



*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

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

Church website: www.hrocbv.org

Church Social Hall: (724) 929-7448

March 7, 2021

Glory be to Jesus Christ! Glory be Forever!

Services	Sat., Mar. 13 th	Relics of St. Nicephorus	
		Hours	8:45 am
		Divine Liturgy	9 am
		Great Vespers	7 pm

Sun., Mar. 14th **Holy Father Benedict of Nursia**

(Pre-Lenten Sunday:

Cheesefare – Expulsion from Paradise)

Hours **9:45 am**

Divine Liturgy **10 am**

Epistle

(1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2)

But food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse.

But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak.

For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols?

And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died?

But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ.

Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord?

If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

Gospel
([Matthew 25:31-46](#))

“When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.

“All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats.

“And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.

“Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

‘for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in;

‘I *was* naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’

“Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed *You*, or thirsty and give *You* drink?

‘When did we see You a stranger and take *You* in, or naked and clothe *You*?

‘Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’

“And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did *it* to one of the least of these My brethren, you did *it* to Me.’

“Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:

‘for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink;

‘I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.’

“Then they also will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?’

“Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do *it* to one of the least of these, you did not do *it* to Me.’

“And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

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

Next Week -- Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4

Gospel Reading: Matthew 6:14-21

Announcements:

This month's Parish Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 7 pm.**

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.

We will be adding the prayers for the catechumens to the Liturgy for **Joe Niro**. If anyone else would like to join the Church through the catechumens, please let Father Stephan know of your intentions.

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. Pick up your Paska Order Form at the Candlestand.

PLEASE NOTE: This form will be used to order Paskas for **BOTH** Western Easter (April 4th) **and** Holy Pascha (May 2nd). *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 14th**. 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 baking sessions for orders placed for **Saturday, March 23rd** will take place on
Friday, March 26 & Saturday, March 27 -- Both sessions will start at 7 am.

Come and enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow parishioners by coming to one and/or both baking sessions.

HOT OFF THE PRESSES! The annual "**Lenten, Holy Week and Paschal 11 Week Calendar**" is available for home reference to keep you abreast of all Lenten services during this holy season. Pick yours up **TODAY** at the candlestand. Due to covid concerns, there will be no rotating of services among other Deanery parishes this year. All listed services will be at HROC.

Fr. Stephan will hear confessions after all scheduled services throughout Lent. If one cannot make it due to health or other noble reasons, Fr. Stephan will be glad to hear your confessions at your house.

Don't Forget! We will be springing ahead on Sunday, March 14th. Day Light Savings begins.

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

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.

The baking sessions for orders placed for will be Friday, 3/26 & 3/27 is **Saturday, March 23rd**

The baking session for orders placed for May 5th is **Saturday, April 13th**

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