

October 4, 2009

## St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

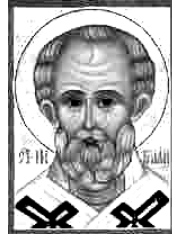
320 Munson Avenue  
McKees Rocks, PA 15136  
412-331-1053

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

Rev. Dn. Joseph Mell, *Attached*

Ms. Doris Wasilko, *Choir Director*

<http://www.stnicholas-oca.org>  
[info@stnicholas-oca.org](mailto:info@stnicholas-oca.org)



### Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

#### Schedule of Services and Activities

Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 PM

Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 PM

Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> – 1:00 PM to 5:30 PM

Sunday, October 10<sup>th</sup> – 5:00 PM

Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 AM

Daily Vespers

Bible Study

Church School

Great Vespers

Divine Liturgy

**The St Nicholas Sisterhood** will meet today after the Divine Liturgy to discuss the St Nicholas Day dinner.

**Parents of all Church School age children** are asked to meet downstairs after the Divine Liturgy today.

**Due to scheduling conflicts** for the next three regular Church School dates, we have to **move Church School for October, November and December**. The dates for Church School will be Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, and Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. The next Church School will be on October 11<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 PM to 5:30 PM. Our apologies for any inconvenience.

**The next Bible Study** will be on October 7<sup>th</sup> where we will continue a new series on the Gospel of St John the Theologian. Please join us! It's not too late!

**The National Carpatho-Rusyn Festival** will be held on Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 AM to 8:00 PM at the the National Carpatho-Rusyn Cultural and Educational Center (formerly St John's Cathedral), 915 Dickson Street, Munhall, PA. Continuous entertainment, arts demonstration, children's activities, sale items and ethnic food! Admission is \$5 for adults, children 17 and under are free. Visit [www.c-rs.org](http://www.c-rs.org) for more information.

**Wine Tasting and Dinner to benefit International Orthodox Christian Charities** on Thursday, October 15, 2009 at Little Athens Restaurant, 518 Locust Pl, Sewickley, PA 15143. Appetizers starting at 6 p.m. Main Course Choice of: Lamb Souvlaki, Chicken Phyllopita, Roast Beef, or Fish Plaki. Dessert Choices of: Baklava, Galactobureko, or Rice Pudding. Tickets: \$60.00 per person. Due to limited seating tickets must be purchased in advance. To purchase tickets (preferred method) go to [www.iocc.org/pittsburgh](http://www.iocc.org/pittsburgh) or contact Sophie Farah at 412-341-6869 by Sunday, Oct 11.

Fr. Demetrios Carellas, Chaplain at the Nativity of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Monastery, is giving a series of talks called "The Life-Giving Beatitudes of Christ". The first talk in the series will be Saturday October 17 at the Three Hierarchs Eastern Orthodox School at 1819 Ellsworth Avenue in Heidelberg. Call 412-278-3333 to register for this free event. Light refreshments will be served. Donations gratefully accepted to benefit THEOS.

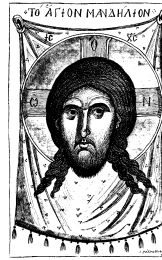
**Holy Ghost Orthodox Church in Ambridge** will be holding its major annual fund raiser on Saturday, October 31, at the Holy Ghost Youth Center (405 Maplewood Ave, Ambridge) from 11 AM until 6 PM. A variety of ethnic foods and baked goods will be available, plus outstanding entertainment! For take-out Orders Call (724) 266-7744. Please support our sister parish in Ambridge!

**An Orthodox Educational Retreat** will be presented by Fr. Thomas Hopko on the topic of "Almsgiving," on Saturday, November 14, 2009. Registration begins at 9:00 AM and the lecture begins at 10:00 AM with a light lunch following. St John the Baptist Orthodox Church, 601 Boone Ave, Canonsburg, PA 15317. Preferred Donation \$20. All Proceeds to Benefit International Orthodox Christian Charities. Reservations online at [www.iocc.org/pittsburgh](http://www.iocc.org/pittsburgh) or call 724-263-5605 by Nov 7.

