

October 18, 2009

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

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

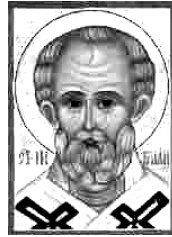
Rev. Thomas Soroka, *Rector*
(412) 299-3942

Rev. Dn. Joseph Mell, *Attached*

Ms. Doris Wasilko, *Choir Director*

<http://www.stnicholas-oca.org>

info@stnicholas-oca.org



Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Schedule of Services and Activities

Today after the Divine Liturgy

In memory of Ann Kunca from her family

Wednesday, October 21st – 9:00 AM

Wednesday, October 21st – 6:30 PM

Wednesday, October 21st – 7:00 PM

Sunday, October 17th – 5:00 PM

Sunday, October 18th – 10:00 AM

Trisagion in memory of Ilya and Aleksandra Korolev from Natasha and Charles Tichy

Trisagion for the Departed

Hoagie Assembling

Daily Vespers

Bible Study

Great Vespers

Divine Liturgy

A special parish meeting will be held next Sunday, October 25th, for the purpose of discussing the acquisition of the St Mark's Catholic Church properties (next door to our church) which are being offered to us. The properties include the rectory, church, convent and school. Possible plans include conversion of the school into a fully funded HUD subsidized housing facility for the elderly.

In preparation for the visit of His Grace, Bishop Melchisedek to our parish (see announcement below) we will be having several work days to prepare our church property. On Saturday, November 14th, we're asking all those who can to come and help us paint all areas of the Church basement and come ready (and dressed!) to paint. No experience necessary! Our regular "Church Clean-up Day" will be on Saturday, November 21st, and that day will also be a work day for the men and women who want to do some heavier tasks. It is imperative that we have as much help as possible. If you've never contributed to the work days, please make this the year that you begin. There is much to be done and we need every able bodied person that can help out. See you then!

Mark your calendars! His Grace, Bishop Melchisedek will be visiting our parish on the feast of St Nicholas, our heavenly patron, Sunday, December 6th, to celebrate the 95th anniversary of our community with us. His Grace will be with us for the Divine Liturgy on Sunday and the dinner immediately following. It would be appropriate for us to make **every effort** to be in Church on that day and to attend the dinner, with every member of our entire family, and to meet our new bishop. Let's make this a memorable day!

This month's hoagie/wrap sale will be held on Wednesday/Thursday, October 21/22, 2009. Prices remain the same...\$5 for an Italian Hoagie or Wrap and \$5.50 for a Turkey Hoagie or Wrap. An order form is attached for your use in obtaining orders. Orders can be called in to 412 771-0176, faxed to 412 771-2444

or emailed to m.bittner@comcast.net up to 7 p.m. on Monday, October 19. Orders can be picked up from noon to 1:00 p.m. on October 21. Assembly line begins at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, October 21, in the church hall. If you are able to work a couple of hours, please join us. We can always use the extra help and fellowship. Thank you for supporting our fund raiser.

Christmas Card Project: Once again we are hoping everyone will participate in our parish's Christmas Card Project. Please see Marsha Wasilko to sign-up your/your family's name to be listed on the card for a \$10 donation. Sign-up deadline is November 29. Please make checks payable to "St. Nicholas Orthodox Church".

St. Nick's Corner News: We have a new supply of Christmas cards in various designs available at St. Nick's showcase in the hall. Get your cards while supplies last!

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 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 for all. **From David Namisnak** for the departed servants, Melissa; for the health of Marsha. **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 Geyser & family, Jim & Leslie Wokutch, Helen Cobb, Olga Novak & son, Marsha Namisnak & family, the Bittner, Hruch, Wasilko, Kasnot, 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 Dick Hassimileo and his family on his operations. God bless America! **From Peter & Garnette Kerchum** for the departed servant, Mat. Olga; for the health of grandson, Michael Lopez, Reader Michael Soroka and George Shaytar; private intention. **From Marsha Wasilko** for the departed servant, Aunt Isa Wasilko; for the health of the Wasilko family; safe travel. **From John & Nancy Pravlochak** for the continued health of Gina Pravlochak and Elaine Urda; health of Tanya Stark. **From Charles A. Wasilko** for the departed servant, Aunt Isabelle Wasilko; for the health of sisters, Doris and Marsha, Tom Robes, Carol Kowalcheck and Garnette Kerchum. **From Donya Yewisiak** for the health of (niece) Melanie Soroka on the occasion of her 16th birthday and Carol Kowalcheck; special intentions. **From Nancy Shaytar** for the health of husband, George. **From Doris M. Wasilko** for the departed servants, (parents) Charles & Mary; for the health of the Wasilko family, Tom Robes and Carol Kowalcheck. **From Susan, Samantha and Jon, Jr. Stroehlen** for the departed servant (husband/father) Jon.

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Tone 2 Troparion of the Resurrection

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal,
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead!
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out:
O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!

Tone 2 Kontakion of the Resurrection

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior,
seeing the miracle of Thy resurrection from the tomb!
The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with Thee!
And the world, O my Savior, praises Thee forever!

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 2 Prokeimenon (Psalm 118)

The Lord is my strength and my song. He has become my salvation!

Epistle (II Corinthians 11:31-12:9)

The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. In Damascus the governor, under Aretas the king, was guarding the city of the Damascenes with a garrison, desiring to arrest me; but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped from his hands.

It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord: I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a one was caught up to the third heaven. And I know such a man—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— how he was caught up into Paradise

and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter. Of such a one I will boast; yet of myself I will not boast, except in my infirmities. For though I might desire to boast, I will not be a fool; for I will speak the truth. But I refrain, lest anyone should think of me above what he sees me to be or hears from me.

And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Gospel (Luke 8:5-15)

“A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. 8 But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold.” When He had said these things He cried, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

Then His disciples asked Him, saying, “What does this parable mean?” And He said, “To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that ‘Seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.’”

“Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.”

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.*

Thank you to our October donors! Holy Bread (\$50) and Altar Candles (\$25) in memory of Melissa Torok and Frank and Anna Namisnak from David and Marsha Namisnak. **Communion Wine (\$40)** for the health and safety of the soldier, Justin, from Paul, Lois and Katherine Fuller. **Incense (\$10)** from Fr Thomas and Matushka Joni Soroka for the health of daughter, Melanie, on her 16th birthday.