

**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, March 3, 2024**

Reader Hours: Mat. Lisa

Reader Epistle: Edward Pierson



**SUNDAY OF THE PRODOGAL SON**

**Tone 6**

Martyr Eutropius of Amasea, and with him Martyrs Cleonicus  
and Basiliscus. Saint Piamoun. Ss. Zenon and Zoilus.

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:**

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|---------------------|---|
| Sunday, March 3     | 8:00 AM – Matins ( <b>Prodigal Son</b> )                  |
| Sunday, March 3     | 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy, Fellowship Hour                 |
| Saturday, March 9   | 3:30 PM – Parastas (Kimberly O'Brien, Alexis Gancasz)     |
| Saturday, March 9   | 4:00 PM – Great Vespers & Confessions                     |
| Sunday, March 10    | 8:00 AM – Matins ( <b>Last Judgment-Meatfare</b> )        |
| Sunday, March 10    | 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy, Fellowship Hour                 |
| Saturday, March 16  | 4:00 PM – Great Vespers & Confessions                     |
| Sunday, March 17    | 8:00 AM – Matins ( <b>Forgiveness Sunday-Cheesefare</b> ) |
| Sunday, March 17    | 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy, <b>Fish Dinner</b>              |
| Sunday, March 17    | 4:00 PM – <b>Forgiveness Vespers</b>                      |
| Monday, March 18    | 4:00 PM: Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete               |
| Tuesday, March 19   | 4:00 PM: Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete               |
| Wednesday, March 20 | 4:00 PM: Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts (Fast from Noon)  |
| Thursday, March 21  | 4:00 PM: Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete               |
| Friday, March 22    | 4:00 PM: Akathist to the Theotokos                        |
| Saturday, March 23  | 4:00 PM – Great Vespers & Confessions                     |
| Sunday, March 24    | 8:00 AM – Matins ( <b>Sunday of Orthodoxy</b> )           |
| Sunday, March 24    | 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy, Fellowship Hour                 |



**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND**

**St. Mary's Orthodox Church's Fish Dinner**

We are hosting a fish dinner on March 17, 2024. The dinner will include: Fish, Mashed Potatoes, Stewed Tomatoes, Green Beans, Coleslaw, Roll, Dessert and Coffee. \$15.00 per person. **ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY.** To reserve your ticket Call Lisa at (570) 645-2772.

**Prayer List\*:**

Fr. Michael Evans, Fr. James Weremedic, Fr. Gregory White  
Sbdn. James Weremedic

Jeanne Cannon, Stephanie Chmel, Julia Forte, Julia Harahus, Karen & Rose Harkins, Edward Hojnicky, Nancy King, Olga Kushnir, Anna Marie Mantey, Dorothy & Joseph Macenka, Anna Pierson, Melissa Schmitt, Helen Sheers, Olga Sidoriak, Michael Teno, Victoria Weremedic, Marie Yurchak

\* 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 Father 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.

*We express our deepest sympathy to the family of Evelyn Demopoulos  
Who fell asleep in the Lord 2/28/2024! Memory Eternal!*

**Candles (March 3)**

7-day Vigils-Altar: In memory of **Martha Stafiniak** offered by Russell & Geri King

Altar Candles: In memory of **Mary Lutash** offered by Raymond & MaryJo Danchak

Eternal Lamp: In memory of **Mary Harahus** offered by Gary Harahuess

7-day Vigils-Tetrapod: In memory of **Andrew & Mary Bybel** offered by family members

**\*Donations of flowers on the Tetrapod will now be \$50, due to the increase from Porvaznik's Flowers (under new management) in Lansford.**

**March Birthdays:** 1- Logan Leatherman, 7- Clarissa Buchanan, 14- Mary Hertzog,  
21- Mildred O'Shura, Olga Sidoriak, 28- Helen Law

**Financials 2/25/2024: Operating Acct:** Envelopes \$210, Non-Envelope \$105, Candles \$85,  
Donations \$200, Fuel Fund \$25, Remodel \$50, Memorials \$160.

**Fellowship Hour Hosts:**

**March 3** John Evetushick    **March 10** Marie Skripnek    **March 17** Fish Dinner

**March 24** Mike Tatusko

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.

**MARCH 3, 2024**

**39<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Tone 6**

**SUNDAY OF THE PRODOGAL SON**

Martyr Eutropius of Amasea, and with him Martyrs Cleonicus and Basiliscus.  
Saint Piamoun. Ss. Zenon and Zoilus.

**Luke 24:36-53 (6<sup>th</sup> Matins Gospel)**

Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, "Peace to you." But they were terrified and frightened, and supposed they had seen a spirit. And He said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts?"

Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, "Have you any food here?" So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. And He took it and ate in their presence.

Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

And you are witnesses of these things. Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high." And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen.

**Tone 5 Troparion (Resurrection)**

The Angelic Powers were at Your tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Your grave, Seeking Your most pure body. You captured hell, not being tempted by it. You came to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord, Who rose from the dead, // glory to You.

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

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

**Tone 3 Prokeimenon (Resurrection)**

V. O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance!

V. To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

**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 3

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the heavenly God.

V. He will say to the Lord: "My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in Whom I trust."

### Silent Prayer before the Gospel:

Illumine our hearts, O Master Who lovest mankind, with the pure light of Thy divine knowledge. Open the eyes of our mind to the understanding of Thy gospel teachings. Implant also in us the fear of Thy blessed commandments, that trampling down all carnal desires, we may enter upon a spiritual manner of living, both thinking and doing such things as are well-pleasing unto Thee. For Thou art the illumination of our souls and bodies, O Christ our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, Who is from everlasting, and Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

### 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.'