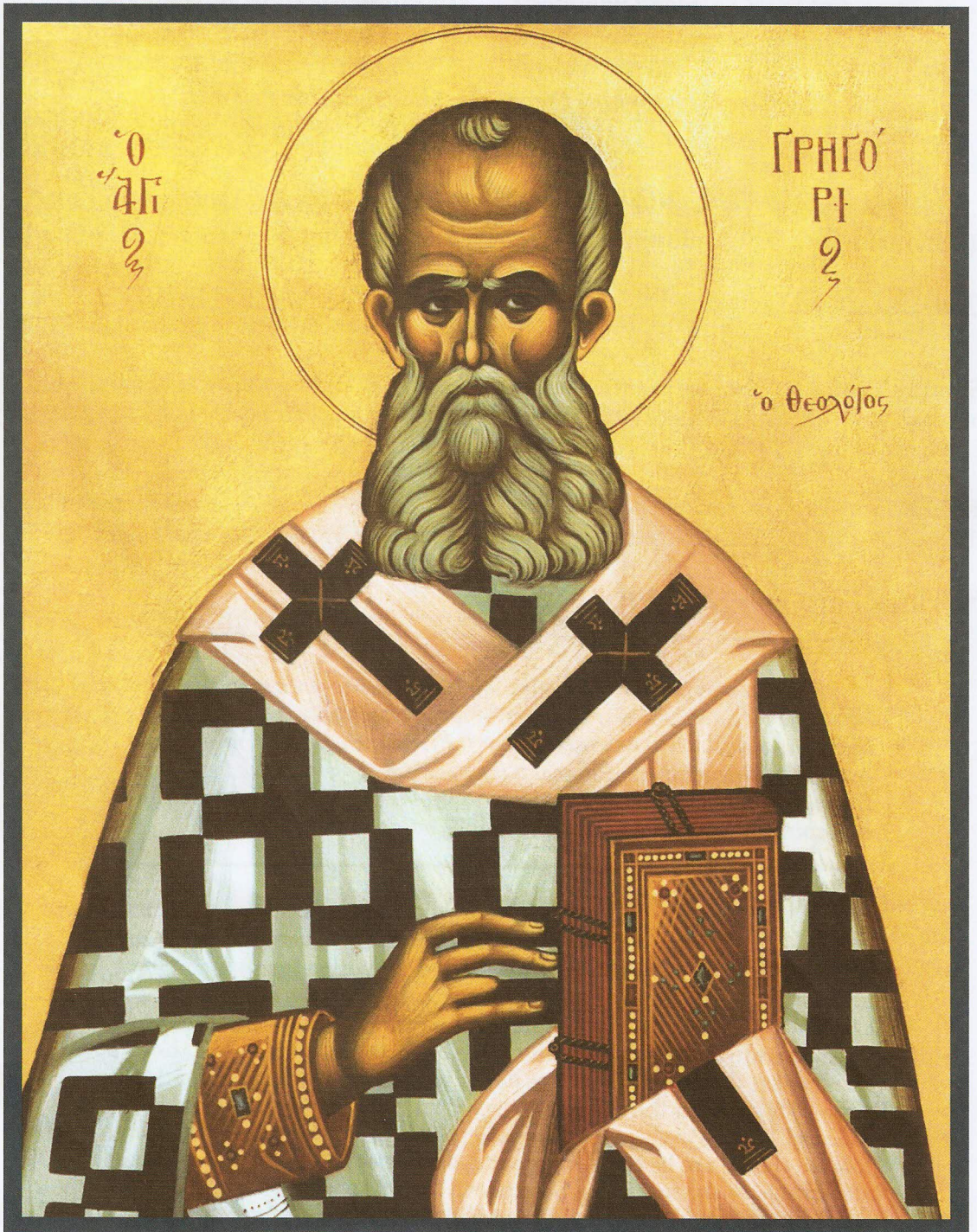


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The Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Church Of McKeesport & Duquesne, Pa

901 Hartman Street, McKeesport, Pa. 15132 Our Web-site: stsavapa.org*

*(PLEASE VISIT OUR Parish Website, and Also Our Facebook & Twitter Pages!)

Very Rev. (Stavrophor) Stevan Rocknage, Parish Priest

Rectory: (412)672-1872

Hall: (412) 664-0820

E-mail: frstevor@aol.com

FEBRUARY 10th, 2019 – 37th Sunday After Pentecost – Tone 4
(Commemorating St. Ephraim the Syrian; ALSO – Today is ZACCHAEUS Sunday)

Today's Epistle Reading:

EPISTLE: 1 Tim. 4: 9-15

Today's Gospel Readings:

MATINS: Lk. 24: 1-12/**LITURGY:** Lk. 19: 1-10

Sunday Tropar: “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: Death is overthrown, Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!”

