



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)

**NOVEMBER 11<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday After PENTECOST – Tone 7**  
(Commemorating the Ven. Anastasia the Roman, and Abramius the Recluse)

**Today's Epistle Reading:**

EPISTLE: Ephesians 2: 14-22

**Today's Gospel Readings:**

MATINS: Mk. 16: 1-8/LITURGY: Lk. 8: 41-56

**Troparion:** "By Thy Cross, Thou didst destroy death, to the thief, Thou didst open Paradise! For the myrrh-bearers, Thou didst change weeping into joy; and Thou didst command Thy Disciples to proclaim that Thou art risen, granting the world, great mercy!"

**Kontakion:** "The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers! Hell is bound, while the prophets rejoice and cry: 'The Savior has come to those in faith! Enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!'"

**Spiritual Food For Thought:**

— **Clearing Away the Underbrush** —

A folk tale of the Belgian Congo tells of a clearing made in virgin jungle. Certain ground was exposed to sunlight for the very first time. Strange shoots appeared, exotic plants, with flowers of indescribable beauty. No one had dreamed that these exquisite plants could grow in that place.

Often the same is true with us. We allow old sins and evil habits to grow to the point where our soul becomes like a jungle. But if through sincere repentance we allow Christ to forgive us, He will remove the sins that hide us from the life-giving sun of His Spirit. He will make flowers of indescribable beauty grow where formerly there were weeds. He will help us achieve our greatest potential.

Let every day contain a period of self examination and penance, a period of clearing away the underbrush of sin to let the Sun of God's love produce in us the fruit of the spirit (Gal. 5:22-23).

**Church Fathers Speak**

They said that a certain old man asked God to let him see the Fathers and he saw them all except Abba Anthony. So he asked his guide, "Where is Abba Anthony?" He told him in reply that in the place where God is, there Anthony would be. — Desert Fathers

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

- (1) **TODAY:** join us as we honor our Veterans today in prayer!  
(1-A) **KOLO Meeting** – TODAY after Church – and a delicious palachinke sale after Church!!  
(1-B) Bishop Irinej has directed that all parishes take a **collection today** for the devastating fires that have destroyed numerous Churches and villages in and around Athens Greece!
- (2) **REMINDER:** Nut-roll Baking continues THIS TUESDAY – 9AM!
- (3) **WEDNESDAY:** Feast-Day of Sts Cosmas and Damian – 9:30AM Matins!
- (4) **Please pray for the health and well-being of our following loved ones within our parish:**  
Nick Trbovic Carl Magdic Lucy Pcholinski Katie Repasky Donna 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  
Mark Vojnovich-NH Vlade Baskot John Walker Child Danijela Belo-H
- (5) **Also pray for the souls of those fallen asleep in the Lord:**  
+Ray Moss +Helen Tankosich +V.Rev. Dragan Filipovic V. Rev. Dennis Pavichevich  
+Martha Zivkovich- +Ann Cervo +Helen Lia +Alex Stipanovich +Dan Ikach  
+Sophie Vranesevic +Alex Hutsko +Louise Zivkovich +Mimi Pavlovich  
+Nick Pilipovich +Kh. Stefanie Yazge +Mika Rocknage +Sharon Young +Amy Pacura  
+Betty Perich +Dorothy Shumkaroff +AP Stevan Stepanov/+Rastko Trbuhovich,  
+Vasilije Sokolovic +George Medich +Arlene Crnkovich +George Martich
- (6) **Don't forget: you can help out at the St. Cyril Food Pantry** – any Thursday at 4:30pm!  
**(HARVEST DRIVE: is underway – please bring in your goods for the pantry!**
- (7) **Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup>:** St. Archangel Michael – 9:30AM Matins!
- (8) **THE END OF NOVEMBER:** We have been selected by the Diocese to HOST the World War I Exhibit, **from November 23<sup>rd</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>** – there will be 12 Panel Exhibits set up in Our Hall, with appropriate ENGLISH handbooks explaining the Serbian text of each Panel!  
**(Please spread the word – this is a magnificent and educational display!)**  
  
- HELP needed to set up and dismantle the Panels for Transport to next site!
- (9) **THANKSGIVING DAY:** Service at 9:30AM – JOIN US!!  
**(PLEASE – bring in your Thanksgiving Donations of foodstuffs, etc. – deadline is TUESDAY the 20<sup>th</sup>!)**

### **GREAT MARTYR DEMETRIOS**

**T**he Christian Church of the first centuries went through its agonizing birth pains. For some three hundred years, people believed in Christ and worshipped Him at risk of their lives. This was the era of Roman persecution, and thousands were tortured and killed for their faith. This was the age of martyrdom.

It was in this world that St. Demetrios lived. He was in the military service and a Christian; a dangerous combination in those days. The emperor Maximian came to Thessalonika one day for the cruel gladiatorial engagements in the arena. The faith of Demetrios was discovered at this time, his military rank was taken from him and he was cast into prison.

At this point his dear friend and fellow Christian, Nestor, enters the story. He visited Demetrios in jail, in fact, interceded for him before civil authorities. The emperor was fascinated by a huge, powerful gladiator named Lyeus and issued a challenge to anyone to fight the 7 foot warrior in the amphitheater. Demetrios and Nestor, after prayer, felt the power of God in their decision to have the latter meet the gladiator.

The crowd roared as the two combatants entered the field. It looked as if it was no match. But Nestor struck one blow and the giant Lyeus fell to the earth, mortally stricken. The angry emperor had Nestor beheaded, and when he heard of the part Demetrios had with his friend, ordered him slain as well. And so these two became martyrs for the sake of Christ.