

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, November 6, 2022
Choir Director: Wash King

21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (7th of Luke)

Glory Be to Jesus Christ! Glory Be Forever!

Services:

Sunday, November 6- 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – **Annual Parish Meeting after Divine Liturgy**
Saturday, November 12- **4:00 PM** – Great Vespers and Confessions
Sunday, November 13- 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship Hour
Tuesday, November 15- Nativity Fast Begins
Saturday, November 19- **4:00 PM** – Great Vespers and Confessions
Sunday, November 20- 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship Hour
Sunday, November 20- **4:00 PM** – Great Vespers and Confessions
Monday, November 21- 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – Entrance of the Most Holy Theotokos

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, Danielle Bogosh, Stephanie Chmel, Irene Davis, Ilene Devine, Nadine Fegley, Julia Forte, Michael & Julia Harahus, Karen Harkins, Nancy King, Russell King, Michael Kulick, John & Olga Kushnir, Anna Marie Mantey, Mildred O'Shura, Melissa Schmitt, Althea Shellock, Olga Sidoriak, Mary Simone, Martha Stafiniak, Martha Teno, Michael Teno, Elizabeth Warcholak, Russell Wishousky, Russell Yallas, George Yurchak, & 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 (November 6)

Altar Candles... In memory of **Aunt Olga Hebda** offered by Raymond & Mary Jo Danchak

Eternal Lamp... For the Health of **Joyce Washko** offered by Julia Forte

Vigil Crosses... In memory of **Mother, Mary Lutash** offered by Raymond & Mary Jo Danchak

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

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

November Anniversaries: 13- Walter & Louise Rosahac

Financials 10/30/22: *Operating Acct:* Candles 71 Altar Candles 20 Offerings 1,218
Non-Envelope 105 Holy Days 110 = Total \$1,524.00.

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

Fellowship Hour Hosts:

November 6 John Evetushick

November 13 Lena Berezniak

November 20 Michael Tatusko

November 27 Open

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

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

Coming Event:

Thanksgiving Dinner in the Church Hall on
Thursday, November 24, 2022 after the Moleiben Service.

Sign up sheet is on the Candle Stand.

Everyone invited!!!

Please sign up so we can prepare enough food.

A WARRIOR FOR OUR LORD

The **GREAT MARTYR MENAS** was born an Egyptian and served as a soldier in the mighty Roman army. The emperors at that time issued a decree ordering that all Christians were to worship idols or face torture. The blessed Menas renounced his rank and withdrew to a life of ascetic struggles in the mountains. He felt it better to live among beasts than in the midst of people who abandoned God.

During this time, Menas studied the Bible and cleansed his soul with prayer and fasting. He desired to live out his life in peace. But after much time had passed, he was made aware of a pagan festival being held nearby. The heathen population intended to honor their vile gods with spectacles in an arena. Filled with zeal and courage, Menas entered the space and proclaimed "I am the servant of Jesus Christ, Who rules over heaven and earth!"

Menas was immediately detained and tortured. Even extreme cruelty failed to bend the will of this devout Christian. Ultimately he was beheaded and burned.

Today we as Christians face a difficult situation in giving witness to our faith in Christ. Society bids us to sacrifice before the gods of pleasure, power, self-indulgence and glamour. We need to respond to all these allurements by keeping our eyes on Jesus and our ears tuned to His words.

One may think that the world has changed so radically that none of the old beliefs and traditions are valid in our day. But this is not so. We should be careful about dumping our old traditions for all too often nothing but a void is left. As St. Paul said: "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever . . ." Let Christ be as vital to us as He was to the Great Martyr Menas.

21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Tone 4

St. Paul the Confessor, Archbishop of Constantinople (350). Ven. Varlaam, Abbot of Khutyn' (Novgorod—1192). Ven. Luke, Steward of the Kiev Caves. Repose of St. Herman, Archbishop of Kazan' (1567). Ven. Barlaam of Keret Lake (16th c.). Martyrs Tecusa, Alexandra, Claudia, Matrona, Polactia, Euphrosynē, and Athanasia, of Ancyra (3rd c.). Ven. Luke of Sicily (800-820).

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 8:41-56 (*Gospel*)

And behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue. And he fell down at Jesus' feet and begged Him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter about twelve years of age, and she was dying. But as He went, the multitudes thronged Him.

