



**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 Parish Website, and Also Our Facebook & Twitter Pages!)**

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

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**MARCH 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 –Sunday of Orthodoxy – Tone 1**  
**(Celebrating the Triumph of Orthodoxy and Her Icons & St. Gerasimus of Jordan)**

**Today's Epistle Reading:**

**EPISTLE:** Romans 13: 11-14: 4

**Today's Gospel Readings:**

**MATINS:** Jn. 20: 11-18/**LITURGY:** Mt. 6: 14-21

**Sunday 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 lovest mankind!’”

**Troparion Of Feast:** “We venerate Thy most-Pure Image, O Good One, and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ our God. Of Your Good Will, You were pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, and deliver Your creatures from bondage to the Enemy. Therefore, with thankfulness, we cry aloud to You: You have filled all with joy, O Our Savior, for You alone have come to save the World!”

**Spiritual Food To Act On:** It is important that we all take time to ponder the following question: “*Do I want to see my St. Sava parish grow spiritually, or not?*” It is a question that demands an answer, as the future of our parish life is dependent upon how we feel! It is an especially-important question as we have begun our Lenten Journey, and, as a Parish, are looking to enter PHASE 2 of our Orthodox Natural Church Development Program – our **FOCUS GROUPS**. As of yet, very FEW of our faithful have signed up to be a part of this crucial step in the Process, which begs the question on all the minds of our Parish Leaders and our Church Health Team members: why the reluctance to get involved? All that is being asked in the Focus Group is that you meet periodically with your parish-peers, guided by a Group Facilitator, and strategize and discuss ways to strengthen the ‘health’ of our Parish Community. The entire ‘focus’ for this Phase is to **BE POSITIVE:** to see what areas have been identified as ‘weak’ in the parish and find ways to improve and strengthen them. Nothing more, nothing less! This is something that I personally believe **EVERONE OF US** should see as a vital and necessary action that we **ALL** should take responsibility for!

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

- (1) **TONIGHT:** Join us for the Lenten Pan-Orthodox Vespers at 5 PM in Monroeville!  
(**TODAY:** we will take our Monthly Needy Collection for those in need – HELP!)
- (2) **TUESDAY** – we will be making nut-rolls for our Fish-Frys – 9 AM!
- (3) Our Fish-Fry continues this **FRIDAY** from 12 to 6 PM – You are needed!
- (4) **Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts** – **WEDNESDAY** at 6:30PM – Pot-Luck after!
- (5) **THURSDAY (21<sup>st</sup>):** Choir Practice for Bishop's Visit - & Pre-Sanctified – 7 PM!
- (6) **Please pray for the health and well-being of our following loved ones within our parish:**  
Nick Trbovic-H Donna Moss-NH Katie Repasky Violet Petrovich  
Ann Vunovic-NH Beverly Stipanovich Sandy Miller 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 Matthew Schaffer
- (7) **Also pray for the souls of those fallen asleep in the Lord:**  
+ Stella Stipanovich +Lucy Pcholiniski +V.Revs. Dr. Filipovic & +Dennis Pavichevich  
+Carl Magdic +Martha Zivkovich- +Ray Moss +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
- (8) Please **SHARE** with your friends regarding our ONCD Program that: **NOW** is the Time to start signing up to be a part of the Focus Groups for Phase Two! Sign up at the Tutors' Desk...or go to our St Sava Web-page at): [stsavapa.org/oncd.html](http://stsavapa.org/oncd.html)
- (9) **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** CONFIRMED of **His Grace's Visit** – **March 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup>!**  
(Schedule “Clean & Decorate Thé Church Day” – **Saturday March 23<sup>rd</sup> – 10 to 2 PM**)  
- **March 24<sup>th</sup>:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Of Lent – Lenten Vespers in Youngwood, Pa – 5 PM!  
- **MARCH 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup>:** HIS GRACE Here for Saturday Vespers and Sunday Liturgy!  
(Please pass the word to family and friends to be here to greet His Grace on his Inaugural Visit to our Community – and try to receive Holy Communion then!)  
- **Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>:** Bus Trip To Johnstown Vespers – Bus leaves here at 2:45PM!  
(Sign-Up Sheet Forthcoming at The Tutors' Desk!)
- (10) **St. Cyril of White Lake Food Drive:** bring in donated goods – basket in foyer of Entrance!

