

# Glory be to Jesus Christ! Glory be Forever!!

February 4, 2018

**Epistle Reading:** 1 Corinthians 6:12-20      **Gospel Reading:** Luke 15:11-32

**Next Week:** 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2      **Next Week:** Matthew 25:31-46

\*Take time to read the scriptures to prepare your heart and mind for Sunday's Liturgy.

<b>Services</b>	Sun., Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Memorial for the Repose of the Soul of the Handmaiden of God <i>Nellie Redmond (1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of Falling Asleep)</i> requested by her family.	<b>After Liturgy</b>
	Sat., Feb. 10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Great Vespers</b> (Holy Sacrament of Confession to follow)	<b>7 pm</b>
	Sun., Feb. 11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Meatfare Sunday – The Last Judgment</b> Church School Hours Divine Liturgy	<b>9:15 am</b> <b>9:45 am</b> <b>10 am</b>

## Announcements:

**“Souper Bowl” Sunday:** SOUP’S ON! Stop by Coffee Hour **TODAY** for a delicious bowl of homemade soup while helping out IOCC and cast your vote for your favorite!

**TODAY** is the last day for collecting **“Socks & Gutchie”** for FOCUS Pittsburgh. These gifts will go to needy families served by the local Orthodox charity organization, FOCUS Pittsburgh.

Fr. Stephan will be celebrating Saturday night Vespers with the Sacrament of Confession at **7 pm in the month of February**. The ONLY exception will be on Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> when vespers will be celebrated directly after the Lenten Retreat at 4 pm.

It seems prudent at this time to suggest some precautions associated with the flu pandemic and the reception of Holy Communion. It is possible to receive Holy Communion in a fashion that minimizes the risks of spreading a virus. When you approach the chalice, open your mouth, tilt your head back and allow Father to deposit the Holy Gifts on your tongue. This method serves to minimize contact of the Spoon with your mouth, lips and tongue. Also, it is not necessary to kiss the chalice following Communion. This practice is a pious custom, not a Church law. Once the threat of the pandemic passes, customary veneration of the chalice could be resumed if the communicant feels comfortable doing so. Finally, there have been questions associated with venerating icons and the Holy Cross. Veneration of these holy objects can also be done in a way that minimizes contagion. Father will again demonstrate an alternative way which you might consider adopting until the pandemic runs its course.

**Looking ahead:** Please note these events on your calendars which will occur in ensuing month or so:

**Parish Council Meeting: Monday**, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm

**Pre-Lenten Retreat:** Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. This year’s speaker will be Second-Year Seminarian Joseph Sharman on the topic “The Orthodox Lenten Family”. Reader Joseph will discuss preparing a family for Lent and Lenten Traditions. Please see today’s bulletin insert for more information and how to register. This will be an interactive experience to help prepare us for the Resurrection.

**Parish Annual Meeting:** Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> after Divine Liturgy.

The **Mon Valley Observance of the Sunday of Orthodoxy** with a special vespers will be held at HROC on Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m.

**Annual Lenten BAKED Fish Dinners: What’s For Dinner?** On Fridays, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, March 9<sup>th</sup> and March 30<sup>th</sup> from 12 Noon to 6 pm its baked fish, green beans, coleslaw, potato & cheese perohi and dessert are on the menu. Invite your family, friends and neighbors for some homemade goodness! To help this endeavor run as smoothly as possible, your help and cooperation is always needed and very much appreciated! If you’re able to lend a hand please let Marie or Mary know. A big thank you in advance for everyone’s cooperation for this fundraising project!

**Paska Baking:** Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>; possible third day if needed, Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. Come and enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow parishioners by joining in one or two of the baking sessions.

**PLEASE NOTE CHOIR MEMBERS:** According to the soon to be distributed 11-Week Lenten/Paschal calendar, our Parish will be hosting the **Mon Valley Observance of the Sunday of Orthodoxy with a special vespers on Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m.** Rehearsals will be held on the following **Sundays at 2 pm: February 11<sup>th</sup> and February 18<sup>th</sup> with a warm-up rehearsal prior to the service on February 24<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm.** Prayer Arise, the all-male chorus, will be joining the Pan-Orthodox Choir with the singing of the hymns.

**House Blessings:** Father Stephan is making his rounds! **Please let him know if there are any changes to your address and/or phone number.** He will contact you before he arrives. Don’t worry about your mess, Father Stephan has had a lot of life experience with a house full of people and stuff. Traditionally one would want to have at least one clean spot with a clean white cloth that has a bowl of blessed water, an icon, candle, and a fresh herb that can be used for the blessing and later as seasoning.

The **2018 Church Calendars** have arrived and are available in the vestibule today.

Please remember your **February Fair Share Monthly** envelope. Our monthly obligation to the national church and Archdiocese is \$15 per adult person per month. Not meeting this obligation requires us to draw funds from the General Account to cover them.

**Collection:** January 28<sup>th</sup>: \$1,712