

St. Mary's Orthodox Church
217 First Street, Coaldale Pa 18218
Phone: 570-645-2772

OUR WEBSITE: www.stmarysnativity.org

Rector: V. Rev. James Weremedic
Retired Attached: V. Rev Paul Ropitsky
President: Dr. Ronald Berezniak

Sunday, February 16, 2025

Reader Hours: Edward Pierson
Reader Epistle: Michael Ropitsky



Sunday of the Prodigal Son. St. Nicholas, Equal-to-the-Apostles, Archbishop of Japan (1912). Martyrs Pamphilius, Valens, Paul, Seleucus, Porphyrius, Julian, Theodulus, Elias, Jeremiah, Isaiah, Samuel, and Daniel, at Cæsarea in Palestine (307-309). St. Maruthas, Bishop of Martyropolis in Mesopotamia (422). Persian Martyrs in Martyropolis in Mesopotamia (4th c.).

We welcome all our visitors today! We want to let you know that we are so glad you came to pray with us. Please come again; join us after the Divine Liturgy in the parish hall for fellowship. If you do not have a home church, we invite you to become a part of our parish family. **Only those Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through strict Fasting on the morning of the Liturgy, recent Confession and at peace with each other may approach the Chalice and receive Holy Communion.**

SERVICES:

Sunday, February 16 9:30 AM: Divine Liturgy, Church School, Fellowship (**Prodigal Son**)
"Pre-Lent Meal" following the Divine Liturgy.

Saturday, February 22 9:30 AM: Divine Liturgy, Parastas:
John & Anna Bogosh by the family. Michael Harahus by Julia McHugh. Joseph Devine by Fr. James & Mat. Lisa.
Mark Gundersen by Mat. Lisa. Martha Stafiniak by the family.

Saturday, February 22 4:00 PM: Great Vespers, Confessions

Sunday, February 23 9:30 AM: Divine Liturgy, Church School, Fellowship (**Last Judgement-Meatfare**)

Saturday, March 1 4:00 PM: Great Vespers, Confessions

Sunday, March 2 9:30 AM: Divine Liturgy, **Vespers of Forgiveness**
Fellowship, Church School, **Cheesefare (Forgiveness Sunday)**

Monday, March 3 5:00 PM: Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete and Confessions

Tuesday, March 4 5:00 PM: Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete and Confessions

Wednesday, March 5 5:00 PM: Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts (Fast from Noon)

Thursday, March 6 5:00 PM: Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete and Confessions

Friday, March 7 5:00 PM: Vespers of St. Theodore the Recruit, Confessions

Prayer List*: Prayer List*: Archpriest Thomas & Mat. Evelyn Edwards, Mat. Lisa Robert Boguski, Jeanne Cannon, Stephanie Chmel, Kaitlyn & Shannon Dmytrow, Anna Eltgroth, Julia Forte, Julia Harahus, Karen & Rose Harkins, Nancy King, Olga Kushnir, Anna Marie Mantey, Dorothy Macenka, Paul Macenka, Olga Martsyniv, Dave Mazaika, Tom McCarthy, Ron Pierce, Odess Remington, Millie O'Shura, Melissa Schmitt, Olga Sidoriak, Jolie Skelton, Amanda Skripnek, Daniel Skripnek, Peter Weremedic

Prayer for Women and the Children to be Born of Them: Mena Maher.

* Names will cycle off approximately every 30 days. You may request to have your name or the name of a loved one placed back on the list at any time by contacting Fr. James directly.

Camp registration is Open

The Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania looks forward to St. Tikhon's Summer Camp, scheduled for June 29-July 5, 2025, with registration opened on Friday, February 14, 2025.

Whereas in year's past registration was open for months, it will likely close in days. We need you to register our youths to be campers. We need to have staff and volunteer registrations, too. We cannot do this without our staff and volunteers! Regardless of your parish sending campers, they can still help in many other ways. DANIEL PECK welcomes volunteers. Helping with food preparation helps our other volunteers to be with the youth for other activities and builds relationships. Some parishes are choosing to donate prepared foods. Thank you. DANIEL PECK AND DIMITRI RESSATAR are on point to receive help in this manner!

If anyone is in need of a priest, please call Fr. James Weremedic at 570-645-2772.

