



Church website: www.hrocbv.org

Church Social Hall: (724) 929-7448

*Holy Resurrection
Orthodox Church*

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

Reverend Father Stephan Gresh

Cell Phone: (937) 869-8037

Rectory Phone: (724) 929-9194

Email: stephangresh@gmail.com

Ordained Reader

& Choir Master: Peter Merella: (724) 787-2031

June 14, 2020

Glory be to Jesus Christ! Glory be Forever!

Services	Sun., Jun 14 th	<i>Apostle Fast begins at sundown</i>	
	Sat., Jun 20 th	Hieromartyr Methodius	
		Hours	8:45 am
		Divine Liturgy	9 am
		Great Vespers	7 pm
	Sun., Jun 21 st	Sunday of Regional All Saints	
		Hours	9:45 am
		Divine Liturgy	10 am
	Mon., Jun. 22 nd	Hieromartyr Eusebius	
		Hours	8:45 am
		Divine Liturgy	9 am

One of the Least Remembered Fasts of the Church calendar – the Apostles’ Fast – starts at sundown on **TODAY and ends Saturday, June 29th** on the Feast of Saints Peter & Paul. Observe the Season by attending the Divine Liturgy on the Feast of Ss. Peter & Paul **and/or** by adjusting your diet utilizing the abundance of veggies and fruit available this time of year **and/or** by resolving to attend June Divine Liturgy one of the Saturday, Sunday, or Monday Liturgies **and/or** by remembering the material needs of the Church with a special offering in honor of the ‘Great Pillars’, Peter & Paul.

Epistle

(Hebrews 11:33-12:2)

who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,

quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection.

Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment.

They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented –

of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, *in dens and caves of the earth.*

And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise,

God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Gospel

(Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30)

“Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.

“But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

“He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.

“And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.

Then Peter answered and said to Him, “See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?”

So Jesus said to them, “Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

“And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.

“But many *who are* first will be last, and the last first.

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

Next Week: Romans 2:10-16

Gospel Reading: Matthew 4:18-23

Announcements:

HELP WANTED, NO EXPERIENCE or SPECIAL TRAINING NECESSARY, HOURS FLEXIBLE! Where could you find a help wanted ad like this? Help is needed in tackling the weeds that have been growing around the church with the recent rains. With the donation of some of your time to fill a plastic grocery bag with weeds you can put a tremendous dent into this project. Please consider stopping by the church whenever you can to lend a hand! It's a great opportunity to get out as well as maintaining social distancing! *Teamwork works wonders!* Thank you in advance. Please bring your own gardening equipment.

1. We will continue evaluating our opportunities as we move into the Green Phase. Stay tuned for updates!
2. Attendance was light this past Sunday. Don't forget, if one is unable to attend, please let Fr. Stephan know so that others may have an opportunity to attend.
3. The weather was perfect last Sunday for Fr. Stephan to bless all the graves of our loved ones in the Belle Vernon Cemetery. We will attempt to bless more graves after Liturgy **this Sunday**. We will start at Grandview in Monessen, followed by Monongahela and West Newton, weather permitting. Please contact Fr. Stephan to make arrangements to bless graves of loved ones at other cemeteries.
4. Michelle Meisner has contacted Fr. Stephan this week. Her father Larry Morozek will not be going back to his apartment and she is in the process of getting rid of the furniture at the apartment. Michelle has provided pictures that will be posted along with contact information.

Holy Prophet Elisha

By Very Rev. Fr. Lawrence Farley

Elisha was the son of Shaphet, and he lived in Abel-meholah in the Jordan Valley. He was a farmer when Elijah the prophet called him to join him as a prophet and as his successor in about 856 BC.

After Elijah's ascension, Elisha dwelt in Jericho with the community of prophets. He assisted Jehoram, King of Israel, in his military campaign against Moab. Elisha was a wonderworker, turning bitter waters to sweet drinkability, raising a boy from the dead, curing the foreign general Naaman of his leprosy, and striking Syrian soldiers with blindness. He lived for a time in Gidal. He went to Damascus to anoint the foreign king Hazael as king over Syria, and he anointed the firebrand Jehu the next king over Israel.

Elisha was a man of healing, intimately involved with the spiritual politics of his day. Through him God worked His purposes for the political fortunes of His people, for salvation and judgment. Even after Elisha's death, God continued to work wonders through his relics—a dead man, coming into contact with his bones, was immediately revived. Elisha died in about 800 BC.

Update from Fr. Stephan:

Westmoreland and the surrounding counties have recently gone from red to yellow status. Archbishop Melchizedek has given the parishes in the yellow regions permission to increase the number of attendance from 10 to 25 providing that they meet all of the requirements set by the government as well as the OCA.

The parish council met “virtually” this past Tuesday to discuss how we can expand to 25 for services. Fr. Stephan shared this with Fr. Andrew, (our Dean) as well as Fr. Bill, (our Chancellor). They have given us permission to go to 25.

Precautions that are now in place include:

- 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. This may change as things open up further.
- b) ***Masks are required any time that social distancing is compromised***. Example: 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) ***One of the parish council members will act as a greeter*** opening the doors and help to facilitate activities.
- e) 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 baskets at the candle stand.

- f) The *doors are required to be locked at the start of service* so please plan to be early! Signs will be posted on the doors.
- g) *Fr. Stephan will continue to call to schedule.* If you sign up for a day and are not going to be able to attend, let Fr. Stephan know ASAP so that someone else has the opportunity to attend. Fr. Stephan is required to keep a log of every one who attends.
- h) 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.*