

SUNDAY September 22, 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 www.stnicholasmonroeville.org stnicholasmonroeville@gmail.com
--	--

14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

TROPARION - TONE V (RESURRECTION)

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

TROPARION - TONE IV (NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS)

Your nativity, O Virgin, has proclaimed joy to the whole universe! The Sun of righteousness, Christ our God, has shone from you, O Theotokos. By annulling the curse, He bestowed a blessing. By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

TROPARION - TONE I (JOACHIM AND ANNA)

Since you were righteous under the law of grace, O Joachim and Anna, you gave birth to the God-given infant for our sake. Therefore, the divine Church radiantly keeps feast today, joyfully celebrating your honorable memory and giving glory to God, Who has raised up a horn of salvation from the house of David.

KONTAKION – TONE V (RESURRECTION)

You descended into hell, O my Savior, shattering its gates as Almighty, resurrecting the dead as Creator, and destroying the sting of death. You have delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Man, and we cry to You: “O Lord, save us!”

KONTAKION - TONE II (JOACHIM AND ANNA)

Anna is now no longer barren and nurses the All-Pure One. She rejoices and calls us all to sing a hymn of praise to Christ, Who from her womb gave mankind the only ever Virgin Mother.

KONTAKION – TONE IV (NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS)

By your nativity, most pure Virgin, Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness, Adam and Eve -- from the corruption of death. And we, your people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you: The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our Life.”

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: Galatians 6:11-18

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

Gospel: John 3:13-17

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

Instead of “It is truly meet ...,” we sing: (TONE VIII) Magnify, O my soul, the most glorious birth of the Mother of God! Virginitiy is foreign to mothers; childbearing is strange for virgins. But in you, O Theotokos, both were accomplished. Therefore all we nations of the earth unceasingly magnify you.

Saints commemorated today: Holy Righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna

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 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** – Welcome back students and teachers! 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.

- **Construction of Equipment Shed** – We could use YOUR help to lighten the load! How? Contact Denny Zdrade at (412) 417-3167. Unable to commit to manual labor? No problem! Commit to helping feed our dedicated workers. Contact Nick Jokola at (814) 241-4929.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Friday, September 27th – DIVINE LITURGY 10 a.m.** for the **Exaltation of the Precious and Life-giving Cross** – this Feast commemorates the finding of the True Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by Saint Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine. The Feast is an opportunity outside of the observances of Holy Week to celebrate the full significance of the victory of the Cross over the powers of the world, and the triumph of the wisdom of God through the Cross over the wisdom of this world. This Feast also gives the Church an opportunity to relish the full glory of the Cross as a source of light, hope and victory for Christ’s people. It is also a time to celebrate the universality of the work of redemption accomplished through the Cross: the entire universe is seen through the light of the Cross, the new Tree of Life which provides nourishment for those who have been redeemed in Christ.

Oct 12 Tamburitzans show and reception.

- **Saturday, October 12th – TAMBURITZAN SHOW AND RECEPTION** – For tickets, please see Sandy Mireles or Elaine Vucelich following Divine Liturgy. Tickets will be available every Sunday leading up to the show. *Please see the flyer for more information about this event!*
- **Saturday, October 26th – DOO-WOP DINNER AND DANCE** – Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the show will start at 6:30 p.m. Please see either Nick Jokola or Protinica to purchase your tickets.
- **Doo-Wop Silent Auction** – if you would like to donate or contribute to a basket, please contact Sondra Deaunovich at 412-374-0991 or sondra7890@comcast.net or Pat Kolar at 412-372-4239 or patkolar@verizon.net
- **Saturday, November 2nd – THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE “SCRAPBOOKING CROP”** – this annual event is a wonderful fundraiser for our church. To get involved, please see Kathy Macesic (412-373-0241 or katageorge@comcast.net) or a member of the Outreach Committee.
- **Thursday, November 14 - Sunday, November 17 – ANCIENT FAITH WOMEN’S RETREAT** at Antiochian Village Conference Center in Bolivar, PA. This retreat is a peaceful, loving, and reflective gathering of Pan-Orthodox women who come together to learn, worship, make friends, and rest at the entrance into the holy Nativity season. Women of all ages are welcome. For more information see Protinica Karen.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Saints Joachim and Anna

St. Joachim was of the tribe of Judah, and a descendant of King David. St. Anna was the daughter of Matthan the priest, of the tribe of Levi. Matthan had three daughters: Mary, Zoia, and Anna. Mary was married in Bethlehem and gave birth to Salome; Zoia was also married in Bethlehem and gave birth to Elizabeth, the mother of St. John the Forerunner; and Anna was married in Nazareth to Joachim, and in old age gave birth to the Theotokos.

