



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)

Very Reverend Fr. Stephan Gresh

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Ordained Reader

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

February 9, 2025
*(Sunday of the Publican
and the Pharisee)*

Glory Be to Jesus Christ! Glory Be Forever!

Services	Sat., Feb. 15 th	Great Vespers and Confession	6 pm
	Sun., Feb. 16 th	Sunday of the Prodigal Son	
		Church School	9:15 am
		Hours	9:45 am
		Divine Liturgy	10 am

This week is “**Fast Free**” – please enjoy the opportunity to prepare for the upcoming Lenten season.

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

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Gospel Reading: Luke 15:11-32

<p>Tone 8 Troparion <i>(Resurrection)</i></p> <p>Thou didst <u>descend</u> 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 1 Troparion <i>(Feast)</i></p> <p>Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, <u>Full</u> of Grace! From thee shone the Sun of Righteousness, <u>Christ</u> our God, enlightening those who sat in <u>darkness</u>. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous <u>Elder</u>, thou didst accept in thine arms the <u>Redeemer</u> of our souls, Who grants us the <u>Resurrection</u>!</p>	<p>Tone 4 Kontakion <i>(Lenten Triodion)</i></p> <p>Let us flee from the pride of the <u>Pharisee</u>! Let us learn humility from the <u>Publican's</u> tears! Let us cry to our <u>Savior</u>: “Have <u>mercy</u> on us, O only <u>merciful</u> One!”</p> <p>Tone 1 Kontakion <i>(Feast)</i></p> <p>By Thy <u>Nativity</u> Thou didst sanctify the <u>Virgin's</u> womb and didst bless Simeon's hands, O <u>Christ</u> God. Now Thou hast come and saved <u>us</u> through love. Grant <u>peace</u> to all Orthodox <u>Christians</u>, O only <u>Lover</u> of Man!</p>	<p>Tone 8 Prokeimenon <i>(Resurrection)</i></p> <p>Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God! (<i>Ps. 75:10a</i>)</p> <p><i>V. In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.</i> <i>(Ps. 75:1)</i></p>
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Epistle

(2 Timothy 3:10-15)

But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance,

persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra – what persecutions I endured. And out of *them* all the Lord delivered me.

Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.

But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*,

and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Gospel

(Luke 18:10-14)

“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

“The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men – extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector.

‘I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’

“And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise *his* eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’

“I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

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.

Today SOUP’S ON! Our Youth Group will be hosting a “Souper Bowl” Coffee Hour. Come on down and grab a cup of coffee and a bowl of soup. All coffee hour proceeds will help replenish funds for the “Assist Someone in Need Fund”.

‘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!

This month’s Parish Council meeting is **Monday, February 10th at 6:30 pm.**

The 2025 Lenten Calendar will be coming out next week.

House Blessings: Father Stephan is still doing 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 an **UPDATED** 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.*

SAVE THE DATE:

- Grab your Sweetheart and dance the night away from **6 pm to 10 pm** at a Valentine's Day Polka Party at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church at 301 South State Street, DuBois on **Friday, February 14th**. Polka music by the Vagabonds. Cover charge is \$15 per person. Kielbasa Sandwiches, Pierogies, Halushki along with snacks, a variety of desserts, soft drinks and coffee are on the menu. There will also be a 50/50 Drawing. All proceeds benefit St. Nicholas' Building Maintenance Fund.

- **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/2z7kjpgy>.