



Church website: [www.hrocbv.org](http://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

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Ordained Reader

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### February 21, 2021

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

<b>Services</b>	Sat., Feb. 27 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Rest of St. Raphael of Brooklyn; Holy Father Procopius of Decapolis</b>	
		Hours	<b>8:45 am</b>
		Divine Liturgy	<b>9 am</b>
		<b>Great Vespers</b>	<b>7 pm</b>
	Sun., Feb. 28 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Venerable Basil the Confessor; Blessed Nicholas of Pskov</b>	
		<i>(Pre-Lenten Sunday: Prodigal Son)</i>	
		Hours	<b>9:45 am</b>
		Divine Liturgy	<b>10 am</b>

### **Epistle**

(2 [Timothy 3:10-15](#))

But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance,

persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra – what persecutions I endured. And out of *them* all the Lord delivered me.

Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.

But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*,

and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

## Gospel ([Luke 18:10-14](#))

**“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.**

**“The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men – extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector.**

**‘I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’**

**“And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise *his* eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’**

**“I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”**

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

***Next Week -- Epistle:*** 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

***Gospel Reading:*** Luke 15:11-32

## **Announcements:**

*Contact Father Stephan if you would like a house blessing.* There will be limitations. Father Stephan will have a mask on when he arrives at your house and during the blessing. If one desires to talk and “break bread”, social distancing will need to be observed. If one is not comfortable to have their house blessed at this time, they can contact Father Stephan at a later date when they are more comfortable. Father Stephan has copies of a short prayer that anyone can use to bless their house and will make them available at the candle stand.

With the current political unrest, Father Stephan is spending a lot of time in the Church. **We need all of your prayers at this time.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Annual Archdiocesan Meeting scheduled for February 27<sup>th</sup> has been postponed until June. More information will be forthcoming.

Who would have thought – record-breaking cold and snow in Texas?!? Requesting prayers for the people in the South dealing with havoc wreaked by extreme winter weather. We have received word from the Krill’s as well as Joe and Ivanna that they are hanging in there! They have all been hit hard by the weather and had to deal with a lot of difficulties. Peter has firsthand information from the Krill’s. Joe and Ivanna weathered the storm okay and opened their house to others who lost power, heat and water. They had as many as 17 people sheltering at their place.

***Paska! Paska! Paska!*** But, nothing could replace this precious tradition to celebrate the joyous Resurrection! In spite of covid, the men and women of HROC will be rolling up their sleeves **TWICE** during the weeks leading up to Pascha to assure that past and new customers will have this wonderful delicacy to enjoy for their Easter. As an insert in today’s bulletin you will find Baba’s Paska Order Form.

**PLEASE NOTE:** This form will be used to order Paskas for BOTH Western Easter (April 4<sup>th</sup>) and Holy Pascha (May 2<sup>nd</sup>). Please note that the last two columns on the form are where you indicate for which Easter your Paska is needed and will help organize the orders. Most importantly,

*Don't forget to include a valid telephone number(s) on the order form so we can arrange for you to pick-up!*

The orders are due **Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup>**. Please leave your orders at the candle stand or see either Marie or Mary S. Due to the large demand for Baba's Paska, no orders can be accepted after the due date.

The *2021 Church Calendars* have arrived and are available in the vestibule today.

**Perohi also available: 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.**

Due the weather this past week, last week's candle list will be published next week.

Matushka Denise has been working on the Livestream issue. We now have an account on Facebook so everything should be working smoother. Below are three ways to watch services:

1. Via Livestreaming on Facebook.
2. Via the "Livestream page" on our website – no Facebook account needed!
3. After the service is over, the video will be uploaded to YouTube and will be available on the Video page on our website.

If anyone is still encountering issues, please let Matushka know.