

**SUNDAY**  
**August 25, 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)

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

**TROPARION - TONE I (RESURRECTION)**

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Your most pure body; You rose on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to You, O Giver of Life: “Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Your Kingdom! Glory to Your dispensation, O Lover of mankind!”

**TROPARION - TONE VII (TRANSFIGURATION)**

You were transfigured on the mountain, O Christ God, revealing Your glory to Your Disciples as far as they could bear it. Let Your everlasting Light also shine upon us sinners, through the prayers of the Theotokos! O Giver of Light, glory to You!

**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!”

**KONTAKION – TONE I (RESURRECTION)**

As God, You rose from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Yourself. Human nature praises You as God, for death has vanished. Adam exults, O Master! Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to You: “You are the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

**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.

**KONTAKION – TONE VII (TRANSFIGURATION)**

On the mountain You were transfigured, O Christ God, and Your Disciples beheld Your glory as far as they could see it; so that when they would behold You crucified, they would understand that Your suffering was voluntary, and would proclaim to the world that You are truly the Radiance of the Father.

**THEOTOKION – STEADFAST PROTECTRESS - 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 upon you in faith. Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, for you always protect those who honor you.

***Epistle: 1 Corinthians 4:9-16***

Brethren, God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ’s sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the off-scouring of all things. I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

***Gospel: Matthew 17:14-23***

At that time, a man came up to Jesus and kneeling before him said, “Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him.” And Jesus answered, “O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me.” And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “Why could we not cast it out?” He said to them, “Because of your little faith. For truly I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move hence to yonder place,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. But this kind never comes out except by prayer and fasting.” As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, “The Son of man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day.”

**Saints commemorated today:** Martyrs Anicetus and Photius (Photinus) of Nicomedia (305).

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

**Dormition Fast** – We began the Fast of the Dormition (the Falling Asleep of the Mother of God) on **August 14<sup>th</sup>**. It continues through **August 28<sup>th</sup>**. During 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!

**REMINDERS**

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

**Evening Akathist** – We had our first Akathist last Thursday (22<sup>nd</sup>). We will continue to serve an Akathist to the Mother of God service every **Thursday at 6:00 p.m.** An Akathist is a hymn dedicated to a saint, holy event, or one of the persons of the Holy Trinity, and so during this service, we offer up our prayers accordingly. Prayer is the way to renewal and spiritual life. Prayer is aliveness to God. Prayer is strength, refreshment, and joy. Through the grace of God and our disciplined efforts, prayer lifts us up from our isolation to a conscious, loving communion with God in which everything is experienced in a new light. Prayer becomes a personal dialogue with God, a spiritual breathing of the soul, a foretaste of the bliss of God’s kingdom.

**Bible Study** – We have resumed Bible Study. Join us every **Thursday at 6:30 p.m.**

**Sunday School** – Our first Sunday School class will be **September 15<sup>th</sup>**. As a reminder, following partaking of Holy Communion, all children are asked to proceed downstairs to their corresponding classes and not before. All children under the age of 7 should come forward for Communion (for questions please see **Fr. George**). If your child is of age and able to abstain from breakfast, please bring them forward for Communion (unless they are able to come forward independently). Each of us have been taught various things about “fasting” and preparation for Holy Communion. We have been told so many things that we tend to neglect everything we have been taught completely. The Orthodox Church has always held that we are united to Him in faith and love, and through Him, to one another through Holy Communion. It is in love and faith and worship that we are truly members of the Church.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> – HIERARCHICAL DIVINE LITURGY at 10 a.m. with His Grace Bishop IRINEJ at St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church in Johnstown, PA for the Dormition of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, the Slava of the Federation Kolo.**

**Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup> – DIVINE LITURGY 10 a.m. for the Beheading of the Glorious Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John** – the divine Prophet, John, preached the baptism of repentance according to God’s command; taught people of all ranks how they must order their lives; filled all with the fear of God, teaching that no one is able to escape the wrath to come if he does not seek repentance; prepared the hearts of people to receive the evangelical teachings of the Savior; and finally, pointed out to the people the very Savior, and said, “Behold the Lamb of God, Which taketh away the sin of the world” (Luke 3:2-18; John 1: 29-36). After all this, John sealed with his own blood the truth of his words and was made a sacred victim for the divine Law at the hands of Herod. That is why this day is always commemorated with a strict fast no matter what day of the week it falls.

**Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>** – Our annual St. Nicholas Men’s Klub Karadjordje Golf Outing will be held at the Madison Golf Club from 8 a.m. *Please see the flyer for more details for this fun filled event!*

**Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> – Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery Groundbreaking Ceremony (121 St Elias Lane, Saxonburg, PA 16056) – HIERARCHICAL DIVINE LITURGY at 10 a.m.** with His Eminence Metropolitan Savas of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh. This event will mark their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the groundbreaking of a new monastery, chapel, and teaching iconography studio. Lunch will follow the morning’s event.

**Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> – HIERARCHICAL DIVINE LITURGY** with His Grace Bishop IRINEJ at **10 a.m.** Following Divine Liturgy, our Outreach Committee will be hosting their annual **Potluck Picnic** to welcome all our children and teachers back for a new year at Sunday School. *Please see the flyer for more details!*

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

**From the Prologue of Ohrid**

On the Martyrs Anicetus and Photius

*(By St. Nikolai Velimirovic)*

Emperor Diocletian once visited the city of Nicomedia with the evil intention of completely exterminating the Christians. But when he began his merciless torture of Christians, Anicetas, one of the high-ranking officials of the city, boldly confessed his faith in Christ the Lord before the emperor. Anicetas also denounced the idols as deaf and dumb stones, the worship of which is unworthy of a rational man. The emperor had Anicetas’s tongue cut out; but Anicetas, by the power of God, continued to speak. They then released a lion against him, but the lion fawned about him. At that very moment, the temple of Hercules collapsed. Photius, a kinsman of Anicetas, seeing the miracles and endurance of Anicetas, embraced him, declared himself a Christian, and cried out to the emperor: “O idolater, be ashamed! Your gods are nothing!” The emperor then ordered that Anicetas be immediately beheaded. However, in raising his hand against holy Photius, the executioner struck himself with the sword and died. After prolonged tortures, both Anicetas and Photius were cast into prison, where they languished for three years. Then a fire was lighted in an enormous furnace, and they cast them in. Many other Christians--men, women and children--willingly followed them into the fire. The prayer of the Christians, praising God for their martyrdom in the flames, issued forth from the furnace. They all suffered in about the year 305 A.D. Saints Anicetas and Photius are invoked in the prayers of the Sacrament of Holy Unction (*Anointing with Oil*) and in the Blessing of Water.

***Prayer from the Sacrament of Holy Unction (the anointing with Holy Oil)***

*O holy Father, Physician of souls and bodies, who did send Your Only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who heals every infirmity and delivers from death. Heal Thou, also Your servant [Name] from the ills of body and soul which do hinder [him/her] and quicken [him/her] by the grace of Your Christ: through the prayers of our Most Holy Lady, the Birth-giver of God and Ever-virgin Mary; through the intercession of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven;*

through the might of the precious and Life-giving Cross, through the protection of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the glorious and all-laudable Apostles; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; of the holy and healing, unmercenaries, Cosmas and Damian, Cyrus and John, Pantaleon and Hermolaus, Samson and Diomedes, Photius and Anicetas; of the holy righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and all the Saints. For You are the Fountain of healing, O our God, and unto You do we ascribe glory, together with Your Only-begotten Son and Your Spirit, one in essence, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Everyone is invited to join us after Divine Liturgy on  
Sunday, **September 8, 2019** in the  
St. Nicholas Church Social Hall and Patio, Monroeville, PA



**2019 FALL  
POT LUCK PICNIC**

**WELCOME BACK,  
SUNDAY SCHOOL KIDS and TEACHERS!!**

Food will be provided by the Outreach Committee, Klub Karadjordje, and our Church. The buffet includes: hamburgers, hot dogs, sauerkraut and kielbasa, hot sausage, halushki, and beverages. A piñata filled with candy and coins will be a special treat for the children. Music and conversation will fill in the background as will the sounds of children engaged in playful activities. **Those attending are asked to bring an appetizer, side dish or salad in a disposable dish if their last name begins from A to M and a dessert if their last name is from N to Z. Plan your dish to serve from 8-10 people. Please plan to come!**

*Sponsored by the Outreach Committee*

# Annual Klub Karadjordje GOLF Outing

The annual St. Nicholas Men's Klub Karadjordje Golf Outing will be held on **Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>** at 8 a.m. at the Madison Golf Club. The fee for the outing is **\$95** per person which will include green fee, lunch, beverages, dinner and prizes.

Please contact Steven Popovich at (412) 327-9197 or [spopovich@aaaec.com](mailto:spopovich@aaaec.com).

All are welcome, so join in on this fun and relaxing day!



## GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY Saturday September 7, 2019



*Nativity of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Monastery  
121 St. Elias Lane - Saxonburg, PA 16056 - 724-352-3999*