

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> www.stnicholasmonroeville.org stnicholasmonroeville@gmail.com	SUNDAY November 11, 2018
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***TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST***

***Epistle: Ephesians (2:14-22)***

For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.

***Gospel: Luke (8:41-56)***

And behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue. And he fell down at Jesus' feet and begged Him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter about twelve years of age, and she was dying. But as He went, the multitudes thronged Him. Now a woman, having a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and could not be healed by any, came from behind and touched the border of His garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped. And Jesus said, "Who touched Me?" When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, "Master, the multitudes throng and press You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'" But Jesus said, "Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me." Now when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before Him, she declared to Him in the presence of all the people the reason she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately. And He said to her, "Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace." While He was still speaking, someone came from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying to him, "Your daughter is dead. Do not trouble the Teacher." But when Jesus heard it, He answered him, saying, "Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well." When He came into the house, He permitted no one to go in except Peter, James, and John, and the father and mother of the girl. Now all wept and mourned for her; but He said, "Do not weep; she is not dead, but sleeping." And they ridiculed Him, knowing that she was dead. But He put them all outside, took her by the hand and called, saying, "Little girl, arise." Then her spirit returned, and she arose immediately.

And He commanded that she be given something to eat. And her parents were astonished, but He charged them to tell no one what had happened.

**TROPARION TONE VII**

By Your Cross, You did destroy death! To the thief, You did open Paradise! For the myrrhbearers, You did change weeping into joy! And You did command Your disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that You are risen, granting the world great mercy!

**TRANSFER OF THE RELICS OF ST. NICHOLAS, WONDERWORKER**

**TROPARION TONE IV**

The day of the joyous celebration has come; the city of Bari rejoices and with it the whole universe leaps from joy, singing the spiritual songs and psalms. For today, the holy feast, on the occasion of the transfer of the honorable and exceedingly healing relics of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, has shone forth with the radiant rays, like the sun that does not set, driving away the darkness of temptations and calamities from those who faithfully exclaim to thee: "Save us, as our protector, O great Nicholas!"

**KONTAKION TONE VII**

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers! Hell is bound, while the prophets rejoice and cry: "The Savior has come to those in faith! Enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!"

**KONTAKION TONE III**

**TRANSFER OF THE HOLY RELICS OF ST. NICHOLAS, WONDERWORKER**

Your relics, O Saint Nicholas, came out as a star from the east to the west. The sea was sanctified by your journey, and the city of Bari, through you, has received the grace. For working for us, you have appeared as an excellent, wonderful and merciful Wonderworker.

**KONTAKION OF THE THEOTOKOS - TONE VI**

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 petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, for you do always protect those who honor you.

**SAINTS WE COMMEMORATE TODAY** – *Ven. Father Abramius the Recluse; Holy Martyr Anastasia the Roman*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Today** – Twenty-fifth year parastos/memorial service for +Andrew Kolar. May his memory be eternal. Vjecnaja pamjat!

**Yesterday** – Joshua Pribanic and Christine Tate were married! Congratulations to the newlyweds. May God grant you many years! Mnogaja ljeta!

**Thank you!** The 4th Scrapbook Crop and Bake Sale occurred on November 3, 2018, in the St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church Social Hall. Many members of the Church participated in some manner with the Outreach Committee's efforts. Some sent baked goods while others worked at the baked goods table; some assisted with setting-up and taking down tables, chairs, and decorations; some worked in the kitchen or helped with serving; some donated gift baskets or gift certificates; some gave a monetary donation. All forms of help were welcome and were deeply appreciated by the Outreach Committee.

Those who worked or volunteered went home tired after the event but were pleased because more than \$4700 was raised from the Scrapbook Crop, bake sale, and basket auction and will be used to purchase something needed for the church. **OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Anna Drakulic, Birdie Fix, Susan Glenn, Tootsie Harvey, Pat Kolar, Kathy Macesic, Mona Robertson, Sava Saula, Protinica Karen Veselinovic

Many **new** spiritual books are available to purchase at the tutor's desk. Please take a look at the various titles and acquire them for the benefit of our church and for the enrichment of your soul.

**Skolarac Serbian Language Classes** – Have begun from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. in the downstairs hall. Ages 3-5 years old. Still interested? Sign-up at: [www.skolarac.org](http://www.skolarac.org)

**Tiny Tammies** – Meets on Mondays from 6:00-6:30 p.m. in the parish home for ages 3-6 years old. Contact Sonja Capuzzi: [sonjacapuzzi@gmail.com](mailto:sonjacapuzzi@gmail.com)

**The Committee for the 2019 SNF Summer Golf Tournament** has met and is excited to begin planning for this big event for our church and local SNF lodges. To be successful, we will need everyone's help! There will be many opportunities for you to contribute. The Committee will keep you informed of our progress over the coming months. Pam Matejevich will be coordinating volunteers for the event which will take place August 7-11, 2019. Reach out to Pam or to Chairman Dushan Markoff to offer your help or ask any questions!

