

St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church Monroeville
Weekly Bulletin – January 17th, 2021



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Sunday before, and Forefeast of Theophany

Tropar of the Resurrection - Tone 7

By Your Cross You destroyed death. To the thief You opened Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers You changed weeping into joy. And You commanded Your disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that You are risen, granting the world great mercy.

Tropar of the Forefeast – Tone 4

Prepare, O Zebulon, and adorn yourself, O Naphtali! River Jordan, cease flowing, and receive with joy the Master coming to be baptized! Adam, rejoice with our First Mother, and do not hide yourself as you did of old in Paradise; for having seen you naked, He has appeared to clothe you with the first garment. Christ has appeared to renew all creation.

Kondak of the Resurrection – Tone 7

The dominion of death can no longer hold mankind captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: “The Savior has come to those in faith; enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

Kondak of the Forefeast – Tone 4

Today the Lord enters the Jordan and cries out to John: “Do not be afraid to baptize me! For I have come to save Adam, the first-formed man.”

Epistle - 2 Timothy 4:5-8

But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

Alleluia Verses

v: O God, be bountiful to us and bless us, show the light of Your countenance upon us, and have mercy on us!

v: That we may know Your way upon the earth, and Your salvation among all nations.

Gospel - Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the Prophets: “Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.” “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; Make His paths straight.’ ” John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate

locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Additional Petitions for Mercy and Help during the Covid-19 Pandemic

For our salvation during the time of this pandemic; for protection and deliverance from the Coronavirus; for the health and recovery of those suffering from this virus; and for the guidance of physicians and those who minister to the afflicted, let us pray to the Lord.

Eternal Lord, God Almighty, in Your ineffable goodness and love for humankind, look upon us who have gathered in Your Holy Name and those who could not be present; be our constant helper and defender at the time of this pandemic and hear our prayer offered with contrition of heart: Compassionate Lord, save, protect and deliver us from the impending threat of the Coronavirus; grant health and recovery to those suffering from this virus; and guide the hands of physicians and preserve those who minister to the afflicted, let us all say with all our heart and mind Lord have mercy.

Homily on the mystery of the Divine Trinity – Prologue of Ohrid, Jan 6 – St. Nikolaj Velimirovich

"For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit: and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit and the water and the blood: and these three are together" (I John 5: 7-8).

When we read Holy Scripture, we should be alert to keep an eye on every word. To the rapid reader, for example, this distinction which the Evangelist draws between the Heavenly Trinity and the earthly trinity will not become apparent. Concerning the Heavenly Trinity, he says, and these three are one; and concerning the earthly trinity, he says, and these three are together. There is an enormous difference between "being one" and "being together." The Father, Son and the Holy Spirit are One, whereas the spirit, the water and the blood are only together and are not one. Even enemies could be together, but are not one. All the people on earth are together, but they are not one. Water and blood constitute the body, and the spirit is the spirit. For the flesh has desires against the spirit and the spirit against the flesh (Galatians 5:17). They are not one, but they are still together. When man dies, the union is broken and ceases to exist. Blood and water go to one side, and the spirit goes to another side. However, the Persons of the Divine Trinity in the heavens are not only together, but They are also One.

There is also another trinity in the inner heaven of man which should be not only a unity but a oneness, so that man may be blessed in this world and in the other world. That is the union of the mind, heart and will. As long as these three are only in togetherness, man will be at war with himself and with the Heavenly Trinity. However, when these three become one, so that none rules and none is enslaved, then man becomes filled with the peace of God, which surpasseth all understanding (Philippians 4:7), that surpasses man's every word, every explanation, every fear and every sorrow. Then the small heaven in man begins to resemble that great heaven of God, and the "image and likeness of God" become apparent in man.

O Triune God, help us to at least resemble those who resemble Thee.

To Thee be glory and praise forever. Amen.

Courtesy of <http://www.rocor.org.au/>

Donations

Thank you, beloved parishioners, for your continued love and support during the pandemic!

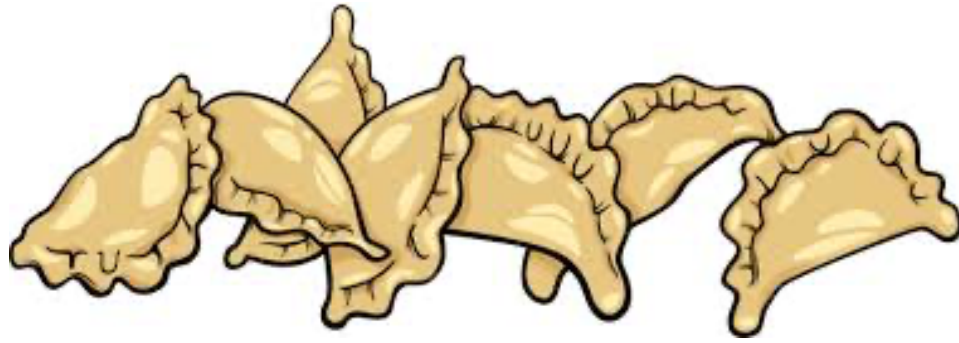
If you have any questions on how to become an EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) Donor, please contact Jovi Jovanovich at jovanovich23@yahoo.com or visit our webpage at www.stnicholasmonroeville.org/onlinecontribution to safely and securely make an electronic donation.

