

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, October 4, 2020
17th Sunday after Pentecost
Hieromartyr Hierotheus

Glory Be To Jesus Christ!

Glory Be Forever!

At this time, we are utilizing up to 50% capacity in the church, so the first 75 people who arrive at the church to attend Divine Liturgy on Sunday will be permitted to attend the service. At the candle stand will be a sign-in sheet that you must sign so we know who is attending the service. There is no pressure or expectation to attend services during this period of COVID-19. Remember to wear a mask and practice social distancing of six feet except for immediate family members. These procedures and guidelines are in effect not only to protect ourselves but also to protect one another. It is essential that we know who is attending the Divine Liturgy in the event that a "notice of infection" is requested and contact tracing becomes necessary.

Some points to remember:

Please have the usher write down your name and phone # on the attendance sheet as soon as you enter the church. Your temperature will be taken.

Please follow the directions of the usher on lighting candles.

Please expect assigned seating to ensure proper social distancing.

Icons can be venerated by blessing yourself with the sign of the cross and bowing without physical contact (no kissing or touching the icons)

Please follow the instructions of the Priest on how to receive Communion.

Antidoron will not be distributed at this time.

Please remember to wear a mask and bring your own Divine Liturgy Book.

Liturgical Services have started, 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 pray for the time that these conditions are no longer necessary!

Sun, October 4, 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in church hall – following Social Distancing Guidelines

Sat, October 10, 4:00 PM – Vespers – in **church hall basement** – must wear a mask

Sun, October 11, 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in church hall

Wed, October 21, 7:00 PM – Church Council Meeting in church hall – following social distancing guidelines

NEXT Parastas is scheduled for October 25, 2020

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 Birozik, 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, Nancy Vanno, Elizabeth Warcholak, Russell Wishousky, Russell Yallas, & Richard York.

October Birthdays: 3-Fr. James Weremedic, 5- Barbara Teno, 7-Michael Harahus, 10-Andrew Balliet, 18-John W. King, 20-Martha Stafiniak, 26- Peggy Lampman, 27- Fr. Paul Ropitsky, 30- John Lampman, 31-Margaret Miller

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

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 9/21-27/20 *Operating Acct:* - Candles 45 – Offerings 1,247 – Non-Env 150 – Holy Days 41 – Altar Candles 20
= Total \$1,503.00 Building Fund 2,001 Please continue to keep filling your church envelopes. Thank you!

A Big Thank you for a very successful yard sale.
To all who donated, worked, and bought – Thank you.
A profit of \$750.60 was turned over to the church.

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.

Candles (October 4):

Flowers...For the Health of **Father James and Matushka Lisa Weremedic**
7-Day Vigils/Altar... In memory of **Helen Butts** offered by Olga Hebda
Altar Candles... For the health of **Aunt Olga Hebda** offered by Raymond & MaryJo Danchak
Eternal Lamp... In memory of **Sister, Margaret Ogozalik** offered by Julia Forte
Vigil Crosses ... For the health of **Martha Stafiniak** offered by Terri & David Bogosh
7-Day Vigils/Tetrapod... In memory of **Husband, Andrew Chmel** offered by Stephanie Chmel
Decorated Candles/Tetrapod...In memory of **Husband, Frank Forte** offered by Julia Forte

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

***We express our deepest sympathy to the Family and Friends of Gloria Ferri,
who fell asleep in the Lord on 9/26/2020 Memory Eternal!***

THE TRUE ROLE OF AN ICONOGRAPHER

“Since the time of the Evangelist Luke, the Church's first iconographer, sacred images have played an important role in the worship and theology of the Church.

Icons are visual representations of Christ, the Theotokos, the angels and the saints. While we venerate them and pray before them, it must be noted that our reverence for them is directed towards that which they depict, and not the objects themselves. Icons have long been viewed as a source of education and edification by the Church. St. John of Damascus writes: 'If a pagan asks you to show him your faith, take him into your church and place him before the icons.' Indeed, all of the mysteries and teachings of our Holy Orthodox Faith are vividly brought to life by means of our iconography.

Iconographers, while possessing skills in painting styles and techniques, are much more than 'artists.' To be able to properly 'write' icons (icons are written, not painted) is indeed a calling from the Lord. Prayer and fasting are essential 'tools' for a true iconographer. Iconographers must be well-versed in the doctrines and dogmas of the Church, which are to be expressed in all their work. They are bound by the holy tradition of the Church, and the icons that they write can never reflect their own personal thoughts or interpretations.