Kontakion: “My Savior and Redeemer as God, rose from the tomb and delivered the earthborn from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell; and, as Master, He has risen on the third day!”

Spiritual Food For Thought:



Ephrem was born in the beginning of the fourth century in Nisibe of Mesopotamia. Ordained a deacon, he was appointed as teacher in his home town school, where he excelled as a Bible teacher. Ephrem spent the rest of his life teaching in Edessa in the so-called “School of the Persians.” He died in the year 373. He is the author of some of the most beautiful and spiritually moving poems and hymns ever written.

Striking Root In Our Souls

Let it be a law for ourselves that we should run after perfection. Once we have heard the word of truth and of mercy, let us be the good soil for it, and let it put forth in us rootlets, striking root in our souls and sprouting so as to give fruit, thirty-fold, sixty-fold and a hundred-fold. Do not let us prove to be a thorny ground, choking the seeds of truth, with the result that we ourselves are choked of life on that day of judgement of our Lord. Nor let us be the poor earth on the roadway which does not allow anyone to hide the good seed, but the birds come along and peck it up, so that it never sprouts. Thus we should not be the hard ground, otherwise the word of life will not enter us and strike root in us, but instead the evil one will snatch the good seed from our earth. Nor should our minds be far distant from awareness, and we be like the thin soil in which seed withers and does not sprout, owing to the rays of the sun. — St. Ephrem the Syrian

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

- (1) **TODAY:** You can take apples home to peel for the Strudel-making **this Tuesday – 9AM!**
- (2) **THIS WEEK** – we will tentatively continue our Blessing of Homes – still somewhat behind!
- (2-A) **FRIDAY:** Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple – 9:30AM!
- (3) **Please pray for the health and well-being of our following loved ones within our parish:**
Nick Trbovic-NH Donna Moss-NH Katie Repasky Violet Petrovich Stella Stipanovich -NH
Ann Vunovic-NH Beverly Stipanovich Keith Bedell Margaret Ivkovich
Melva Buzzelli-NH V. Rev. Adam Yonitch V. Rev. Paul Lazor V. Rev. Joseph Cervo
Mark Vojnovich-NH Helen Mochan Vlade Baskot Melva Dandrea Danijela Belo
- (4) **Also pray for the souls of those fallen asleep in the Lord:**
+ Lucy Pcholinski +Ray Moss +V.Revs. Dragan Filipovic & +Dennis Pavichevich
+Carl Magdic +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./
+Vaso Sokolovic/Zvonko Kotorcevic +George Medich +Arlene Crnkovich +Helen Medic
- (5) **Please SHARE with Our Friends** this strong **Mission Statement** for our Parish that is focused on bringing the ‘masses’ into our community in ways that are loving, compassionate, and welcoming:
“No matter what your present or past status in the Orthodox Church; no matter what your current family or marital situation; no matter what your past or present religious affiliation; no matter what your personal history, age, background, race, or color: YOU are invited, welcomed, accepted, and loved here at the St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church Community!”
- (6) **ALSO** - our Church Health Team is looking for volunteers to host our Focus Group Meetings in the following areas: McKeesport-White Oak; Duquesne; Irwin; North Huntington....if you are interested, let either Fr. Stevo or Mike Vranesevic know!
- (7) **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** CONFIRMED Date of His Grace’s Visit – March 31st!
- Tuesday, February 5th and 12th – Strudel-making at 9AM (Pick up apples the Sunday before to peel)
- Tuesday, February 19th and 26th – Nutroll baking at 9 AM – all for the Fish Frys!

ST. GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN

This great saint and teacher of the Church was born about the year 330 in Cappadocia, Asia Minor. His father, Gregory, was a follower of a strange sect but was converted by his Christian wife, Nonna. The father was later ordained a priest, and consecrated as bishop of Nazianzus.

The child Gregory was consecrated to God even at birth. Nonna took her newborn to the Christian temple of the father, and consecrated his tiny hands by laying them on the Gospel. He was given a thorough education in the finest schools of the time, and it was here that he became a close friend of St. Basil the Great.

Gregory became a presbyter, and then, urged by Basil, he accepted consecration as a bishop. He took up residence with his father. But it wasn't long before he was called to be Patriarch of Constantinople. The Church in the imperial city had been devastated by heresies and difficulties, and Bishop Gregory was to restore the faith. At its start, his congregation was so small that they could comfortably gather in a house. Through his saintly example, his sermons and his leadership, Gregory built the Church into a great place of prominence. Here he delivered his discourses on the Nicene faith which earned for him the title of "Theologian."

At a Church Council in 381, Patriarch Gregory delivered his celebrated farewell to the Church. He retired, but never ceased to struggle for the Church. He fell asleep in the Lord at the age of 60 about the year 390. He is honored as one of the "Three Great Hierarchs."

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