



Church website: www.hrocby.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)

Very Reverend Fr. Stephan Gresh

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Ordained Reader

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

February 16, 2025
(Sunday of the Prodigal Son)

Glory Be to Jesus Christ! Glory Be Forever!

Services Sat., Feb. 22nd *Vespers are cancelled*

Sun., Feb. 23rd *Meatfare Sunday –
Sunday of the Last Judgment*

Church School	9:15 am
Hours	9:45 am
Divine Liturgy	10 am

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

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:31-46

<p>Tone 1 Troparion (Resurrection)</p> <p>When the <u>stone</u> had been sealed by the <u>Jews</u>, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure <u>body</u>, Thou didst <u>rise</u> on the third day, O <u>Savior</u>, granting <u>life</u> to the world. The <u>powers</u> of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O <u>Giver</u> of Life:</p> <p>“Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy <u>Kingdom</u>! Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who <u>lovest</u> mankind!”</p>	<p>Tone 3 Kontakion (Lenten Triodion)</p> <p>I have <u>recklessly</u> forgotten Thy glory, O <u>Father</u>; and among sinners I have scattered the riches which Thou hadst <u>given</u> me. Therefore I cry to Thee like the <u>Prodigal</u>:</p> <p>“I have sinned before Thee, O compassionate <u>Father</u>; receive me a penitent, and make me as <u>one</u> of Thy <u>hired</u> <u>servants</u>!”</p>	<p>Tone 1 Prokeimenon (Resurrection)</p> <p>Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee! (Ps. 32:22)</p> <p><i>V. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just!</i> (Ps. 32:1)</p>
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Epistle

(1 Corinthians 6:12-20)

All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.

Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body *is* not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.

And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power.

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make *them* members of a harlot? Certainly not!

Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body *with her*? For “*the two*,” He says, “*shall become one flesh*.”

But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit *with Him*.

Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.

Gospel

(Luke 15:11-32)

Then He said: “**A certain man had two sons.**

“**And the younger of them said to *his* father, ‘Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to *me*.’ So he divided to them *his* livelihood.**

“**And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living.**

“**But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want.**

“**Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.**

“**And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him *anything*.**

“**But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!’**

“**I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you,**

“**and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.’”**

“**And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him.**

“**And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.’**

“But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring out the best robe and put *it* on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on *his* feet.

“And bring the fatted calf here and kill *it*, and let us eat and be merry;

“for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ And they began to be merry.

“Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing.

“So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant.

“And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.’

“But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him.

“So he answered and said to *his* father, ‘Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends.

“But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.’

“And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours.

“It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.’”

Announcements:

Matushka Sophie is home and appreciates all of your prayers. She will receive visitors for short visits. She asks if anyone wants to stop by to please schedule through her daughter Rebecca (724-910-5333). In the meantime she will be keeping us in her prayers.

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.

House Blessings: Father Stephan is finishing up the house blessings. **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 snow and fringed temperatures, show your love for your neighbor! Check in with our Home-Bound Parishioners to make sure they are okay and/or need anything. The cold snowy weather can land lock many. See today’s bulletin insert for a listing of our Home-Bound Parishioners. Let them know that they are loved and not forgotten! *If you know of a person who needs to be added to it, please let Father Stephan know.*

‘I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’ ... ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did *it* to one of the least of these My brethren, you did *it* to Me.’ Hardship is unexpected and can happen to anyone! Parish Council will be taking an ongoing special collection to assist any Parishioner in need. Holy Resurrection has

been gracious in their generous gifts to multiple families in need. We will have a basket for donations to replace the funds that have been distributed so that we are able to continue to do this. Again, **THANKS** for your generosity!

SAVE THE DATE:

Spring Young Adult Retreat – March 14-16, 2025

Our Archdiocese is pleased to cosponsor the upcoming Spring Young Adult Retreat along with the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh Y2AM, the Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese, and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. This retreat will take place at beautiful Camp Nazareth, 339 Pew Road, Mercer, PA and is open to young adults ages 18-35.

Join Fr. Timothy Paproski for an enriching weekend exploring the theme “Living the Liturgy”—why the Divine Liturgy is central to Orthodox spiritual life and how we can live and share it beyond the church walls. We encourage all our young adults to take advantage of this unique opportunity for faith, fellowship, and spiritual renewal. Register now: <https://tinyurl.com/2z7kjpyh>.