

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

Sunday, July 10, 2022

Retired Attached: V. Rev Paul Ropitsky

Choir Director: Wash King

4th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Glory Be To Jesus Christ!

Glory Be Forever!

Services:

Sunday, July 10 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship-Coffee Hour
Saturday, July 16 5:00 PM – Great Vespers and Confessions
Sunday, July 17 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship-Coffee Hour
Saturday, July 23 5:00 PM – Great Vespers and Confessions
Sunday, July 24 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy followed by **Parastas** and Church Picnic

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 Church Hall for Coffee Hour. If you do not have a home church, we invite you to become a part of our Church Family.*

Please Note: *Only those Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared themselves may approach the Chalice and receive Holy Communion.*

Prayer List:

Matushka Lisa Weremedic
Andrew Balliet, Michael Birosik, Clark Andrew Bogosh, Theodore Bogosh, Emmalyn Naomi Buchanan, Evanna Jane Buchanan, Stephanie Chmel, Irene Davis, Ilene Devine, Julia Forte, Karen Harkins, Nancy King, Russell King, Michael Kulick, John & Olga Kushnir, Mary Maholick, Anna Marie Mantey, Mildred O'Shura, Melissa Schmitt, Althea Shellock, Olga Sidoriak, Mary Simone, Martha Stafiniak, Martha Teno, Michael Teno, Nancy Vanno, 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 at 570-645-2772 anytime (day or night) in an emergency.

Candles (July 10)

Flowers on Tetrapod – In memory of **Mother, Mary Harahuess** offered by daughter, Sharon Lewis

7-Day Vigils/Altar... For the Health of **Gloria Bench** offered by Millie O'Shura

Altar Candles... In memory **Alexis Gancasz** offered by John & Jeanne Cannon

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

Vigil Crosses... In memory of **Catherine Hedes** offered by Mike & Joann Taras

7-Day Vigils/Tetrapod... In memory of **Andrew Harahuess** offered by son, Gary Harahuess

Decorated Candles/Tetrapod- In memory of **wife, Mary Harahuess** offered by Gary Harahuess

Thank you for your concern, prayers and get-well cards.

Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. Julia Forte

July Birthdays:

2-Mary Taylor, 11- Geri Vavra, 15- Sami Vavra, 17- Althea Shellock, 20- John Evetushick,

22- Michael Ropitsky, 28- Christopher Kalavritinos

July Anniversaries:

9- David & Chris King, 16- Joseph & Dorothy Macenka (66 yrs)

Financials 6/26/22:

Operating Acct: Candles 40 - Altar Candles 30 - Offerings 1,100 - Non-Envelope 15

Holy Days 25 - Donations 65 = Total \$1,275.00.

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

Fellowship Hour Hosts:

July 3 John Evetushick July 17 Helen King

July 10 Helen King July 24 Church Picnic

There is a sign-up sheet for **Coffee Hour** in the vestibule if you would like to host.

Next Event: Church Picnic – on July 24 following Divine Liturgy

Please take the time for fellowship, good food, and fun. A sign-up sheet is on the candlestand in the back of the church. A headcount is needed in order to prepare enough food. If you and your guests cannot stay, take-outs will be available.

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

BRINGER OF LIGHT

Slavic soil was largely pagan until the ninth century, when the light of Christianity pierced through the blackness. One of the most instrumental people in this conversion was PRINCESS OLGA.

As an important principality in the 9th century, Kiev had contact and trade with the religious hub of Constantinople. Slowly, Christianity began to filter in among the Slavs. Olga began to learn about Christian values and was met with love and solemnity. During a state visit to Constantinople in 957, she made the move that would have a profound influence on not only her but also her people. Recognizing the truth of Christianity, she decided to be baptized and embrace the Faith.

Olga began her missionary work upon her return to Kiev. She lived for approximately 12 years after her conversion, but accomplished a life-time of work for the Gospel. She is said to have built churches, baptized people, and organized a women's community. For all her labors for Christ, the Church has bestowed upon her the name "Equal-to-the-Apostles." She died in the year 969, at the age of 90.

Of vital importance is the influence St. Olga had on her grandson, Prince Vladimir. Tradition tells of Vladimir's search for the true religion for his people. Those who argued for the Orthodox Church told the prince: "If the religion of the Greeks had not been good, your grandmother Olga, who was the wisest of women, would not have embraced it." The weight of the name of Olga overcame whatever doubts that remained in the mind of Prince Vladimir.

Olga acts as a prime example for Christians today. We all have an opportunity to render our service to Christ. God grant that people will be found today to carry on this wonderful tradition of apostolic labor for the Church.

4th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 3

Ven. Anthony of the Kiev Caves, Founder of Monasticism in Russia. Holy 45 Martyrs at Nicopolis in Armenia, including Leontius, Maurice, Daniel, Anthony, Alexander, Sisinius, Meneus, and Belerad.

