



# St. Mary's Orthodox Church

217 First Street – Coaldale Pa 18218-1602

Phone.....570-645-2772

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

**Rector: V. Rev. James Weremedic**

Retired Attached: V. Rev Paul Ropitsky

Choir Director: Wash King

Readers: **3<sup>rd</sup> Hour:** 3/15 James Blair– 3/22 Matushka Lisa

**Epistle:** 3/15 Sbdn James– 3/15 John Evetushick

**Sunday, March 15, 2020**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

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Epistle – Hebrews 1:10-2:3; 7:26-8:2

Gospel – Mark 2:1-12; John 10:9-16

## *Glory Be To Jesus Christ!*

Sun...Mar 15...9:30 AM

Sun...Mar 15...4:00 PM

Wed...Mar 18...3:30 PM

Wed...Mar 18...5:00 PM

Fri...Mar 20...5:00 PM

Sat...Mar 21...9:30 AM

Sat...Mar 21...5:00 PM

Sun...Mar 22...9:30 AM

Sun...Mar 22...4:00 PM

## *Glory Be Forever!*

Divine Liturgy – Followed by Coffee Hour

Lenten Mission Vespers at St. Michael's in Mt. Carmel

Book Study – in Church Hall

Akathist to the Most Holy Theotokos

Akathist to Jesus Christ, Our Savior

Memorial Saturday – Parastas only

Great Vespers / Confessions

Divine Liturgy – Followed by Coffee Hour

Lenten Mission Vespers at Christ the Saviour in Harrisburg

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**WELCOME to all our visitors! So glad you came to pray with us. Please come again; join us after services 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 sign the guest book in the Vestibule ..... To Receive Holy Communion: Only those Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared themselves – Sacrament of Confession (7 years and older) within the last 2 months, prayer, being in church on time, attending Divine Liturgy regularly, and fasting (no food or drink from midnight to Divine Liturgy) may approach the Chalice and receive Holy Communion. If you are new, just visiting, or have any questions, please introduce yourself to Father James Weremedic.**

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**7-Day Vigils/Altar ... For the health of Terri Bogosh offered by Uncle Ted Bogosh**

**Altar Candles... In memory of Simon Stafiniak offered by wife, Martha Stafiniak**

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

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

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

**Decorated Candles/Tetrapod... In memory of Simon Stafiniak offered by Children & Grandchildren**

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**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, James Blair, Terry Blair, Clark Bogosh, Theodore Bogosh, Jane Bubernak, Cecil Buchanan, Stephanie Chmel, Edward Conarty, Irene David, Ilene Devine, Gloria Ferri, Julia Forte, Olga Hebda, John King, Claire Kononchuk, Michael Kulick, John Kushnir, Helen Macenka, 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, 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

*I would like to thank my church family for all the love, prayers and continued support shone during my rehabilitation. It is of great comfort to know how much each of you truly care.*

**With Love and Peace, Odess Remington**

## COMING EVENTS

**Sun. March 22, 2020 – Fish Dinner – Call Helen King 570-645-9484**

**Tickets \$10.00**

**Wed. April 22, 2020 – 7:00 PM Church Council Business Meeting**

**Sun. May 17, 2020 – Chinese Auction – Give donations to Helen King**

**Sat. May 30, 2020 – Yard Sale in Church Basement**

**Parastas Schedule: 3/29; 4/26; 5/17; 6/28**

**Financials 3/2-8/20 Operating Acct:** -Dues 560 – Candles 181 – Weekly 578.25 – Non-Env 181 – Holy Days 28 – Altar Candles 220 – Initial Offering 0 – Donations 50 = Total **\$1,798.25**

**Building Fund 15- ...Charity Donation 0- ...Furnace Fund 20- ...Cemetery 0...Flowers 50 ... Thank you.**

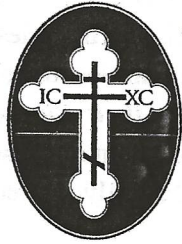
**March Birthdays:** 1- Logan Leatherman, 6- Marie Kalavritinos, 16- Anthony Vavra, 21- Mildred O'Shura, 24- Neil Skripnek, Tracy Skripnek, Zachary King, Olga Sidoriak, 29-Sandra Zuber **March Wedding Anniversaries:** None

