



Church website: www.hrocby.org

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Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church

222 Mary Street, Rostraver Township, PA
(Serving the faithful of Belle Vernon and surrounding areas)

Reverend Father Stephan Gresh

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December 6, 2020

Glory be to Jesus Christ! Glory be Forever!

Services	Wed., Dec. 9 th	Conception of the Most Holy Theotokos by Righteous Anna	
		Hours	8:45 am
		Divine Liturgy	9 am
	Sat., Dec. 12 th	St. Spyridon the Wonderworker	
		Hours	8:45 am
		Divine Liturgy	9 am
		Great Vespers	7 pm
	Sun., Dec. 13 th	Sunday of Holy Forefathers Our Holy Father St. Herman of Alaska	
		Hours	9:45 am
		Divine Liturgy	10 am

Epistle

(Ephesians 5:9-19)

(for the fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness, righteousness, and truth),

finding out what is acceptable to the Lord.

And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose *them*.

For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret.

But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light.

Therefore He says:

“Awake, you who sleep,
Arise from the dead,
And Christ will give you light.”

See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,
redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord *is*.

And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,

speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

Gospel

(Luke 17:12-19)

Then as He entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off.

And they lifted up *their* voices and said, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!”

So when He saw *them*, He said to them, “**Go, show yourselves to the priests.**” And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed.

And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God,

and fell down on *his* face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan.

So Jesus answered and said, “**Were there not ten cleansed? But where *are* the nine?**

“Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?”

And He said to him, “**Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well.**”

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

Next Week -- Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11

Gospel Reading: Luke 14:16-24

Announcements:

This Christmas season will be trying for everyone! Help yourself while in the process of helping others and spread the joy of the birth of our Savior! Since the beginning of the pandemic, St. Tikhon’s Seminary has been closed to everyone except for essential personnel of St. Tikhon’s. Many of our seminarians and their families are feeling disconnected and monetary help is not freely available to help with necessities. Starting with this week’s Saturday/Sunday liturgies through December 13th, we will be taking a special collection to help make Christmas for our seminarians and their families special. Please place your donation in the basket by the choir. We will also be sending along some of Julia’s handmade colorful hats and headbands with our monetary gift. We are celebrating Christmas a little differently this year. Let us not forget to help our neighbor in need!

So far, we have received \$485 for our “adopted” Seminarian family for Christmas. It is okay if we receive more than our goal, because there are other Seminarian families in need. Let us give with our hearts during this Christmas season and surprise another family with much needed support!

Don’t forget, we need to remember and visit our Home-Bound Parishioners especially over the holiday season! See today’s bulletin insert for an **UPDATED** listing of our Home-Bound Parishioners. All of these folks are very appreciative that their parish has not forgotten them and enthusiastically send their love to all here at HROC. *If you know of a person who needs to be added to it, please let Father Stephan know.*

This month’s Parish Council meeting will be held **Tuesday, December 8th at 7 pm.**

Saturday, December 19th is the 113th anniversary of the Darr Mine explosion. I plan to do a Memory Eternal for those who have fallen asleep in the disaster. Weather permitting, I will do it on the bike trail at the entrance to the mine. Weather not permitting, I will do it immediately after Liturgy at the church.

Perohi also available: Potato & Cheese (\$7.50 a doz.) and Sweet Cabbage (\$7.00 a doz.)

From Fr. Stephan:

Recently, parishioners, as well as friends, neighbors, and even strangers who recognize me as a member of the clergy express their concerns in regards to the civil/political unrest as well as the corona virus situation.

Now, more than ever, we need to come together as the “Body of Christ” and let the “Light of Christ” shine through us. I am going to ask that everyone in the parish add these special petitions to their daily prayers.

Again, we pray, O Lord, that You come to our aid now during the global spread of the Coronavirus and be with the families of those who are sick and who have died. May the sick regain their strength and health, and as they worry and grieve, defend them from further illness and despair. Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another. Give wisdom and strength to our federal government, our state governments, together with the leaders of all nations, and give them foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they serve. Give them the added wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for and prevent future outbreaks. O Lord hear us and have mercy.

Again, we pray, O Lord, that You be with the doctors, nurses, researchers, and all medical professionals who seek to heal those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders. We pray that You stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow. Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, we pray that You stay with us as we endure and mourn, prepare, and persist. O Lord hear us and have mercy.

Petitions at the Augmented Litany in a Time of Civil Unrest

Again we pray for this country and for all its cities, towns, and countrysides that are riven by strife; for all those who are victims of violence, of hatred and injustice, of disorder and unrest, and especially for those who have been killed, that they might find their repose in thee; for all who are beset by anger and fear; for those in civil authority and all who enforce the law; and for all the people of this land: for justice, godly liberty, mercy, a peaceful life, and remission of our sins. O Lord hear us and have mercy.

Again we pray that all people of this land, its rulers and authorities, its citizens and all who reside here, might be enlightened with the light of thy Gospel and thy commandments, unto peace and good order and love for one another, so that we might easily and safely pass from our temporary homeland here to, our true homeland with thee in heaven. O Lord hear us and have mercy.

Update from the Diocese and Fr. Stephan 11/19/20:

- a) We will ***maintain social distancing***. Every other pew has been taped off. This provides 6’3” between rows. The center isle is 5’ wide so available rows alternate from side to side. For right now, we are asking that two people sit in each pew unless they are a family group.
- b) *****Masks and/or face shields are now a requirement*** while on church property for any gatherings. However, when you come to communion, Fr. Stephan will wear a mask so that you will be able to receive.
- c) Fr. Stephan will use an ***individual spoon for each communicant***. Every spoon will be cleaned and sanitized by Fr. Stephan.
- d) There will be ***NO congregating at the candle stand***. The prayer/candle forms will be available in the pews. Fill them out at your seats. Drop in basket at the candle area.
- e) ***Father Stephan will no longer be calling to ask you to schedule for services***. Being permitted to have 40 per service helps situation greatly. If you are able to come on a Saturday from time to time please do! This will open some additional spaces on Sundays making it possible for everyone to start coming on a weekly basis.
- f) The Church is cleaned and sanitized after each service. Please be considerate and make our jobs easier. ***If you use a service book please leave it on the pew so that it can be sanitized***.