

SAINT SOPHIA



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LOVE
(CHARITY)

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

October 6th – 16th Sunday After Pentecost – Tone 7
(Remembering the Conception of John the Baptist & St. Innocent, Enlightener of The Aleuts)

Today's Epistle Reading:
EPISTLE: 2 Cor. 6: 1-10

Today's Gospel Readings:
MATINS: Lk. 24: 12-35/**LITURGY:** Mt. 25: 14-30

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, O Christ God, 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!’”

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 this month!**
(Women's STUDY Group - the 15th; Men's the 29th - at 7 PM At Twin Oaks)

NOTE: We will hold our Adult Education Discussions EVERY OTHER Sunday, **beginning this morning** – please feel free to join the group at the front of the Church to share in this wonderful opportunity! **So, the next Session will be October 20th!**

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

- (1) **TODAY:** Our Church-school children invite you to a Pancake-Sausage Brunch after Church – with your donations going to a Charitable Community Organization – Be Here!
- (1-A) **SPECIAL THANKS:** Paula Hutsko, who volunteered her talents in mending many of our Altar Boy robes this past week – God Bless you Paula!
- (2) **THIS TUESDAY:** Our Nut-roll Baking continues! – 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 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:**
+Joseph Stercula +Dean Trbovic +Donna Moss +Anna Pacura +Mark Vojnovich
+Nick Trbovic +Lucy Pcholinski +Protas: Dr. Filipovic, Den Pavichevich,, St Stepanov,
+St Belonick, +Rast.Trbuhovich,, +Vaso Sokolovic, +Zvonko Kotorceвич +Carl Magdic
+Ray Moss +Ann Cervo +Helen Lia +Alex Stipanovich +Dan Ikach +Ann Suzich
+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:** temporarily suspended while Fr. Carpenter recuperates.....
 - **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!
 - **OCTOBER FAITH STUDY GROUPS:** the 15th – Women/the 29th – Men – at Twin Oaks!
 - **Sunday, October 13th:** Sisterhood Slava Day – Luncheon at Luciano's – SIGN UP Now at the Tutor's Desk!
 - **Saturday, October 19th:** **OLDIES DANCE – 7 PM** – Door and Chinese Auction Prizes needed for this wonderful event!!
 - **October 20th:** Our Kolo will be selling palachinke after Church as a fund-raiser – HELP!

A FAMILY THAT LOVED THE LORD

With our faith, we must be FULLY dedicated to our Saviour. Today we remember a 2nd century Christian family who was put to the test! ST. SOPHIA and her three daughters - Faith, Hope and Love (Charity) - were devoted followers of Jesus Christ. When her husband died, Sophia and her family moved from their small village to the city of Rome, hoping to escape persecution for their faith by simply "melting in with the crowd." But in a wave of persecution initiated by the Emperor Hadrian, St. Sophia and her young daughters were arrested with many other Christians as they sought to secretly worship the Lord.

This saintly Christian family was placed on trial before a Roman magistrate. The magistrate assured Sophia that they could all go free: All she had to do was deny Christ and promise to raise her children as pagans! What choice would Sophia make? Did she really love the Lord more than her very children? A refusal on her part to accept the conditions set down by the magistrate would assuredly cause the death of them all.

Amazingly, the three children assisted their mother in this moral dilemma, insisting that they would rather join her in death and be reunited in the Kingdom of God than to deny their Christian beliefs! The furious magistrate ordered the girls to be tortured and murdered before the very eyes of their mother, who was finally put to death herself as she prayed over the bodies of her children. Family ties can be strong, and one can only wonder how we would react if we were forced to declare our true loyalties.