

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

Sunday, January 23, 2022
Choir Director: Wash King

3^{1st} SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – TONE 6
Glory Be to Jesus Christ! Glory Be Forever!

Services:

Sunday, January 23 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy
Sunday, January 30 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – followed by Parastas
 In Memory of Joseph Herbert offered by the Herbert Family
 In Memory of Mary Harahuess offered by husband, Gary Harahuess
 In Memory of Walter Fedora offered by Barbara Faenza & Family
 In Memory of Wash Fedora offered by Barbara Faenza & Family
 In Memory of John Bench, Jr. offered by Gloria Bench & Family
 In Memory of Anna Pisko offered by Gloria Bench
Wednesday, February 2 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – Blessing of Candles
Sunday, February 6 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – Zacchaeus Sunday

Prayer List:

Matushka Lovey Ropitsky, Matushka Lisa Weremedic.
Andrew Balliet, Michael Birozik, Clark Andrew Bogosh, Theodore Bogosh, Emmalyn
Naomi Buchanan, Evanna Jane Buchanan, Stephanie Chmel, Irene Davis, Ilene Devine,
Julia Forte, Karen Harkins, John King, Michael Kulick, John & Olga Kushnir, Nancy
Lorchak, MaryAnn & Paul Macenka, Mary Maholick, Mildred O'Shura, Melissa Schmitt,
Lynn Sharpe, Althea Shellock, Olga Sidoriak, Mary Simone, Martha Stafiniak, Martha
Teno, Michael Teno, Elizabeth Warcholak, Russell Wishousky, Russell Yallas, Marie
Yurchak.

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.

Candles (January 23)

7-Day Vigils/Altar... For the Health of **John & Peggy Lampman** offered by Ted Bogosh

Altar Candles... For the Health of **Helen Sheers** offered by Anne Ostrosky & Chris & Marie Kalavritinos

Eternal Lamp... In memory of **Andrew & Mary Bybel Family** offered by Friends

Vigil Crosses... In memory of **Kay & Paul Maliniak** offered by William Yelsh

7-Day Vigils/Tetrapod... For the Health of **John King** offered by Terri Bogosh

Decorated Candles/Tetrapod- In memory of **Theodore & Anna Bybel & Haspe Families** offered by Family Members

We express our deepest sympathy to the family of

Anna Pisko

Who fell asleep in the Lord 1/11/2022 – Memory Eternal

January Birthdays: 2- Tommy Shanosky, 3- Allysa Vavra, 7- Ted Bogosh (97), 13- Dr. Ronald Berezniak, 21- Helen Sheers

January Anniversaries: 9- Wash & Helen King (65 yrs), 23- Russell & Geri King

Financials 1/16/22: *Operating Acct:* Candles 46 - Altar Candles 20 - Offerings 1,317 - Non-Envelope 250 - Holy Days 94 – Initial Env 20 = Total \$1,747.00.

Please continue to keep filling your church envelopes. – Thank you!

Please use Amazon Smile when ordering from Amazon.

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.

CONFESSION

Confessions have resumed with minor modifications. Please call the rectory at 570-645-2772 and talk to Father James for a reservation. Call between 9:30 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Individual schedule times will be spread out during the week. Husband and wife can be scheduled together. Anyone wanting to have a confession, but has concerns of COVID-19, should contact Father James to make the appropriate accommodations.

“JOY TO YOU, O CONFESSOR OF THE FAITH!”

When the age of persecution ended for the early Church, the faithful believers had to deal with enemies from within their own ranks that were even more dangerous than the Romans! While defining their doctrines and dogmas, the Holy Fathers of the Church were forced to endure bitter challenges to the Faith by heretics: proponents of false teachings. For centuries, a multitude of debates raged over what a Christian should believe concerning Christ, the Theotokos and the Holy Trinity. One such heresy took hold in the 7th century: Monothelism. Briefly put, Monothelites said Christ had only one nature and therefore, only one will, refusing to accept the Church's position that our Lord was both HUMAN AND DIVINE.

