

**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, October 24, 2021**

Choir Director: Wash King

**18<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – TONE 1 (5<sup>th</sup> of Luke).**

***Glory Be to Jesus Christ!***

***Glory Be Forever!***

**Services:**

- Sunday, October 24      9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – followed by Parastas  
In Memory of Michael & Jennie Harb – offered by John & Jeanne Cannon  
In Memory of Helen & Nicholas Macenka, Jr. – offered by Shelly Macenka & Elaine Andrews  
In Memory of Gertrude Tatusko – offered by Michael Tatusko  
In Memory of Parents, Michael & Anna Tatusko – offered by Michael Tatusko  
In Memory of John Bogosh – offered by Gloria Bench  
In Memory of Anna Bogosh – offered by Gloria Bench  
In Memory of Marie Weremedic – offered by Fr. James & Mat. Lisa Weremedic
- Sunday, October 31      9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – followed by Parish Council Meeting
- Sunday, November 7      9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy;      2:30 PM – Chinese Auction
- Sunday, November 14      9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – followed by Annual Parish Meeting – First  
Announcement

**Prayer List:**

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

### Candles (October 24)

7-Day Vigils/Altar... For the Health of **Dorothy Macenka** offered by Ted Bogosh

Altar Candles... In memory of **Michael & Jennie Harb** offered by John & Jeanne Cannon

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

Vigil Crosses ... In memory of **Aunt Olga Hebda** offered by Raymond & Mary Jo Danchak

7-Day Vigils/Tetrapod... For the Health of **Martha Teno** offered by Ted Bogosh

Decorated Candles/Tetrapod-In memory of **Eugene & Sophie Haspe** offered by Children & Grandchildren

**October Birthdays:** 3- Fr. James Weremedic, 5- Barbara Teno, 7- Michael Harahus, 10- Andrew Balliet, 18- John King, 20- Martha Stafiniak, 26- Peggy Lampman, 27- Fr. Paul Ropitsky, 30- John Lampman

**October Wedding Anniversaries:** 1- Odess & Claire Remington, 3- John & Mary Evetushick, 22- Chris & Marie Kalavritinos

Financials 10/17/21: *Operating Acct:* Candles 42 - Altar Candles 650 - Offerings 470 - Non-Envelope 0 - Holy Days 20 - Donations 500 = Total \$1,682.00. - Building Fund 0, Charity 1. Please continue to keep filling your church envelopes. - Thank you!

### CONFESSION

Confessions have resumed with minor modifications. Please call the rectory at 570-645-2772 and talk to Father James for a reservation. Call between 9:30 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Individual schedule times will be spread out during the week. Husband and wife can be scheduled together. Anyone wanting to have a confession, but has concerns of COVID-19, should contact Father James to make the appropriate accommodations.

**Important Fundraiser – Chinese Auction – November 7, 2021**

**We need \$10,000 for Church Roof Repairs in the Sanctuary area of the church.**

**Monetary Donations would be greatly appreciated.**

**Browsing is from 1:00 to 2:30 PM--Auction begins at 2:30 PM**

**See Helen King of Gloria Bench if you are able to help.**

**Volunteers are needed!**

## THE HOLY MARTYR SEBASTIANA

**I**n the early Church, many women distinguished themselves by bravely refusing to renounce their belief in Christ despite the threat of persecution, torture and death. One such person was the Holy Martyr Sebastiana. Sebastiana was a follower of St. Paul, receiving her Christian training from this famous Apostle to the Gentiles. Several years after Paul's own martyrdom, another period of persecution against Christians was unleashed by the Emperor Dometian. Sebastiana was arrested and brought before the governor in the city of Marcianopolis to answer for her "crime" of professing her faith in Jesus Christ.