Now a woman, having a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and could not be healed by any, came from behind and touched the border of His garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped.

And Jesus said, "Who touched Me?" When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, "Master, the multitudes throng and press You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'"

But Jesus said, "Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me."

Now when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before Him, she declared to Him in the presence of all the people the reason she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately.

And He said to her, "Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace."

While He was still speaking, someone came from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying to him, "Your daughter is dead. Do not trouble the Teacher."

But when Jesus heard it, He answered him, saying, "Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well."

When He came into the house, He permitted no one to go in except Peter, James, and John, and the father and mother of the girl.

Now all wept and mourned for her; but He said, "Do not weep; she is not dead, but sleeping."

And they ridiculed Him, knowing that she was dead.

But He put them all outside, took her by the hand and called, saying, "Little girl, arise."

Then her spirit returned, and she arose immediately. And He commanded that she be given something to eat.

And her parents were astonished, but He charged them to tell no one what had happened.

Saint Paul the Confessor, Archbishop of Constantinople

Commemorated on November 6

Saint Paul the Confessor, Archbishop of Constantinople, was chosen to the patriarchal throne after the death of Patriarch Alexander (+ 340), when the Arian heresy had again flared up. Many of the Arians were present at the Council which selected the new Archbishop of Constantinople. They revolted in opposition to the choice of Saint Paul, but the Orthodox at the Council were in the majority.

The emperor Constantius, ruling over the Eastern half of the Roman Empire, was an Arian. He was not in Constantinople for the election of the Archbishop, and so it took place without his consent. Upon his return, he convened a council which illegally deposed Saint Paul, and the emperor banished him from the capital. In place of the saint they elevated Eusebius of Nicomedia, an impious heretic. Archbishop Paul withdrew to Rome, where other Orthodox bishops were also banished by Eusebius.

Eusebius did not rule the Church of Constantinople for long. When he died, Saint Paul returned to Constantinople, and was greeted by his flock with love. But Constantius exiled the saint a second time, and so he returned to Rome. The Western emperor Constans wrote a harsh letter to his Eastern co-ruler, which he sent to Constantinople along with the holy exiled archpastor. The threats worked, and Saint Paul was reinstated upon the archepiscopal throne.

But soon the pious emperor Constans, a defender of the Orthodox, was treacherously murdered during a palace coup. They again banished Saint Paul from Constantinople and this time sent him off in exile to Armenia, to the city of Cucusus, where he endured a martyr's death.

When the Archbishop was celebrating the Divine Liturgy, Arians rushed upon him by force and strangled him with his own omophorion. This occurred in the year 350. In 381, the holy Emperor Theodosius the Great solemnly transferred the relics of Saint Paul the Confessor from Cucusus to Constantinople. In 1326, the relics of Saint Paul were transferred to Venice.

Saint Athanasius the Great, a contemporary of Saint Paul, writes briefly about his exiles, "Saint Paul the first time was sent by Constantine to Pontus, the second time he was fettered with chains by Constantius, and then he was locked up in Mesopotamian Syngara and from there moved to Emesus, and the fourth time to Cappadocian Cucusus in the Taurian wilderness."

Venerable Barlaam, Abbot of Khutyn, Novgorod

Saint Barlaam of Khutyn lived in the XII century, and was the son of a noble Novgorodian and spent his childhood in Novgorod. In his youth, retiring to the Lisich Monastery near the city, Barlaam was tonsured as a monk. Then he settled on a secluded hill above Volkhov, in an area called Khutyn, 10 versts from Novgorod. In his seclusion, Saint Barlaam led an austere solitary life, occupying himself with unceasing prayer, and keeping a very strict fast. He was a zealous ascetic in his labors: cutting timber in the forest, chopping firewood, and tilling the soil, fulfilling the words of the Holy Scriptures: "If anyone does not wish to work, neither let him eat" (2 Thessalonians 3:10).

