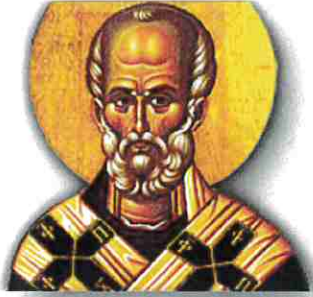


May 17, 2020 –5th SUNDAY OF PASCHA (The Samaritan Woman)

Commemorated today: The Holy Apostles Andronikos and Junia, as well as Sts. Theophanes and Nektarios, founders of the Holy Monastery of Barlaam at Meteora; the Holy New-martyr Nicholas of Metsovo in Epirus.
In addition, all the Archbishops and Patriarchs of Constantinople

Tone 4

Orthros Gospel 7



WELCOME TO ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL!

VISIT www.stnickspgh.org TODAY for news and updates about our parish!

CLERGY: Rev. Fr. Christopher Bender and Rev. Dn. Robert Lykos

Father's Cell & Email: 724-630-3483; frchbender@verizon.net

CHANTERS: Steve Andrews, & Michael Rodites

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Steve Andrews

ORGANIST: Haley Cobb

ALTAR BOY CAPTAINS: Dimitri Gary, Christos Mavrogeorgis,
Steven Kefalos & Chris Kefalos

Questions about our Parish? Email church@stnickspgh.org

CHURCH SERVICE SCHEDULE: Sept 15 – June 15, Orthros 8:30 a.m. & Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

TO OUR VISITORS & GUESTS: *We welcome you to worship today. Whether you are an Orthodox Christian or this is your first visit to an Orthodox Church, we are happy to see you! Although Holy Communion and other Sacraments are offered only to baptized and chrismated (confirmed) Orthodox Christians in good standing with the church, all are invited to receive the Antidoron (blessed bread) from the priest at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. After services, please join us in the Church hall for fellowship and refreshments. **Please sign our visitor's book at the back of the church before you leave today, and leave an email address if you want to receive news & announcements from St. Nicholas.***

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΙ! CHRIST IS RISEN!

Watch Sunday services streaming live from St Nicholas Cathedral at www.stnickspgh.org/
and click on "Live Streaming Click Here."

On-Line Giving donations are up and running on our web page www.stnickspgh.org by clicking please donate button - or you may access the donation page by using <https://abundant.co/stnickspgh/give>

Virginia Fekaris would like to say "Thank You to everyone who came to celebrate my 94th birthday with best wishes, flowers, and birthday cake.

Love you all!"

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Tone 4

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SPECIAL HYMNS OF THE DAY:

The first hymn chanted at the Small Entrance is the Festal Apolytikion for Pascha in Tone 5:

Χριστός ἀνέστη ἐκ νεκρῶν, θανάτῳ θάνατον πατήσας, καὶ τοῖς ἐν τοῖς μνήμασι ζωὴν χαρισάμενος
Christ is risen from the dead, by death, trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

At the procession with the Gospel, the special Eisodikon (Entrance Hymn) for Pascha is chanted:

Ἐν Ἐκκλησίαις εὐλογεῖτε τὸν Θεόν, Κύριον ἐκ πηγῶν Ἰσραήλ. Σῶσον ἡμᾶς, Υἱέ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἀναστάς ἐκ νεκρῶν, ψάλλοντάς σοι, Ἀλληλούϊα.
In the congregations bless God, the Lord from the springs of Israel. Save us O Son of God, who did rise from the dead, we sing to you Alleluia.

After the Entrance Hymn the Priest enters into the Sanctuary, while we hear the Resurrection Apolytikion in Tone 4.

Then, the hymn for the feast of Mid-Pentecost, which took place this past Wednesday, is chanted (Tone 8):

Μεσοῦσης τῆς ἑορτῆς, διψῶσάν μου τὴν ψυχὴν, εὐσεβείας πότισον νάματα ὅτι πᾶσι Σωτὴρ ἐβόησας· ὁ διψῶν, ἐρχέσθω πρὸς με καὶ πινέτω· Ἡ πηγὴ τῆς ζωῆς, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς δόξα σοι.
Mid-way in the feast, refresh my thirsty soul with the flowing waters of piety. For You cried out to all, O Savior, "Let him who thirsts come to me and drink." You, O Christ our God, are the Fountain of Life, glory to You.

