

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 29, 2020

25th Sunday after Pentecost

Martyr Paramon and 370 Martyrs in Bithynia

Glory Be To Jesus Christ!

Glory Be Forever!

Liturgical Services are cancelled for November 28 and 29, 2020.

**We hope to have liturgical services resume in December and to have
our Annual Parish Meeting on December 6 in Church Hall.**

FISH DINNER IS CANCELLED!

Sat...**December 5...4:00 PM** – tentative – Vespers in **church hall basement** – must wear a mask

Sun...**December 6...9:30 AM** – Divine Liturgy followed by Parastas and **Annual Parish Meeting**

Parastas: In memory of **Wasil Horvath & Wash Yurchak** offered by Helen & George Yurchak

In memory of **Fannie & Michael Yurchak** offered by Helen & George Yurchak

In memory of **Kathryn & Stephan, & Justine Yurchak** offered by Helen & George Yurchak

In memory of **Justine & Kathryn Yurchak** offered by Attorney Robert Yurchak

In memory of **Marlene Cox** offered by Helen & George Yurchak

In memory of **Janet Jupin** offered by the Jupin Family

In memory of **Sophie Herbert** offered by the Herbert Family

In memory of **John O'Shura** offered by the Herbert Family

In memory of **John Fedora** offered by Barbara Faenza & Family

In memory of **Benjamin & Olga Macalush** offered by the Herbert Family

In memory of **Nicholas Teno** offered by Martha Teno

In memory of **Kathryn Puschak** offered by Kate Puschak

Sat... **December 12...4:00 PM** – tentative - Vespers in **church hall basement** – must wear a mask

Sun...**December 13...9:30 AM** – Divine Liturgy – **NO COFFEE HOUR**

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, Andrew Balliet, Michael Birosik, Clark Bogosh, Theodore Bogosh, Jane Bubernak, Cecil Buchanan, Emmalyn Naomi Buchanan, Evanna Jane Buchanan, Stephanie Chmel, Edward Conarty, Irene Davis, 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, Margaret Miller, Mildred O'Shura, Anna Pisko, Melissa Schmitt, Althea Shellock, Eleanor Sidoriak, Helen Suda, Martha Stafiniak, Joseph Tosca, 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. **December Birthdays:** 3- Richard York, 9- Odess Remington, 11- Stephanie Chmel (100)

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 11/16-22/20: *Operating Acct:* Offerings 642 – Holy Days 23 – Altar Candles 520 – Donations 600 = Total \$1,785.00 ; Poinsettias 40 – Please continue to keep filling your church envelopes. – Thank you!

Candles (November 29):

7-Day Vigils/Altar... For the health of **Matushka Lovey Ropitsky** offered by Ted Bogosh

Altar Candles... For the health of **Matushka Lisa Weremedic** offered by Ted Bogosh

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 **Father, Nestor Scarloss** offered by Stephanie Chmel

Decorated Candles/Tetrapod...In memory of **Kay & Paul Maliniak** offered by a Friend

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



THE PROPER WINDOW



Analogies can be defined as “resemblances that imply further similarity.” They are often useful to demonstrate to an audience a greater truth. Today we begin by examining three different kinds of “WINDOWS” and how they relate to our perspective on Life. Each type of window casts a bias on how things are seen through it. Let us delve into these types of windows and the effects they have on our lives.

The first is a **DIRTY** window. This is the scenario where everything is seen as negative. It may pertain to someone you know or possibly yourself. Life is gloomy and everything is wrong. Although there is sin and imperfection in our lives, we must strive to search for the goodness around us.

The next example is a **ROSE-COLORED** window. Everything is always positive. Life is wonderful and nothing is wrong, but is this totally accurate? This filter removes the unwanted glare, but perhaps to a fault. Although a happy attitude is necessary, we cannot let it “cloud” our vision. We do need to be able to recognize our faults and set out to fix them.

The last is a **CLEAR** window. This is the one we all should work towards obtaining. It is seeing the world as God intends. It is realistic and sometimes brutally honest. We strive to acknowledge our sins and wrongdoings and work to do better. Our goal is to purify both our hearts and our souls.

Even though the analogy may not be perfect, hopefully we can see how our **PERSPECTIVE** is important. With **GOD’S** help, let us try to look through the proper window, so we can be filled with His Light.



The 57th Diocesan Assembly will be held on Friday, January 29, 2021 online via Zoom as we cannot really plan an in-person meeting with any certainty. All our active clergy, delegates and department chairs are required to attend this Assembly.

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

Statement of His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon on Surge of COVID-19 Cases

November 23, 2020

To the Venerable Clergy, Monastics, and Faithful of the Orthodox Church in America,
As you know, most parts of the world are currently experiencing a surge in COVID-19 cases. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in the United States alone, there were over 184,000 cases and around 1,500 deaths reported on Sunday, November 22, 2020.

My prayers and those of the members of the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America are offered for all those who have suffered and continue to suffer because of this virus, especially our Orthodox Christian brothers and sisters. Together with the Holy Synod, I also offer fervent prayers for the medical professionals who care for those who are ill with COVID-19.

The national and local authorities across North America are encouraging a greater level of caution while adopting a series of measures in the attempt of limiting the spread of the virus. After many months marked by the present pandemic, and which have tested us in unprecedented ways, this surge comes right before one of the most beloved civil holidays in America, Thanksgiving. Thus, observing these important measures requires an even greater spirit of self-sacrifice on our part. While celebrating Thanksgiving this year, we will celebrate with care and caution, born out of love. For it is not solely for our own health, but out of love for our neighbor, that we must do everything we can to protect one another by limiting the spread of this virus not only in our parishes, but in the greater community.

