



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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December 29, 2024

Christ Is Born! Glorify Him!

Services	Wed. Jan. 1 st	Feast of the Circumcision; St. Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea	
		Hours	8:45 am
		Divine Liturgy	9 am
		<i>(St. John the Baptist, Canonsburg)</i>	
	Sat., Jan. 4 th	Great Vespers and Confession	6 pm
	Sun., Jan. 5 th	Theophany Eve Vigil; Hieromartyr Theopemptum & Martyr Thomas	
		Church School	9:15 am
		Hours	9:45 am
		Divine Liturgy	10 am
	Mon. Jan. 6 th	Feast of Theophany	
		Hours	8:45 am
		Divine Liturgy	9 am
		<i>with the Great Blessing of Water</i>	

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

Epistle: (Resurrection) 1 Corinthians 9:19-27 & (Great Blessing of the Waters) 10:1-4

Gospel Reading: (Resurrection) Luke 3:1-18 & (Great Blessing of the Waters) Mark 1:9-11

<p>Tone 2 Troparion (Resurrection)</p> <p>When <u>Thou</u> didst descend to death, O Life <u>immortal</u>, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy <u>Godhead</u>. And <u>when</u> from the depths Thou didst <u>raise</u> the dead, all the powers of <u>heaven</u> cried out:</p> <p>“O Giver of life, Christ our <u>God</u>, <u>glory</u> to Thee!”</p> <p>Tone 4 Troparion (Feast)</p> <p>Thy Nativity, O <u>Christ</u> our God, has shone to the world the light of <u>wisdom</u>! For by it, those who <u>worshipped</u> the stars, were taught by a star to <u>adore</u> Thee, the Sun of <u>Righteousness</u>, and to know Thee, the <u>Orient</u> from on high. O Lord, <u>glory</u> to Thee!</p>	<p>Tone 2 Troparion (Righteous Ones)</p> <p><u>Proclaim</u> the wonder, O <u>Joseph</u>, to David, the <u>ancestor</u> of God; thou hast <u>seen</u> a Virgin <u>great</u> with child; and thou didst give glory with the <u>shepherds</u>; thou didst <u>worship</u> with the <u>Magi</u>, and didst receive the news from the <u>Angel</u>. Pray to <u>Christ</u> God to <u>save</u> our souls!</p> <p>Tone 3 Kontakion (Righteous Ones)</p> <p>Today godly <u>David</u> is <u>filled</u> with joy; Joseph and James <u>offer</u> praise. The glorious crown of their kinship with Christ fills them with <u>great</u> joy. They sing praises to the One ineffably <u>born</u> on earth, and they cry out:</p> <p>“O Compassionate One, <u>save</u> those who <u>honor</u> Thee!”</p>	<p>Tone 3 Kontakion (Feast)</p> <p>Today the Virgin gives birth to the <u>Transcendent</u> One, and the earth offers a cave to the <u>Unapproachable</u> One! <u>Angels</u> with shepherds <u>glorify</u> Him! The Wise Men <u>journey</u> with the star, since for our sake the eternal <u>God</u> was <u>born</u> as a <u>little</u> Child!</p> <p>Tone 2 Prokeimenon (Resurrection)</p> <p>The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation. (Ps. 117:14)</p> <p>V. The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death. (Ps. 117:18)</p>
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Epistle

(Galatians 1:11-19)

But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man.

For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught *it*, but *it came* through the revelation of Jesus Christ.

For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and *tried* to destroy it.

And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers.

But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother’s womb and called *me* through His grace,

to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood,

nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those *who were* apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus.

Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days.

But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

Gospel

(Matthew 2:13-22)

Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him."

When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "*Out of Egypt I called My Son.*"

Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men.

Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying:

*"A voice was heard in Ramah,
Lamentation, weeping, and great mourning,
Rachel weeping for her children,
Refusing to be comforted,
Because they are no more."*

Now when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child's life are dead."

Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel.

But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee.

And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

Announcements:

Fr. Stephan and Matushka Denise wish to thank everyone who expressed holiday greetings through cards, gifts and messages. May God grant you many rich blessings this Christmas and in the year to come!

2025 River Blessing: The River Blessing will take place on **Sunday, January 12th in West Brownsville**, *weather permitting*. Everyone will gather and warm up at Holy Resurrection, West Brownsville then proceed to the river near the Route 40 bridge. Before and after the River Blessing, hot coffee/tea and refreshments will be served.

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!

House Blessings: It will soon be that time of the year again for the house blessings. Father Stephan will be working on a schedule. **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.

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.*

