

St. Mary's Orthodox Church
217 First Street – Coaldale Pa 18218-1602
Phone.....570-645-2772
OUR WEBSITE...www.stmarysnativity.org

Rector: V. Rev. James Weremedic
Retired Attached: V. Rev Paul Ropitsky
Choir Director: Wash King

Sunday, August 2, 2020
8th Sunday after Pentecost
Relics of Protomartyr & Archdeacon Stephen

Glory Be To Jesus Christ!

Glory Be Forever!

At this time, we are utilizing up to 50% capacity in the church, so the first 75 people who arrive at the church to attend Divine Liturgy on Sunday will be permitted to attend the service. At the candle stand will be a sign-in sheet that you must sign so we know who is attending the service. There is no pressure or expectation to attend services during this period of COVID-19. Remember to wear a mask and practice social distancing of six feet except for immediate family members. These procedures and guidelines are in effect not only to protect ourselves but also to protect one another. It is essential that we know who is attending the Divine Liturgy in the event that a "notice of infection" is requested and contact tracing becomes necessary.

Some points to remember:

You no longer need to call Father James each week to confirm that you will be in church.

Please have the usher write down your name and phone # on the attendance sheet as soon as you enter the church. Your temperature will be taken.

Please follow the directions of the usher on lighting candles.

Please expect assigned seating to ensure proper social distancing.

Icons can be venerated by blessing yourself with the sign of the cross and bowing without physical contact (no kissing or touching the icons)

Please follow the instructions of the Priest on how to receive Communion.

Antidoron will not be distributed at this time.

Please remember to wear a mask and bring your own Divine Liturgy Book.

Liturgical Services have started, although with 'preventative measures'! Please see May 31, 2020 bulletin for the full procedures. We are blessed to have the services with restrictions and we pray for the time that these conditions are no longer necessary!

Vespers Services

Great Vespers will be held at 4:00 PM outside in the Church yard in front of the wooden Cross. Everyone is welcomed, but must wear masks and keep physical distance of six feet. If it is raining or looking like it will rain, this service will be cancelled. We will not be able to make an announcement of the rain cancellation.

Sun...August 2... 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

Sat...August 8... 4:00 PM – VESPERS – in church yard (weather permitting)

Sun...August 9... 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy (Celebrate Transfiguration and bless fruit)

Sat...August 15...4:00 PM – VESPERS – in church yard (weather permitting)

Sun...August 16...9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy (Celebrate Dormition and bless flowers & herbs)

Sat... August 22...4:00 PM – VESPERS – in church yard (weather permitting)

Sun...August 23...9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy followed by PARASTAS

Prayer List: *HEAVENLY FATHER ... Physician of our souls and bodies, Who has sent your only begotten Son to heal every sickness and infirmity, visit us and heal us, Your servants, from all physical and spiritual ailments through the grace of Your Son Jesus Christ; grant to us patience in this sickness, strength of body and spirit, and recovery of health. Lord, You have taught us through Your word to pray for each other that we may be healed. You are the source of healing and to You, we give glory; to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.*

Matushka Lovey Ropitsky, Matushka Lisa Weremedic, Michael Birosik, Clark Bogosh, Theodore Bogosh, Jane Bubernak, Cecil Buchanan, Emmalyn Naomi Buchanan, Evanna Jane Buchanan, Stephanie Chmel, Edward Conarty, Irene David, Ilene Devine, Gloria Ferri, Julia Forte, Olga Hebda, John King, Claire Kononchuk, Michael Kulick, John Kushnir, MaryAnn Macenka, Mary Maholick, Alexandra Miller, Courtney Miller, Mildred O'Shura, Anna Pisko, Helen Scheese, Melissa Schmitt, Althea Shellock, Helen Suda, Martha Stafiniak, Martha Teno, Nancy Vanno, Elizabeth Warcholak, Russell Wishousky, Russell Yallas, & Richard York

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.**

Financials 7/20-26/20 *Operating Acct:* - Candles 36 – Weekly 1,132 – Holy Days 10 – Altar Candles 330 – Donations 80
Total \$ 1,588.00 Please continue to keep filling your church envelopes. Building Fund 20 – Charity 5. Thank you!

Please support St. Mary's Orthodox Church by shopping at Amazon Smile

When you shop at Amazon Smile, Amazon will make a donation to St. Mary's Orthodox Church.
See St. Mary's Facebook page for details.

August Birthdays: 5-Rose Harkins, 11-Alexandra Miller, 14- David King. 15- Courtney Miller, 18-Jane Bubernak, 22-Nancy Lorchak, 30- Daniel Skripnek, Jr, 31-Jerome Balliet
August Wedding Anniversaries: 20 – Dennis & Geri Vavra , 30 – Helen & George Yurchak (73rd)

Candles (from May 10):

7-Day Vigils/Altar...For the health of **All Shut-ins** offered by Good Samaritans

Altar Candles... In memory of **Mother, Mary Lutash** offered by Raymond & Mary Jo Danchak

Eternal Lamp... In memory of **Pauline Maholick** offered by Julia Forte

Vigil Crosses ... For the health of **Martha Teno** offered by Ted Bogosh

7-Day Vigil/Tetrapod... For the health of **Julia Harahus** offered by the Family

Decorated Candles/Tetrapod... For the health of **Ted Bogosh III & Betty (Bogosh) Renninger** offered by Ted Bogosh

Candles (from July 26):

7-Day Vigils/Altar... In memory of **Mary Lutash** offered by Olga Hebda

Altar Candles... For the health of **Aunt Olga Hebda** offered by Raymond & Mary Jo Danchak

Eternal Lamp... In memory of **Mother, Mary Lutash** offered by Raymond & Mary Jo Danchak

Vigil Crosses ... For the health of **Odess & Claire Remington** offered by Russell & Geri King

7-Day Vigils/Tetrapod... In memory of **Andrew & Mary Bybel Family** offered by Friends

Decorated Candles/Tetrapod... In memory of **Walter Scarloss** offered by Natalie & Michael Bolinski

If you do not feel comfortable coming to church yet, you may continue to watch **On-line Services:**

Go to the **Diocese of Eastern PA website** at the bottom of our church website.

