

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, September 12, 2021

Choir Director: Wash King

12th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 3. Leavetaking of the Nativity of the Theotokos. Sunday before Elevation. Hieromartyr Autonomus, Bishop in Italy (313). Ven. Vassian (Bassian) of Tiksnensk (Vologdá—1624). Translation of the Relics of Righteous Simeon of Verkhotúr'e (1704). Martyr Julian of Galatia and forty Martyrs with him (4th c.). Hieromartyr Theodore of Alexandria. St. Coronatus, Bishop of Nicomedia (3rd c.). Ven. Afanásy of Vysótsk, Wonderworker of Serpukhóv (1395).
Glory Be to Jesus Christ! Glory Be Forever!

Sunday, September 12	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – followed by Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 14	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Sunday, September 19	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy
Sunday, September 26	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

Prayer List:

Matushka Lovey Ropitsky, Matushka Lisa Weremedic,
Andrew Balliet, Michael Birozik, Clark Bogosh, Theodore Bogosh, Emmalyn Naomi Buchanan, Evanna Jane Buchanan, Stephanie Chmel, Raymond Danchak, 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, Olga Sidoriak, Martha Stafiniak, Martha Teno, Michael Teno, Elizabeth Warcholak, Russell Wishousky, Russell Yallas, & Marie Yurchak.

September Birthdays:

14- Matushka Lisa Weremedic, 18- Adam Balliet, 20- Joseph Macenka, 30- Eleanor Sidoriak

September Wedding Anniversaries:

1- John & Olga Kushnir, 17- John & Ann Yaroma, 20- Michael & Wendy Kulick,
27- Andrew & Analisha Danko

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 (September 12)

7-Day Vigils/Altar... In memory of **Olga Hebda** offered by Millie O'Shura

Altar Candles... In memory of **Parents, John & Helen Molotzak** offered by John Molotzak

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 **Geri King** offered by Millie O'Shura

Decorated Candles/Tetrapod... In memory of **Theodore Scarloss** offered by Natalie & Michael
Bolinski

Candles (September 14)

Flowers around Cross... In memory of **Olga Hebda** offered by Sister, Anna & nieces & nephews

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

Altar Candles... For the Health of **Mary Maholick** offered by Ted Bogosh

Eternal Lamp... In Memory of **Walter Scheese** offered by Steve & Sandy Matsick

Vigil Crosses ... For the Health of **Gloria Bench** offered by Ted Bogosh

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

Decorated Candles/Tetrapod... In memory of **Olga Hebda** offered by Sister, Anna & nieces &
nephews

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.

Financials 9/5/21: *Operating Acct:* Candles 48 - Altar Candles 20 - Offerings 389 – Non-Envelope 150 - Holy Days 28 – Donations 0 = Total \$635.00. – Building Fund 20, Cemetery Fund 10. Please continue to keep filling your church envelopes. – Thank you!

Please use Amazon Smile when ordering from Amazon.

When you shop for gifts or merchandise at ***smile.amazon.com***, Amazon Smile will donate a portion of your eligible purchases to St. Mary's Orthodox Church at no cost to you!

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

CHRIST CONTINUES TO SATISFY OUR "HUNGER"

Wherever Christ went during His public ministry, a large crowd was always there to greet Him. Some came out of mere curiosity, while others sought out the Lord with the hope that He would touch their lives in some miraculous way. Still others simply wanted to be in His presence because they truly believed that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah.

All four evangelists record the story of what was one of the largest gathering Christ attracted. Seeking a place to rest one day, our Saviour retreated to a remote region along the Sea of Galilee. When His destination became known, however, He was quickly joined by some 5,000 people from the surrounding villages. Concerned for their hunger, our Lord performed a miracle which defies description: He was able to feed the multitude there with only 5 loaves of bread and two small fish! The Gospels tell us that there were even 12 baskets of fragments left over!

The feeding of the 5,000 is reminiscent of God providing MANNA in the wilderness for the Israelites as they journeyed to the Promise Land. More importantly, the Church Fathers see in this miraculous event an image of the HOLY EUCHARIST. At the Divine Liturgy, everyone who comes forward **"in the fear of God with faith and love"** to receive the Body and Blood of Christ has their spiritual hunger satisfied. Indeed, as the priest prays at every Holy Liturgy: **"The Lamb of God is broken and distributed, broken but not divided, ever-eaten yet never consumed, but sanctifying those who partake of It."**

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.

CHRIST'S MIRACLE OF FEEDING THE 5,000

Troparion — Tone 4

Your Nativity, O Virgin, / has proclaimed joy to the whole universe! / The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, / has shone from You, O Theotokos! / By annulling the curse, / He bestowed a blessing. / By destroying death, He has granted us eternal Life.

Kontakion — Tone 4

By Your Nativity, O Most Pure Virgin, / Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness; / Adam and Eve, from the corruption of death. / And we, your people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you: / The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our life!

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 (*Epistle*)

Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you – unless you believed in vain.

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve.

After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep.

After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles.

Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time.

For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

Therefore, whether it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Matthew 19:16-26 (*Gospel*)

Now behold, one came and said to Him, “Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?”

So, He said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.”

