

ST. NICHOLAS BULLETIN

Sunday, March 19, 2023

Sunday of the Cross

Tone 7. Epistle, Heb. 4:14 - 5:6; Gospel, Mark 8:34-9:1

Martyrs Chrysanthus and Daria / Martyr Pancharius

SERVICES

WEDNESDAY 7:00 p.m. PRE-SANCTIFIED DIVINE LITURGY

(Holy Resurrection Church, Belle Vernon)

SATURDAY 9:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY

(Annunciation of the Most Holy Theotokos)

(Holy Resurrection Church, Belle Vernon)

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOUR will be held today following the Divine Liturgy.

SUNDAY OF THE CROSS VESPERS SERVICE will be held today at St. Alexander Nevsky Church in Allison Park at 4:30 p.m.

ALTAR TABLE CANDLES (7) offered by Eleanor and Jim Prystash, in loving memory of dep. husband and father, John, (18th Anniversary). Memory Eternal!
ANALOI TABLE CANDLES (7) offered by Denise Ricci, in loving memory of dep. mother, Julia Chuhran. Memory Eternal!

A SPECIAL COLLECTION will be held today to help those who are suffering in Ukraine.

DEANERY VESPERS SERVICE will be held next Sunday at St. Nicholas Church (Donora) at 4:30 p.m., followed by refreshments.

VIGIL OFFERINGS – Sunday, March 19, 2023

MARY BEHANNA (Virgin Mary Kiot) – In memory of parents, Andy and Petrina Gernat (2)

INA PRYSTASH – In memory of husband, Ralph / For health of daughter, Jacque and family

RODNEY PRYSTASH – In memory of dad / For health of mom, Jacque, Dianna, and family

DONNA BUCCI – For health of family

KEN BEHANNA – For health and welfare of our church

PROTODEACON RODION and MAT. SANDY – For health of Protodeacon Rodion, Nicholas, and Christina / For health of Pauline Petro / For health of Tom Petro

VLAD KASH – In memory of Fr. Igor

TOM and ELAINE BACKSTROM – Special intentions / In memory of mom and dad / God's healing hand be upon sister, Michele / God's blessings upon grandchildren, Sydney, Luke, Freddy, and Madison / For health of family

SANDY KLIZAS – In memory of Stephen and Helen Drake (2) / In memory of Frank and June Drake (2) / Special intentions / For health of Sandra Kovalik / In memory of Emma DeVito

SANDY AITKEN – In memory of brother, Ethan / In memory of dad, Lee / In memory of newly departed Aunt Rosemary / For health of mother, Pauline / For health of Aunt Bunnie / Safe travel for Bart, Tamara, Ian, and sister Natalie

PAULINE AITKEN – In memory of dep. son, Kevin / In memory of dep. grandson, Nicholas / In memory of dep. husband, Lee / In memory of dep. son, Ethan / For health of Pauline Petro / Special intentions

DR. DIMITRI and PAULINE PETRO – Birthday remembrance of father, William Drahushak / Birthday remembrance of uncle, Michael / For health of Tom and Shelley (2) / For health of Christine and Alexandra (2) / For health of Ted and Joceline (2) / For health of Natalie and Rob (2) / For health of Kyra and Will (2) / For health of Russell and Rachel (2)

M/M NICK MILCHOVICH – For health and recovery of mom, Pauline Petro / For health of brother, Tom

MARK SOROKA – In blessed memory of mother, Mat. Irene / In blessed memory of father, Fr. Igor

SUNDAY OF THE CROSS

The commemoration and ceremonies of the Third Sunday of Lent are closely parallel to the feasts of the Veneration of the Cross (September 14) and the Procession of the Cross (August 1). Not only does the Sunday of the Holy Cross prepare us for commemoration of the Crucifixion, but it also reminds us that the whole of Lent is a period when we are crucified with Christ.

As we have "crucified the flesh with its passions and desires" (Galatians 5:24) and will have mortified ourselves during these forty days of the Fast, the precious and life-giving Cross is now placed before us to refresh our souls and encourage us who may be filled with a sense of bitterness, resentment, and depression.

The Cross reminds us of the Passion of our Lord, and by presenting to us His example, it encourages us to follow Him in struggle and sacrifice, being refreshed, assured, and comforted. In other words, we must experience what the Lord experienced during His Passion - being humiliated in a shameful manner. The Cross teaches us that through pain and suffering we shall see the fulfillment of our hopes: the heavenly inheritance and eternal glory.