Visitation of the Sick and Infirm: If you are going into the hospital for any reason, please inform Fr. James at the Rectory. Emergency Calls: Please call the Rectory (570-645-2772) anytime (day or night) in an emergency.

Candles (February 16)

7-day Vigils-Altar: In memory of **Peter Wyshosky, Jr.** offered by Julia Forte

Altar Candles: In memory of **Nick Teno** offered by daughter Barb Teno

Eternal Lamp: In memory of **Olga Hebda** offered by Raymond & Mary Jo Danchak

7-day Vigils-Tetrapod: In memory of **Anna Rosinola** offered by Geri & Russell King

February Birthdays: 1- Michael Kulick, 3- Michael Tatusko, 6- Barbara Faenza, 7- Ira James, 9- Wendy Kulick, 15- Claire Remington

Financials 2/9/2025: Operating Acct: Envelopes \$256, Non-envelope \$27, Altar Candles \$60, Candles \$29, Donations \$160

If you have any Redner receipts, please call or get them to Helen King.

Please use your Boyer's card when shopping at Boyers; if you need one call Helen King.

Fellowship Hour Hosts:

2/16 Pre-Lenten Meal	2/23 Russel King	3/2 Berezniak	3/9 Helen King
3/16 OPEN	3/23 Michael Tatusko	3/30 Berezniak	

We are not required to bring a tenth of our income to the Church; we can bring twenty, thirty, or even one-hundred percent, as did the poor widow (*Mark 12:42-43*). But we can start with a small step. We can at least bring as much as the Old Testament Hebrews, at least the ten percent that rightly belongs to God and not us. But if we don't have as much zeal for the temple of God as the Old Testament people had, then the Lord will accept and bless even seven or five percent or any other amount offered with a pure heart. **We must begin**

somewhere! [On Tithing | A Russian Orthodox Church](#)
[Website \(pravmir.com\)](http://www.pravmir.com)

How much is my tithe?!

Weekly Income	10%	5%	4%	2%
\$200	\$20	\$10	\$8	\$4
\$500	\$50	\$25	\$20	\$10
\$750	\$75	\$38	\$30	\$15
\$1,000	\$100	\$50	\$40	\$20
\$1,500	\$150	\$75	\$60	\$30
\$2,000	\$200	\$100	\$80	\$40

February 16, 2025 SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON Tone 1.

St. Nicholas, Equal-to-the-Apostles, Archbishop of Japan (1912). Martyrs Pamphilius—Presbyter, Valens—Deacon, Paul, Seleucus, Porphyrius, Julian, Theodulus, Elias, Jeremiah, Isaiah, Samuel, and Daniel, at Cæsarea in Palestine (307-309). St. Maruthas, Bishop of Martyropolis in Mesopotamia (422). Persian Martyrs in Martyropolis in Mesopotamia (4th c.).

Matthew 28:16-32 (11th Matins Gospel)

Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen."

Tone 1 Troparion (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!"

Tone 3 Kontakion (from the Lenten Triodion)

I have recklessly forgotten Your glory, O Father; and among sinners I have scattered the riches which You had given me. Therefore I cry to You like the Prodigal: "I have sinned before You, O compassionate Father; // receive me a penitent, and make me as one of Your hired servants!"

Tone 1 Prokeimenon (Resurrection)

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on You! (Ps. 32:22)

V. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just! (Ps. 32:1)

Corinthians 6:12-20 (Epistle)

All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For "the two," He says, "shall become one flesh." But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

Tone 1

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. *God gives vengeance unto me, and subdues people under me. (Ps. 17:48)*

V. *He magnifies the salvation of the King and deals mercifully with David, His anointed, and his seed forever. (Ps. 17:51)*

Luke 15:11-32 (Gospel)

Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So, he divided to them his livelihood. And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything.

But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. **And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.'**

But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry.

Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. So, he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.' But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore, his father came out and pleaded with him. So, he answered and said to his father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.'

And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.'"

Mark 11:23 "Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them." Mountains ... symbolizing obstacles, fears, and impossibilities, can seem immovable.

But Jesus tells us that if we believe without doubting, those mountains will move.

We overcome challenges by trusting God completely.

Faith isn't about seeing the way forward ... it's about believing that God is bigger than the mountain before us.