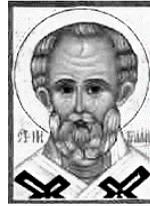


St Nicholas Orthodox Church

McKees Rocks/Pittsburgh, PA stnicholas-oca.org



Archpriest Thomas Soroka, Rector
Deacon Luke Loboda, Attached
Mat. Janet Mihalick. Choir Director

7th Sunday of Pascha – First Ecumenical Council
June 12, 2016

Welcome!

Whether you're searching for a new church home or just visiting, we're glad you're with us today. If you have a prayer request, are looking for more information about the Orthodox Faith, would like to join our parish, or would like to speak with Fr Thomas, we invite you to fill out a visitor's card and drop it in the offering basket as your offering today. Please join us downstairs following the Divine Liturgy. We want to get to know you! God bless you!

This Week

Wednesday, June 15

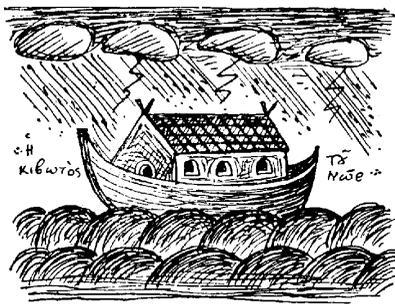
6:30 pm Daily Vespers

7:00 pm Bible Study

Saturday, June 18 – NO VESPERS

Sunday, June 19 – Holy Pentecost

9:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy



To our Visitors: 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

Announcements

➤ **As we enter into the summer months**, just a friendly reminder that our diligence in attendance at the Divine Liturgy, the holy feast days, and the various activities of the church, should not diminish for us in any way. Let us continue through the summer months to offer worship and praise to God in thanksgiving for the continued blessings He richly pours out on us. In this way, God is glorified, we sustain our faith, and we become an example to others.

➤ **Traveling this summer?** Seek out a church to visit at orthodoxyinamerica.com.

➤ **Project Mexico News!** The following baskets will be raffled to benefit the Project Mexico team. Father's Day BBQ basket Chick-fil-a basket Pittsburgh Pirates basket including 2 tickets (front row, Left field) to the Sunday, June 26th 8pm game against Dodgers! Please see Jackie Soroka or Katarina Mertz for tickets at Coffee Hour. Drawing will be held June 19th.

➤ **Can you help decorate the church next Sunday morning?** We'll have greenery galore, but we need help distributing it through the church. If you can arrive at 8:30a to help, it would be greatly appreciated!

(Ascension continued) When they returned, the Apostles went up to the upper room, in which they remained, together with the Myrrh-Bearing Women and the Mother of the Word, occupying themselves in fasting, prayer, and supplications and awaiting the advent of the All-Holy Spirit, according to the promise.

Prayers

Ill and infirm: *Known to be Hospitalized:* Olga Bednar (Allegheny General),. *Home:*. *Shut in, Rehabilitation, or Nursing Home:* Mary Kadylak, Stephanie Kowal, Jennie Levitske, Georgianne Robes, John Shaytar, Olga Tryszyn, Mary Zapp.

From From Mat. Nancy & Gregory Mell for the departed servant, Dn. Joseph Mell; for the health of family. **From Marsha Wasilko** for the health of Doris and Chuck; Happy Birthday & Many Years to Mat Nancy! **From Doris Wasilko** for the health of Chuck; Happy Birthday & Many Years to Mat. Nancy Mell & Olga Kasnot. **From Charles Wasilko** for the departed servant, Uncle Bill Falick; for the health of Mat. Nancy Mell. **From Alexandria Tirpak** for the health of Amelia and (Uncle) Charles on his birthday; special intentions. **From Tatyana Sechler** for the departed servants, Polina, Slava, Bruce, Valentina, Victor, Galina and Andrei; for health of Edik, Tatyana, Ilene, Christopher and Ivan. **From John Kowalcheck** for the health and salvation of our family, Mary Belovsky and Elizabeth Kowalcheck and child to be born.



Thank You

➤ **to Matushka Nancy and Gregory Mell** for donating today's bulletin in memory of Deacon Joseph Mell. May God richly bless them!

Ascension

When the time for the Ascension was at hand, He led them forth to the Mount of Olives (it is called by this name, because it was planted with a great many olive trees), and conversed with them about His proclamation to the ends of the earth, and also about His perpetual Kingdom to come. When He saw that they were going to ask Him what they should do, and since His immaculate Mother was also present there, He drew their attention to the Angels, who indicated His ascent to Heaven. And while they beheld, He was taken up from their midst, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. Being thus escorted by the Angels, who exhorted each other to lift up the heavenly gates and were astonished that His flesh was reddened with blood, He ascended and sat at the right hand of the Father, deifying the flesh, and—I make bold to say—putting it on a level with God. For through the flesh we were reconciled to God and the ancient enmity was destroyed. The Angels stood before the Apostles in the form of men, saying: "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye in amazement, gazing up into Heaven? This Jesus, Whom ye saw as God in the flesh, will come again thus, that is, in the flesh; save not as before, in poverty and gentleness, but with great glory, as ye behold Him now escorted by Angels."

