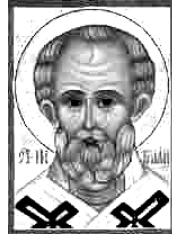


April 18, 2010

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*

The Holy Myrrhbearers (Third Sunday of Pascha)

Schedule of Services and Activities

Wednesday, April 21st – 9:00 AM

Saturday, April 24th – 9:00 AM

Saturday, April 24th – 5:00 PM

Sunday, April 25th – 10:00 AM

Hoagie Prep

St Mark Property Clean Up

Great Vespers

Divine Liturgy

The Parish Council will meet today for their monthly meeting after the Divine Liturgy in the parish house.

Mark your calendars! We will be cleaning the St Mark Church on Saturday, April 24th at 9:00 AM to prepare for our special concert with the Konevets Quartet and the Tsar Lazar Serbian Male Chorus of Pittsburgh. We need your help and support!

Please make sure to advertise to friends, neighbors and at work, about the special fundraising concert we will be sponsoring on Wednesday, April 28th at St Mark Church. The Konevets Quartet will give an exclusive Pittsburgh concert, along with the Tsar Lazar Serbian Male Chorus, beginning at 7:00 PM. Tickets will be sold at the door. Please distribute the handbills to as many people as possible.

This month's Hoagie/Wrap Sale will be held Wednesday/Thursday, April 21/22. Prices remain the same...\$5 for an Italian Hoagie or Wrap and \$5.50 for a Turkey Hoagie or Wrap. All parishioners are encouraged to obtain orders. Orders can be called to 412 771-0176, faxed to 412 771-2111 or email to mbittner109@verizon.net by 7 p.m. on Monday, April 19, 2010. Please join us on the assembly line on Wednesday, April 21, in the church hall. We start as early as 8 a.m. and usually finish before noon. Thank you.

St John's Ukrainian Catholic Church, 204 Olivia St, McKees Rocks, will sponsor a Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, May 2nd from noon until 5:00 PM. There will also be a bake sale and Chinese auction, and take-out orders will be available. \$7.00 for adults, \$4 for children 12 and under.

The THEOS Orthodox School will hold its annual fundraising dinner and silent auction on Sunday, June 6th at Bella Sera restaurant in Canonsburg. For more information or reservations, please contact Pam Onest 724-809-9545 or tpabee98@yahoo.com or Tina Patrinos 412-551-6230.

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 Doris M. Wasilko** for the departed servants, (parents) Charles & Mary; for the health of the Wasilko family, Carol Kowalcheck, Helen Billak and Rachel Robes. **From Charles A. Wasilko** for the health of sisters, Doris & Marsha and Rachel Robes. **From Alexandria Tirpak** for the departed servants (parents & grandparents) Amelia & John, Marie & Nicholas, Ann & Frank and (brother & nephew) Nicholas & Nicholas, Ann and Michael; for the health of John, Theodore, (my children), Amelia, Andrea, Richard & their families, Joann, Mildred, Violet, Carol, Nancy, Baby Rachel & the Robes family; Fr. Tom on his Name's Day; Mary & Frank on their 1st anniversary; Community of St. Nicholas; men & women serving our country; special intentions. **From Marsha Wasilko** for the health of the Wasilko family, infant Rachel Robes, Happy Birthday & Many Years to Helen Henry! **From Charles & Natalya Tichy** for the departed servants, Aleksandra, Ilya, Anna, Praskovia, Vladimir, Anna, Sergei, Anastasia, Vladimir and Victor. **From John & Carol Kowalcheck** for the health & salvation for our family. **From John Kowalcheck** for the health of Carol Ann Kowalcheck. **From Carol Kowalcheck** in thanksgiving for God's blessings. **From John A. Tirpak** for the departed servants, Anne & John; for the health of Charles F., Charles E., John Alex, Alexandria & John Tirpak and our families. **From Peter & Garnette Kerchum** for the departed servants, Mat. Olga and Very Rev. Fr. Vladimir Soroka; for the health of grandson, Michael Lopez Jr., Reader Michael Soroka, Helen Hoover, Wayne Miller and Margaret Ruprecht. **From David Namisnak** for the departed servants, Melissa and Frank & Anna; for the health of Rachel Robes, Marsha, Ed Belfiore and Helen Shancey. **From Tom & Georgiann Robes** for the health of Rachel Grace Robes and Teresa & Rob. **From John & Nancy Pravlochak** for the health of Julia on her 12th birthday, Gina Pravlochak and infant, Rachel Robes. **From Susan Sipes Stroehlen** for the departed servant, husband, Jon. **From Kristie Mertz** for the health of Rachel Grace Robes & the Robes family. **From Natalie Aitken Tooeh** for the departed servants, (brother) Kevin Aitken and (nephew) Nicholas Aaron Aitken; for the health of (parents) Pauline & Lee Aitken and St. Nicholas Parishioners. **From the Yakovacs** for the departed servants, Sara and Marissa Schultz; for the health of Auntie, Joel, Justin, Eric, Helen Billak and Evelyn Paladini; special intentions. **From Mat. Joni Soroka** for the health of infant, Rachel & her family and Helen Cobb on her 102nd birthday. **From George & Nancy Shaytar** for the health of Donna Shaytar and Tony Bertram. **From Donya Yewisiak** for the health of Rachel Robes & the Robes family, Juliana Hollowood and Carol Kowalcheck.

