

**SUNDAY**  
**August 11, 2019**

**SAINT NICHOLAS SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**V. Rev. Fr. George Veselinovic**, Parish Priest

412-622-4714 (cell) 412-856-8166 (office)

[dj.veselinovic@yahoo.com](mailto:dj.veselinovic@yahoo.com)

[www.stnicholasmonroeville.org](http://www.stnicholasmonroeville.org)

[stnicholasmonroeville@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholasmonroeville@gmail.com)

**8<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**TROPARION - TONE VII (RESURRECTION)**

By Your Cross You destroyed death. To the thief You opened Paradise. For the Myrrh bearers You changed weeping into joy. And You commanded Your disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that You are risen, granting the world great mercy.

**TROPARION - TONE IV (TRANSLATION OF THE RELICS OF ST. NICHOLAS)**

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!"

**TROPARION - TONE IV (HOLY MARTYR CALLINICUS)**

Your holy martyr Callinicus, O Lord, through his suffering has received an incorruptible crown from You, our God. For having Your strength, he laid low his adversaries, and shattered the powerless boldness of demons. Through his intercessions, save our souls!

**KONTAKION – TONE VII (RESURRECTION)**

The dominion of death can no longer hold mankind 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 V (HOLY MARTYR CALLINICUS)**

You worthily inherited joy on high, Callinicus, for aflame with love for Christ you bravely endured the fire. As you stand before Him, never cease to intercede for us all!

**KONTAKION - TONE III (TRANSLATION OF THE RELICS OF ST. NICHOLAS)**

Your relics, O Saint Nicholas, came out as a start 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.

**THEOTOKION – STEADFAST PROTECTRESS - TONE VI**

Steadfast protectress of Christians, constant advocate before the Creator: do not despise the cry of us sinners, but in thy goodness come speedily to help us who call upon thee in faith. Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, for thou dost always protect those who honor thee.

**Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18**

I appeal to you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no dissensions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brethren. What I mean is that each one of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I am thankful that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius; lest anyone should say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

**Gospel: Matthew 14:14-22**

At that time, Jesus saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a lonely place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Then he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

**Saints commemorated today:** Holy Martyr Callinicus; Holy Martyr Seraphima

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Preserve, O Lord, our Master and Hierarch. Many years to you, Master!**

*Eis Polla Eti Despota* – What a blessing to have His Grace Bishop IRINEJ visit our parish!

**SNF Golf Tournament:** Thank you to EVERYONE who made these 4 days so wonderful! May God bless you for all your hard work and dedication for the benefit of our church and the Serbian community!

**FAST OF THE DORMITION (OF THE MOTHER OF GOD)**

**Dormition Fast:** We begin the Fast of the Dormition or the Falling Asleep of the Mother of God on **August 14<sup>th</sup>** which lasts through **August 28<sup>th</sup>**. As we enter this fast, we are called to reflect upon the Mother of God and her incomparable life. In her we see a model Christian life. "Blessed rather are those who hear His word and keep it." Truly Mary did this better than anyone. The Mother of God heard the word of God and kept it so well, that she of all women in history was chosen not only to hear His Word but give birth to it (Him). So, while we fast in

contemplation of her life, we are simultaneously preparing ourselves to live a life in imitation of her. Through Christ she has become the mother of all of the children of God, embracing us with divine love. That is the purpose of the Dormition Fast. May the Mother of God intercede for us!

On behalf of our son, Matthew Shaffer, our family thanks you, dearest parish family, for your overwhelming prayers, support, love, and generosity. Matthew's recovery is continuing to go well, and we are grateful for your continued thoughts and prayers. We are truly blessed to have such a supportive and loving parish. With much love, Jeremy - Melissa - Jacob - Matthew (Karas) Shaffer.