He said to Him, “Which ones?” Jesus said, “‘You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ ‘You shall not steal,’ ‘You shall not bear false witness,’

‘Honor your father and your mother,’ and, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ “

The young man said to Him, “All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?”

Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. Then Jesus said to His disciples, “Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven.

And, again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.

When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?”

But Jesus looked at them and said to them, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

Venerable Bassian of Tiksnensk, Vologda

Saint Bassian of Tiksnensk [Totemsk] (in the world Basil) was a peasant from the village of Strelitsa (by other accounts, from the village of Burtsevo), near the city of Totma, and he was by trade a tailor. Leaving his family, he became a monk under Saint Theodosius of Totemsk in the Sumorinsk monastery at the River Sukhona, where he spent several years in works and obediences.

In 1594, the monk resettled not far from Totma, at the River Tikсна, near a church named for Saint Nicholas the Wonderworker. At first he lived at the church portico, but then he made himself a cell near the church. The monk visited at each divine service. For thirty years he wore chains on his body: on his shoulders a heavy chain, on his loins an iron belt, and on his head beneath his head covering an iron cap.

Yearning for solitude, the monk admitted no one to his cell, except his spiritual Father. He lived by the alms which they put by his small window. Saint Bassian died on September 12, 1624. Only at burial was it discovered how much he had humbled his flesh.

At the place of Saint Bassian's ascetic struggles a monastery was established in honor of the Icon of the Savior Not-Made-by-Hands. Veneration of Saint Bassian began in the year 1647, when during a deadly plague, many received healing at his tomb. The Life of the monk was written in the year 1745 by the igumen Joseph.

Translation of the relics of Righteous Simeon of Verkhoturye

Saint Simeon of Verkhoturye was a nobleman, but he concealed his origin and led the life of a beggar. He walked through the villages and for free sewed half-coats and other clothes, primarily for the poor. While doing this he deliberately failed to sew something, either a glove, or a scarf, for which he endured abuse from his customers.

The ascetic wandered much, but most often he lived at a churchyard of the village of Merkushinsk not far from the city of Verkhoturye (on the outskirts of Perm). Saint Simeon loved nature in the Urals, and while joyfully contemplated its majestic beauty, he would raise up a thoughtful glance towards the Creator of the world. In his free time, the saint loved to go fishing in the tranquility of solitude. This reminded him of the disciples of Christ, whose work he continued, guiding the local people in the true Faith. His conversations were a seed of grace, from which gradually grew the abundant fruits of the Spirit in the Urals and in Siberia, where the saint is especially revered.

Saint Simeon of Verkhoturye died in 1642, when he was 35 years of age. He was buried in the Merkushinsk graveyard by the church of the Archangel Michael.

On September 12, 1704, with the blessing of Metropolitan Philotheus of Tobolsk, the holy relics of Saint Simeon were transferred from the church of the Archangel Michael to the Verkhoturye monastery in the name of Saint Nicholas.

Saint Simeon worked many miracles after his death. He frequently appeared to the sick in dreams and healed them, and he brought to their senses those fallen into the disease of drunkenness. A peculiarity of the saint's appearances was that with the healing of bodily infirmities, he also gave instruction and guidance for the soul.

September 11, 2021

“Remembering 9/11: Twenty Years Later”

To the Clergy, Monastics, and Faithful of the Orthodox Church in America,
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



On the twentieth anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, we remember the day as a tragedy in the truest sense of the word. It is fitting to reflect on this catastrophe with great sorrow, sobriety, and prayer.

We remember the lives that were cut short in the collapse of the towers of the World Trade Center, the damage to the Pentagon, and the wreckage of Flight 93 in Pennsylvania. There were almost three thousand people who never came home, taken from their family and friends who were left to grieve and try to make sense of their loss. Many more were injured and forever scarred, both physically and emotionally. Even those who were not present at the sites of the attacks have vivid imagery of that day come into their minds unbidden.

The repercussions of that terrible day have unfolded and consequences have been felt in all corners of the world. The pain of the terrorist attacks has led to the pain of the past two decades where we have seen “wars and rumors of wars” (Matt. 24:6).

On this somber occasion I encourage you to consider with renewed faith the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ. Soon we will celebrate the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross.

Look to the Life-giving Cross for healing, as God told the Hebrew people to look to the bronze serpent in the wilderness (Num. 21:4-9). Fixing our gaze on the Cross cures the serpent’s bite and reminds us that even great suffering cannot separate us from the love of God.

Recall that the Cross, an instrument of death, was revealed by God as the “invincible trophy” (Kontakion of the Cross) which puts evil to flight. By virtue of the Cross, the power of God is manifest and enables us to do difficult things — even forgiving those who carried out these appalling attacks.

Great tragedies in our world call us to repentance, and anniversaries like today remind us that we are sojourners and exiles here on earth (1 Pet. 2:11). We look with hope towards the Kingdom of God. Always do we, as St. Paul remarked, “desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one” (Heb 11:16). Let us continue to remember in prayer all those who lost their lives, the survivors who continue to live with disability, the first-responders who carry emotional burdens of that day, and the families and friends of the victims who have suffered their grief over these twenty years.

May the Lord bring His comfort to all.

Yours in Christ,

+Tikhon

Archbishop of Washington

Metropolitan of All America and Canada