



THE UNITY OF THE CHURCH

We have been taught that the Church is the Body of Christ. As a baptized believer, we come together in faith, to work towards a common goal: Heaven. We look after our fellow brothers and sisters, using our resources for the care of each other. Nowhere in the New Testament is this expressed clearer than by Apostle Paul in his Epistle to the Ephesians.

His instructions begin by reminding us that the Church is **ONE**. The Church is like an organism; All grow as each grows. **UNITY** is the key and vital for us to be effective. Power flows through a united Church while grace enables us to forgive those who have wronged us. Put away your differences. Always remember that there is one God and one doctrine.

The Church is made up of **PEOPLE**, men and women energized by the Holy Spirit. Although we are not all blessed with the same gifts, working together we are able to accomplish God's will.

But most of all, we must focus on **JESUS** as He is the head of the Church. It is He "from whom the whole body is joined and knit together." (Eph. 4:16). People may fail us but Christ never does. He is the perfect One, leading us up to a higher ground. Focus on our Lord's teachings on truth and love. They make a dynamic combination. The Gospel is the truth and presenting it in love brings sinners to Jesus. New converts are the result, which help build up a church and bring it new life.

Lord, carry us beyond our petty and worldly personal concerns. Stretch our vision to the eternal as we ascend **TOGETHER** and experience a "**ONENESS**" with Jesus Christ.

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
Reader Hours: Edward Pierson

Sunday, September 3, 2023

Choir Director: Wash King
Reader Epistle: Michael Ropitsky

13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Tone 4.

Services:

Sunday, Sept 3	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship
Thursday, Sept. 7	5:00 PM – Great Vespers with Litya
Friday, Sept 8	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy (Nativity of the Theotokos)
Saturday, Sept. 9	5:00 PM – Great Vespers & Confessions
Sunday, Sept 10	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship
Wed, Sept. 13	5:00 PM – Great Vespers with Litya
Thursday, Sept 14	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy (Exaltation of the Holy Cross)
Saturday, Sept. 16	4:30 PM – Parastas
Saturday, Sept. 16	5:00 PM – Great Vespers & Confessions
Sunday, Sept 17	8:45 AM – Start of Church School (Please notify Barbara Birosik to enroll your children)
Sunday, Sept 17	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy & Spaghetti Dinner

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 parish hall for fellowship. If you do not have a home church, we invite you to become a part of our parish family.

Only those Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared themselves may approach the Chalice and receive Holy Communion.

Prayer List*:

Fr. James Weremedic, Matushka Lisa Weremedic
Theodore Bogosh, Elizabeth Brennan, Stephanie Chmel, Ilene Devine, Julia Forte, Michael & Julia Harahus, Karen & Rose Harkins, Nancy King, Olga Kushnir, Nancy Lorchak, Anna Marie Mantey, Dorothy & Joseph Macenka, Melissa Schmitt, Helen Sheers, Olga Sidoriak, Martha Stafiniak, Elizabeth Warcholak, Russell Wishousky, Russell Yallas, & Marie Yurchak

* Names will cycle off approximately every 30 days. You may request to have your name or the name of a loved one placed back on the list at any time by contacting Fr. James directly.

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.

*We celebrate the Reception of Amy Lee Beamesderfer, and the baptisms of her children;
Isxaviar Junior Bracero, Emmanuel Julian Andrades, Isxaiiah Paul Lee Bracero,
Izreal Edgar Bracero and Jhanyiah Destiny Snow Bracero!
May God Grant Amy, Isxaviar, Emmanuel, Isxaiiah, Izreal, and Jhanyiah and their
sponsors Matushka Lisa and Edward Pierson, Many Blessed Years!*

Candles (September 3)

7-day Vigils-Altar... In memory of **Mary & Albert Yelsh** offered by William Yelsh
Altar Candles... In memory of **Helen Vavra** offered by Russel & Geri King
Eternal Lamp... In memory of **Martha Teno** offered by John & Peggy Lampman
7-day Vigils-Tetrapod... In memory of **Marion Pickenheim** offered by William Yelsh
Decorated Candles/Tetrapod... In memory **Olga Scarloss** offered by Michael & Natalie Bolinsky
Vigil Crosses... In memory of **Martha Teno** offered by sister, Marie Yurchak
Flowers (Nativity of St. Mary)... In memory of **Olga Hebda** offered by friends

September Birthdays: 14- Mat. Lisa Weremedic, 18- Adam Balliet, 20- **Joseph Macenka (100)**
30- Eleanor Sidoriak

