



**The Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Church Of McKeesport & Duquesne, Pa**  
901 Hartman Street, McKeesport, Pa. 15132 **Our Web-site:** [stsavapa.org](http://stsavapa.org)\*  
**\*(PLEASE VISIT OUR Newly-designed Website, and We're On Facebook & Twitter!)**

*Very Rev. (Stavrophor) Stevan Rocknage, Parish Priest*

**Rectory:** (412)672-1872 **Hall:** (412) 664-0820 **E-mail:** [frstevor@aol.com](mailto:frstevor@aol.com)

**AUGUST 19<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday After PENTECOST – Tone 3**  
**(Commemorating the Glorious Feast Of The Transfiguration Of Our Lord!)**

**Today's Epistle Reading:**

**EPISTLE:** 2 Peter 1: 10-19

**Today's Gospel Readings:**

**LITURGY:** Matthew 17: 1-9

**Troparion:** "Thou was transfigured on the Mountain, O Christ God, revealing Thy Glory To Thy Disciples as far as they could bear it. Let Thine everlasting Light also shine upon us sinners, through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Giver of Light, Glory To Thee!"

**Kontakion:** "On the mountain Thou was transfigured, O Christ God, and Thy Disciples Beheld Thy glory as far as they could see it; so that when they would behold Thee crucified They would understand that Thy suffering was voluntary, and would proclaim to the world, that Thou art truly the Radiance of the Father."

**Spiritual Food:** So, what a day today is for us: The Wonderful **Major Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord!** It is also the "Sunday After" – that Sunday when all who worked in any capacity for International Village can THANK GOD that it is over, but also reflect on what this past week means for our Parish. As I watched those dedicated men, women, and children of our parish do their BEST to make the best of a difficult situation (the RAIN!), I couldn't help notice the deep frustration and disappointment etched on many Adult faces as the reality of the week thrust itself upon us: we were not going to do as well financially as we hoped! I too shared that feeling – BUT, after some time for prayer and meditation, thankfully moved to "a better place" upon which to put this past IV week into perspective: YES, it rained (hard!) for two of the three days; BUT, the level of 'help' and active participation that was evident both in the Booth and at the Church hall gives reason for ALL OF US to thank God! In addition, YES, our 'profit-margin' will not be as good as in previous years, HOWEVER, please remember that ALL that we do is for the Glory of God, and to enhance our abilities to do HIS WILL as the Church. (In other words, since God Himself allowed it to rain on the Village for two days, perhaps He is telling us that ALL we can do is our BEST, and, having done that, continue to TRUST that He has a plan for us, and for our Parish, one that will reach fruition ONLY if we seek out His Kingdom and SERVE Him in ALL that we endeavor to do!) Today's FEAST merely drives home that very point, As HIS everlasting LIGHT will continue to shine upon all of us!

### Today's Special Announcements and Upcoming Events For Our Parish:

- (1) **TODAY:** we thank all who participated in International Village – from our fearless cooks and kitchen-workers, to our drivers, and our ‘first-line’ – the Booth workers, as well as ALL who worked behind the scenes and also donated – God Bless You All!
- (2) **REMINDER:** that we are in the middle of the 2-week Fast of the Falling-asleep of the Mother of God – confessions heard by appointment, or between 8:45 and 9:15 on Sunday morning!
- (3) **Please pray for the health and well-being of our following loved ones within our parish:**  
  
Nick Trbovic Lucy Pcholinski Katie Repasky Donna/Nick Moss-NH  
Stella Stipanovich -NH Ann Vunovic-NH Beverly Stipanovich Keith Bedell  
Margaret Ivkovich Melva Buzzelli-NH V. Rev. Adam Yonitch V. Rev. Paul Lazor  
Wayne Eremic Nick Veselinovich John Walker Danijela Belo
- (4) **Also pray for the souls of those fallen asleep in the Lord:**  
  
+ Martha Zivkovich- +Ann Cervo +Helen Lia +Alex Stipanovich +Dan Ikach  
+Sophie Vranesevic +Louise Zivkovich +Mimi Pavlovich +Ann Vranesevic  
+Nick Pilipovich +Jovan Vujatovich +Kh. Stefanie Yazge +Stoyanka Vranesevich  
+Mel Trkula +Mika Rocknage +Sharon Young +Betty Perich +Dorothy Shumkaroff  
+AP Stevan Stepanov/+Rastko Trbuhovich,+Vasilije Sokolovic /Mateja Matejich  
+Dorothy Sevich +Ann Bogus +George Medich +Arlene Crnkovich +Amy Pacura
- (5) **GROUPS Ministry:** Our Women Support Group meets this Tuesday – the 21<sup>st</sup> – 7 PM!
- (6) **Don't forget: you can help out at the St. Cyril Food Pantry** – any Thursday at 4:30pm!
- (7) **NEXT Sunday, August 26<sup>th</sup>:** Parish Info-Session on ONCD Program – After Church!
- (8) **TUESDAY, August 28<sup>th</sup>:** Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos – 9:30AM Liturgy!
- (9) **THURSDAY, AUGUST 30<sup>th</sup>:** Church-school re-organizational meeting – 7 PM, at the Church Hall – please come and be ready for major changes in our Church-school Program!
- (10) **TUESDAY, September 11<sup>th</sup>:** Beheading of St. John the Baptist – 9:30AM Services!
- (11) **September Support Groups:** Tuesday the 11<sup>th</sup> (Men), and the 25<sup>th</sup> (Women)!



## WE ARE CALLED TO BE TRANSFIGURED

**A**s a faithful Christian, what is your goal in this earthly life? It is to become like God. Theologians call this "*theosis*" or "*deification*". It is through the grace of God that believers grow to become like Him.

During a major event in His life, Jesus was transfigured before three of His apostles, His face became as bright as the sun, and His clothes as white as snow. In this transformation, Jesus appeared in the glory and radiance of His divinity. Christ let His divine nature shine forth through His humanity, just as we are instructed to do.

The Scriptures give ample witness to this lofty goal of humankind. Jesus once said: "*Be you therefore perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect*" (Matt 5:48). St. Paul writes: "*Don't you know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which you have from God*" (1 Cor. 6:19). The Apostle Peter tells the faithful that they are to be "*partakers of the divine nature*" (2 Peter 1:4).

Let us remember, then, that we are made in the image and likeness of God, as Genesis points out. The annual observance of the Transfiguration of our Lord should spur us on towards the actualization of this supreme calling of ours. While it is true that the full deification of the believer must await the coming of the Lord, let us nevertheless set our sight on that true Light which enlightens every person that comes into the world.