At the **top** of the page – Click on **Live Streaming** – Scroll down to church services

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church – Mogadore, OH – You Tube

Services every day of the week – Mon. to Fri. at 7:00 PM

Saturday Vespers – 5:00 PM; Sunday Divine Liturgy – 9:30 AM

We express our deepest sympathy to the family of Pauline Macinko

Who fell asleep in the Lord 7/10/2020

Memory Eternal!

Our sympathy is extended to Mary & Ricky Hertzog and family on the passing

away of his father, Dennis Hertzog on 7/20/2020

Memory Eternal!

THE GLORY OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

“Suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying ‘This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased; Listen to Him!’ “ (Matthew 17:5)

“A moment of eternity in our world of time. A glimpse of the light of God’s glory in our land of sinful darkness. A vision of the Kingdom to come in our blindness of the present. All this might be said of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, that great feast day which illuminates the month of August in our church calendar.

Our icon, faithful to the traditional iconographic rendition, vividly depicts the scene as recorded in the Gospel. Christ appears on the summit of Mount Tabor in garment ‘white as the light,’ flanked by Moses on the right, and Elijah (Elias) on the left, representing the Law and the Prophets, or as some say, representing the living and the dead. Christ is enveloped in geometric forms, representing the ‘bright cloud’ that covered Him.

Beneath are the three Apostles whom the Lord took with Him up the mountain. They are overwhelmed by the vision of the Lord’s Divinity, the Voice of the Father and the bright cloud as they fall to the ground. Peter, kneeling, is at the right; John, falling to earth, in the center; and James is on the left. What we have in this feast is the revelation of the glory of God the Son and the manifestation of His majesty. We have an appearance of Christ’s divine nature, and we have the mystery and splendor of the glory of light.

Why was Christ transfigured? A hymn tells us: ‘So that when Christ’s apostles should see You crucified, they might understand Your suffering to be of Your own will and might proclaim to the world that You are truly the glorious light of the Father.’ The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin.....Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey

The Transfer of the Relics of the Holy Protomartyr Stephen from Jerusalem to Constantinople took place about the year 428. After the holy Protomartyr Archdeacon Stephen was stoned by the Jews, they left his holy body unburied to be devoured by the beasts and birds. After a day and a night the renowned Jewish teacher of the Law, Gamaliel sent people to take up the body of the Protomartyr. Gamaliel buried him on his own property, in his own tomb, not far from Jerusalem.

When Lord’s secret disciple Nikodemos died, Gamaliel also buried him near the grave of Saint Stephen. Afterwards Gamaliel himself, who had been baptized with his son Abibas, was buried near the grave of the Protomartyr Stephen and Saint Nikodemos. In the year 415 the relics of the saint were uncovered in a miraculous manner and solemnly transferred to Jerusalem by Bishop John and the bishops Eutonium of Sebaste and Eleutherius of Jericho.

From that time healings took place from the relics. Afterwards, during the reign of holy Emperor Theodosius the Younger (408-450), the relics of the holy Protomartyr Stephen were transferred from Jerusalem to Constantinople and placed in the church of the holy deacon Laurence (August 10). When a church dedicated to the Protomartyr Stephen was built, the relics were transferred there on August 2. Saint Stephen’s right hand is preserved in the Serapionov chamber of the Trinity-Sergius Lavra.

8th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Translation of the Relics of the Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen from Jerusalem to Constantinople, and the finding of the Relics of the Righteous Nikodemos, Gamaliel, and Abibas. Blessed Basil of Moscow, Fool-for-Christ. Bl. Basil of Kubensk. Hieromartyr Stephen, Pope of Rome, and those with him.

Prokeimenon – Tone 7:

The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

Translation of the relics of the Protomartyr and
Archdeacon Stephen from Jerusalem to Constantinople

Troparion — Tone 4

Your relics have risen from the depths of the earth, / like a treasury for the immortal life of all of creation. / The Church, rejoicing in the grace that she receives from them, / duteously honors you, Protomartyr Stephen. / Preserve us from error and heresy by your intercession!

Kontakion — Tone 6

You were the first to be sown on the earth by the Heavenly Husbandman, O all-praised one. / You were the first to shed your blood on the earth for Christ, O blessed one. / You were the first to receive the crown of victory from Him in heaven, / Stephen, first of the suffering God-crowned martyrs.

1 Corinthians 1:10-18 (Epistle)

Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's household, that there are contentions among you. Now I say this, that each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, lest anyone should say that I had baptized in my own name. Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas.

Besides, I do not know whether I baptized any other. For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect.

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Matthew 14:14-22 (Gospel)

And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food."

But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat." And they said to Him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish." He said, "Bring them here to Me." Then He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass.

And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes.

So they all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained. Now those who had eaten were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away.