#### REMINDERS

**Confession** – Every Saturday at 6:30 p.m. after Vespers, and Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. before Divine Liturgy.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup> – DIVINE LITURGY 10 a.m.** for the **Holy Transfiguration of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ** – this is a “red letter” day and one of the 12 Great Feasts of the Orthodox Church. The feast commemorates the transfiguration or metamorphosis of Christ on Mount Tabor, when our Lord appeared in His divine glory speaking with Moses and Elijah before the Apostles Peter, James, and John. This great event was a revelation of the Holy Trinity (God the Father spoke, Christ was there, and the Holy Spirit was revealed in the form of a cloud). Christ's radiance was physically seen by the disciples so that they could better realize His Divinity. Moses and Elijah were present showing the disciples that in Christ the law and the prophecies are fulfilled. According to the Church's tradition, the Transfiguration occurred forty days before His Crucifixion; for this reason, the Transfiguration is celebrated forty days before the Exaltation of the Cross (*September 27<sup>th</sup>*).

**Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> – DIVINE LITURGY 10 a.m.** for the **Dormition of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary** – On this great feast day, we commemorate when the holy Disciples surrounded the Mother of God as she offered praise to God and anticipated the arrival of Her longed-for Son and Lord. Christ, the King of Glory, surrounded by hosts of Angels and Archangels and other Heavenly Powers, together with the souls of the Forefathers and the Prophets, who had prophesied in ages past concerning the Most Holy Virgin Mary, descended from Heaven. Seeing Her Son, the Mother of God exclaimed: *“My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God My Savior, for He hath regarded the low estate of His Handmaiden”* (Luke 1:46-48) and, rising from her bed to meet the Lord, she bowed down to Him, and the Lord bid her enter into Life Eternal. Without any bodily suffering, as though in a happy sleep, the Most Holy Virgin Mary gave her soul into the hands of her Son and God. The angels exclaimed: *“Hail, Full of Grace, the Lord is with Thee, blessed art Thou among women! For lo, the Queen, God's Maiden comes, lift up the gates, and with the Ever-Existing One, take*

*up the Mother of Light; for through Her salvation has come to all the human race. It is impossible to gaze upon Her, and it is impossible to render Her due honor.”*

#### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

##### **Holy Great-Martyr and Healer Panteleimon** (*commemorated on August 9<sup>th</sup>*)

The Great Martyr and Healer Panteleimon, named Pantoleon at birth, was born in the city of Nicomedia into the family of the illustrious pagan Eustorgius. His mother Saint Euboula (*April 3 12<sup>th</sup>*) was a Christian. Though she died when Pantoleon was young, it was through her that he was instructed in piety and catechized in the Faith of Christ and baptized by Saint Hermolaus (*August 8<sup>th</sup>*). Proficient in the physician's vocation, Pantoleon practiced it in a philanthropic manner, healing every illness more by the grace of Christ than by medicines. Although his parents had named him Pantoleon (“in all things a lion”), because of the compassion he showed for the souls and bodies of all, he was worthily renamed Panteleimon, meaning “all-merciful.” On one occasion, when he restored the sight of a certain blind man by calling on the Name of God, he enlightened also the eyes of this man's soul to the knowledge of the truth. He confessed with boldness both who the physician was and the manner of his healing, and because of this, was given the crown of martyrdom. Both the man who was blind and Panteleimon were arrested and sentenced to death in the year 305, during the reign of Maximian. Having endured many wounds, Panteleimon was led to the place of execution and tied to an olive tree. While the martyr prayed, one of the soldiers struck him with a sword, but the sword became soft like wax and inflicted no wound. He was finally beheaded. The olive tree to which the saint was tied became covered with fruit. Many who were present at the execution believed in Christ. The saint's body was thrown into a fire, but remained unharmed, and was buried by Christians. Saint Panteleimon is one of the Holy Unmercenaries, and is held in special honor among them, even as Saint George is among the Martyrs. The holy Great Martyr and Healer Panteleimon is invoked in the Mystery of Anointing the Sick, at the Blessing of Water, and in the Prayers for the Sick.