Given the opportunity to forsake her Savior, Sebastiana remained steadfast in her convictions. She was subjected to barbaric tortures -- she was even thrown into a red-hot oven. Miraculously, she was unharmed! Sebastiana was then taken to the city of Heraklea, where additional punishment was ordered. Amazingly, nothing seemed to harm her. Finally, Sebastiana suffered martyrdom by beheading. Pompian, the governor of that region, ordered her body to be tossed into the sea. According to a tradition of the Church, her earthly remains were recovered by angels, who took her sacred body to the island of Rhodes for burial.

The Holy Martyr Sebastiana is a shining example for all of us. We, too, must be willing to sacrifice everything - even our very lives - for our beloved Lord, Jesus Christ.

**18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 1.** Martyr Arethas and 4,299 Martyrs with him (523). Ven. Arethus (12th c.), Sisoë (13th c.), and Theóphil (Theophilus)—(12th-13th c.), Recluses, of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves). Bl. Elesbaan, King of Ethiopia (ca. 553-555). Martyr Syncletica and her two daughters (6th c.). St. Athanasius, Patriarch of Constantinople (1311). “Joy of All Who Sorrow” Icon of the Mother of God (1688).

### **Silent Prayer Before Reading the Holy Scripture**

Illumine our hearts, O Master Who lovest mankind, with the pure light of Thy divine knowledge. Open the eyes of our mind to the understanding of Thy gospel teachings. Implant also in us the fear of Thy blessed commandments, that trampling down all carnal desires, we may enter upon a spiritual manner of living, both thinking and doing such things as are well-pleasing unto Thee. For Thou art the illumination of our souls and bodies, O Christ our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, Who is from everlasting, and Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

### **2 Corinthians 9:6-11 (*Epistle*)**

But this I say: “He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.”

So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.

As it is written: “He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever.”

Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.

### **Luke 16:19-31 (*Gospel*)**

There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.

So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried.

And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

Then he cried and said, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.’

But Abraham said, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented.

And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.’

Then he said, ‘I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father’s house, for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.’

Abraham said to him, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.’

And he said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’

But he said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.’”

# Martyr Arethas and 4,299 Martyrs with him

## Troparion — Tone 1

Through the sufferings which Your holy martyrs Arethas and his companions / endured for Your sake, O Lord, / we beseech You, O Lover of mankind: / heal all of our infirmities.

## Kontakion — Tone 4

Today the radiant feast of the passion-bearers Arethas and his companions / comes to us as a herald of joy; / as we celebrate it we glorify the Lord on high.

The Martyr Arethas and with him 4299 Martyrs suffered for the Lord Jesus Christ in the sixth century. Arethas was prefect of the Christian city of Negran in Arabia. The Arabian (or Omirite) king, Dunaan, who was Jewish, decided to eliminate Christianity from the land. He issued an edict that all followers of Christ were to be put to death.

Because the inhabitants of Negran remained faithful to the Lord, Dunaan came with a large army to destroy the city. At the city walls of Negran the king's heralds announced that Dunaan would only spare those who renounced Christ and referred to His Cross as a "sign of malediction."

Not daring to assault the Christian city by force, Dunaan resorted to a ruse. Dunaan swore an oath that he would not force the Christians into Judaism, but would merely collect a tribute from Negran. The inhabitants of the city would not heed the advice of Saint Arethas, and putting their trust in Dunaan, they opened the city gates.

The very next day Dunaan gave orders to light an immense fire and throw all the clergy of the city into it in order to frighten the rest of the Christians. 427 men were burned. He also threw the prefect Arethas and the other chief men into prison. Then the oppressor sent his messengers through the city to convert the Christians to Judaism. Dunaan himself conversed with those inhabitants brought from the prisons, saying, "I do not demand that you should renounce the God of heaven and earth, nor do I want you to worship idols, I want merely that you do not believe in Jesus Christ, since the Crucified One was a man, and not God."

The holy martyrs replied that Jesus is God the Word, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, Who for the salvation of mankind was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary. Those suffering said, "We shall not abjure Christ, since He is Life for us. To die for Him is to find Life."

More than four thousand Christians, men, women, both the aged and children, from the city of Negran and surrounding villages suffered martyrdom for Christ.

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