**Vigil Light Donations** (Please remember the following people in your prayers) **From Helen Cobb** for the departed servants, George, Ray Cobb, Fr. Vladimir & Mat. Olga, Darius Walat; for the health of Ruth, Vic, Todd, Aleisha, Dick, Jared, Helen March Shancey, Stephanie Kowal, the Tichy, Fuller, Kasnot, Speth, Wasilko, Barsom, Soroka and Mell families. **From John & Carol Kowalcheck** for the health and salvation of our family. **From John Kowalcheck** for the health of Carol Ann Kowalcheck. **From Carol Kowalcheck** in thanksgiving to God. **From David Namisnak** for the departed servants, Melissa, Frank & Anna Namisnak and John & Julia Grbach; for the health of Marsha and Helen Shancey. **From Helen March 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, Linda Halajcio, Larry Halajcio, Marion Geysler & family, Jim & Leslie Wokutch, Helen Cobb, Olga Novak & son, the Bittner, Hruch, Wasilko, Kasnot, Namisnak, Barsom, Kovacs, Kowalcheck and Robes families, Steve Meno, Peter & Garnette, Reader Michael Soroka, Fr. Thomas, Rev. Dn. Joseph Mell and their families and all parishioners. God bless America! **From Peter & Garnette Kerchum** for the departed servant, Mat. Olga; for the health of grandson, Michael Lopez, Reader Michael Soroka, Garnette Kerchum and George Shaytar. **From Marsha Wasilko** for the health of the Wasilko family and Carol Kowalcheck; special intention. **From John & Nancy Pravlochak** for the departed servant, Mat. Olga; for the health of the Pravlochak family and Michael Soroka. **From Charles A. Wasilko** for the departed servant, Godchild, Melissa Torok; for the health of sister, Doris, on the occasion of her birthday. **From Alexandria Tirpak** Memory Eternal (parents/grandparents) Amelia & John, Marie & Nicholas, Ann & Frank, (brother & nephew) Nicholas & Nicholas (9-11-92), Aunt Ann and Francis; for the health of (children) Amelia, Andrea and Richard & their families, Mildred, Violet, John, Theodore; blessed birthday to daughter, Amelia (Oct. 11); special intentions. **From Nancy Shaytar** for the health of husband, George, sister, Esther Tylavsky and Garnette Kerchum; special intention; Happy Birthday John Shaytar. **From Amelia Kuck** for special intentions. **From Donya Yewisiak** for the health of Mary Yewisiak, Carol Kowalcheck and Justin Fuller. **From Susan, Samantha and Jon, Jr. Stroehlen** for the departed servant (husband/father) Jon. **From Doris M. Wasilko** for the departed servants, (parents) Charles & Mary; for the health of the Wasilko family and Carol Kowalcheck.

# St Nicholas Orthodox Church

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



October 4, 2009

## Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

### 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 8

### Kontakion of the Resurrection

By rising from the tomb Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam.  
Eve exults in Thy resurrection,  
and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One.

### 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 8

### Prokeimenon of the Sunday (Psalm 76)

Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!

### Epistle (II Cor 6:16-7:1)

And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said:

"I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people."

Therefore, "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty."

Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

### Gospel (Luke 6:31-36)

And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise.

But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

### Communion Hymns (Psalm 148)

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.*

**On Apostolic Tradition:** *Of the beliefs and practices whether generally accepted or publicly enjoined which are preserved in the Church some we possess derived from written teaching; others we have received delivered to us "in mystery" by the tradition of the Apostles; and both of these in relation to true religion have the same force. And these no one will contradict; - no one, at all events, who is even moderately versed in the institutions of the Church. For were we to attempt to reject such customs as have no written authority, on the ground that the importance they possess is small, we should unintentionally injure the Gospel in these matters... (St Basil - On the Holy Spirit 27 [A.D. 375]).*

*"So then brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word, or by epistle of ours" (2 Thessalonians 2:15). Hence it is manifest, that they did not deliver all things by epistle, but many things also unwritten, and in like manner both the one and the other are worthy of credit. Therefore let us think the tradition of the Church also worthy of credit. It is a tradition, seek no farther (St John Chrysostom - Homilies on Second Thessalonians [circa A.D. 400]).*

*I have often then inquired earnestly and attentively of very many men eminent for sanctity and learning, how and by what sure and so to speak universal rule I may be able to distinguish the truth of Catholic faith from the falsehood of heretical pravity; and I have always, and in almost every instance, received an answer to this effect: That whether I or any one else should wish to detect the frauds and avoid the snares of heretics as they rise, and to continue sound and complete in the Catholic faith, we must, the Lord helping, fortify our own belief in two ways: first, by the authority of the Divine Law, and then, by the Tradition of the universal Church (St Vincent of Lerins - Commonitory 2 [A.D. 434])*