## ICONS ARE TO BE VENERATED

We do not have icons painted throughout our churches simply to decorate them or to make them colorful and beautiful. We use icons to make our churches meaningful; to make them temples for worship and prayer.

St. Paul speaks of Christ as the “icon” of God. That is, if we want to know what God is like, we look upon Christ to find out. Indeed, it is the Incarnation, the fact that God became man, that Jesus Christ born of the Holy Virgin was at the same time the Eternal God, that lies at the basis of an understanding of the special place iconography has in the Church.

It is impossible to see God or portray God. But once God, Who is spirit, takes upon Himself human flesh, once God becomes man, once He is born on earth and lives among us, then He may be portrayed. This is what has been done since the early days of Christianity.

Icons, then, belong to the oldest Christian tradition. It is true that in the eighth century a movement against the use of icons gained considerable momentum. But the confrontation resulted in a clear definition of the icon’s role, and in a clear victory for the use of images. “Icons are to be venerated; God alone is to be served in faith.” On this Sunday, we celebrate the triumph of true doctrine over heresy.

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# Serbian Orthodox Diocese of Eastern America

## Pittsburgh Deanery

### 2019 Schedule of Lenten Vespers Services

Date	Location	Lecturer
March 10 <sup>th</sup> Cheese-fare Sunday	St. Sava, McKeesport	Fr. Milan Dragovic: "Confession"
March 17 <sup>th</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent	Local Pan-Orthodox service	Set locally
March 24 <sup>th</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent	St. Elijah, Aliquippa Holy Ascension, Youngwood	Fr. Rade Merick: "Putting on Christ" Fr. George Veselinovic: "Theology of St. Gregory Palamas"
March 31 <sup>st</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent	St. George, Midland	Fr. Sasa Nedic: "Our daily bread"
<u>April 4-6</u> <u>Clergy Confessions &amp;</u> <u>Lenten Retreat</u>	St. Nicholas Church Philadelphia, PA	Schedule to be announced
April 7 <sup>th</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	Holy Resurrection, Steubenville St. Nicholas, Monroeville	Fr. Rajko Kosic: "Ways to grow spiritually" Fr. Maksim: "Orthodox Monasticism in the Modern World"
April 10 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday	Local Schedule	Great Canon—First Vigil
April 12 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> Friday	Local Schedule	Akathist—Second Vigil
<b>April 14<sup>th</sup></b> 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	St. George, Carmichaels <b>St. Nicholas, Johnstown</b> <b>(Bus Trip!)</b>	Fr. Rumens Stoychev: "Following the Path of St. Mary of Egypt" <b>Fr. Stevo Rocknagel: "Why is repentance and changing our spiritual habits so difficult?"</b>
April 21 <sup>st</sup> Palm Sunday	Holy Trinity Cathedral, Pittsburgh	Fr. Dejan Barac: "From Palm Sunday to the Resurrection: The Last Days in the Earthly Life of the Savior"
April 24 <sup>th</sup> Great & Holy Wednesday	Holy Trinity Cathedral, Pittsburgh, 7:00 PM <b>OR Locally</b>	Holy Mystery of Unction with Oil

**All Sunday Lenten Vespers will begin at 5:00 PM. All clergy are expected to attend the services in their respective areas, and all all-Deanery services.**

Clergy are asked to bring bright phelonion and epitrahilion and purple epitrahilion for Sunday vespers and bright vestments for Holy Unction.

Talks as assigned will normally take place following dinner, followed by a question and answer period. You are encouraged to schedule Pre-sanctified Liturgies in your parish as you determine. All clergy are also expected to participate in Pan-Orthodox Sunday of Orthodoxy services as arranged in their locality,