Among those who were loyal to the teachings of the “holy, catholic and apostolic Church” was our **HOLY FATHER MAXIMOS**, who spoke out with great conviction. This blessed Abbot boldly “confessed” his belief in the two natures and wills of Christ, even when many Church leaders were being swayed by the Monothelites. Even the Emperor and Patriarch were wavering in their beliefs!

Maximos suffered greatly for his strong desire to preserve what the early councils of the Church had proclaimed to be true. He was imprisoned, tortured, and finally exiled from his homeland. He died in 662 A.D., some twenty years before the Sixth Ecumenical Council formally condemned the Monothelites, putting to rest this unfortunate heresy. For his noble efforts, Maximos will forever be remembered by the Church.

31st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 6. New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia. Hieromartyr Clement, Bishop of Ancyra, and Martyr Agathangelus (312). Ven. Gennádii of Kostromá (1565). Translation of the relics of St. Theóctist, Archbishop of Novgorod (1786). Ven. Mausimas the Syrian (4th c.). Ven. Salamanēs the Silent of the Euphrates (ca. 400). St. Paulinus the Merciful, Bishop of Nola (431). Commemoration of the Sixth Ecumenical Council (680-681).

1 Timothy 1:15-17 (Epistle)

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.

However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Luke 18:35-43 (Gospel)

Then it happened, as He was coming near Jericho, that a certain blind man sat by the road begging.

And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant.

So, they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by.

And he cried out, saying, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

So, Jesus stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him saying, "What do you want Me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, that I may receive my sight."

Then Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well."

And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

Fathers of the Sixth Ecumenical Council

The Sixth Ecumenical Council was convened by the emperor Constantine Pogonatos (668-685) at Constantinople in the year 681 to combat the Monothelite heresy. At it 171 holy Fathers were present, who affirmed the doctrine of two wills in Jesus Christ, the divine and the human.

This Council was followed by another Council in the year 691, called the Council in Trullo. This Council addressed certain practical matters, and 102 canons were promulgated.

New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia

Troparion — Tone 4

Today the Church of Russia joyfully forms a chorus, / praising her New Martyrs and Confessors; / hierarchs and priests, royal passion-bearers, right-believing princes and princesses, / venerable men and women, and all Orthodox Christians. / Having laid down their life for faith in Christ during the days of godless persecution, / they preserved the truth by the shedding of blood. / By their protection, O long-suffering Lord, / preserve our land in Orthodoxy until the end of the age.

Kontakion — Tone 3

Today the New Martyrs of Russia stand in white robes before the Lamb of God, / and with the angels they sing to God the hymn of victory: / "Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and praise, and honor, / and power, and strength be to our God / unto the ages of ages. Amen."

On the Sunday closest to January 25, the Church commemorates the Synaxis of the Holy New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia, remembering all those Orthodox Christians who suffered for Christ at the hands of the godless Soviets during the years of persecution. These include the royal Passion Bearers Tsar Nicholas II and his family, and the Grand Duchess Elizabeth. Countless thousands of martyrs, both clergy and laity also suffered, some of whose names are known, as well as millions of simple believers whose names have been lost to history.

It is estimated that the number of the New Martyrs of Russia, who were glorified by the Russian Orthodox Church at the Jubilee Council of 2000, far exceeds that of all the martyrs who died for Christ during the first three centuries of Christianity. The Russian Church lost millions of its sons and daughters, not only at the hands of external enemies, but also those of their own country. Among those who were murdered and tortured in the years of persecution were countless Orthodox: laity, monks, priests, and bishops, whose only "crime" was their unshakable faith in God.

In the long history of the world, never have so many new heavenly intercessors been glorified by the Church in such a way (more than one thousand New Martyrs were numbered among the saints). Among those who suffered for their faith were some who labored in America before the Russian Revolution: St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia (April 7); St. Alexander Hotovitzky (Dec. 4); St. John Kochurov (Oct. 31).