Announcements

- **Upcoming Service Schedule**

- Mon. Jan. 18 – Krstovdan – Liturgy 9am – Vespers 6pm
- Tues. Jan. 19 – Theophany – Liturgy 9am
- Wed. Jan. 20 – St. John the Baptist – Liturgy 9am
- Tues. Jan 26 – Eve of St. Sava – Vespers 6pm
- Wed. Jan 27 – St. Sava – Liturgy 9am

- **House Blessings Postponed** – Due to the ongoing pandemic and by instruction of His Grace Bishop Irinej, house blessings will be postponed for the time being. Blessed water will be distributed at the church on the Sunday after Theophany, January 24th.
- **Pierogi Sale Fundraiser** – \$12 a dozen. Preordering begins January 31st. See flyer for more details.
- **MEDITERRA Bakehouse Breads** – *Order by Jan 27th at noon for pickup Jan 31st* – Lenten breads for sale: \$5 a loaf except \$6 specialty loaves. Pre-orders only. Call Sondra at (412)760-5796 by noon the Wednesday prior. Orders are available after church. All pickups will take place outside on the patio. There is now an online order form option: <https://forms.gle/2bgpuweWMnjgSeEB6> See flyer for more details.
- **Nut Roll and Apricot Roll Available** – There are still a few nut rolls and apricot rolls for sale. Please call Sandy (724-744-2075) or Rose (412-824-7609) for more information.
- **Thank you** - We wish to thank everyone who purchased a poinsettia to make our church look beautiful for the Nativity. The Sunday School profit from the sale will be put towards the HVAC funds. Again, thank you.
- **Thank you** - The Holiday Cookie Sale committee would like to thank all those who participated in our very first cookie sale. We gave the church a little over \$4,000 to be put towards the Air Conditioning unit for our church. We had people who came Saturday mornings almost every week until December. We had a really special "oven watcher", dough rollers, dish washers, nut grinders, wrappers and freezers. It was a lot of work but we really made it a good time. A special "thank you" to our President and First Lady, Nick and Mary Jokola, for all their love and support in doing the marquee and placing the signs in the ground. We also want to thank our devoted person, Sandy, who took all the phone calls for the orders. A job well done. Also, Popadija Marina, thank you for always putting our notices in the bulletin.



ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH CHOIR OF
MONROEVILLE:

HOMEMADE POTATO AND CHEESE

PIEROGI SALE FUNDRAISER

\$12.00 PER DOZEN

PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE ST. NICHOLAS HVAC FUND

PREORDERING BEGINS JANUARY 31ST
PIEROGI PICK UP: MARCH 13th & MARCH 14th
AT 2110 HAYMAKER ROAD, MONROEVILLE, PA 15146
DELIVERY ALSO AVAILABLE ON MARCH 13th!

ALREADY HUNGRY? CONTACT DANIELLA
VRANESEVIC TO PLACE YOUR ORDER!
DANIELLA.VRANESEVIC@GMAIL.COM | (724)600-5868

Introducing



MEDITERRA BAKEHOUSE BREADS

www.mediterrabakehouse.com

**NOW at St. Nicholas Serbian Eastern Orthodox Church,
2110 Haymaker Road Monroeville, PA 15146 on selected dates**

The Bakehouse Breads will be available at St. Nicholas on *Sundays* after Divine Liturgy on: **January 3, 17, and 31, 2021**. These breads are Lenten. All breads need to be **PRE-ORDERED** by calling Sondra at **(412)760-5796** by the **Wednesday prior to that Sunday (Dec. 30, 2020; Jan.13, 27, 2021)**. Orders may be picked up from the Church Social Hall Patio at 11:45 AM. Mark your calendar!

The following selections will be available for \$5.00 per loaf. **Cash only, please:**

- **Sourdough Round** (INGREDIENTS: unbleached, unbromated whole wheat flour, filtered water, sea salt, organic cornmeal)
- **Rustic Italian Bread** (INGREDIENTS: unbleached, unbromated wheat flour, filtered water, sea salt, yeast, organic cornmeal)
- **Ciabatta** (INGREDIENTS: unbleached, unbromated wheat flour, filtered water, sea salt, yeast, organic cornmeal)
- **Paesano** (INGREDIENTS: unbleached, unbromated wheat flour, filtered water, sea salt, yeast, organic cornmeal)
- **Heartland Grain** (Ingredients: unbleached, unbromated wheat flour, cracked wheat berry, rye flakes, organic millet, organic flax seed, organic cornmeal, organic spelt, filtered water, wildflower honey, whole wheat flour, pumpkin seed, canola oil, poppy seed, sea salt, yeast)
- **Mt. Athos Fire Bread** (INGREDIENTS: unbleached, unbromated wheat flour, whole wheat flour, whole raw wheat germ, filtered water, sea salt, organic cornmeal)
- **Rye** (specify seeded or non-seeded): (INGREDIENTS: unbleached, unbromated whole wheat flour, rye flour, pumpernickel flour, caraway seed, filtered water, sea salt, fresh yeast, organic cornmeal)

Specialty Bread (\$6.00 per loaf). Specialty Breads may vary on specific dates.

- **Pecan Raisin** (INGREDIENTS: unbleached, unbromated whole wheat flour, whole wheat flour, filtered water, raisins, toasted pecans, cornmeal)



- **8 Grain 3 Seed** (INGREDIENTS: Cracked wheat, cracked rye, whole wheat flour, filtered water, flax seed, millet, cornmeal, spelt, rolled oats, rice flour, sunflower seeds, buckwheat flour, poppy seed, wildflower honey, sea salt)