

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, November 1, 2020
21th Sunday after Pentecost
6th Sunday of Luke

Glory Be To Jesus Christ!

Glory Be Forever!

Liturgical Services continue, 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 continue with these conditions!

Sun...November 1...9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in church hall

Sat...November 7...4:00 PM – Vespers – in **church hall basement** – must wear a mask

Sun...November 8...9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy (Archangel Michael) followed by Coffee Hour in church hall

Nominations for potential Church Council Members ends

Sat...November 14...4:00 PM – Vespers – in **church hall basement** – must wear a mask

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.

Archbishop David, 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, Julia Forte, Olga Hebda, Peter Holoviak, John King, Claire Kononchuk, Michael Kulick, John Kushnir, MaryAnn Macenka, Mary Maholick, Alexandra Miller, Britney Miller, Courtney Miller, Isaac Miller, Mildred O'Shura, Anna Pisko, Melissa Schmitt, Althea Shellock, Helen Suda, Martha Stafiniak, Martha Teno, Michael Teno, Nancy Vanno, Elizabeth Warcholak, Russell Wishousky, Russell Yallas, & Richard York.

November Birthdays: 1-Nicholas Teno, Jr., 2- Justin Babinetz, 4-Lena Marie Berezniak, 11-Nancy King, 17-Irene Puschak, 17-Victoria Weremedic, 26- Helen King, 26- Barbara Birosik, 27- Chris King, 27- Walter Rosahac, 29- Matushka Lovey Ropitsky

November Wedding Anniversaries: 13- Walter & Louise Rosahac

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 10/25/20: *Operating Acct:* - Candles 45 – Offerings 652.12 – Non-Env 65 – Holy Days 0 – Altar Candles 20 – Donations 0 = Total \$782.12 Building Fund 21 – Cemetery 25 – Charity 20 – Please continue to keep filling your church envelopes. – 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

Nominations for council members will end on November 8. See Father James, Matushka Lisa, or Claire Remington if you are interested in being on council.

Candles (November 1):

7-Day Vigils/Altar... In memory of **Filomena Hankey** offered by Olga Hebda

Altar Candles... In memory of **Elaine (Harahus) Rottet** offered by Joseph & Dorothy Macenka

Eternal Lamp... In memory of **Sister, Helen Manfredonia** offered by Julia Forte

Vigil Crosses ... In memory of **John Bluvas** offered by Joseph & Dorothy Macenka

7-Day Vigils/Tetrapod... In memory of **Gloria Ferri** offered by Ted Bogosh

Decorated Candles/Tetrapod-In memory of **Parents, Nestor & Harriet Scarloss** offered by
Stephanie Chmel

We express our deepest sympathy to the Family and Friends of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Theodosius, who fell asleep in the Lord on 10/19/2020 Memory Eternal!

For replays of services go to St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church, Canonsburg, PA – You Tube

Panikhida Service – October 21; Funeral Service – October 22; Burial Liturgy – October 23; About 20 minutes of pictures of his life precede the services.

