



**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*

**Rectory:** (412)672-1872

**Hall:** (412) 664-0820

**E-mail:** [frstevor@aol.com](mailto:frstevor@aol.com)

## **SEPTEMBER 29<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost – Tone 6**

(Commemorating the Sunday After The Cross; Great-Martyr Euphemia)

### **Today's Epistle Reading:**

**EPISTLE:** Galatians 2: 16-20 **MATINS:** Lk. 24: 1-12/**LITURGY:** Mt. 22: 35-46/Mk. 8: 34-9:1

### **Today's Gospel Readings:**

**Troparion: (Tone 6)** “The angelic powers were at Thy Tomb, the guards became as dead men! Mary stood by Thy Grace, seeking Thy Most-Pure Body; Thou didst capture hell, not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life; O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, Glory to Thee!”

**Troparion Of The Feast:** “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!”

**FOR YOU:** We hope that now, as we are “picking up steam” in addressing the Focus Groups identification of Three Important Ministries (Technology, Activities, Welcoming/Faith, Liturgy) in our Community, all of us will take an ACTIVE role in Getting involved and providing input for our Parish Leaders – the future is OURS! The more that ALL of us can take part in the Process of Coming Together for the betterment of our Community, the more our Future is solidified for our beloved Church! (There are still many openings on each of our Ministry Committees!)

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

**(Women's STUDY Group - the 15<sup>th</sup>; Men's the 29<sup>th</sup> - at 7 PM At Twin Oaks)**

**NOTE:** We are trying to come up with a reasonable solution to the dilemma of how/when to conduct the Adult Education Forum – please let Fr. Stevo know... (So many have expressed positive comments that this is soo needed – thanks!)

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

- (1) **SPECIAL THANKS TO:** our dear Choir for their wonderful performance in Steubenville!
- (2) **THIS TUESDAY:** Our Nut-roll Baking “is baaaaack! – 9AM! (**ATTENTION:** we need wrappers for the afternoon and/or evening – let Protinica JoAnn know how you can help!)
- (3) **Please pray for the health and well-being of our following loved ones within our parish:**  
Diane Stanesic-H Mary Sayers Helen Trkula Gary Popovich Katie Repasky  
Danileja Belo Terri Soffa Keith Bedell Ann Vunovic-NH Beverly Stipanovich  
Dorothy Medic Margaret Ivkovich Melva Buzzelli-NH Prota Adam Yonitch  
Prota Paul Lazor Prota Joseph Cervo Vlade Baskot Timothy & Gregory  
Melva Dandrea John Ratesic
- (4) **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
- (5) **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**
- **St. Cyril of White Lake Food Drive:** bring in donated goods – basket in foyer of Entrance!
  - **REMINDERS:** Our ‘childrens’ choir is starting up, to sing some short responses in Liturgy – thx to Mary Magdic for volunteering her skills to see this ministry!
  - **NUT-ROLLS** Begin the first Tuesday in October – the 1<sup>st</sup> – at 9 AM!
  - **OCTOBER FAITH STUDY GROUPS:** the 15<sup>th</sup> – **Women/the 29<sup>th</sup> – Men** – at Twin Oaks!
  - **NEXT SUNDAY: October 6<sup>th</sup>:** Our Church-school children invite you to a Pancake-Sausage Brunch after Church – with your donations going to a Charitable Community Organization – Be Here!
  - **Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>:** Sisterhood Slava Day – Luncheon at Luciano’s – SIGN UP Now at the Tutor’s Desk!
  - **Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>:** **OLDIES DANCE – 7 PM** – Door and Chinese Auction Prizes needed for this wonderful event!!

## OUR "TREE OF LIFE"

**S**aint Paul the Apostle touches the heart of the Christian Gospel when he writes: "As in Adam all die, so in Christ shall all be made alive." (1 Cor. 15:22). So he compares Adam and Christ; Adam who brought death to humanity and Christ who brought life, undoing the work of the first man. Indeed, Christ is sometimes termed the "New" Adam.

Secondly, the Tree in the Garden of Eden whose fruit brought death to mankind, may be compared with the Tree of the Crucifixion, through which eternal life became available to all who believe. Thus the Cross is our salvation, the blessed fruit which is the joy of Christians. St. John Chrysostom says: "Like a halo, let us carry about the Cross of Christ . . . this symbol of victory."

No wonder the Finding of the Cross of Christ and its Elevation in the 4th century has become a beloved Feastday. Initially, this feast was associated with the dedication of the Church of the Resurrection (called by some the Holy Sepulchur) in Jerusalem. But it soon became a great holyday in its own right, especially after the Cross was regained in the 7th century. Crowds came to venerate the Sacred Wood, and so the Patriarch raised the Cross on high as the faithful proclaimed, "Lord, have mercy!" That ritual is retained to this day.

The icon captures this historical scene: the Patriarch holding the Cross, with the Emperor's mother, St. Helen, standing along with the Deacons, Clergy and the Faithful. And so we bow before Your Cross, O Master.