I want to encourage all members of the faithful to celebrate Thanksgiving, but with all prudence, caution, and love for our neighbor. Further, I take this moment to reiterate the following to all the parishes, monasteries, institutions, and the faithful of the Orthodox Church in America: hold fast to the directives and guidelines put forward by the Holy Synod for the whole Church, and your diocesan bishop in particular for your specific local situation. Remain vigilant in precautions against COVID-19, and continue to practice good hygiene, maintain social distancing, wear masks, and follow carefully the other important measures and practices directed by the diocesan bishops and the public health authorities. Of primary importance is to be particularly attentive to potential symptoms, and refraining from leaving our house if we are in any way sick.

At the same time, I want to encourage all of you not to be fearful but rather to be strengthened and comforted by this blessed season in which we prepare for the Nativity of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ. I assure you, no steps we take this year to guard against the spread of the coronavirus will prevent us from giving thanks to God for all that he has given us. In anticipation of the coming of the True Light, Jesus Christ, the great Physician and Healer of our souls and bodies, we cling to those words of the Psalmist, "I will love Thee, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my firm foundation, my refuge, and my deliverer (Ps 18.1-2)."

May our Lord Jesus Christ, who is blessed eternally with the Heavenly Father, and the Holy Spirit preserve us in these days and grant us health and his peace.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+TIKHON

Archbishop of Washington

Metropolitan of All America and Canada

25th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 8. Martyr Paramon and 370 Martyrs in Bithynia. Martyr Philumenus of Ancyra, and with him Martyrs Valerian and Phædrus. Ven. Acacius of Sinai, who is mentioned in *The Ladder*. Ven. Nectarius the Obedient, of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves). Hieromartyr Abibus (Avíva), Bishop of Nekresi in Georgia.

Martyr Paramon and 370 Martyrs in Bithynia

Commemorated on November 29

The Holy Martyr Paramon and the 370 Martyrs with him suffered for their faith in Christ in the year 250 during the rule of the emperor Decius (249-251). The governor of the Eastern regions, Aquianus, had locked up 370 Christians in prison, urging them to abjure Christ and instead offer sacrifice to idols. They subjected the captives to beatings, hoping by torture and the threat of death to persuade them to renounce Christ and worship the pagan gods. One of the local inhabitants, Paramon by name, openly denounced the cruel governor and confessed his faith in the One True God, the Lord Jesus Christ. They beheaded Saint Paramon after fierce tortures, together with the other 370 martyrs.

Martyr Philoumenus of Ancyra

Commemorated on November 29

The Holy Martyr Philoumenus suffered for Christ in the year 274, during the persecution against Christians by the emperor Aurelian (270-275). Saint Philoumenus was a bread merchant in Ancyra. Envious persons reported to the governor Felix that Philoumenus was a Christian, and so he came before a judge. Saint Philoumenus did not renounce Christ. For this they hammered nails into his hands, feet and head, and they forced him to walk. The holy martyr bravely endured the torments and he died from loss of blood, giving up his soul to God.

Venerable Acacius of Sinai, who is mentioned in the Ladder

Commemorated on November 29

Saint Acacius of Sinai lived during the sixth century and was a novice at a certain monastery in Asia. The humble monk distinguished himself by his patient and unquestioning obedience to his Elder, a harsh and dissolute man. He forced his disciple to toil excessively, starved him with hunger, and beat him without mercy. Despite such treatment, Saint Acacius meekly endured the affliction and thanked God for everything. Saint Acacius died after suffering these torments for nine years. Five days after Acacius was buried, his Elder told another Elder about the death of his disciple. The second Elder did not believe that the young monk was dead. They went to the grave of Acacius and the second Elder called out: "Brother Acacius, are you dead?" From the grave a voice replied, "No, Father, how is it possible for an obedient man to die?" The startled Elder of Saint Acacius fell down with tears before the grave, asking forgiveness of his disciple. After this he repented, constantly saying to the Fathers, "I have committed murder." He lived in a cell near the grave of Saint Acacius, and he ended his life in prayer and in meekness. Saint John Climacus (March 30) mentions Saint Acacius in *The*

Ladder (Step 4:110) as an example of endurance and obedience, and of the rewards for these virtues.

Venerable Nectarius the Obedient of the Kiev Near Caves

Commemorated on November 29

Saint Nectarius the Obedient of the Caves, a monk of the Kiev Caves monastery, pursued asceticism during the twelfth century. For his unquestioning obedience to the will of elder brethren and his zeal for work he was termed “the Obedient.” Saint Nectarius was buried in the Antoniev Cave. His memory is also celebrated on September 28 and the second Sunday of Great Lent.

Ephesians 4:1-6 (Epistle)

I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

Luke 13:10-17 (Gospel)

Now He was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way raise herself up. But when Jesus saw her, He called her to Him and said to her, “Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity.” And He laid His hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.

But the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath; and he said to the crowd, “There are six days on which men ought to work; therefore, come and be healed on them, and not on the Sabbath day.”

The Lord then answered him and said, “Hypocrite! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or donkey from the stall, and lead it away to water it? So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound – think of it – for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?”

And when He said these things, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the multitude rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by Him.