

<p>CHURCH BULLETIN</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>SUNDAY January 27, 2019</p>
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THIRTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Epistle: Timothy (1: 12-17)

And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry, although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptances, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever.

Gospel: Luke (18: 35-43)

Then it happened, as He was coming near Jericho, that a certain blind man sat by the road begging. And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant. So they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. And he cried out, saying, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him, saying, "What do you want Me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, that I may receive my sight." Then Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

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 depths You did raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!

TROPARION TO SAINT SAVA – TONE III

You were a guide to the Way of Life, a first Hierarchy and a teacher; you did come and enlighten your home country, O Sava, and give it rebirth by the Holy Spirit. You have planted your children like olive trees in the spiritual Paradise. O, equal to the Apostles and Saints, pray to Christ our God to grant us His 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 II

Hell became afraid, O Almighty Savior, seeing the miracle of Your Resurrection from the tomb! The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with You! And the world, O my Savior, praises You forever.

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 TO SAINT SAVA – TONE VIII

As the first great hierarch and co-worker with the Apostles, the Church of thy people magnifies you; and since thou hast found favor with Christ, save us by thy prayers from every calamity, so that we may proclaim to thee: Rejoice, God-wise Father Sava.

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 – *St. Sava, First Archbishop of Serbia*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Stephen DeLuca was baptized last Saturday. May God grant him, parents, and grandparents health and many years! Mnogaja ljeta!

Milan Drakulic, Sr. passed away on Sunday, January 20th. He was our oldest parishioner. May God grant him eternal rest and may his memory be eternal. Vjecnaja pamjat!

Matthew Shaffer, son of Melissa Karas Shaffer needs our prayers, love, and support. Matthew is a wonderful, faithful young man and a member of our parish family. We are appealing for your compassion and help. Please see Father George and/or Nick Jokola. Make your checks payable to Melissa Karas Shaffer.

Today – 20 year parastos service (memorial service) for +Milan Hajdinovich. Vjecnaja pamjat! Memory eternal!

Today – *St. Sava Slava* ó All are invited to please stay and celebrate with our children on their Feast Day. Banquet and program to follow Divine Liturgy.

Father George has begun to bless homes.

Also, Father George will be out of town on Sunday, February 3rd. Father Rodney Torbic will be filling in while he is away. In case of emergency, please call Father George.

Friday, February 22nd and Saturday, February 23rd – Our parish will host the Annual Diocesan Assembly. Vesper service 5:00 p.m. on Friday evening, and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy 8:00 a.m. Saturday morning. Please plan on attending!

The St. Nicholas Jr. Choir will resume rehearsal on Sunday, February 3. The choir is also looking for new members. Children, ages 7-17, are welcome to join. Rehearsals are held in the multi-purpose room immediately following Divine Liturgy.

The Jr. Choir has always been the starting point for our young singers to become members of the church choir. In fact, former junior members are now actively involved with church choir. For more information, please contact the director of the Jr. Choir, Janice Smargie at 412-351-5193 or email jsmargie@msn.com.

Purse Bash ó It's not too late to join! The next planning meeting will be held Tuesday, January 29th at 6 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Sondra Deaunovich at sondra7890@comcast.net or 412-760-5796.

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!

REMINDERS

Adult Bible Study – Classes cancelled until further notice.

Vespers ó Saturday evening 6:00 p.m.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: *The Life of Saint Sava*

As the youngest son of Serbian Grand Prince Stefan Nemanja, Rastko could have fought with his brothers for power, as it was common tradition among princes; instead he chose a different path, a path taken by a few exceptional people.

His parents were already planning to arrange a marriage for 15-year-old Rastko when one evening a group of Russian monks from Holy Mountain (Mount Athos) paid a visit to the Nemanji family and once and for all changed their plans. His youngest son found himself in the stories of monks from Mount Athos. Their lifestyle was what Rastko dreamt of and he decided to follow his dream.

Serbian Grand Prince Stefan Nemanja was furious and sad at the same time due to Rastko's leaving and he initiated a search for his son, but Rastko could not be forced to return to Serbia. He was sure of his decision, and the same evening he secretly took monastic vows and received the monastic name Sava. He sent his secular clothes to his parents as a proof that he had already become a clergyman.

His father's anger slowly diminished and after few years of correspondence with Sava, he expressed a wish to visit him at Mount Athos. He abdicated in favor of his son Stefan Nemanji, took his monastic vows at the Studenica Monastery and joined his son Sava now as a monk Simeon.

Traveling across Mount Athos, Simeon and Sava came to idea to build a Serbian monastery here. They asked the Greek Emperor for a piece of land and got the permission to build the monastery. The Hilandar, one of the biggest Serbian temples, was built surrounded with massive walls. Here is where Sava wrote the *Hilandar Typicon* in which he described the rules of conduct that should be obeyed by monks and in which he included all his experience and comprehension of the monastic life.

During Sava's stay at Mount Athos, in Serbia Vukan, the oldest son of already late Stefan Nemanja, took the throne from his brother, the prince Stefan the First-Crowned. The difficult times came upon the country. Sava returned to Serbia with the remains of his father in order to make peace between his brothers. He completed his mission and made Stefan and Vukan reconcile over their father's body at the Studenica monastery. Afterwards, he started building his historical contribution to Serbia, the first monastery, with his brother Stefan.

During his stay in the Studenica hermitage, Sava wrote a work that depicts the life of his father, *The Life of Saint Simeon*, a valuable work of the Serbian medieval literature. He also wrote the *Studenica Typicon* prescribing the regulation and organization of the monastery's administration, prayers, diet and feasting. It is considered the first constitution of the Serbian Orthodox Church.

Sava's most important mission took place in 1219 during his visit to Nicaea when he got the autocephaly for the Serbian orthodox church from the Despot of Nicaea Theodore Laskaris and the Patriarch Manuel I Sarantenos. Upon his arrival to Serbia, he determined the first monastery as the center of the new Serbian Archbishopric, and his Typicons served as the guidelines for monks' behavior.

Saint Sava went to pilgrimage on two occasions when he visited Palestine, Jordan, Bethlehem. Returning from his second pilgrimage, he died in 1236 in Tarnovo in Bulgaria, and King Vladislav transferred his body to the Mileva Monastery.

