



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

December 15, 2024

Glory Be to Jesus Christ! Glory Be Forever!

Services	Thurs., Dec. 19 th	Memorial Liturgy and a Memory Liturgy For Those Who Perished in the Darr Mine Disaster of 1907	
		Hours	8:45 am
		Divine Liturgy (Holy Trinity, Charleroi)	9 am
	Sat., Dec. 21 st	Great Vespers and Confession	6 pm
	Sun., Dec. 22 nd	Great Martyr Anastasia	
		Church School (<i>Christmas Break until 1/5/25</i>)	
		Hours	9:45 am
		Divine Liturgy	10 am
	Tues., Dec. 24 th	Pre-Feast of the Nativity of Christ	
		Holy Supper (in Parish Social Hall)	5 pm
		Vigil of the Holy Nativity (Compline and Matins)	7 pm
	Wed. Dec. 25 th	Feast of the Nativity of the Lord	
		Carols	9:45 am
		Divine Liturgy	10 am

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

Epistle: Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40

Gospel Reading: Matthew 1:1-25

<p>Tone 8 Troparion (Resurrection)</p> <p>Thou didst descend from on <u>high</u>, O <u>Merciful</u> One! Thou didst <u>accept</u> the <u>three</u> day burial to free us from our <u>sufferings</u>! O Lord, our <u>Life</u> and <u>Resurrection</u>, <u>glory</u> to Thee!</p> <p>Tone 2 Troparion (Forefathers)</p> <p>Through <u>faith</u> Thou didst justify the <u>Forefathers</u>, betrothing through them the Church of the <u>gentiles</u>.</p>	<p>Tone 6 Kontakion (Forefathers)</p> <p>You did not worship the graven <u>image</u>, O thrice-<u>blessed</u> ones, but armed with the immaterial <u>Essence</u> of God, you were glorified in a <u>trial</u> by fire. From the midst of unbearable flames you called on God, <u>crying</u>:</p> <p>“Hasten, O <u>compassionate</u> One! Speedily <u>come</u> to our aid, for Thou art merciful and able to <u>do</u> as Thou dost will!”</p>	<p>Tone 4 Prokeimenon (Forefathers)</p> <p>Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever! (<i>Song of the Three Holy Children, v. 3</i>)</p> <p>V. For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us! (v. 4)</p>
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These <u>saints</u> exult in <u>glory</u> , for from their seed came forth a <u>glorious</u> fruit: <u>she</u> who bore Thee without seed. So by their prayers, O <u>Christ</u> God, have <u>mercy</u> on us!		
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Epistle

(*Colossians 3:4-11*)

When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.

But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth.

Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds,

and have put on the new *man* who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave *nor* free, but Christ *is* all and in all.

Gospel

(*Luke 14:16-24*)

Then He said to him, **“A certain man gave a great supper and invited many,**

“and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, ‘Come, for all things are now ready.’

“But they all with one *accord* began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.’

“And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.’

“Still another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’

“So that servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house, being angry, said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here *the* poor and *the* maimed and *the* lame and *the* blind.’

“And the servant said, ‘Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.’

“Then the master said to the servant, ‘Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel *them* to come in, that my house may be filled.

‘For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.’”

Announcements:

During the Nativity Fast, please try to do the best you can without hurting or being judgmental of others. Remember abstaining from different foods is only a small part of the Advent Season. We all have opportunities to work on our prayer lives, love our neighbors, forgive others, and ask for forgiveness of our own shortcomings.

**Please consider coming ‘sooner than later’
for your Advent Confession
to avoid long lines before Christmas.**

CHRISTMAS ALTAR CANDLES: The following Altar Candles were presented by the following:

In Loving Memory of:

*Husband, Father & Grandfather, Ronald A. Zeli and
Soroka Family by Martha Zeli & Family*

*John & Libby Rosak, Simon & Izza Joseph,
John & Helen Costella and Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Malaga
by John & Toni Costella*

*Jereme Joseph Dudzinski by Mom & Dad,
Jonathan, Jennifer, Ava & Nathan and
Jacob & Victoria*

The Christmas season can be trying for everyone! Help yourself while in the process of helping others and spread the joy of the birth of our Savior! Many of our St. Tikhon seminarians and their families sometimes feel disconnected and monetary help is not always available to help with necessities. **TODAY** is the last day we will be taking a special collection to help make Christmas for our seminarians and their families special. Please place your donation in the basket by the choir. Let us not forget to help our neighbor in need!

The 2025 Weekly Offering Envelopes are in. Please stop by the candlestand to pick up your set. If you need a set, please see Toni Costella.

2025 Church Calendars are in. Pick up yours today!

All parishioners are reminded to promptly submit their Home Blessings Envelopes. If you think you might have discarded yours, just fill out an envelope at the Candle Desk with your name, address and phone number and turn it into Father.

Don't forget, we need to remember and visit our Home-Bound Parishioners especially over the holiday season! See today's bulletin insert for an **UPDATED** listing of our Home-Bound Parishioners. All of these folks are very appreciative that their parish has not forgotten them and enthusiastically send their love to all here at HROC. *If you know of a person who needs to be added to it, please let Father Stephan know.*

Christmas Altar Candles: Gifts are now being accepted for the Christmas Altar Candles. If you would like to make a gift in memory of loved ones or in honor of loved ones – place your offering in an envelope marking it “Christmas Candles” and leave it at the Candle Stand.

Save the Date:

There will be a Memorial Liturgy for Archbishop Job on **Wednesday, December 18th at 10:00 am** at Saint John the Baptist in Blacklick. Father Stephan plans on attending if anyone needs a ride.

Make this tradition from years gone by a new family tradition! The Nativity Eve Veliya (Holy Supper). All are invited to participate in our Parish Holy Supper Covered Dish on Christmas Eve at the Social Hall beginning **promptly at 5 pm**. Reader Peter will coordinate the preparation of all dishes. ***Please remember all food items must be prepared with no meat, dairy (no eggs or butter).*** (Some of the items traditionally served are: Garlic & Honey, Fish, Sauerkraut Soup, Fruit Compote, Bobalki, Prune Perohi; Keselicha (Fermented Oatmeal), Mashed Potatoes.) Please contact Peter face-to-face or over the phone at 724-787-2031 to confirm your menu assignment. This meal helps us to prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. Learn centuries old customs of this holy night to re-establish the practice of this traditional meal in your family. Take a few minutes to ask parents, grandparents or great grandparents about traditions that they did on Christmas Eve. Bring a friend and see you there!!