

St. Mary's Orthodox Church
217 First Street, Coaldale Pa 18218
Phone: 570-645-2772

OUR WEBSITE: www.stmarysnativity.org

Rector: V. Rev. James Weremedic
Retired Attached: V. Rev Paul Ropitsky
President: Dr. Ronald Berezniak

Sunday, September 15, 2024

Reader Hours: Edward Pierson
Reader Epistle: Edward Pierson



12th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Tone 3. Afterfeast of the Exaltation of the Cross.
Sunday after the Exaltation of the Cross. Greatmartyr Nicetas the Goth.

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 prepared themselves through strict Fasting on the morning of the Liturgy, recent Confession and at peace with each other may approach the Chalice and receive Holy Communion.**

SERVICES:

Sunday, September 15 9:30 AM: Divine Liturgy, **Church Picnic, Church School Activity**

Saturday, September 21 4:30 PM: Parastas

Mary Lou Simone offered by Berezniak family

Nancy Lorchak offered by Lorchak family

Randy Winney offered by Berezniak family

Saturday, September 21 5:00 PM: Great Vespers, Confessions

Sunday, September 22 9:30 AM: Divine Liturgy, Church School, Fellowship Hour, Parish Council Meeting

Saturday, September 28 5:00 PM: Great Vespers, Confessions

Sunday, September 29 9:30 AM: Divine Liturgy, Church School, Fellowship Hour

Saturday, October 5 4:00 PM: Great Vespers, Confessions (NOTE TIME CHANGE)

Sunday, October 6 9:30 AM: Divine Liturgy, Church School, Fellowship Hour

Prayer List*:

V. Rev. John Onofrey, Deacon Geoffrey LoBalbo

Robert Boguski, Jeanne Cannon, Stephanie Chmel, Kaitlyn & Shannon Dmytrow,

Anna Eltgroth, Julia Forte, Jose Garcia, Julia Harahus, Karen & Rose Harkins,

Nancy King, Olga Kushnir, Anna Marie Mantey, Dorothy Macenka, Olga Martsyniv,

Tom McCarthy, Beverly Morgan, Ryan Oravec, Ron Pierce, Odess Remington,

Millie O'Shura, Melissa Schmitt, Olga Sidoriak, Jolie Skelton, 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 Fr. 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 express our deepest sympathy to the family of Vasil Pavuk
Who fell asleep in the Lord 9/4/2024! Memory Eternal!*

Candles (September 14)

Decorated Cross: In memory of **Olga Hebda, Mary Lutash & Helen Butts** offered by a friend.
Flowers/Tetrapod: For all the deceased of **St. Mary's Orthodox Church.**

Candles (September 15)

7-day Vigils-Altar: In memory of **Joseph Macenka** offered by Helen & Wash King
Altar Candles: In memory of **Harry Wyshosky, Jr.** offered by Julia Forte
Eternal Lamp: For the health of **Jeanne Cannon & Melissa Schmitt** offered by Geri King
7-day Vigils-Tetrapod: In memory of **Mary Lutash** offered by Raymond & Mary Jo Danchak
Decorated Candles: In memory of **Mary Solomon** offered by Stephanie Chmel
Vigil Crosses: For the health of **MAT. Lisa Weremedic** offered by Terri Bogosh

September Birthdays: 14- Mat. Lisa Weremedic, 18- Adam Balliet, 30- Eleanor Sidoriak

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

Financials 9/8/2024: Operating Acct: Envelopes \$590, Non-envelope \$9, Holy Day \$161,
Candles \$76, Donation \$300, Altar Candles \$20

**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.**

Fellowship Hour Hosts:

9/15 **Church Picnic** 9/22 Helen King 9/29 Mike Tatusko 10/6 John Evetushick

St. Mary's Orthodox Church Income/Expenses for 2024 Fiscal Year

2024	Sept- December	January-March	April- June	TOTAL
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL
INCOME	\$23,364.35	\$33,635.69	\$27,347.62	\$84,347.66
EXPENSE	\$47,014.66	\$46,347.24	\$37,966.26	\$131,328.16
NET	-\$23,650.31	-\$12,711.55	-\$10,618.64	-\$46,980.50

We are not required to bring a tenth of our income to the Church; we can bring twenty, thirty, or even one-hundred percent, as did the poor widow (*Mark 12:42-43*). But we can start with a small step. We can at least bring as much as the Old Testament Hebrews, at least the ten percent that rightly belongs to God and not us. But if we don't have as much zeal for the temple of God as the Old Testament people had, then the Lord will accept and bless even seven or five percent or any other amount offered with a pure heart. **We must begin somewhere!**

On Tithing | A Russian Orthodox Church Website (pravmir.com)

How much is my tithe?!

Weekly Income	10%	5%	4%	2%
\$200	\$20	\$10	\$8	\$4
\$500	\$50	\$25	\$20	\$10
\$750	\$75	\$38	\$30	\$15
\$1,000	\$100	\$50	\$40	\$20
\$1,500	\$150	\$75	\$60	\$30
\$2,000	\$200	\$100	\$80	\$40

**September 15, 2024 12th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Tone 3.
Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Cross. Sunday after Elevation.
Greatmartyr Nicetas the Goth.**

Matthew 28:16-20 (1st Matins Gospel)

Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen."

Tone 3 Troparion (Resurrection)

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. He has trampled down death by death. He has become the first born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted to the world // great mercy.

Tone 1 Troparion (Feast)

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!

Tone 3 Kontakion (Resurrection)

On this day You rose from the tomb, O Merciful One, leading us from the gates of death. On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; with the Prophets and Patriarchs // they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Your power.

Tone 4 Kontakion (Feast)

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!

Tone 7 Prokeimenon

Extol the Lord our God: / worship at His footstool for He is holy.

V. The Lord reigns, let the people tremble!

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.**

Tone 1

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. Remember Your congregation, which You have gotten of old!

V. God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth!

Silent Prayer before the Gospel:

Illuminate 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.

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."

The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

The pagan Roman Emperors tried to obliterate the holy places where our Lord Jesus Christ suffered and rose from the dead, so that they would be forgotten. Emperor Hadrian (117-138) ordered that Golgotha and the Lord's Sepulchre be buried, and that a temple in honor of the pagan "goddess" Venus and a statue of Jupiter be placed there.

Pagans gathered at this place and offered sacrifice to idols. Eventually after 300 years, by Divine Providence, the Christian holy places, the Sepulchre of the Lord, and the Life-giving Cross, were discovered and opened for veneration. This took place under Emperor Constantine the Great (306-337) after his victory over Maxentius (in 312), who ruled the Western part of the Roman Empire, and over Licinius, the ruler of its Eastern part. In the year 323 Constantine became the sole ruler of the vast Roman Empire.

In 313 Saint Constantine issued the Edict of Milan, by which Christianity was legalized and persecutions against Christians in the Western half of the Empire were stopped. Although Licinius had signed the Edict of Milan in order to oblige Constantine, he continued his cruel persecutions against Christians. Only after his conclusive defeat did the Edict of Milan extend also to the Eastern part of the Empire. The Holy Equal of the Apostles Emperor Constantine, triumphing over his enemies in three wars, with God's assistance, had seen the Sign of the Cross in the heavens. Written beneath were the words: "By this you shall conquer."