

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 19, 2021
Choir Director: Wash King

13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – TONE 4. Forefeast of the Elevation of the Cross. Commemoration of the Founding of the Church of the Resurrection (Holy Sepulcher) at Jerusalem (335).

Troparion — Tone 1

O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance. / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries. / And by virtue of Your Cross, / preserve Your habitation.

Kontakion — Tone 4

As You were voluntarily raised upon the cross for our sake, / grant mercy to those who are called by Your Name, O Christ God; / make all Orthodox Christians glad by Your power, / granting them victories over their adversaries, / by bestowing on them the Invincible trophy, Your weapon of Peace.

Glory Be to Jesus Christ!

Glory Be Forever!

Sunday, September 19	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy
Sunday, September 26	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy
Sunday, October 3	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy
Sunday, October 10	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

Prayer List:

Matushka Lovey Ropitsky, Matushka Lisa Weremedic,
Andrew Balliet, Michael Birosik, 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 19)

7-Day Vigils/Altar... In memory of **Joseph & John Herbert** offered by Millie O'Shura

Altar Candles... In memory of **Lillian Yelsh** offered by William Yelsh

Eternal Lamp... In memory of **Mary & Andrew Yelsh** offered by William Yelsh

Vigil Crosses ... In memory of **Andrew & Mary Bybel Family** offered by Friends

7-Day Vigils/Tetrapod... In memory of **Olga Hebda** offered by Stephanie Chmel

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

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 9/12/21: *Operating Acct:* Candles 52 - Altar Candles 20 - Offerings 540 – Non-Envelope 0 - Holy Days 73 – Donations 120 = Total \$805.00. – Building Fund 20, Charity 0. 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

A TIME TO OBEY AND A TIME TO RESIST

The story of the GREAT MARTYR EUPHEMIA is a story of CHOICES. She was born in Chalcedon in the third century - a time when Christians were still facing terrible persecution from the pagan Romans. Her parents were wealthy aristocrats but secretly devout Christians. They did their best to foster a love for the Lord within their daughter. Euphemia could have lived a life of luxury and still practiced her Christian faith quietly. Instead, she chose to vocally express her beliefs, even though she understood that by speaking out, she would face danger.

Euphemia's faith was put to the ultimate test when the provincial governor Priscus came to Chalcedon to celebrate a pagan festival. Some 49 Christians, led by Euphemia, refused to attend. When the angry Priscus discovered this insubordination, he had them brought before him and demanded to know why they had disobeyed his imperial command. Without hesitation, Euphemia spoke up: *"Both the Emperor's commands and yours must be obeyed if they are not contrary to the God of heaven. If they are, not only must they not be obeyed, they must be resisted."*

Furious with this defiant response, Priscus ordered the dissenters to all be tortured for 19 days. Euphemia was the target of the most brutal cruelties. First, she was tied to a wheel. Then she was thrown into a fiery furnace. Surviving these ordeals, Euphemia was thrown into a pit filled with poisonous snakes. After making the sign of the Cross, she remained unharmed! Finally, St. Euphemia suffered martyrdom after being severely mauled by wild beasts. Her remains rest in the famous Church of St. George in Constantinople.

Galatians 2:16-20 (Epistle, Sunday After)

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.

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 firstfruits 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.

Mark 8:34-9:1 (Gospel, Sunday After)

When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it.

For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?

Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

And He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power."

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'?"

From September 15 until the Leavetaking, we sing "O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ. O son of God crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia" at weekday Liturgies following the Little Entrance.

Saint Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury

Saint Theodore was the eighth Archbishop of Canterbury (668-690), and one of England's great saints. He was a Greek from Tarsus, the home of Saint Paul. He was a highly-educated monk living in Rome who was quickly advanced through all the clerical ranks and consecrated as Archbishop of Canterbury at the age of sixty-five. Saint Adrian (January 9), an African who was the abbot of a monastery near Naples, was sent to assist Saint Theodore.

Saint Theodore arrived in Kent in 669, when he was almost seventy. In spite of his age, he was quite energetic, traveling throughout England founding churches and consecrating bishops to fill those Sees which were left vacant by an outbreak of plague. He also created new Sees and established a school in Canterbury where Greek was taught.

In North Umbria, Saint Theodore settled a dispute involving episcopal succession. Saint Wilfrid (October 12) had been elected Bishop of Lindisfarne (the See was later transferred to York), and he traveled to Gaul to be consecrated by a Roman bishop, because he would not accept consecration from a Celtic bishop. In the meantime, Saint Chad, or Ceadda (March 2), had been elected and uncanonically consecrated because Wilfrid remained in Gaul for three years. Although Saint Theodore deposed Saint Chad, he recognized his worthiness to be a bishop. He regularized the consecration, then sent Saint Chad to be Bishop of Mercia. Saint Wilfrid was restored to his See.

Saint Theodore summoned a council of the entire English Church at Hertford in 672. Not only was this the first church council in England, it was the first assembly of any kind attended by representatives from all over the country. In 679 he convened another synod at Hatfield to maintain the purity of Orthodox doctrine and to condemn the heresy of Monothelism.

Saint Theodore fell asleep in the Lord in 690, and his body remained incorrupt for a long time. Under his leadership, the English Church became united in a way that the various tribal kingdoms did not. The Diocesan structures which he established continue to serve as the basis for church administration in England. He was respected for his administrative skills, and also for his moral and canonical decisions.

Seminarian Appeal for Bill Rusk and Dn. John M Black

Letters have been received from the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania that seminarians are responsible for raising half of their tuition money each semester, approximately \$3,155.00, as well as cover costs of books, supplies, rent, utilities, groceries, etc. There is a shortage of priests in our Diocese as well as the OCA. If you are able to help with this appeal for two local seminarians, donations can be sent to:

For Dn. John M. Black – mail to: Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 1230 N. Hanover St., Pottstown, PA 19464; or to St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, 575 Scarsdale Road, Yonkers, NY 10707-1699 – Please write Dn. John M. Black on the memo line.

For Bill Rusk (from Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Stroudsburg) – mail to: St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, 575 Scarsdale Road, Yonkers, NY 10707-1699; or to the Diocese of Eastern PA, 325 N. Walnut Street, Bath, PA 18014-1201. Please write Bill Rusk on the memo line.