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 8:00 PM

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

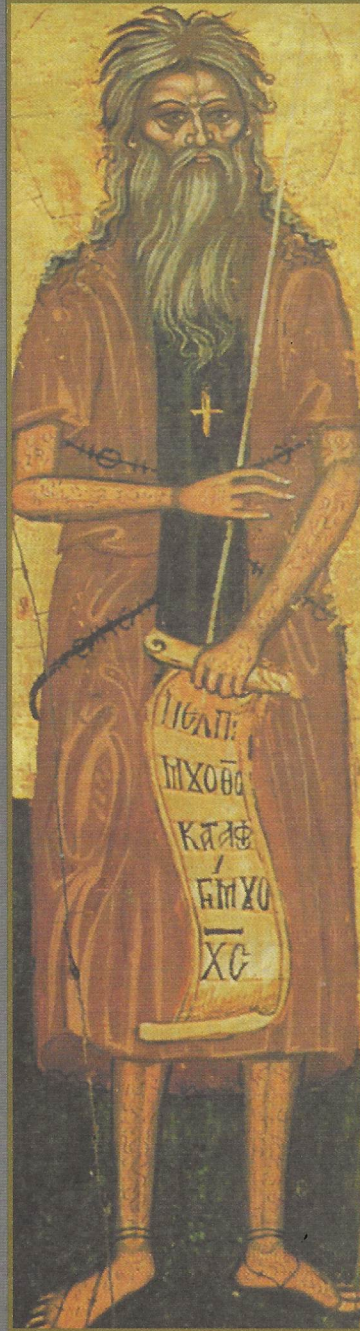
ST. JOANNICUS THE GREAT

Joannicus was born in 765 in Bithynia, Asia Minor. His parents were poor and early in life the boy became a lonely shepherd.

During the reign of Emperor Leo, Joannicus became a soldier. He was big and strong, and no doubt was sought after for the army. He fell into the heresy of the "iconoclasts" who sought to destroy the use of icons and images in the Church.

But when Constantine and Irene came into power, he returned to Orthodoxy, repenting of his sins. He now felt more devoted to God. He began a penitential course of fasting and praying. However, he did not leave the army for another six years.

After he distinguished himself during a campaign against the Bulgarians, he laid down his arms for good, left the vanities of the world, and entered a monastery. Later Joannicus retired to the side of Mt. Olympus, where he spent several years exposed to the cold of winter and the heat of summer, without a shelter. Then he entered a cave, and lived in it for



many years, partaking only of bread and water, as part of his penitential discipline.

After another twelve years of his life, Joannicus entered the monastery of Eristae, and took the monastic habit. He was blessed with the gift of prophecy, and many miracles are related of him. His prudence and moderation were of great value in guiding Methodios, the Patriarch of Constantinople, in dealing with the iconoclasts. The holy monk advised the patriarch to treat the iconoclastic clergy as erring brothers, and not to reject those who returned to Orthodoxy.

In 846 Patriarch Methodios, hearing that Joannicus was dying, went to see the old monk, asking him for a final blessing and prayer. The two had a lengthy talk about the faith. Joannicus foretold that the patriarch himself would shortly follow him into eternity. After a final prayer and a farewell kiss, they separated.

Joannicus returned to his cell to prepare for his impending death. Three days later, he fell asleep in the Lord. Eight months later, Methodios died in Christ, thus fulfilling the prophetic words of the saint.

Even after he died, miracles were wrought by the saintly Joannicus. His fame and veneration spread throughout the Church. St. Joannicus is termed "the Great" for the remarkable measure of austerity and sanctity of his faith. The brilliance of his life continues to shine until today.

21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 4. Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian of Mesopotamia, and their mother, St. Theodota. Hieromartyrs John the Bishop and Jacob the Presbyter, of Persia. Martyrs Cyrenia and Juliana in Cilicia. Martyr Hermenegild the Goth of Spain. Martyrs Cæsarius, Dacius, Sabbas, Sabinian, Agrippa, Adrian, and Thomas, at Damascus. Monastic Martyrs Jacob, Jacob the Deacon, and Dionysius, of Prodrromou.

Galatians 2:16-20 (*Epistle*)

Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Luke 8:26-39 (*Gospel*)

Then they sailed to the country of the Gadarenes, which is opposite Galilee. And when He stepped out on the land, there met Him a certain man from the city who had demons for a long time. And he wore no clothes, nor did he live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out, fell down before Him, and with a loud voice said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God?

I beg You, do not torment me!" For He had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For it had often seized him, and he was kept under guard, bound with chains and shackles; and he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the wilderness. Jesus asked him, saying, "What is your name?"

And he said, "Legion," because many demons had entered him. And they begged Him that He would not command them to go out into the abyss. Now a herd of many swine was feeding there on the mountain. So they begged Him that He would permit them to enter them. And He permitted them.

