

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 March 17, 2019
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SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

Epistle: Hebrews (11: 24-26; 32 - 12:2)

By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: Who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to fight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, and were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Gospel: John (1: 43-51)

The following day, Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote 'Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.'" And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you,

hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

TROPARION TONE I

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews; while the soldiers were guarding Your most pure Body; You did rise 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 You Who loves mankind.

SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY -TROPARION TONE II

We worship Your immaculate Image, O Good one, and ask forgiveness of our sins, O Christ God; for of Your own will You were pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, to deliver from slavery to the enemy those whom You had created. Therefore we thankfully cry to You: You have filled all things with joy, O our Saviour, by coming to save the world.

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 I

As God, You did rise 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

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.

SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY – KONTAKION TONE II

No one could describe the Word of the Father; but when He took flesh from you, O Theotokos, He accepted to be described, and He restored the fallen image to its former state by uniting it to divine beauty. We confess and proclaim our salvation in word and images.

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.

REMINDERS

Adult Bible Study – Bible study will resume Thursday, March 21st at 6:30 p.m.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This is a reminder to all parishioners to not talk or congregate in the vestibule during Liturgy. Also, during Sunday school lessons, please refrain from loud talking or socialization near classes. Lately, the children have been very distracted during their lessons and the teachers are frustrated with this. PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL!

House Blessings ó Father George has resumed house blessings. He will contact you with his availability.

Funeral services ó were held this past Wednesday, March 13th for Michael öMikeö Manalovich. Condolences to the family. May his memory be eternal. Vjecnaja pamjat!

Tonight – St. Nicholas Church of Monroeville will be hosting this year's celebration of the Sunday of Orthodoxy. Vesper service will begin at 5:00 p.m., and a dinner will follow. Homilist will be The Most Reverend Archbishop Mark of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania.

Wednesday, March 20th - Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts - 6:00 p.m. Confession at 5:30. Parishioners are asked to refrain from eating or drinking from noon on, however if you are on medication, please take your pills.

Sunday, March 24th – Lenten vesper services will be held at Holy Ascension in Youngwood at 5:00 p.m. Our **Father George** is the guest lecturer and will deliver a homily on öTheology of St. Gregory of Palamas.ö

Sunday, March 24th – The Tammies will be sponsoring a delicious posno soup sale. Stock up for the Lenten season! Take out only! \$8/quart.

The Noodle-Makers of St. Nicholas are at it again! Four weeks only! Wide or fine noodles. To order, call Rose 412 824-7609.

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.

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!

Fish Fry Cake Table - The Men's Club Fish Fry began this past Friday, March 8th, and will continue every Friday through April 19 from 4 - 7 pm. This means that the Fish Fry Cake Table will be in operation during this time as well. Any help that can be offered to make this project a success would be greatly appreciated, either to bake and donate Lenten desserts, or volunteer to sell the baked goods to our customers. We are grateful for any assistance parishioners may give, whether it is one cake or one hour, or many! To volunteer, please contact Janet Tumbas at church, or by phone or email: 412-751-3809 / jtumbas@gmail.com. Thank you!

FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

Sunday of Orthodoxy and why it is important to me...

The Sunday of Orthodoxy is the first Sunday of Great Lent. The dominant theme of this Sunday since 843 has been that of the victory of the icons. In that year the iconoclastic controversy, which had raged on and off since 726, was finally laid to rest, and icons and their veneration were restored on the first Sunday in Lent. Ever since, this Sunday has been commemorated as the "Triumph of Orthodoxy."

The name of this Sunday reflects the great significance which icons possess for the Orthodox Church. They are not optional devotional extras, but an integral part of Orthodox faith and devotion. They are held to be a necessary consequence of Christian faith in the incarnation of the Word of God, the Second Person of the Trinity, in Jesus Christ. They have a sacramental character, making present to the believer the person or event depicted on them. So the interior of Orthodox churches is often covered with icons painted on walls and domed roofs, and there is always an icon screen, or iconostasis, separating the sanctuary from the nave, often with several rows of icons. No Orthodox home is complete without an icon corner (iconostas), where the family prays.

Icons are venerated by burning lamps and candles in front of them, by the use of incense and by kissing. But there is a clear doctrinal distinction between the veneration paid to icons and the worship due to God. The former is not only relative; it is in fact paid to the person represented by the icon. This distinction safeguards the veneration of icons from any charge of idolatry.

The theme of the victory of the icons, by its emphasis on the incarnation, points us to the basic Christian truth that the one whose death and resurrection we celebrate at Easter was none other than the Word of God who became human in Jesus Christ.

