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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

SEPTEMBER 8th – 12th Sunday After Pentecost – Tone 3

(Commemorating the Martyrs Adrian & Natalia and their 23 Companions of Nicomedia)

Today's Epistle Reading:

EPISTLE: 1 Cor. 15: 1-11

Today's Gospel Readings:

LITURGY: Matt. 19: 16-26

Troparion: "Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad, for the Lord has shown strength with His mighty arm! He has trampled down death by death; He has become the first-born of the dead! He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted the world His Great Mercy!"

Kontakion: "On this day, Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One, leading us from the gates of death. On this day, Adam exults as Eve rejoices; with the prophets and patriarchs, they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy Power!"

FOR YOU: We hope that ALL of you will pay close attention to the talk after Church by our Church Health Team Chairperson, Michael Vranesevic, regarding our New Ministries: Technology, Activities & Welcoming, and Faith & Liturgics! Check out the Dates and Locales BELOW for the next round of Focus Groups and GET INVOLVED!

Thursday, September 12th: 1 PM – Denise Englert's Home

Monday, September 16th - 7 PM - Mike Vranesevic's Home

Tuesday, September 17th - 7 PM - Dan Pacura's Home

Friday, September 20th - 7 PM - Lyle Washowich's Home

REMEMBER: The more that ALL of us can take part in the Process of Coming Together for the betterment of our Community, the more the Future is secured for our beloved Church!

- Sign up for STUDY Groups for our Men and Women, continuing in September!

Women on the 10th, Men on the 24th – BOTH at 7 PM At Twin Oaks)

TODAY: Join us at 9:40AM for our First Education Session up in Church!

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

(1) **SPECIAL "PRAISE GOD!"** for the birth of Milena Kracinovsky, the daughter of Colin and Tess, and the NEW Granddaughter of Steve and Beth – "God Grant You Many Years!"

(1-A) **THIS WEEK: CHOIR REHEARSAL: TBA!**

(1-B) **Women's Group** – this Tuesday evening at 7 PM – Twin Oaks!

(2) **WEDNESDAY: Beheading of St. John The Baptist – Matins at 9:30AM!**

(2-A) **THIS THURSDAY NIGHT:** our Parish is hosting the Internationally-acclaimed KONEVTS Quartet from Russia for a concert of both Serbian/Russian folk music and Liturgical Hymns – in Church, with a reception after in the Hall – plan on being on time (7PM) as we expect a large Pan-Orthodox following to join us! (A free-will offering will be taken to support this group's full-time MINISTRY! Doors open at 6 PM)

(3) **START-UP for Church-school is NEXT SUNDAY** – and a Parish Cook-Out planned afterwards! (Please RSVP as to what you can offer as side dishes for the day!)

(4) **Please pray for the health and well-being of our following loved ones within our parish:**

Eugene Gould-H Helen Trkula Gary Popovich Mileva Repasky Danijela Belo
Terri Soffa Keith Bedell Ann Vunovic-NH Beverly Stipanovich Dorothy Medic
Margaret Ivkovich Melva Buzzelli-NH Protá Adam Yonitch Protá Paul Lazor
Protá Joseph Cervo Vlade Baskot Melva Dandrea John Ratesic

(5) **Also pray for the souls of those fallen asleep in the Lord:**

+ Donna Moss + Anna Pacura +Mark Vojnovich +Nick Trbovic +Ann Suzich
+Lucy Pcholinski +Protas: Dr. Filipovic,, Den Pavichevich, St Stepanov, St Belonick,
+Rast.Trbuhovich,, +Vaso Sokolovic, +Zvonko Kotorcevic +Carl Magdic
+Ray Moss +Ann Cervo +Helen Lia +Alex Stipanovich +Dan Ikach
+Anka Kresovich +Louise Zivkovich +Mimi Pavlovich +Nick Pilipovich
+Kh. Stefanie Yazge +Mika Rocknage +Sharon Young +Amy Pacura
+Sophie Vranesevic +Dorothy Shumkaroff +George Medich +Arlene Crnkovich

(6) **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

- **St. Cyril of White Lake Food Drive:** bring in donated goods – basket in foyer of Entrance!

(7) **REMINDERS:** Matins started TODAY at 9AM – till 9:40AM – so that Fr. Stevo can be with our Children in the Hall – until 10AM –

- We are starting a 'childrens' choir to sing some short responses in Liturgy – thx to Mary Magdic for volunteering her skills to see this ministry!

BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

In the ranks of the Saints, John the Baptist occupies a unique position. He was a prophet of the Old Testament, preaching repentance because the Kingdom of God was at hand; and he was an apostle of the New Testament, proclaiming the Presence of the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Jesus Himself calls him the greatest "among those that are born of women." No wonder the Church remembers the days of both his conception and birth, and sets aside in the calendar the day of his death by decapitation at the hands of Herod.

Our icon captures the spirit and the story of this Forerunner of our Lord. Garbed in camel's hair, the gaunt figure of John appears in the wilderness, his right hand raised in a gesture of preaching, while his left clutches an open scroll exhorting "Repent ye, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand . . ." The figure of Christ is often set in the celestial sphere at the upper left, and it is in this direction that the Baptist is turned. The rocks in the background are reminders of the wilderness in which St. John lived.

In the lower left-hand corner is the cup and plate on which the head of the Baptist is depicted. John was in prison at the time of Herod's birthday feast, at which he promised the daughter of Herodias anything she would ask. At her mother's prompting, she asked for the head of the Baptist, because he had objected to her marriage to Philip, Herod's brother. And so the Baptist was martyred, and his disciples took the body and reverently buried it.

THIS THURSDAY - BE A PART OF A MAGICAL NIGHT - 7 PM!



THE WORLD-FAMOUS KONEVETS QUARTET AT ST. SAVA'S!

A Concert Of Both Liturgical and Secular/Folk Music (Russian and Serbian). A Free-Will offering will be taken during the performance to help them - (this is the Group's LIVELIHOOD - not a hobby), and a reception will follow downstairs in the hall, with light refreshments, where we can meet the singers and purchase their music!

Come Early To Get A Good Seat - Doors Open At 6 PM!