Following this, we chant the Hymn for our Church's Patron Saint, St. Nicholas (Tone 4):

Κανόνα πίστεως καὶ εἰκόνα πραότητος, ἐγκρατείας Διδάσκαλον, ἀνέδειξέ σε τῇ ποιμνῇ σου, ἡ τῶν πραγμάτων ἀλήθεια· διὰ τοῦτο ἐκτίσω τῇ ταπεινώσει τὰ ὑψηλά, τῇ πτωχείᾳ τὰ πλούσια, Πάτερ Ἱεράρχα Νικόλαε· πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.
The truth of things have revealed you to your flock as a rule of faith, an icon of meekness, and a teacher of temperance; for this cause you have achieved the heights by humility, riches by poverty. O Father and Hierarch Nicholas, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

Then, the Kontakion of Pascha in the Eighth Tone:

Εἰ καὶ ἐν τάφῳ κατήλθες ἀθάνατε, ἀλλὰ τοῦ Ἄδου καθεῖλες τὴν δύναμιν, καὶ ἀνέστης ὡς νικητὴς, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, γυναιξὶ Μυροφόροις φθεγγόμενος. Χαίρετε, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις εἰρήνην δωρούμενος ὁ τοῖς πεσοῦσι παρέχων ἀνάστασιν.

Though You went down into the tomb, You destroyed Hades' power, and You rose the victor, Christ God, saying to the myrrh-bearing women, "Hail!" and granting peace to Your disciples, You who raise up the fallen.

Apostolic Reading: Acts 11: 19-30. In those days, those apostles who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to none except Jews. But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number that believed turned to the Lord. News of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad; and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose; for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a large company was added to the Lord. So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul; and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a large company of people; and in Antioch the disciples were for the first time called Christians. Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. And one of them named Agabos stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world; and this took place in the days of Claudius. And the disciples determined, everyone according to his ability, to send relief to the brethren who lived in Judea, and they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

Gospel Reading: John 4:5-42.

At that time, Jesus came to a city of Samaria, called Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and so Jesus, wearied as he was with his journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and he whom you now have is not your husband; this you said truly." The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain; and you say that Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ); when he comes, he will show us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he." Just then his disciples came. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but none said, "What do you wish?" or, "Why are you talking with her?" So the woman left her water jar, and went away into the city and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" They went out of the city and were coming to him. Meanwhile the disciples besought him, saying "Rabbi, eat." But he said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." So the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought him food?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me, and to accomplish his work. Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see how the fields are already white for harvest. He who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor; others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony. "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard ourselves, and we know that this is indeed Christ the Savior of the world."

A Message from Fr. Christopher:

Beloved Sisters and Brothers in Christ: Christ is Risen! Thank you to all of you for your patience and understanding during this difficult time of “social distancing” and closed public spaces. I firmly believe that this difficult policy was necessary to preserve human life at a time when the most deadly pathogen in modern history has plagued our country and, indeed, the entire world. At the same time, it has not been easy or pleasant for me to celebrate the divine services in a sanctuary where few or none of the faithful are even present. And, I am acutely aware of how difficult it has been for so many of you to be deprived of the weekly experience of worshipping God together with your fellow parishioners and especially of the possibility to receive Holy Communion.

That is why I am so happy to be able to share with you some good news: now that the infection rate is going down, we are able to begin the slow process of reopening. With Metropolitan Savas’s blessing, we will soon be able once again to open our doors. We will do so prudently, once our sanctuary has been properly prepared, and the final go-ahead has been received from the Metropolis.

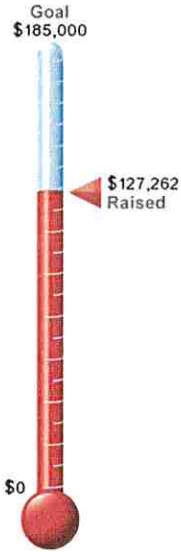
To begin with, only 25 persons will be permitted in a single space, according to the Governor’s guidelines, which Metropolitan Savas is going by. Those who come will have had to sign up in advance, by calling the Church Office. Details about how this will be handled will be shared with you as soon as possible after the communique from His Eminence officially announcing the easing of restrictions is released.

Thank you once again for your patience and understanding.

2020 Stewardship Pledge Cards are in the Narthex
(Just ask a member of Parish Council)

If you have already submitted your 2020 Stewardship Commitment, THANK YOU! If not, please take the time to make your financial Stewardship Commitment today and complete the talent portion of the card to enable OUR Community to grow and carry on the mission of our faith.

HELP US REACH/ EXCEED OUR GOAL!!



“A Time for Every Purpose Under Heaven”

The Stewardship of Time
Ecclesiastes 3

<u>2020</u>	<u>STEWARDSHIP</u>
Total Stewards	243(GOAL 300)
Total Pledged	\$127,262.00 (GOAL \$185,000.00)
Avg. Pledge	\$523.71

PHILOPTOCHOS UPDATES

Father’s Day Fundraiser – While many of our fundraisers, programs and activities have been put on hold, Philoptochos is happy to be able to help you honor the special men in your life for Father’s Day! Please consider this opportunity to make a donation to Philoptochos! The Father’s Day form is included in the bulletin. Please submit names for Father’s Day by Sunday, June 14th. Thank you!

