

# *Christ Has Ascended in Glory!*

June 9, 2019

## *(Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council)*

**Epistle Reading:** Acts 20:16-18, 28-36

**Gospel Reading:** John 17:1-13

**Next Week:** Acts 2:1-11

**Gospel Reading:** John 7:37-52, 8-12

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

**Services** Sat., June 15<sup>th</sup>

<b>Soul Saturday</b>	
Hours	<b>8:45 am</b>
Memorial Liturgy	<b>9 am</b>
<b>Great Vespers w/ Litya</b> (Holy Sacrament of Confession to follow)	<b>7 pm</b>

Sun., June 16<sup>th</sup>

<b>Holy Pentecost with Kneeling Prayers</b>	
Hours	<b>9:15 am</b>
Divine Liturgy	<b>9:30 am</b>

### **Announcements:**

**TODAY** we recognize the achievements of our parish Graduate **Peter Mica** from Greensburg-Salem High School! A special Coffee Hour will be hosted in his honor. GOD BLESS OUR GRADUATE! And, may God keep him in His loving care as he makes plans for his future endeavors. P.S., Unbeknownst to many, last Sunday, Peter was recognized for obtaining the Rank of Eagle Scout!

Deacon John Parker will be ordained to the Priesthood on **Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>** at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Donora. Let us show our love to both Deacon John and his wife Matushka Nadia Parker and welcome them to the neighborhood!

Thanks to some volunteers who took advantage of the beautiful weather this past week and uprooted thousands of pesky weeds around the church. Looks a lot better! Thanks, there is still a lot of opportunity if one wants to get rid of frustration and tear out more weeds or trim the hedges and shrubbery.

### **HELP WANTED:**

- Volunteers need to cut and trim church grass for Spring and Summer. Let a member of Parish Council know if interested.
- Also, there are two openings on our Sunday School Teaching Staff – catechism teachers are needed for our Middle School class and High School class for the

upcoming year. Class materials are provided. Please contact Fr. Stephan if interested.

### **Save the Dates:**

- ❖ HROC's Church Summer Yard Sale will be held **Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup> and Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> from 8 am to 2 pm** (see below for more details).
- ❖ This year's **Annual Fall Festival** will be held on **Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup> from 12 pm to 6 pm** or until we're sold out.

This year's HROC Summer Yard Sale will be held on **Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup> and Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> from 8 am to 2 pm**. Collection of gently used items for the sale will begin Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> until Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. **Please NO televisions or computers!** Call Jack Lofink (724/963-7664) if you need assistance in having an item moved. Anyone wishing to help? Your assistance is greatly appreciated! We will start setting up and pricing items on Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. With enough help, we may be ready for a Pre-Sale during Coffee Hour on June 16<sup>th</sup>. Jack would also like to take the Yard Sale up a notch this year by offering a Bake Sale in addition to offering food items from Jack's Kitchen. If you're interested, please bring in your delicious homemade baked goodies Friday and/or Saturday morning before 8 am. Thank you in advance and God Bless!

We received our first question and it is a very good and timely question.

*"Why do we wait 40 days before we put the picture of Jesus back up above the area where we light the candles?"*

The "picture" that hangs in the cabinet behind the candle stand is an icon consisting of an embroidered cloth on which Christ's burial by Joseph of Arimathea, assisted by Nicodemus, is depicted. This is often referred to as the winding sheet, the epitaphion, or plashchenitsa. During the Vespers service of Holy Friday, the winding sheet is placed in the tomb in the center of the church. At the end of the Paschal Nocturns, during the Ninth Ode when the choir sings, "For I shall arise...", the priest lifts the winding sheet up and transfers it to the altar. This is just before the procession around the church and the start of the Paschal service. The winding sheet stays on the altar for 40 days. This is symbolic of the Resurrection of Christ and His presence with the people for 40 days until the Ascension. This past Thursday we celebrated the Ascension of Christ. After the Liturgy on Wednesday, the winding sheet is taken from the altar through the royal doors and placed back in the area where it is kept in the church.

Don't forget to visit our Homebounds!

**Collection:** June 2<sup>nd</sup>: \$2,163