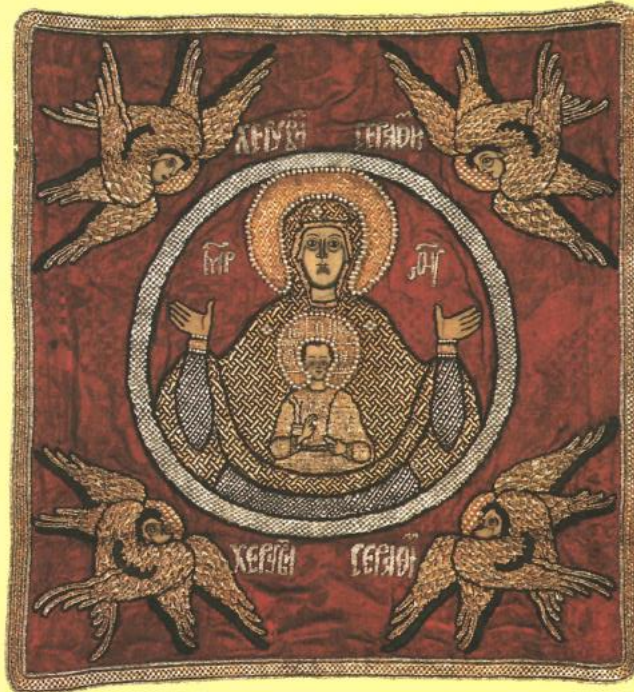


# F A I T H



*To have faith in Christ means more than simply despising the delights of this life. It means we should bear all our daily trials that may bring us sorrow, distress or unhappiness, and bear them patiently for as long as God wishes and until He comes for us. For it is said "I waited on the Lord and He came to me."*

-- St. Symeon the New Theologian

**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*  
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**SEPTEMBER 30<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday After PENTECOST – Tone 1**  
**(Commemorating the Holy Martyrs – Sophia, and her daughters, Faith, Hope, & Love)**

**Today's Epistle Reading:**

**EPISTLE:** 2 Cor 9: 6-11

**Today's Gospel Readings:**

**MATINS:** Jn. 20: 1-10/**LITURGY:** Mk 8: 34-9:1/Lk 5: 1-11

**Troparion:** "When the stone had been sealed by the Jews; while the soldiers were guarding Thy most-Pure Body; Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world! The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: 'Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom! Glory to Thy Dispensation, O Thou Who loves mankind!'"

**Troparion Of The Cross:** "O Lord, save Thy People, and Bless Thine inheritance! Grant victories to all Orthodox Christians, over their adversaries! And by virtue of Thy Cross, preserve Thy habitation!"

(The Kontakion of both Resurrection - Tone 1 and The Cross will also be sung!)

**Spiritual Food:**

**————— Theosis — What For? —————**

Theosis is a beautiful word but what does it say to those who are trying to cope with a terrible illness, or struggling to make a go of a sour marriage, or to those who are burdened with anxieties and cares? Theosis has everything to say to struggling humanity. It tells us that we have the capacity through the presence of God within us to transcend and overcome any and every difficulty in life, including the greatest one of all: death. Theosis tells us that we are not paupers or beggars but sons and daughters of God, sharing His glory, partaking of His Nature, destined to inherit His eternal kingdom. Theosis tells us that we are more than conquerors through Him Who loved us. Theosis tells us to "hang in there" no matter how hard the struggle or the temptation because God has great things in store for us. As St. Paul said, "I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us" (Romans 8:18).

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

- (1) **TODAY:** we remind you that our children are downstairs in classes after Holy Communion, so when you go downstairs, please proceed to the kitchen for refreshments – **quietly, of course!**
- (2) **REMINDER:** Nut-roll Baking Returns THIS TUESDAY the 25<sup>th</sup> – 9 AM!
- (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  
Richard Buzzelli Patrick Singer John Walker Danijela Belo
- (4) **Also pray for the souls of those fallen asleep in the Lord:**  
+ Very Rev. Dragan Filipovic +Martha Zivkovich- +Ann Cervo +Helen Lia  
+Alex Stipanovich +Dan Ikach +Sophie Vranesevic +Louise Zivkovich  
+Mimi Pavlovich +Nick Pilipovich +Jovan Vujatovich +Kh. Stefanie Yazge  
+Stoyanka Vranesevich +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 Dates:** to be announced for October!
- (6) **Don't forget: you can help out at the St. Cyril Food Pantry** – any Thursday at 4:30pm!
- (7) **THIS SATURDAY:** Oldies' Dance at 7 PM – Prizes for Chinese Auction and Door Prizes needed!
- (8) **Sisterhood Slava** – Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup> – Come celebrate with us – sign-up NOW!
- (9) **NEXT Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>:** Parasos for +Jovan Vujatovich – brother of +Dolly Grba...
- (10) **WEDNESDAY: October 24<sup>th</sup>:** Akathist for all who suffer from Diseases – 7 PM!
- (11) **Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>:** Sisterhood meeting after Church – please join us!
- (12) **Monday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Education Classes return – 7 PM! (Theme TBA!)

LIFE IS A "GRAND" ADVENTURE!

**E**ach year, thousands of tourists take advantage of a unique way to experience the Grand Canyon: riding on the back of a mule! As riders prepare to embark on this 5 1/2 hour adventure that will take them on a 10 mile journey from the canyon rim to the canyon floor, the guide provides everyone with one SIMPLE, but VITAL, bit of advice: put your complete trust in the mule, no matter how perilously close to the edge of the path the mule may choose to walk! Directing one's faith in the proper direction – according to the guide – guarantees a safe arrival at the ultimate destination.

How similar life itself is to this exciting venture! It is full of dangers, perils, worries and fears. Our days are filled with tension and anxiety. Still, the Church, our true "guide", tells us simply: place your faith and trust in Someone Who can successfully navigate us through the most rugged and roughest trails – our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Blessed is the person who can place his or her life COMPLETELY in the hands of our Lord. The Apostles literally left everything they possessed to follow Him. The Church Calendar is filled with the names of countless others who were willing to do as much.

There are times for all of us when we may wonder just exactly where the Lord is leading us. Fears and doubts may often get the best of us. When we find ourselves walking along the "edge", we must remember: WE DO NOT WALK ALONE! Christ is always there for us, helping us to reach life's ultimate destination: the Kingdom of Heaven.