

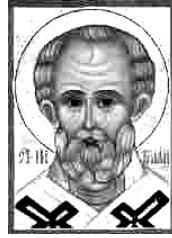
July 12, 2009
Martyrs Proclus and Hilary

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 Wasilko, *Choir Director*

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Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Schedule of Services and Activities

Today, Following the Divine Liturgy

In memory of Richard Shancey from his wife, Helen

Sunday, July 19th – 9:30 AM

Trisagion for the Departed

Divine Liturgy

The Parish Council will meet after the Divine Liturgy today.

Thank you to John Kowalcheck for directing the choir today while Doris Wasilko is on vacation. May God bless him and all the singers for their faithfulness.

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.

There will be no Great Vespers on Saturday or Bible Study on Wednesday during the month of July.

St Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church (116 Ella St) in McKees Rocks will hold their annual Ukrainian Festival from July 22nd through the 25th. Live entertainment every night, Lamb roast, funnel cakes, Chinese auction and ethnic food. Food service 4:00 PM to close.

St Alexander Nevsky Women's Association will hold their 8th annual Golf Classic at the Pittsburgh North Golf Club. \$125 per player. Banquet only - \$30. Sponsorships available. Friday July 31st. See Fr Tom for forms.

FOCA Family Night Out – Wild Things Baseball at Consul Energy Park, Washinton, PA, August 20th. Game begins at 7:05 PM. For more information, contact Patty Lear at plear@verizon.net.

Vacation Church School is almost here! Tuesday, August 18th through Thursday, August 20th from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM. Please see Matushka Joni if you can bring your children, and if you can help! Assistance is needed! More information next week and via email.

Mark your Calendar – St Nicholas Picnic is back! Sunday, September 20th at Robinson Park. More information is forthcoming. We are seeking leaders to help chair various aspects of the picnic. Please see Michelle Bittner if you can help, as soon as possible!

Upcoming Services: Lesser Blessing of Water, Saturday, August 1st at 4:30 PM, Vespers at 5:00 PM. Feast of the Transfiguration, Wednesday, August 5th at Great Vespers with Litiya at 7:00 PM, Divine Liturgy on Thursday August 6th at 9:30 AM (tentative) with blessing of grapes and all fruit.

Vigil Light Donations (Please keep the following people in your prayers) From Marsha Wasilko for the health of Wasilko family and (friends) Donna & Bill; safe travel. From Doris M. Wasilko for the departed servants (parents), Charles & Mary; for the health of the Wasilko family and Carol Kowalcheck. From Charles A. Wasilko for the health of sisters, Doris & Marsha, Tom & Georgiann Robes; safe travel; special intention. 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 Tom Robes for the departed servants, George, Johanna & Beverly Porvaznik and Victor Robes; for the health of Georgiann Robes (knee replacement surgery); bless all our serviceman-especially the ones from our community. From Donya Yewisiak for the departed servants, Dorothy McBroom and Margaret Konik; for the health of Carol Kowalcheck. From David Namisnak for the departed servants, Melissa, Frank & Anna Namisnak; for the health of Carol Kowalcheck, Helen Shancey, Marsha, Soldier Douglas. From the Pravlochak family for the departed servant, Val Prescop; for the health of Pravlochak family and Michael Soroka.

The Holy Martyrs Proclus and Hilarion were natives of the village of Kallippi, near Ancyra, and they suffered during the time of a persecution under the emperor Trajan (98-117). St Proclus was put under arrest first. Brought before the governor Maximus, he fearlessly confessed his faith in Christ. The governor decided to compel the saint to submit himself to the emperor and offer sacrifice to the pagan gods. During his tortures, the martyr predicted to Maximus that soon he himself would be compelled to confess Christ as the true God. They forced the martyr to run after the chariot of the governor, heading towards the village Kallippi. Exhausted, St Proclus prayed that the Lord would halt the chariot. By the power of God the chariot halted, and no force could move it from the spot. The dignitary sitting in it became petrified. The martyr told him that he would remain unmoving until such time as he would sign a document with a confession of Christ. Only after this could the chariot continue on its way with the governor.

The humiliated pagan took fierce revenge on St Proclus. He commanded that Proclus be led out beyond the city, tied to a pillar and shot with arrows. The soldiers, leading St Proclus to execution, told him to give in and save his life, but the saint said that they should follow their orders.

Along the way to the place of execution, they met Hilarion, the nephew of St Proclus, who with tears embraced his uncle and also confessed himself a Christian. The soldiers seized him, and he was thrown into prison. The holy Martyr Proclus prayed for his tormentors and surrendered his soul to God beneath a hail of arrows.

St Hilarion was brought to trial and, with the same courage as St Proclus, confessed himself a Christian. After tortures he was sentenced to death. They tied the martyr's hands and dragged him by his feet through the city, wounded and bloody, and then they beheaded him three days after the death of his uncle, the holy Martyr Proclus. Christians buried them together in a single grave.

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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

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 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 4

Prokeimenon (Psalm 104)

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

Epistle (Romans 10:1-10)

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

For Moses writes about the righteousness which is of the law, "The man who does those things shall live by them." But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down from above) or, "'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Gospel (Matthew 8:28-9:1)

When He had come to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, there met Him two demon-possessed men, coming out of the tombs, exceedingly fierce, so that no one could pass that way. And suddenly they cried out, saying, "What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?"

Now a good way off from them there was a herd of many swine feeding. So the demons begged Him, saying, "If You cast us out, permit us to go away into the herd of swine." And He said to them, "Go." So when they had come out, they went into the herd of swine. And suddenly the whole herd of swine ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and perished in the water.

Then those who kept them fled; and they went away into the city and told everything, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men. And behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus. And when they saw Him, they begged Him to depart from their region.

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.