



Church website: www.hrocbv.org
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*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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**March 9, 2025
 Sunday of Orthodoxy**

Glory Be to Jesus Christ! Glory Be Forever!

Services	Sun., Mar. 9 th	Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers	4:30 pm
		<i>Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church, 123 Gilkeson Rd, Mt. Lebanon</i>	
	Fri., Mar. 14 th	Akathist to the Theotokos Private Confessions	7 pm
	Sat., Mar. 15 th	Soul Saturday Hours Divine Liturgy Great Vespers with Confession	8:45 am 9 am 6 pm
	Sun., Mar. 16 th	Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas Sunday School Hours Divine Liturgy Mission Vespers (St. Nicholas, Weirton, WV)	9:15 am 9:45 am 10 am 5 pm

*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

<p>Tone 4 Troparion (Resurrection)</p> <p>When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: “<u>Death</u> is overthrown! Christ God is <u>risen</u>, granting the world great <u>mercy!</u>”</p> <p>Tone 2 Troparion (Sunday of Orthodoxy)</p> <p>We <u>venerate</u> Thy most pure image, O <u>Good</u> One; and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O <u>Christ</u> our God. Of Thine own <u>will</u></p>	<p>Tone 4 Kontakion (Resurrection)</p> <p>My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the <u>earth</u>-born from their chains. He has shattered the <u>gates</u> of hell, and as <u>Master</u>, He has risen on the <u>third</u> day!</p> <p>Tone 8 Kontakion (Sunday of Orthodoxy)</p> <p>No one could describe the <u>Word</u> of the <u>Father</u>; but when He took <u>flesh</u> from <u>thee</u>, O Theotokos, He accepted to <u>be</u> described, and restored the <u>fallen</u> <u>image</u> to its former state by uniting it to divine</p>	<p>Tone 4 Prokeimenon (Song of the Fathers)</p> <p>Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever! (Song of the three Holy Children, v. 3)</p> <p>V. For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us! (v. 4)</p>
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<p>Thou wast pleased to ascend the <u>Cross</u> in the flesh and deliver Thy creatures from bondage to the <u>Enemy</u>. <u>Therefore</u> with thankfulness we cry <u>aloud</u> to Thee:</p> <p>“Thou hast filled all with joy, O our <u>Savior</u>, by <u>coming</u> to <u>save</u> the world.”</p>	<p><u>beauty</u>. We confess and <u>proclaim</u> our <u>salvation</u> in words and <u>images</u>.</p>	
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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.”**

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.

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.

Don't forget to give Father a call to let him know when you would like to come to pray and he will make arrangements to have the Church open for you.

A reminder regarding fasting for Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgies... If you plan to attend and receive communion, you should fast from food and drink from your lunchtime meal onward. If you take medications, please follow the normal medical instructions. Also, if one needs to eat for medical reasons, please eat what you have to eat. Don't let this deter one from receiving. Remember, God knows our situation a little better than we do.

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 27th Friday, March, 28th and Saturday March 29th** 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 16th**. 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.

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

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.

Paschal Altar Candles: Gifts are now being accepted for the Paschal 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 “Paschal Candles” and leave it at the Candle Stand.

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.



During the month of March, HROC is joining Orthodox churches across the country in holding an **Orthodox Baby Shower**. What a fitting way to celebrate The Feast of the Annunciation of the Most Holy Lady, when Gabriel, the messenger of God, appeared before Mary and announced the divine plan for our salvation through the birth of Christ!

National Orthodox Baby Shower

Did you know that pregnancy resource centers across the country provide free consultations, medical services, and material resources to help women in crisis pregnancies? Our parish is joining with Orthodox parishes across the country to hold a “baby shower” to support mothers who choose life for their unborn children! Join us in collecting supplies to be donated to New Life Options in Monongahela, our local pregnancy resource center. Babies use an average of 2,500 - 3,000 diapers in the first year of life. That’s a lot of diapers!

New Life Options has provided us with a list of needs:

Wipes	Baby Wash	Shampoo (unscented)
Diaper Cream	Diapers -Newborn, 4 & 5	Hooded baby towels, wash cloth
Crib sheets	Pacifiers	Nail clippers
Teething rings	Nasal aspirated	Comb/brush set
Sippy cups	Seasonal clothing (new) Boys needed most	Gently used clothing-babies & children

If interested in participating, we will be collecting the much needed items through **Saturday, March 29th**. Deacon David Rostcheck will pick up the collected items and deliver to New Life Options on our behalf.

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/2z7kjpgy>.