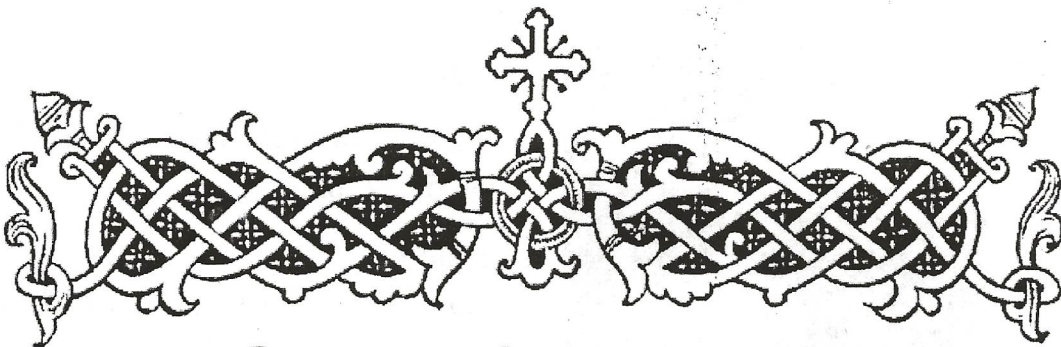
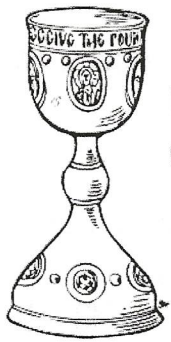
Some of the inhabitants of Novgorod gathered around him, desiring to share the Saint's works and ascetical struggles. Instructing those who came to him, Saint Barlaam said, "My children, beware of all unrighteousness, and do not give in to envy or slander, don't be jealous, do not slander anyone. Refrain from anger, and do not practice usury. Beware of unjust judgment. Do not swear an oath falsely, but rather fulfill it. Do not indulge in carnal appetites. Always be meek and endure all things with love. This virtue is the beginning and the root of all goodness."

Soon a church was built in honor of the Transfiguration of the Lord, and a Monastery was founded. The Lord granted him the gift of miracles and clairvoyance in order to serve his neighbors. As Saint Barlaam's life was drawing to a close, by God's will, Hieromonk Anthony came from Constantinople. He was the contemporary and friend of Saint Barlaam. The Saint turned to him and said, "My beloved brother, God's blessings rest upon this Monastery. Now I leave it in your hands. Watch over it and care for it. Although in the body I am leaving you, I shall always be with you in spirit."

After giving his final counsels to the brethren, commanding them to preserve the Orthodox Faith, and to abide in humility, Saint Barlaam fell asleep in the Lord on November 6, 1192.

The Church remembers Saint Barlaam three times during the year: on the day of his blessed repose (November 6), on the first Friday of the Apostles' Fast, and on the third Sunday after Pentecost (Synaxis of the Novgorod Saints).

In Slavonic practice, Saint Barlaam is commemorated during the Proskomedia along with the venerable God-bearing Fathers who have shone forth in asceticism (sixth particle).



Piety Education

Proper Preparation for Holy Communion

None of us is perfect, or ever worthy by our own righteousness, but we should make all the effort we can with the God's help!

- 1) examine oneself; as St Paul commands, before receiving—look at your sins before God, your neighbor, the Church and yourself.
- 2) Confess your sins before the Priest, in the Holy Mystery of Confession if you have sins. We must make sure our heart is free of stain before receiving Communion, so as to not receive it unworthily. We say that we should not receive Holy Communion unless we have made a recent Confession. One can interpret “recent” in many ways. The Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America prescribes that if we are receiving Holy Communion regularly we should be confessing at least once a month, or thereabouts if possible.
- 3) Forgive everyone, ask forgiveness of those whom we may have or have offended.
- 4) Pray the Pre-Communion Prayers, found in the Prayer book.
- 5) Attend Vespers the night before receiving Holy Communion.
- 6) Keep a total fast from midnight (as well as the weekly Wed / Fri abstaining from dairy and meat and the fasting seasons), unless you have medical reasons to do otherwise.
- 7) Always always remember that Holy Communion is a Gift (**not a right**) from God, the most precious Gift upon the earth.



Left:

Chrismation of Thomas Paul Shanoski, Jr.
on 5/22/2022

Below:

Baptism & Chrismation of Clarissa Mae,
Chrismation's of Ashley Ann, Emmalyn
Naomi, Evanna Jane Buchanan on 9/24/2022



Right to Left:

Chrismation's of
Michael Stephen Birosik
10/9/2022

Kaitlyn Ann Dmytrow
10/23/2022

Edward Pierson
10/30/2022