

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

**OUR WEBSITE: [www.stmarysnativity.org](http://www.stmarysnativity.org)**

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

**Sunday, February 9, 2025**

Reader Hours: Gloria Bench  
Reader Epistle: Michael Ropitsky



**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9 TONE 8 Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee.**  
**[Beginning of the Lenten Triodion] Leavetaking of the Meeting of the Lord.**

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.**

### **Camp registration will open February 14<sup>th</sup>**

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. **ASK DANIEL PECK!!!**

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. Inform **DANIEL PECK AND DIMITRI RESSATAR!**

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

#### *SERVICES:*

Sunday, February 9	9:30 AM: Divine Liturgy, Church School, Fellowship ( <b>Publican &amp; Pharisee</b> )
Saturday, February 15	4:00 PM: Great Vespers, Confessions
Sunday, February 16	9:30 AM: Divine Liturgy, Church School, Fellowship ( <b>Prodigal Son</b> ) <b>"Pre-Lent Meal" following the Divine Liturgy.</b>
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
Saturday, February 22	4:00 PM: Great Vespers, Confessions
Sunday, February 23	9:30 AM: Divine Liturgy, Church School, Fellowship ( <b>Last Judgement-Meatfare</b> )
Saturday, March 1	4:00 PM: Great Vespers, Confessions
Sunday, March 2	9:30 AM: Divine Liturgy, <b>Vespers of Forgiveness</b> Fellowship Church School, <b>Cheesefare (Forgiveness Sunday)</b>

We will have a **“Pre-Lent Meal”** following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup>.  
Please sign-up at the candle desk!

**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.

**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 2)*

7-day Vigils-Altar: In memory of **Harry Wyshosky** offered by Julia Forte

Altar Candles: In memory of **Martha Stafiniak** offered by Terri Bogosh

Eternal Lamp: In memory of **Joseph Pohlod** offered by Geri “Pohlod” King

7-day Vigils-Tetrapod: In memory of **Helen Butts** offered by Raymond & Mary Jo Danchak

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

**Financials 2/2/2025: Operating Acct:** Envelopes \$1,158, Non-envelope \$30, Fuel \$210, Altar Candles \$50, Holy Day \$97, Candles \$58, Donations \$425, Boyer’s Rebate \$166.22, Building \$60

**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:

2-9 The Melbers      2/16 Pre-Lenten Meal      2/23 Russel King      3/2 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 \(pravmir.com\)](#)

**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 9, 2025 THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE Tone 8. Beginning of the Lenten Triodion.**  
Leavetaking of the Meeting. Martyr Nikephoros of Antioch in Syria. Ven. Pankratii of the Kiev Caves.  
Ven. Nikifor and Gennádii, of Vazheozérsk. Hieromartyrs Marcellus, Bishop of Sicily, Philagrius, Bishop  
of Cyprus, and Pancratius, Bishop of Taoromina.

**John 21:15-25 (11th Matins Gospel)**

So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Feed My lambs." He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You."

Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep. Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish." This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, "Follow Me." Then Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following, who also had leaned on His breast at the supper, and said, "Lord, who is the one who betrays You?" Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, "But Lord, what about this man?" Jesus said to him, "If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you? You follow Me." Then this saying went out among the brethren that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, "If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you?" This is the disciple who testifies of these things, and wrote these things; and we know that his testimony is true. And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.

**Tone 8 Troparion (Resurrection)**

You descended from on high, O Merciful One! You accepted the three day burial to free us from our sufferings! // O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!

**Tone 1 Troparion (Feast)**

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, enlightening those who sat in darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder, you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, // Who grants us the Resurrection!

**Tone 4 Kontakion (from the Lenten Triodion)**

Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee! Let us learn humility from the Publican's tears! Let us cry to our Savior: "Have mercy on us, // O only merciful One!"

**Tone 1 Kontakion**

By Your Nativity You sanctified the Virgin's womb and blessed Simeon's hands, O Christ God. Now You have come and saved us through love. Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, // O only Lover of Man!

**Tone 8 Prokeimenon (Resurrection)**

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God!

V. In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.

**Tone 3 Prokeimenon (Song of the Theotokos)**

My soul magnifies the Lord, / and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

## 2 Timothy 3:10-15 (Epistle)

But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra - what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me. Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.

But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

### Tone 8

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. *Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!*

V. *Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!*

### Tone 8

V. *Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word, for my eyes have seen Your salvation!*

## Luke 2:22-40 (Gospel, Meeting)

Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the LORD"), and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. So he came by the Spirit into the temple.

And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law, he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said: "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel." And Joseph and His mother marveled at those things which were spoken of Him.

Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

## Luke 18:10-14 (Gospel)

"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men - extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.' And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."