff if you can help!

**If anyone happens to visit the church during the week**, please take 10 minutes to use the water hose and water the flowers by the parish house and the Church. Thanks for your help!

**Vigil Light Donations** (Please keep the following people in your prayers) **From Marsha Wasilko** for the departed (Uncle) Wm. Falick; for the health of the Doris and Carol Kowalcheck; Happy Birthday & Many Years to Mat. Nancy; successful open heart surgery & recovery for my friend, Diane. **From Doris M. Wasilko** for the departed servants (parents), Charles & Mary; for the health of the Wasilko family and Carol Kowalcheck; Happy Birthday & Many Years to Olga Kasnot & Mat. Nancy Mell. **From Charles A. Wasilko** for the departed servants, (parents) Charles & Mary; for the health of sisters, Doris & Marsha, Dn. Joe & Mat. Nancy on their birthdays. **From Helen Cobb** for the departed servants, Ray Cobb, Fr. Vladimir & Mat. Olga, Darius Walat; for the health of George, Ruth, Vic, Todd, Aleisha, Dick, Jared, Helen March Shancey, Stephanie Kowal, the Tichy, Fuller, Kasnot, Speth, Wasilko, Barsom, Soroka and Mell families. **From Raisa Burd** for the departed servants, Agrippina, Stepan, Anna, Denis, Nina, Zinovi, Vladimir, Vassili, Peter, Lena and Ivan; for the health of Marina, Vladimir, Roman, Polina, Alexi, Alexandra, Michael, Yevgeniy and all our relatives & friends. **From Helen M. Shancey** for the departed servants, her husband, Richard Shancey, Norma Jean Evans, Joyce Duster, Ray Cobb, Ann Hruch, Mat. Olga, Melissa Torok and all deceased members of the Halajcio & Shancey families; for the health of Dr. Chris Baxter & family, Halajcio & Shancey families, Dale Halajcio, Danny Parsons, Marion Geysler & family, Jim & Leslie Wokutch, Helen Cobb, Olga Novak & son, the Bittner, Hruch, Kasnot, Namisnak, Barsom, Kovacs, Kowalcheck, Kowal and Robes families, Steve Meno, Marion Geysler & family, Dale Halajcio, Danny Parsons, Fr. Thomas, Rev. Dn. Joseph Mell and their families and all parishioners. God bless America! **From Carol Kowalcheck** for God's tender mercy & His beloved grace. **From John & Carol Kowalcheck** for the health of Nora Kowalcheck & baby and son, Nicholas on his 29<sup>th</sup> birthday (6/17). **From John Kowalcheck** for the health of Carol Ann Kowalcheck. **From Peter Kerchum** for the health of Garnette Kerchum (surgery). **From John & Nancy Pravlochak** for the health of Michael Soroka, Carol Kowalcheck and the Pravlochak family. **From David Namisnak** for the departed servants, Melissa, Frank & Anna, John & Julia and Richard Shancey; for the health of Lt. Douglas (Iraq), Marsha, William Belfiore and Helen Shancey. **From Georgiann Robes** for the departed servants, Beverly, George & Johanna Porvaznik; for the health of Tom & Ron Robes, Carol Kowalcheck and Reader Michael Soroka. **From Donya Yewisiak** for the health of Tom Robes, Kathryn Orłowski and Carol Kowalcheck.

# St Nicholas Orthodox Church

320 Munson Avenue  
McKees Rocks, PA 15136  
A parish of the Orthodox Church in America  
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June 14, 2009

## First Sunday after Pentecost – Sunday of All Saints

Christ is in our midst! He is and always shall be!

### Tone 8

#### Troparion of the Resurrection

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One!  
Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!  
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection: Glory to Thee.

### Tone 4

#### Troparion of All Saints

As with fine porphyry and royal purple,  
Thy Church has been adorned with Thy martyr's blood shed throughout all the world.  
She cries to Thee, O Christ God:  
Send down Thy bounties on Thy people.  
Grant peace to Thy habitation and great mercy to our souls.

### Tone 8

#### Kontakion of All Saints

The universe offers Thee the God-bearing martyrs  
as the first fruits of creation, O Lord and Creator.  
Through the Theotokos, and their prayers, establish Thy Church in peace.

### Tone 8

#### Prokeimenon of the Sunday (Psalm 76)

Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!

### Tone 4

#### Prokeimenon of All Saints (Psalm 67)

God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel!

#### Epistle (Heb 11:33-12:1)

...who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword.

They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.

And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

#### Gospel (Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30)

Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me.  
And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.  
And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.

Then Peter answered and said to Him, "See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?" So Jesus said to them, "Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first.



#### Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!  
Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just! Alleluia!

*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.*