Within the Pascha of Christ is the meaning and fulfillment of all things. Much of modern Christianity has married itself to the secular world's linear view of history. In such a context, Pascha begins to fade into a memorial of the past, or, worse still, an annual culture event. It is impossible for such a festival not to have a cultural context – human beings produce cultures. However, we should understand that it is not the culture that gives meaning to Pascha – but Pascha which gives meaning to a culture.

At the End of all things, there is Pascha. Everything and everyone will find its meaning there – which is fitting since Pascha was before all things. (Fr Stephen Freeman)

*This bulletin is offered by Tom and Georgiann Robes in memory of
George, Johanna and Beverly Porvaznik, and Victor Robes*

St Nicholas Orthodox Church

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A parish of the Orthodox Church in America

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April 18, 2010

Sunday of the Holy Myrrhbearers (Third Sunday of Pascha)

Paschal Greeting

Christ is risen! Indeed, He is risen!

Christos voskrese! Voistinu voskrese! (*Russian*)

Christos anesti! Alithos anesti! (*Greek*)

Paschal Troparion

Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death,
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

Tone 2

Troparia of the Sunday

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!

The Noble Joseph,
when he had taken down Thy most pure body from the tree,
wrapped it in fine linen and annointed it with spices
and placed it in a new tomb.
But Thou didst rise on the third day, O Lord,
granting the world great mercy.

The angel came to the myrrhbearing women at the tomb and said:
Myrrh is meet for the dead,
But Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption!

So proclaim: The Lord is risen; granting the world mercy!

Tone 2

Kontakion of the Sunday

Thou didst command the myrrhbearers to rejoice, O Christ!

By Thy resurrection, Thou didst stop the lamentation of Eve, O God!

Thou didst command Thy apostles to preach:

The Savior is risen!

Tone 6

Prokeimenon (Psalm 28)

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine in heritance!

Epistle (Acts 6:1-7)

Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them.

Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

Gospel (Mark 15:43-16:8)

Then Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent council member, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, coming and taking courage, went in to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate marveled that He was already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him if He had been dead for some time. So when he found out from the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph. Then he bought fine linen, took Him down, and wrapped Him in the linen. And he laid Him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock, and rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus observed where He was laid.

Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?" But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away—for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed.

But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples—and Peter—that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you."

So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Hymn to the Theotokos of the Feast

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace:

"Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: 'Rejoice,
your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb!
With Himself He has raised all the dead.'"
Rejoice, O ye people!

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem!
The glory of the Lord has shone on you.
Exult now, and be glad, O Zion!
Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,
in the Resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymn of the Sunday

Receive the Body of Christ! Taste the Fountain of Immortality!
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.*

The second Sunday after the Feast of Holy Pascha is observed by the Orthodox Church as the Sunday of the Holy Myrrhbearers. The day commemorates when the women disciples of our Lord came to the tomb to anoint his body with myrrh-oils but found the tomb empty. As the woman wondered what this meant, angels appeared proclaiming that Christ had risen from the dead.

About the beginning of His thirty-second year, when the Lord Jesus was going throughout Galilee, preaching and working miracles, many women who had received of His beneficence left their own homeland and from then on followed after Him. They ministered unto Him out of their own possessions, even until His crucifixion and entombment; and afterwards, neither losing faith in Him after His death, nor fearing the wrath of the Jewish rulers, they came to His sepulcher, bearing the myrrh-oils they had prepared to anoint His body. It is because of the myrrh-oils that these God-loving women brought to the tomb of Jesus that they are called Myrrh-bearers.

Of those whose names are known are the following: first of all, the most holy Virgin Mary, who in Matthew 27:56 and Mark 15:40 is called “the mother of James and Joses” (these are the sons of Joseph by a previous marriage, and she was therefore their step-mother); Mary Magdalene (celebrated July 22); Mary, the wife of Clopas; Joanna, wife of Chouza, a steward of Herod Antipas; Salome, the mother of the sons of Zebedee; Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus; and Susanna. As for the names of the rest of them, the evangelists have kept silence (Matthew 27:55-56; 28:1-10. Mark 15:40-41.

Luke 8:1-3; 23:55-24:11, 22-24. John 19:25; 20:11-18. Acts 1:14.) Together with them we celebrate also the secret disciples of the Savior, Joseph and Nicodemus. Of these, Nicodemus was probably a Jerusalemite, a prominent leader among the Jews and of the order of the Pharisees, learned in the Law and instructed in the Holy Scriptures. He had believed in Christ when, at the beginning of our Savior’s preaching of salvation, he came to Him by night. Furthermore, he brought some one hundred pounds of myrrh-oils and an aromatic mixture of aloes and spices out of reverence for the divine Teacher (John 19:39). Joseph, who was from the city of Arimathea, was a wealthy and noble man, and one of the counselors who were in Jerusalem. He went boldly unto Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus, and together with Nicodemus he gave Him burial. Since time did not permit the preparation of another tomb, he placed the Lord’s body in his own tomb which was hewn out of rock, as the Evangelist says (Matthew 27:60).



Holy Transfiguration Monastery – Brookline, MA