



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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March 5, 2023

Glory Be to Jesus Christ! Glory Be Forever!

Services	Sun., Mar. 5 th	Sunday of Orthodoxy Mission Vespers <i>St. George Antiochian Cathedral, Oakland</i>	4:30 pm
	Fri., Mar. 10 th	Akathist to the Theotokos <i>(Private Confessions follow)</i>	7 pm
	Sat., Mar. 11 th	Great Vespers with Confession	6 pm
	Sun., Mar. 12 th	Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas Hours Divine Liturgy Mission Vespers <i>HROC, Belle Vernon</i>	9:45 am 10 am 4:30 pm

Epistle

(*Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2*)

By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin,

esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.

And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets:

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

(John 1:43-51)

The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, **“Follow Me.”**

Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.

Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote – Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”

And Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.”

Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, **“Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!”**

Nathanael said to Him, “How do You know me?” Jesus answered and said to him, **“Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.”**

Nathanael answered and said to Him, “Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!”

Jesus answered and said to him, **“Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.”**

And He said to him, **“Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”**

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

Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3

Gospel Reading: Mark 2:1-12

Announcements:

Archbishop MELCHISEDEK is “carefully” re-starting his archpastoral visits to the parishes accompanied by Dn. Peter Ilchuk following his hip replacement last August. His Eminence will be visiting our Parish on **Sunday, March 12th**. Let us humbly welcome him and wish him continued good health and many, many blessed years!

This month’s Parish Council meeting is scheduled for **Monday March 13th at 6:30 pm.**

We have had a few people take advantage of the Church being open for them to just come and pray. They expressed how appreciative they were to have the opportunity to have a peaceful place to pray. Some of the people who came were visitors to the Orthodox Church. They had some wonderful questions and we had some wonderful dialogues!

During the Lenten Season, we should try to look back at ourselves and our lives to see where we can improve and come closer to God. The service of the “Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete” was a most beautiful reflection of ourselves showing where we can make an improvement. Attend any of the upcoming Lenten services to assist you on your journey towards Pascha.

As we also try to get our spiritual houses in order during the Lenten Season, there are many, many, little things that need to be done around our Church to ready it for the Paschal celebration. Please see Fr. Stephan to enlist to help out.

Paska! Paska! Paska! Nothing could replace this precious tradition to celebrate the joyous Resurrection! The men and women of HROC will be rolling up their sleeves on **Thursday, March 30th Friday, March, 31st and Saturday April 1st** 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.

Most importantly,

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

The orders are due **Sunday, March 19th**. 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.

Attention Choir Members: There will be upcoming important rehearsal. We will be rehearsing for the upcoming mission vespers service for St. Gregory Palamas on March 12th, Holy Week services and the Paschal celebration. The next rehearsal will be held at **St. Nicholas in Donora on Saturday, March 11th at 3 pm. (Pls note location change)**. Reader Peter has been asked to direct a *combined* choir at St. Nicholas' scheduled mission vespers service on March 26th. Anyone interested in joining the choir is encouraged to come!

Ukrainian Easter Egg Workshops ~~ Learn how to write Ukrainian Easter Eggs, known as pysanky eggs, in the traditional methods. Five workshops are included in these sessions where you will learn how to do line work, apply wax, dye & finishing. Registration fee is \$30 and all supplies are included. Space is limited, and you are not required to attend every week. Recommended for ages 10 and up. All experience levels welcome. Classes scheduled for **Thursdays in March, 6 pm-8 pm at St. Nicholas, Donora**. RSVP to Kelly at kbavusox@gmail.com or call/text to 724/882-8561.

Please Note: *As of March 1st, the donation on the large candles will be \$5.00 per candle. The donation on the beeswax tapers and small votive candles will be \$2.00 per candle.*

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!

The First Sunday of Great Lent: Orthodoxy Sunday

By Very Rev. Fr. Lawrence Farley

This Sunday commemorates the restoration of the holy icons after the Church's long struggle with the iconoclasts, who banned and burned the icons, relentlessly persecuting those who made them and venerated them. The icons were restored on the first Sunday of Lent in 843, which ever after was dedicated to celebrating this restoration. (The readings for this Sunday, which focus on Christ as the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets, have little to do with this theme, since the lectionary predates this restoration.)

This Sunday is called the Triumph of Orthodoxy because Orthodoxy centers on the Incarnation of the Divine Word, and it is this Incarnation which is proclaimed in the icons. With the Incarnation of God becoming Man in Jesus, the indescribable became capable of description, and the invisible God became visible, as He came to restore our fallen image by uniting it to His own divine beauty. Henceforth the Church would proclaim this saving Incarnation in both words and images.

This upcoming Lenten Season -- Let us start refocusing our hearts and minds towards humility, forgiveness, repentance, and love towards our fellow man as we begin our Lenten journey on the path to Golgotha with Jesus. We are continuing our support and love of our seminarians and their families by taking a special Paschal collection through **April 9th**. The families are most appreciative of all support!

HOT OFF THE PRESSES! The annual "**Lenten, Holy Week and Paschal 10 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.

Don't Forget: 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.