**Coffee Hour: Please join us in the Parish Hall following Divine Liturgy, every Sunday, for a time of fellowship and refreshments.**

**Mar. 15 – John Evetushick, Roz Harkins, Nancy King Winner: Roz Harkins**

**Mar. 22 – Fish Dinner Mar. 29 – Barbara Teno, Marie Yurchak**





THE DIOCESE OF THE SOUTH  
Orthodox Church in America

P.O. Box 191109  
Dallas, TX 75219

10 March 2020  
The Second Week of Great Lent

Dear in Christ,

As we enter the second week of the Great Fast, it is my sincere hope that this season of prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and worship will be a profitable time of focus on that “one thing needful,” so that we may encounter Christ on the Holy Pascha with a renewed hope in His resurrection!

While our focus is foremost on this holy season of Lent, none of us can escape the news surrounding the emerging COVID-19 epidemic.

While hysteria is unwarranted, there is indeed just cause for concern. The significant measures that some geographical hot-spots of COVID-19 are implementing, such as canceling crowded events and implementing work-from-home standards, are not simply driven by panic, but by a desire to contain and prevent what could, as authorities have noted, lead to millions of unnecessary deaths.

These precautionary measures serve a two-fold purpose – to prevent individual infections and to avoid the unnecessary propagation of a potential pandemic. The latter addresses something less concrete, but perhaps more important. While one’s “odds” of becoming very ill or dying from COVID-19 might be minimal on a personal level, a cavalier approach to disease prevention and control could lead to great suffering and even death worldwide. If we could help prevent such a scenario, why would we not? To exercise appropriate caution here demonstrates our “love of neighbor” in a significant way.

What does this mean for us in the Diocese of the South, especially during this season of increased focus on gathering in worship?

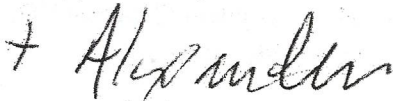
I offer the following guidelines as a starting point for each community in our diocese during this season of heightened concern:

- It is an article of faith that the Holy Eucharist is received for the “healing of soul and body,” therefore nothing should change in regards to its reception.
- A common sense, and perhaps more aggressive, approach should be employed to cleanse parish facilities and objects with which parishioners come into regular contact throughout the week. I leave it to each rector or priest-in-charge to work with their parish councils to devise an approach that works best.

- There is every reason to believe that this virus *can* be transmitted by regular, human-to-human contact such as a fraternal greeting, veneration of holy objects, kissing the priest's hand and partaking in a shared "zapifka" cup. Therefore, I encourage communities to modify their practices *as appropriate based on news related to the spread of the virus in their cities and towns*. If a state or municipality in our diocese is on heightened alert because of an increase in the number of recorded cases of the virus, it is imperative that we take note and swiftly implement measures to inhibit the spread of the virus.
- If a situation is deemed "critical" by the CDC or other health authority in a state or municipality in our diocese, it might be necessary to temporarily adjust service schedules – diocesan leadership should be consulted in such cases (beginning with your dean).
- During this period of heightened awareness, parishioners who exhibit symptoms of the virus such as a fever, cough or shortness of breath should seek medical attention (*please, beloved, err on the side of caution*), and remain home until these symptoms have been treated and subside.
- During this period of heightened awareness, clergy who exhibit symptoms of the virus should make arrangements for a supply priest or (in cases of necessity) arrange for lay-led services.
- Recognize there are many in our parishes and missions (and indeed in our neighborhoods and among our friends) who may be impacted in tangible ways even if not sickened by the virus. Work disruption and the resulting loss of income, isolation at home due to any quarantine that might come, and/or simply the general anxiety many are feeling can have significant impact, particularly among single people and the elderly. I ask that clergy and faithful be particularly mindful of these impacts (*viz.* James 2.14-16), and to act concretely to render aid.

Finally, I commend each of you to act rationally in every scenario. This is not a season of trial in which to test one's piety through unreasonable faith, but to focus on the greater good of our neighbors, acting with a heightened awareness that our behaviors might impact others. Please work through your dean and diocesan leadership to address any particular concerns not covered here, and I will let you know if there are further directives.

Wishing you strength for the fast, I am  
Yours, in Christ,



+ALEXANDER  
Bishop of Dallas and the South