Then the demons went out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the lake and drowned. When those who fed them saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. Then they went out to see what had happened, and came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. They also who had seen it told them by what means he who had been demon-possessed was healed.

Then the whole multitude of the surrounding region of the Gadarenes asked Him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. And He got into the boat and returned. Now the man from whom the demons had departed begged Him that he might be with Him. But Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your own house, and tell what great things God has done for you." And he went his way and proclaimed throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.

Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian of Mesopotamia

The Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenary Physicians Cosmas and Damian and their mother Saint Theodota were natives of Asia Minor (some sources say Mesopotamia). Their pagan father died while they were still quite small children. Their mother raised them in Christian piety. Through her own example, and by reading holy books to them, Saint Theodota preserved her children in purity of life according to the command of the Lord, and Cosmas and Damian grew up into righteous and virtuous men.

Trained and skilled as physicians, they received from the Holy Spirit the gift of healing people's illnesses of body and soul by the power of prayer. They even treated animals. With fervent love for both God and neighbor, they never took payment for their services. They strictly observed the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, "Freely have you received, freely give." (Mt. 10:8). The fame of Saints Cosmas and Damian spread throughout all the surrounding region, and people called them unmercenary physicians.

Once, the saints were summoned to a grievously ill woman named Palladia, whom all the doctors had refused to treat because of her seemingly hopeless condition. Through faith and through the fervent prayer of the holy brothers, the Lord healed the deadly disease and Palladia got up from her bed perfectly healthy and giving praise to God. In gratitude for being healed and wishing to give them a small gift, Palladia went quietly to Damian. She presented him with three eggs and said, "Take this small gift in the Name of the Holy Life-Creating Trinity, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit." Hearing the Name of the Holy Trinity, the unmercenary one did not dare to refuse.

When Saint Cosmas learned what had happened, became very sad, for he thought that his brother had broken their strict vow. On his deathbed he gave instructions that his brother should not be buried beside him. Saint Damian also died shortly afterward, and everyone wondered where Saint Damian's grave should be. But through the will of God a miracle occurred. A camel, which the saints had treated for its wildness, spoke with a human voice saying that they should have no doubts about whether to place Damian beside Cosmas, because Damian did not accept the eggs from the woman as payment, but out of respect for the Name of God. The venerable relics of the holy brothers were buried together at Thereman (Mesopotamia).

Many miracles were worked after the death of the holy unmercenaries. There lived at Thereman, near the church of Cosmas and Damian, a certain man by the name of Malchus. One day he went on a journey, leaving his wife all alone for what would be a long time. He prayerfully entrusted her to the heavenly protection of the holy brothers. But the Enemy of the race of mankind took on the appearance of one of Malchus' friends, and planned to kill the woman. A certain time went by, and this man went to her at home and said that Malchus had sent him to bring her to him. The woman believed him and went along. He led her to a solitary place intending to kill her. The woman, seeing that disaster threatened her, called upon God with deep faith.

Two fiercesome men then appeared, and the devil let go of the woman and fled, falling off a cliff. The two men led the woman home. At her own home, bowing to them deeply she asked, "My rescuers, to whom I shall be grateful to the end of my days, what are your names?"

They replied, "We are the servants of Christ, Cosmas and Damian," and became invisible. The woman with trembling and with joy told everyone about what had happened to her. Glorifying God, she went up to the icon of the holy brothers and tearfully offered prayers of thanksgiving for her deliverance. And from that time the holy brothers were venerated as protectors of the holiness and inviolability of Christian marriage, and as givers of harmony to conjugal life. From ancient times, their veneration spread also to Russia.

The Unmercenary Saints Cosmas and Damian of Asia Minor should not be confused with the Unmercenary Saints Cosmas and Damian of Rome (July 1), or the Unmercenary Saints Cosmas and Damian of Arabia (October 17).