September Anniversaries: 17- John & Ann Yaroma, 20- Michael & Wendy Kulick

Financials 8/27/2023: *Operating Acct:* Weekly Envelopes \$442, Non-envelope \$286,
Holy Day \$36, Candles \$85, Cemetery \$50, Donations \$3,225

Fellowship Hour Hosts:

September 3 John Evetushick September 10 Open September 17 Spaghetti Dinner
September 24 Michael Tatusko October 1 John Evetushick

Spaghetti Dinner is on September 17, 2023

See Mat. Lisa Weremedic or call the Rectory, (570) 645-2772 for Tickets.

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.

13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Tone 4. Hieromartyr Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedia, and those with him: Martyrs Theophilus—Deacon; Dorotheus, Mardonius, Migdonius, Peter, Indes, Gorgonius, Zeno; the Virgin Domna, and Euthymius (302). Ven. Theoctistus, fellow ascetic with Ven. Euthymius the Great (467). Blessed John “the Hairy”, Fool-for-Christ at Rostov (1580). St. Phœbe, Deaconess at Cenchreæ near Corinth (1st c.). Martyr Basilissa of Nicomedia (309). Hieromartyr Aristion, Bishop of Alexandria (2nd c.). St. Joannicius, Archbishop of Serbia (1349).

Tone 4 Troparion (Resurrection)

When the women disciples of the Lord / learned from the angel the joyous message of Your Resurrection, / they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: / “Death is overthrown! / Christ God is risen, // granting the world great mercy!”

Tone 4 Troparion (St. Anthimus)

By sharing in the ways of the Apostles, / you became a successor to their throne. Through the practice of virtue, you found the way to divine contemplation, O inspired one of God; / by teaching the word of truth without error, you defended the Faith, even to the shedding of your blood. // O Hieromartyr Anthimus, entreat Christ God to save our souls!

Tone 8 Troparion (St. Theoctistus)

By a flood of tears you made the desert fertile, / and your longing for God brought forth fruits in abundance. / By the radiance of miracles you illumined the whole universe. // Our holy Father Theoctistus, pray to Christ our God to save our souls!

Tone 4 Kontakion (Resurrection)

My Savior and Redeemer / as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. / He has shattered the gates of hell, / and as Master, // He has risen on the third day!

1 Corinthians 16:13-24 (Epistle)

Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. Let all that you do be done with love.

I urge you, brethren – you know the household of Stephanas, that it is the first fruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves to the ministry of the saints – that you also submit to such, and to everyone who works and labors with us. I am glad about the coming of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus, for what was lacking on your part they supplied. For they refreshed my spirit and yours.

Therefore acknowledge such men. The churches of Asia greet you. Aquila and Priscilla greet you heartily in the Lord, with the church that is in their house. All the brethren greet you.

Greet one another with a holy kiss. The salutation with my own hand – Paul’s. If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed.

O Lord, come! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Silent Prayer before the Gospel:

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.

Matthew 21:33-42 (Gospel)

Hear another parable: There was a certain landowner who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to vinedressers and went into a far country.

Now when vintage-time drew near, he sent his servants to the vinedressers, that they might receive its fruit. And the vinedressers took his servants, beat one, killed one, and stoned another.

Again he sent other servants, more than the first, and they did likewise to them. Then last of all he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the vinedressers saw the son, they said among themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and seize his inheritance.' So they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him.

Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vinedressers?"

They said to Him, "He will destroy those wicked men miserably, and lease his vineyard to other vinedressers who will render to him the fruits in their seasons."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?"

Sanctity of Life Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son, Who are in the bosom of the Father, True God, source of life and immortality, Light of Light, Who came into the world to enlighten it: You were pleased to be conceived in the womb of the Virgin Mary for the salvation of our souls by the power of Your All-Holy Spirit.

O Master, Who came that we might have life more abundantly, we ask You to enlighten the minds and hearts of those blinded to the truth that life begins at conception and that the unborn in the womb are already adorned with Your image and likeness; enable us to guard, cherish, and protect the lives of all those who are unable to care for themselves.

For You are the Giver of Life, bringing each person from non-being into being, sealing each person with divine and infinite love. Be merciful, O Lord, to those who, through ignorance or willfulness, affront Your divine goodness and providence through the evil act of abortion. May they, and all of us, come to the light of Your Truth and glorify You, the Giver of Life, together with Your Father, and Your All-Holy and Life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.