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| CHURCH BULLETIN | V. Rev. Fr. George Veselinovic, Parish Priest Monroeville, Pennsylvania 15146 412.622.4714 (cell) 412.856.8166 (office) dj.veselinovic@yahoo.com www.stnicholasmonroeville.org stnicholasmonroeville@gmail.com | SUNDAY May 12, 2019 |
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THIRD SUNDAY OF PASCHA- THE MYRRHBEARERS

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)

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 Joseph observed where He 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.

TROPARION TONE II

When You did descend to death, O Life immortal, You did slay hell with the splendor of Your Godhead! And when from the dark depths You did raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: "O Giver of Life! Christ our God! Glory to You!"

TROPARION TONE II – THE MYRRHBEARING WOMEN AND NOBLE JOSEPH

The noble Joseph, when he had taken down Your most pure Body from the tree, wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices, and placed it in a new tomb. But You did rise on the third day, O Lord, granting the world great mercy.

TROPARION TONE IV – ST. BASIL OF OSTROG

From your youth you have given yourself entirely to the Lord, by abiding in prayer, labor, and fasting. O God-bearing father: You were an image of virtue to your flock. In this, God saw your blessed zeal and established you as a pastor and brave hierarch, keeping your holy body undecayed after your falling asleep, O saint Basil; therefore, as you have boldness, pray to Christ our God, to save our souls.

KONTAKION TONE II

You did command the Myrrhbearers to rejoice, O Christ God! By Your Resurrection, You did stop the lamentation of Eve! You did command Your Apostles to preach: The Savior is risen from the tomb!

KONTAKION TONE VIII

You did descend into the tomb, O Immortal, You did destroy the power of death! In victory did You arise, O Christ God, proclaiming "Rejoice" to the myrrhbearing women, granting peace to Your apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

Saints we commemorate today – *St. Basil of Ostrog, the Wonderworker*

REMINDERS

Adult Bible Study – Bible study will be canceled until further notice.

Confession ó Every Saturday at 6:30 p.m. after vespers and Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. before Liturgy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today – Parastos/Memorial service for +Jelena "Helen" Medic Naponic, +Milos and Milka Tarbuck, and members of the Gojkovich family. May God have mercy on them, and may their memories be eternal. Vjecnaja pamjat!

Thank you – On behalf of the entire St. Nicholas parish, thank you to Marsha Watt for her generous monetary donation for the children's playground. This donation was made in loving memory of +Martha Visnic. May Martha's memory be eternal, and may God bless you and your family, Marsha.

Thank you – On behalf of the entire St. Nicholas parish, thank you to Pero and Mila Prpa for their generous donation of the Bishop's blessing cross in loving memory of Nikola "Nicholas" and Ljubica "Violet" Jokola. May their memory be eternal! Vjecnaja pamjat!

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!

Happy Mother's Day!

In old Serbian folk ballads, the mother had to put to practice the Christian values the father had laid down in daily life. She made sure the home was clean, that there were meals, and that everything was orderly. An expression was coined that said, "The house does not stand on the ground but on the woman." And, "The Father is head of the family, but the mother keeps the home together." This shows how important she was in the family!

In Serbia, Mother's Day is called Materice and is celebrated on the second Sunday before Christmas. Children sneak into their mother's bedroom and gently tie her feet with ribbon or string. To negotiate her release, the mother gives her children small gifts. (Not much in it for Mom, but she does get to lie down for a bit!). Serbians are extraordinarily enthusiastic about celebrating the effort of a mother. Today, Mother's Day is celebrated much in the same way that Americans honor mom: cards, gifts, cooking meals, and plenty of relaxation for her!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Today – Mother's Day celebration luncheon

Sunday, May 19th – Church Slava celebration, Transfer of The Relics of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker ó Liturgy at 10:00 a.m. with procession around the church ó Slava banquet to follow in the church hall ó ***Honored Kuma Mary Ann Tomich***. All welcome! Dobro dosli!

Friday, May 24th – Saints Cyril and Methodius, Enlighteners of the Slavs ó Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

Monday, June 3rd – Holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Emperor Constantine and Helen ó Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, June 6th – The Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ ó Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, June 15th – **Blessing of the graves** ó 9:00 a.m. memorial service at Grandview cemetery in N. Versailles and 4:00 p.m. service at Export.

Sunday, June 16th – Pentecost ó Trinity Sunday

Monday, June 17th – Pentecost Monday ó Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, June 18th – Pentecost Tuesday ó Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

Friday, June 21st & Saturday, June 22nd – St. Nicholas Church Summer Camp ó For more information contact Amanda Formato 412-980-8944 or amandabilak@gmail.com

Friday, June 28th – Holy St. Lazarus and All Serbian Martyrs ó Vidovdan ó Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

Sunday of the Myrrhbearing Women

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 the sepulchre, 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 the 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 (Matt 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 Saviour, 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 Saviour'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 and love 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 (Matt. 27:60).