Troparion — Tone 4 - Having departed from worldly tumults, / in leaving the world you followed Christ according to the Gospel. / You reached the quiet refuge of the Holy Mount Athos, / living there a life equal to the angels. / Therefore, with the blessing of the Fathers, / you came to the Kievan hills. / There having fulfilled a life loving of labors, / you illumined your homeland. / And having shown a multitude of monastics / the pathway leading to the heavenly kingdom, / you led them to Christ. / Beseech him, O Venerable Anthony, / that he may save our souls!

Kontakion — Tone 8 - From your youth you gave yourself to God whom you loved above all, O Venerable One; / and in love you followed after him with your whole soul. / Scorning the passing corruption of the world, you made a cave in the earth; / and in it you struggled nobly facing the snares of the invisible enemy, / while illumining the ends of the earth like a bright, shining sun. / Therefore, with rejoicing you entered into the heavenly chambers. / Standing now before the throne of the Master together with the angels, / remember us who honor your holy memory, / that we may cry out to you: Rejoice, Anthony our Holy Father!

Romans 6:18-23 (Epistle)

And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.

For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.

What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death.

But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Galatians 5:22-6:2 (Epistle, Saint)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Matthew 8:5-13 (Gospel)

Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him."

The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel! And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.

But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour.

Venerable Anthony of the Kiev Far Caves, Founder of Monasticism in Russia

Saint Anthony of the Kiev Caves was born in the year 983 at Liubech, not far from Chernigov, and was named Antipas in Baptism. Possessing the fear of God from his youth, he desired to be clothed in the monastic schema. When he reached a mature age, he wandered until he arrived on Mt. Athos, burning with the desire to emulate the deeds of its holy inhabitants. Here he received monastic tonsure, and the young monk pleased God in every aspect of his spiritual struggles on the path of virtue. He particularly excelled in humility and obedience, so that all the monks rejoiced to see his holy life.

The igumen saw in Saint Anthony the great future ascetic, and inspired by God, he sent him back to his native land, saying, "Anthony, it is time for you to guide others in holiness. Return to your own Russian land, and be an example for others. May the blessing of the Holy Mountain be with you."

Returning to the land of Rus, Anthony began to make the rounds of the monasteries about Kiev, but nowhere did he find that strict life which had drawn him to Mt. Athos.

Through the Providence of God, Anthony came to the hills of Kiev by the banks of the River Dnieper. The forested area near the village of Berestovo reminded him of his beloved Athos. There he found a cave which had been dug out by the Priest Hilarion, who later became Metropolitan of Kiev (October 21). Since he liked the spot, Anthony prayed with tears, "Lord, let the blessing of Mt. Athos be upon this spot, and strengthen me to remain here." He began to struggle in prayer, fasting, vigil and physical labor. Every other day, or every third day, he would eat only dry bread and a little water. Sometimes he did not eat for a week. People began to come to the ascetic for his blessing and counsel, and some decided to remain with the saint.

Among Anthony's first disciples was Saint Nikon (March 23), who tonsured Saint Theodosius of the Caves (May 3) at the monastery in the year 1032.

The virtuous life of Saint Anthony illumined the Russian land with the beauty of monasticism. Saint Anthony lovingly received those who yearned for the monastic life. After instructing them how to follow Christ, he asked Saint Nikon to tonsure them. When twelve disciples had gathered about Saint Anthony, the brethren dug a large cave and built a church and cells for the monks within it.

After he appointed Abbot Barlaam to guide the brethren, Saint Anthony withdrew from the monastery. He dug a new cave for himself, then hid himself within it. There too, monks began to settle around him. Afterwards, the saint built a small wooden church in honor of the Dormition of the Mother of God over the Far Caves.

At the insistence of Prince Izyaslav, the igumen Barlaam withdrew to the Dimitriev monastery. With the blessing of Saint Anthony and with the general agreement of the brethren, the meek and humble Theodosius was chosen as igumen. By this time, the number of brethren had already reached a hundred men. The Kiev Great Prince Izyaslav (+ 1078) gave the monks the hill on which the large church and cells were built, with a palisade all around. Thus, the renowned monastery over the caves was established. Describing this, the chronicler remarks that while many monasteries were built by emperors and nobles, they could not compare with those which are built with holy prayers and tears, and by fasting and vigil. Although Saint Anthony had no gold, he built a monastery which became the first spiritual center of Rus.

For his holiness of life, God glorified Saint Anthony with the gift of clairvoyance and wonderworking. One example of this occurred during the construction of the Great Caves church. The Most Holy Theotokos Herself stood before him and Saint Theodosius in the Blachernae church in Constantinople, where they had been miraculously transported without leaving their own monastery. Actually, two angels appeared in Constantinople in their forms (See May 3, the account of the Kiev Caves Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos). Having received gold from the Mother of God, the saints commissioned master architects, who came from Constantinople to the Russian land on the command of the Queen of Heaven to build the church at the Monastery of the Caves. During this appearance, the Mother of God foretold the impending death of Saint Anthony, which occurred on July 10, 1073.

Through Divine Providence, the relics of Saint Anthony remain hidden.