The following excerpt from an 'Iconographer's Prayer' shows the depth of the spiritual nature involved with this noble vocation: 'Guide the hands of Your unworthy servant so that I may worthily portray Your Icon, that of Your Mother and all the Saints for the glory, joy and adornment of Your Church. Forgive my sins and the sins of those who will venerate these icons.' The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin, Vestal, Cliffwood, N. J.

17th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Hieromartyr Hierotheus, Bishop of Athens. Uncovering of the Relics of St. Gurias, first Archbishop of Kazan, and St. Varsonúphy, Bishop of Tver'. Synaxis of the Hierarchs of Kazan'. Rt. Blv. Prince Vladimir Yaroslavich, Prince of Novgorod. Ven. Helladius and Onesimus of the Kiev Caves. Ven. Ammon, Recluse, of the Kiev Caves. Martyrs Gaius, Faustus, Eusebius, and Chæremon, of Alexandria. Martyr Peter of Capetolis. Martyrs Domnina and her daughters Berenice and Prosdoce of Syria. Ven. Ammon and Paul the Simple, of Egypt. St. Stephen Stiljjanovich of Serbia.

Hieromartyr Hierotheus, Bishop of Athens

Troparion — Tone 1

We the faithful all praise Hierótheus, the disciple of Paul, / Hierarch of Athens, / the world's teacher and a preacher of the Faith, / who revealed to us Christ's Mysteries / and poured forth streams of godly doctrine. / His life was well-pleasing to God, who is greatly merciful.

Kontakion — Tone 8

Hierarch of Athens, we praise you for you have instructed us in awesome and ineffable things, / and you were revealed to be a divinely-inspired writer of hymns. / Pray that we be delivered from every kind of sin, so that we may cry to you: / "Rejoice, divinely-wise Father Hierótheus."

2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1 (Epistle)

And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them and walk among them.

I will be their God, and they shall be My people." Therefore "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you."

"I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty." Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Luke 6:31-36 (Gospel)

And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise. But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back.

But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

Hieromartyr Hierotheus, Bishop of Athens

The Hieromartyr Hierotheus, the first Bishop of Athens, was a member of the Athenian Areopagos and was converted to Christ by the Apostle Paul together with Saint Dionysius the Areopagite (October 3). The saint was consecrated by the Apostle Paul to the rank of bishop. According to Tradition, Bishop Hierotheus was present with Saint Dionysius at the funeral of the Most Holy Theotokos. Saint Hierotheus died a martyr's death in the first century.

Some Prayers in Preparation for Holy Communion:

Disregard my iniquities, O Lord, Who wast born of a Virgin! Cleanse my heart and make it a temple of Thy Most Pure Body and Blood! Turn me not away from Thy countenance, for Thy great mercy is immeasurable!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

How dare I partake of Thy Holiness in my unworthiness? Even if I dare to approach Thee with the worthy, my garment accuses me, for it is not a wedding-garment, and I secure the condemnation of my most sinful soul. Cleanse, O Lord, the defilement of my soul and save me, for Thou lovest mankind!

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Great is the multitude of my sins, O Theotokos! I come to thee, O Pure One, in need of salvation! Visit my ailing soul, O thou who alone art Blesséd, and pray to thy Son and our God that He absolve the evil I have done!

I believe, O Lord, and I confess that Thou art truly the Christ the Son of the Living God Who camest into the world to save sinners, of whom I am first. I believe also that this is truly Thine own Most Pure Body, and that this is truly Thine own Precious Blood.

Therefore, I pray Thee: have mercy upon me and forgive my transgressions both voluntary and involuntary, of word and of deed, committed in knowledge or in ignorance! And make me worthy to partake without condemnation of Thy Most Pure Mysteries, for the remission of my sins, and unto life everlasting. Amen.

Of Thy Mystical Supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant; for I will not speak of Thy Mystery to Thine enemies, neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss; but like the thief will I confess Thee: Remember me, O Lord, in Thy Kingdom! May the Communion of Thy Holy Mysteries be neither to my judgment, nor to my condemnation, O Lord, but to the healing of soul and body.