Then the Apostles, wearied by their gazing, returned from the Mount of Olives. This is very close to Jerusalem, by a distance of two thousand and forty paces. This is the Way of the Sabbath. Thus was it enjoined on Moses to walk so many paces on the Sabbath, because this was the distance from the Tabernacle of witness to the camp of the Jews. It was permitted for worshippers to go out there on the Sabbath, but not to extend their journey any further. For this reason it was called the Way of the Sabbath. Hence, it seems to some that the Ascension of Christ took place on the Sabbath, but this is rather improbable.

(continued under announcements)

St Nicholas Church will strive to glorify God through Orthodox Christian worship, sincere love and care for one another, and service to those in need around us.

Hymns and Readings for Today

Troparion of the Resurrection Tone 6

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb;
the guards became as dead men.
Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure
Body.
Thou didst capture hell,
not being tempted by it.
Thou didst come to the Virgin granting life.
O Lord who didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee!

Troparion of the Ascension Tone 4

O Christ God, Thou hast ascended in glory,
granting joy to Thy disciples by the promise of the
Holy Spirit.
Through the blessing, they were assured
that Thou art the Son of God,
the Redeemer of the world.

Troparion of the Holy Fathers Tone 8

Most glorious art Thou, O Christ our God!
Thou hast established the Holy Fathers as lights on
the earth!
Through them Thou hast guided us to the true faith!
O greatly Compassionate One, glory to Thee!

Kontakion of the Holy Fathers Tone 8

The apostle's preaching and the father's doctrines
have established one faith for the Church.
Adorned with the robe of truth, woven from
heavenly theology,
it defines and glorifies the great mystery of
Orthodoxy.

Kontakion of the Ascension Tone 6

When Thou didst fulfill the dispensation for our
sake,
and unite earth to heaven:
Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God,
not being parted from those who love Thee,
but remaining with them and crying:
I am with you and no one will be against you!

Prokeimenon (Song of the Three Youths) Tone 4

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, God of our Fathers, and
praised and glorified is Thy name forever!

Epistle (Acts 20:16-18, 28-36)

For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that
he would not have to spend time in Asia; for he was
hurrying to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the Day
of Pentecost.

From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the
elders of the church. And when they had come to
him, he said to them: "You know, from the first day
that I came to Asia, in what manner I always lived
among you,

Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the
flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you
overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He
purchased with His own blood. For I know this, that
after my departure savage wolves will come in
among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among
yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse
things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.
Therefore watch, and remember that for three
years I did not cease to warn everyone night and
day with tears.

So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to
the word of His grace, which is able to build you up
and give you an inheritance among all those who
are sanctified. I have coveted no one's silver or
gold or apparel. Yes, you yourselves know that
these hands have provided for my necessities, and
for those who were with me. I have shown you in
every way, by laboring like this, that you must
support the weak. And remember the words of the
Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give
than to receive.'"

And when he had said these things, he knelt down
and prayed with them all.

Gospel (John 17:1-13)

Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to
heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come.
Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify
You, as You have given Him authority over all
flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many
as You have given Him. And this is eternal life,
that they may know You, the only true God, and
Jesus Christ whom You have sent. I have
glorified You on the earth. I have finished the
work which You have given Me to do. And now,
O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with
the glory which I had with You before the world
was.

"I have manifested Your name to the men whom
You have given Me out of the world. They were
Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept
Your word. Now they have known that all things
which You have given Me are from You. For I
have given to them the words which You have
given

Me; and they have received them, and have
known surely that I came forth from You; and
they have believed that You sent Me.

"I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for
those whom You have given Me, for they are
Yours. And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are
Mine, and I am glorified in them. Now I am no
longer in the world, but these are in the world,
and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through
Your name those whom You have given Me, that
they may be one as We are. While I was with
them in the world, I kept them in Your name.
Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none
of them is lost except the son of perdition, that
the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I come to
You, and these things I speak in the world, that
they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

Hymn to the Theotokos of the Ascension

Magnify, O my soul, Christ the Giver of Life who
has ascended from earth to heaven! We magnify
the Mother of God, who beyond reason and

understanding gave birth in time to the Timeless
One!

Communion Hymn of the Sunday

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the
highest!

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits
the just!