Joachim and Anna had been married for fifty years, and were barren. They lived devoutly and quietly, using only a third of their income for themselves and giving a third to the poor and a third to the Temple. Joachim had done this since he was 15-years-old, and God multiplied his flocks, so the couple was well provided for. They longed for a child but remained childless into their old age. When they were in Jerusalem to offer sacrifice to God, the High Priest, Issachar, chastised Joachim, "You are not worthy to offer sacrifice with those childless hands." In despair, he consulted the genealogical records of the tribes of Israel and discovered every righteous man in the nation had been blessed with children, except him. This caused the aged saint great grief, and he and his wife left with heavy hearts. Full of lamentation for his bleak situation, Joachim wandered the desert, praying and calling on the Lord to remember how He had blessed Abraham and Sarah with a child, even at a very late age. Meanwhile, Anna prayed in her garden, and imitated her husband’s sorrow, beseeching God with a promise that if He were to grant them the fruit of the womb, they would offer their offspring to Him as a gift. God sent Archangel Gabriel to each of them, who gave them tidings of the birth of "a daughter most blessed, by whom all the nations of the earth will be blessed, and through whom will come the salvation of the world." The archangel told Joachim to return home, where he would find his wife waiting for him in the city gate, and told Anna to wait at the gate. When they saw one another, they embraced, and this image is the traditional icon of their feast.

And thus, through God's promise, Anna conceived according to the laws of nature, and was deemed worthy to become the mother of the Mother of our Lord. The Conception of the Most Holy Mother of God is celebrated by the Church on December 22 and the Nativity of the Theotokos is celebrated on September 21. As they had promised, Joachim and Anna took Mary at the age of three to the temple to be dedicated to the service of the Lord, and presented her to the priest Zechariahs. The Church commemorates the Presentation of the Theotokos on December 4.

Although there are other saints who are petitioned for childlessness, Joachim and Anna retain a special standing because their story is so familiar. Joachim and Anna did everything right. They were faithful to God and the Temple; they prayed, fasted, gave alms in excess of what was expected, studied the Law, and labored in virtue, yet they remained childless. Like other couples in such a circumstance, they were troubled and perplexed by their inability to conceive. Weeping over his infertility, Joachim went to a shepherd’s field and prayed. With inconsolable tears, Anna lamented her childlessness. Only after recounting God’s blessings upon Sarah and

Hannah, Anna lifted her tear-filled eyes to heaven and prayed "...You know the pain of childlessness; put an end to the sorrow of my heart and open my womb and make me who am barren fruit-bearing, so that we may bring the one born of me as a gift to You..." After nearly fifty years of marriage and unwavering faith, Joachim and Anna were granted a daughter, Mary, the ever-Virgin mother of our Lord. Having a special affinity for the plight of Joachim and Anna, and recognizing not only their faithfulness but also the powerful manner by which the Lord responded to their prayers, Christians in like circumstances have sought their intercessions for nearly two millennia.

Most merciful Master, Lord Jesus Christ our God, You also came to Cana-in-Galilee and blessed the marriage there, to show that lawful marriage and the bearing of children is Your will. Being mindful of the need to preserve the sanctity of the home, made firm through the prayers of grandparents, parents, brothers, sisters, and kin, we beseech You to hear our prayer.

Cast aside every trial, the temptation, and the tribulation that besets the members of our Christian family—young and old alike, those who persevere in virginity, those who are married, those who are widowed, and those who are divorced. Strengthen, preserve, and sanctify us in Your peace, the estate of marriage, and the nurturing of children through the intercessions of Saints Joachim and Anna.



ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH TAMBURITZANS

Enroll your children today in our St. Nicholas Church Tamburitzans so they may be immersed in the music, dance, culture, and costumes of traditional Serbian folklore! Your children are sure to make lasting friendships as they dance, play, sing, and travel with this loving and vibrant group! With over 50 years in its existence, our group of talented individuals have continued to perpetuate the Serbian culture within our community, and we look forward to inviting your children to our group this year!