**Maintenance Group is preparing for winter!** Sauerkraut, sour heads, applesauce, smoked kielbassi, Italian sausage, smoked spare ribs, bacon, pumpkin pie, and organic potatoes will be available very soon to purchase for the upcoming winter months. Details to follow.

**PURSE BASH** - Ladies, A Purse Bash is tentatively scheduled for the first quarter of 2019. Let's pull together our talents to make this a fun and profitable event for our church. Anyone, all ages, who is interested in being part of a committee, please contact Sondra Deaunovich, at [Sondra7890@comcast.net](mailto:Sondra7890@comcast.net) or text/phone, 412-760-5796.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**November 18<sup>th</sup>:** Our Saint Nicholas parish family will be celebrating its 113<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Mark your calendar and plan to attend this beautiful, rich event honoring our fallen founding clergy, family, members, parishioners, and benefactors. Let's spend the day together, as a family, sharing a meal and watching an entertaining program consisting of all auxiliary organizations coming together as one!

**November 21<sup>st</sup>:** Synaxis of the Archangel Michael ó Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

**November 28<sup>th</sup>:** Nativity fast begins

**December 9<sup>th</sup>:** Annual Assembly Meeting will be held after Liturgy. A luncheon will be available to purchase. All members are invited to attend. You are kindly reminded to ensure that your financial obligations are met for 2018. If you have questions or concerns about your dues, please contact Jovan (Jovi) Jovanovich.

## REMINDERS

**Adult Bible Study** – Bible study every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

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

### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT:** *A reflection on today's Gospel*

Sometimes we think that everyone has to approach God in exactly the same way. After all, we are Orthodox Christians. The Divine Liturgy and other services are set. Our beliefs were defined through ancient councils. Our spiritual practices have been passed down over the centuries by countless generations. The Holy Spirit has preserved our church in a unity that is unique among Christians, but that doesn't mean that we should do exactly the same thing. We are all distinct, free persons; and it's as such that we will find God's blessing and salvation in our lives.

Today's gospel tells of two very different people who approached Jesus in different ways. One was Jairus, a ruler of the synagogue and an upstanding man in the community. The other was a woman who had been bleeding for twelve years and spent all her money on treatments that didn't work. She was poor and was considered unclean because of the flow of blood. She was isolated; anyone who came in contact with her would be considered unclean. She was treated for twelve years as an outcast who was cut off from God and everyone else.

Jairus sought out the Lord and asked Him to heal his daughter, who was dying, but the woman whose name we don't even know, couldn't bring herself to ask Jesus for help. She knew her place: a poor, isolated, unclean woman not worthy of the attention of the Messiah. She was afraid that if He laid His hands on her for healing, He would be unclean, too. She was surely embarrassed to discuss her medical condition with Him in the midst of

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT...CONTINUED...

a large crowd. All that she could do was to reach out anonymously and touch the hem of His clothing. She had enough faith, enough hope, and enough courage to do that.

And when she did, she was healed. She had not made Him unclean; instead, He made her well. But she was scared to death when Jesus asked, "Who touched me?" She knelt down before the Lord in humility, and trembling with fear, confessed to Him and the rest of the crowd- that she was the one. The Lord then said, "Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace." This story shows the tremendous mercy of our Lord. This woman had not said a word to Christ; she reached out to Christ in faith. Jesus knew who had touched Him, of course, but asked in order to give her an opportunity to confess her faith, to show that our Lord's mercy extended even to her, that His mercy overcomes all. At different times in our lives, we will all identify with this woman. Perhaps we have a long-term struggle, some deep embarrassment in our lives that we are afraid to acknowledge even to God, let alone other people. Maybe we have done or suffered something that makes us feel unclean or unworthy in our relationship. Maybe we can't find the words to express our pain even to God in prayer. We may feel cut off from the Lord and separated from family and friends.

If that's the case, we should follow this woman's example of reaching out to Christ for mercy, healing, strength, and forgiveness. He will not embarrass us or send us away. He will respond graciously to sincere people who come to Him with faith, love, and repentance.

Jairus approached Jesus openly, asking Him to heal his dying daughter. His faith is put to the test when he hears that his daughter has died. Jesus says that she is only sleeping and is ridiculed for this, but Jairus believed the words of the Lord! Can you imagine how hard it was for Jairus to hear the news of his daughter's death and yet believe in the Lord's promise? He believed and his daughter was made alive and healthy again.

People are different. We have distinct personalities, interests, and spiritual strengths, but we can all have faith. When we open the wounds and sorrows of our lives to Christ, He will hear us, and He will respond in the way that is best for our salvation. No two people have the same journey to the Kingdom. No two people pray, fast, forgive, and serve in precisely the same way. Jairus and the woman were very different people who approached the Lord differently, but the one constant factor is the mercy of our Lord which extends to all who call upon Him from their hearts with humble trust. We should pray that Jesus Christ will heal the deepest wounds of our souls and make us participants in the eternal life of the Kingdom.

