



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

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Ordained Reader

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January 15, 2023

Glory Be to Jesus Christ! Glory Be Forever!

Services	Sat., Jan. 21 st	Great Vespers with Confession	7 pm
	Sun., Jan. 22 nd	Apostle Timothy (of 70) St. Anastasius of Persia Martyr Peter of Bulgaria	
		Church School	9:15 am
		Hours	9:45 am
		Divine Liturgy	10 am

Epistle

(1 Timothy 1:15-17)

This *is* a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.

However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, *be* honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Gospel

(Luke 18:18-27)

Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, “Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”

So Jesus said to him, “**Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God.**

“You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery,’ ‘Do not murder,’ ‘Do not steal,’ ‘Do not bear false witness,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother.’”

And he said, “All these things I have kept from my youth.”

So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, “**You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.**”

But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich.

And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, “**How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!**

“For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”

And those who heard it said, “Who then can be saved?”

But He said, “**The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.**”

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

Epistle: 1 Timothy 1:15-17

Gospel Reading: Luke 18:35-43

Announcements:

Church Envelopes: The envelopes are in. Stop by the Candle Stand this morning to pick up your church envelopes. As a cost saving measure, Church Council will be addressing and distributing church envelopes.

The River Blessing last Sunday was a beautiful success! The weather was wonderful! Thanks again to everyone who attended and helped make this a blessed event at our sister parish in West Brownsville.

Save the Date: St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church, New Kensington and the Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western PA are sponsoring a Winter Retreat on **Saturday, January 28th**. Deacon Mark Barna and his wife Elizabeth, authors of “A Christian Ending”, will be presenting a workshop at St. John the Baptist, New Kensington as part of this weekend retreat. The Barnas will be talking about practical things that we can do to prepare for our departure from this life and how we can offer funerals that are fully Orthodox, much more personal and *significantly less expensive* than most modern funeral services. There will be a Moleben at 9:15 am preceding the Event which will be begin at 10 am. There will be a short break for lunch and an afternoon break as well. Please note: There is an encouraged \$20 per person event fee to help with associated costs. Please contact Parkerthepriest@gmail.com or frdavidvernak@verizon.net with any questions. For more information, please see the flyer on the vestibule bulletin board. **Per Fr. Stephan “I am excited about the upcoming retreat at New Kensington and plan to attend. I will be glad to provide rides for others who are interested.”**

At the River Blessing, Fr. Sam shared an interesting upcoming presentation – “*Faith-Less? Lecture Explores Church Disaffiliation and What Can Be Done About It.*” Presenter, Dr. Stephen Bullivant, has conducted research that a quarter of Americans report they have no religion. About 59 million of these are “nonverts”: people who previously belonged to a faith tradition but now have none. Understanding why these “nonverts” left the church can help us move out of blame and despair into more effective revitalization and evangelism. On **Wednesday, January 18th at 7 pm**, Dr. Bullivant will speak about his research into church disaffiliation at O’Connor Hall Auditorium, at the Pastoral Center of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, 2900 Noblestown Rd., Pittsburgh. Admission is free and open to the public. Dr. Bullivant holds doctorates in Theology and Sociology, holds professorships at St. Mary’s University of London and University of Notre Dame of Australia, is the Director of the Benedict XVI Centre for Religion and Society in London, and has authored of 14 books, including *Mass Exodus: Catholic Disaffiliation in Britain and America since Vatican II* and *Nonverts: The Making of Ex-Christian American*. Fr. Stephan plans to try to attend. Let him know if you’d like to share a ride.

House Blessings: House Blessings have started and will continue for several weeks. Father Stephan plans to call everyone in the directory. **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.

With the Lenten Preparatory Sundays around the corner, (Zaccheus is on January 29th), we are getting together to make some cheese & potato perohis on **Saturday, January 21st starting at 7 a.m.** Come and lend a hand! See you there!

Save the Date: Our Annual Parish Meeting is set for **Sunday, February 5th.**

The *2023 Church Calendars* have arrived and are available in the vestibule today.

A Note from Council ~~ Don’t forget: If you have any changes/updates to your phone/cell number, e-mail address or home address, please let us know. Please drop off any new information at the candlestand or give to Mary Merella to help us keep the information on our contact lists up-to-date. Thanks!

Interested in learning how to make Prospora? If interested, please let either Marie or Mary know. A demonstration/class is on the horizon.

Reminder: Please have the courtesy to inform others if you have potentially exposed them to Covid. It is still imperative that we remain vigilant to keep safe and healthy.