

CHURCH BULLETIN	V. Rev. Fr. George Veselinovic, Parish Priest Monroeville, Pennsylvania 15146 412.622.4714 (cell) 412.856.8166 (office) <a href="mailto:dj.veselinovic@yahoo.com">dj.veselinovic@yahoo.com</a> <a href="http://www.stnicholasmonroeville.org">www.stnicholasmonroeville.org</a> <a href="mailto:stnicholasmonroeville@gmail.com">stnicholasmonroeville@gmail.com</a>	SUNDAY July 1, 2018
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### FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Epistle: Romans (10:1-10) 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. So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city.

#### TROPARION TONE IV

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Your resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and excitedly told the Apostles: Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!

#### KONTAKION TONE IV

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!

#### TROPARION TONE III

#### TO SAINT LAZARUS AND ALL SERBIAN MARTYRS

Desiring the beauty of the glory of God, you have pleased Him well on earth; and, working well with the talent given to you, you have multiplied it, struggling through blood-shedding and suffering, for which reason you have received a martyr's reward from Christ God. Pray to Him to save us who honor you, O Lazarus.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Important Dates:

**Today** - Memorial service for all Serbian martyrs and all those who gave their lives for the honorable cross and golden freedom from the battle of Kosovo until today. Memory Eternal! Vjecnaja Pamjat!

**Saturday, July 7th** - Birth of Saint John the Baptist. Liturgy will be served at 10 a.m.

**Tuesday, July 10th** – July Board Meeting

**Thursday, July 12th** - Saints Peter and Paul. Liturgy will be served at 10 a.m.

**Sunday, July 15th** – Annual Church Picnic/Serb Fest! – *All are welcome!* To pre-order lamb email: [stnicholasmonroeville@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholasmonroeville@gmail.com) or call 412-856-8166 and leave a message.

**Tuesday, July 24th-July 26th** – St. Nicholas Summer Church Camp ó Ages 2-15. Contact Amanda Bilak Formatto ([amandabilak@gmail.com](mailto:amandabilak@gmail.com)) or 412-980-8944 for more information.

**Saturday, August 11th** – The Saint Nicholas Maintenance Committee is sponsoring an "Oldies Concert/Dinner Dance". The proceeds will be used to purchase a storage shed. A basket auction will be available with the following themes: Golf, Pittsburgh sports, lottery tickets, Bath & Body Works, gift cards, wine, liquor/bourbon, and scrapbooking. Additionally, a small freezer of meat will be raffled! The Maintenance Committee will purchase all items and assemble baskets. We are asking all auxiliary organizations, committees, and parishioners for a monetary donation to offset the costs. We are suggesting a minimum donation of \$10 per person. Money may be given to: Sondra Deaunovich, Natalia Petulli, or Susan Glenn. Thank you for your help!

**Donations** ó *Those who wish to donate items for our church, please approach Father George. Thank you!*

### REMINDERS

**Adult Bible Study** – Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

**Vespers** ó Saturday evening 6:00 p.m. Confession 6:30 p.m.

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT: REMEMBERING VIDOVDAN

This past Thursday, June 28, was the Slava celebration for Vidovdan. Do you know why Vidovdan is commemorated? Every nation has a date in its history that is more important than others (think July 4<sup>th</sup> for Americans). For Serbs, that day is June 28<sup>th</sup>.

## **REMEMBERING VIDOVDAN...CONTINUED...**

On that day in 1389, Serbian and Turkish armies clashed on the Kosovo field. Both the Serbian ruler Prince Lazar and the Turkish Sultan died because of the battle. In addition, a great number of Serbian military leaders, as well as a great number of Serbian warriors, lost their lives.

**WHY WAS THE BATTLE FOUGHT?** Without help from a single European nation, the Serbs defended the frontiers of their own territory, the lives of their people, the risk of losing their national independence, and the security of Christian Europe. In the conflict of the two rival civilizations, the Muslim and the Christian, the Serbs made themselves as a wall between the Turks and Europe, and enabled Europe to prepare for its own defense. The history of Europe's Christianity may not have been the same without the Battle of Kosovo and the sacrifice of the Serbian nation.

**WHAT DOES THIS ALL MEAN TO US?** On that day in 1389, the Serbs chose to follow Christ and to suffer on His path. Vidovdan, therefore, is a memorial day to Saint Prince Lazar and the Serbian holy martyrs who gave their lives to defend their faith against the Ottoman Empire. The day is not only a symbol of freedom and independence it is a marking of our core values that remain unchanged: uncompromising faith in God, unwavering dedication to Christianity, and the priority of the spiritual over the material, faithfulness to God, nation, and motherland.

To the Serb, Kosovo represents the Holy Land ó the sacred Christian territory that was brutally cut off from its European supporters by the Ottoman conquests. It is a place from which the Serbs have been expelled and persistently persecuted over the last few centuries until the present day.