Food Bank – The Food Bank continues to need your support! You can donate by making a check payable to the “St. Nicholas Philoptochos Food Bank” or through United Way by designating the St. Nicholas Food Bank (#3288) through your employers United Way contribution. Questions: contact Elaine Andrianos (412-731-4334) or Denise Daugherty (412-508-1326).

Neighborhood Resilience Project Food Drive – At this time, we are unable to collect food drive donations for Neighborhood Resilience Project (formerly knowns as FOCUS Pittsburgh). There is a great need for support during this difficult time for many. We encourage parishioners to take non-perishable food donations or send monetary donations directly to Neighborhood Resilience Project located at 2038 Bedford Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15219. They appreciate your support!

Celebrating
FATHER'S DAY

St. Nicholas Philoptochos believes in honoring the men in our lives. Honor your husband, father, grandfather, godfather, brother, uncle or a special friend with a gift to Philoptochos. Your donation will enable us to continue our work of charitable giving to individuals and families in need, area food banks, shelters for the homeless, social service agencies and countless research efforts in the battle against cancer and other catastrophic diseases.

Join us this Father's Day by honoring someone you love with a gift to Philoptochos.

Make checks payable and send to: St. Nicholas Philoptochos, 419 S. Dithridge St. Pittsburgh, PA 15213, Memo: Father's Day

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT NAMES FOR INCLUSION IN BULLETIN – SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 2020

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____

(minimum gift of \$5.00 per name please — all donations are tax deductible)

Your Name: _____

Honorees will receive a special Father's Day acknowledgement card.

The amount of your gift will not be disclosed.

Please accept this gift in **honor** of:

Name: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

Please accept this gift in **memory** of:

1. _____

4. _____

2. _____

5. _____

3. _____

6. _____

*List any additional names and addresses on the back of this flyer and indicate whether donation is in Honor or in Memory.
Please print clearly.*

ST. NICHOLAS WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE ALL OF OUR GRADUATES!

Please fill out this short questionnaire and submit to church office via email (church@stnickspgh.org), fax (412-683-4960) or mail (419 S. Dithridge Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213). Thank you!

Name _____

Phone: _____

Month of Graduation _____

High School: _____

Or

University/ Graduate School: _____

Degree Earned: _____

***Please email a recent photo to church@stnickspgh.org so that we can include in the next issue of the Newsletter.

Awards and Honors:

Activities:

Future Plans:

Father Christopher will be online and over the phone, using the ZOOM platform as well as Facebook, every **TUESDAY, EVENING** at 8:30 pm with a **BIBLE STUDY** that will focus on a variety of texts from the Old and New Testament that are appropriate to the paschal season, as well as to our current situation. You do not have to be an existing member of our "Living Orthodoxy" program in order to join in. Nor do you need to follow the program every week – just when you are able to.

In addition, Father also offers a presentation focusing on some element from that Sunday's readings or commemoration, on **SATURDAY EVENINGS AT 8:30 PM ON ZOOM** and the church's and his own **FACEBOOK** pages.

An email with detailed information about how to access the event live on Zoom will be sent to the entire parish listserv earlier in the day each time there is an event (because it will always change, for security reasons). It will also be uploaded afterwards to the Church's Facebook page and Father's Facebook page. (If the presentation had to be cancelled for some reason, that also will be announced.)

MAY 2020

PLEASE NOTE: LIMITATIONS ON THE NUMBER OF WORSHIPPERS AT SERVICES DUE TO THE ONGOING HEALTH CRISIS CONTINUE AND NO IN-PERSON EVENTS OR MEETINGS CAN TAKE PLACE. FOR YOUR SAFETY, PLEASE DO NOT COME TO A SERVICE UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED. We will make every effort to *keep* you informed of any changes, and will reopen as soon as allowed. The church office will always have the most up-to-date information.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
17 Samaritan Woman Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy 10 am	18 "Virtual" Parish Council Meeting 7 p.m.	19	20 EVENING VIGIL SERVICE AND DIVINE LITURGY FOR SS. CONSTANTINE AND HELEN, 6 PM	21	22	23
24 The Man Born Blind Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy 10 am	25 Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED Divine Liturgy & Trisagion AT THE CHURCH 10 am	26	27 EVENING VIGIL SERVICE AND DIVINE LITURGY FOR THE ASCENSION, 6 PM	28	29	30
31 Fathers of 1st Ecumenical Council Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy 10 am						