Rehearsals began, **Monday, September 9th** in the church hall. All rehearsals are Monday evenings in the church hall unless announced otherwise.

Please contact Sonja Capuzzi if your child is **2 to 5-6 years of age** at (412) 334-0267 or at sonjacapuzzi@gmail.com. Our youngest group of dancers "Tiny Tammies" rehearse from 5:45 until 6:15 p.m.

Please contact Bati Bajich if your child is in the **1st grade or older** at (816) 678-6251 or at borisbajich@gmail.com. Rehearsal start times vary based on your children's age.

WELCOME! DOBRODOSLI!

DOO WOP DINNER DANCE

October 26, 2019

6PM till 11PM

Stage Shows at 6:30 & 8:30

St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church
2110 Haymaker Road, Monroeville, PA 15146



THE PITTSBURGH BELAIRS

The Pittsburgh Belairs are a singing group that specializes in Doo-Wop harmony & Motown. The group sings the hits of the 50s and 60s. The group strives to keep this era of great music alive by performing the best Doo-Wop & Motown songs in the same manner the original performers intended the music to be heard.

COST ONLY: \$25 per person in advance or \$30 at the door

Reservations Required: Price includes dance and dinner ticket

WOOD-FIRED GRILLED STEAK or CHICKEN and SHRIMP

Baked Potato, Vegetable and Salad

CASH BAR • Desserts and Snacks for Purchase

Please Call: Church Office 412-856-8166 or

Email stnicholasmonroeville@gmail.com

Oldies DJ with Dancing ALL NIGHT LONG!



Tamburitzans set to perform in
North Versailles!
Saturday October 12, 2019

MONROEVILLE, PA —St. Nicholas Church-School congregation in conjunction with the Tamburitzans organization cordially invites you to the first full Pittsburgh area performance of The Tamburitzans 2019-20 season on Saturday

October 12, 2019 at the East Allegheny Logan School Auditorium in North Versailles.

The live 2-hour show presenting the Tamburitzans 83rd season 'SYMBOLS – Expressions of Culture' begins at 3:00 pm at the Logan School Auditorium, 1154 Jacks Run Rd in North Versailles PA (located behind EA High School on Rt 48) - a 15-minute drive off the PA Turnpike (Pittsburgh/I-376 exit) and U.S. Route 22. Following the stage performance, a dinner-dance reception will take place at St. Nicholas Serbian Church Hall, 2110 Haymaker Road, Monroeville.

The Tamburitzans organization, led by Board President Charles Cubelic Jr., Artistic Director George "Butch" Kresovich (Lodge 76) and staff is supported by PIFAI – Pittsburgh International Folk Arts Institute. The Tamburitzans continue to remain dedicated to perpetuating international cultural heritage through entertaining performance, while awarding scholarships to talented and deserving young artists attending a Pittsburgh-based school.

For 83 consecutive years, traveling throughout the globe, The Tamburitzans are the longest-running live song and dance company in the United States. This year's production of "Symbols – Expressions of Culture" promises to be an outstanding performance. The show includes selections from Serbia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Ireland, Macedonia, Nordic region, Russia to name a few. The Tamburitzans can boast of over 750 Alumni! Of that number, St. Nicholas Church is proud to relate that 24 Tamburitzans (alumni and current members) are alumni of the St. Nicholas Tamburitzans. Currently performing with the Tamburitzans are SNF members and St. Nicholas Tammie alumni Dusan 'Dusi' Karas (Lodge 7), Courtney Mireles (Lodge 7), Maggie Nicolai, Anna, Mira and Natalia Steen (Lodge 163), all extremely talented instrumentalists and dancers.

Save now by purchasing your tickets in advance for The Tamburitzans October 12th show. (\$30 Adults / \$25 Seniors 62+ / \$20 Students under 18). Day of Show all tickets \$35. Dinner and dance tickets are available at an additional fee (\$20 Adults / \$17 Students/Seniors) by calling **412-616-2699**. Online show tickets available: www.talentshadows.events or by calling Sandy at 412-616-2699. Group discounts available.