

# 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

November 24th - 23rd Sunday After Pentecost - Tone 6

(Remembering the Holy Great Martyrs Menas and Stephen of Decani. Serbian King)

Today's Epistle Reading:

Today's Gospel Readings:

EPISTLE: Ephesians 2: 4-10

MATINS: Mt. 28: 16-20/LITURGY: Luke 8: 26-39

**Troparion:** "The Angelic Powers were at Thy Tomb, the guards became as dead men; Mary stood by Thy Grave, 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!"

**Kontakion:** "When Christ God, the Giver of Life, raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand. He bestowed resurrection on the human race. He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life and the God of all!"

FOR YOU: We invite you to take an ACTIVE role and get involved by providing input for our Parish Leaders NEXT SUNDAY when we hold our Annual meeting, and continue to move forward with our Focus Groups establishing the Goals for the three Ministries (Technology, Activities, Welcoming/Faith, Liturgy) in our Parish. Here are the Second Meeting Dates Scheduled below:

(There are still openings on each of our Ministry Committees!)

- TECHNOLOGY Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> 7 PM
- FAITH & LITURGY Wednesday, December 4th 7 PM
- ACTIVITIES & WELCOMING Wednesday, December 11th 6:30PM

- Sign up for STUDY Groups for our Men and Women, continuing in November! THIS TUESDAY the  $26^{th}$  (Men) -7 PM!

**NOTE:** We will hold our Adult Education Discussions EVERY OTHER Sunday, **So our next Session is Sunday December 1**<sup>st</sup> – come join the group at the front of the Church to share in this wonderful opportunity!

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

- (1) TODAY: We gently remind you to bring in your Thanksgiving donated goods (if you have yet to do so), and we will take our LAST Thanksgiving Collection today for our Needy!

  (DEADLINE IS TOMORROW AT 11 AM We will pack up the goods then!)
- (1-A) ALSO TODAY: Palachinke sale after Church Come Support Our Church!
- (2) THANKSGIVING DAY Moleben Service Of Thanksgiving 9:30AM JOIN US!
- (3) Please pray for the health and well-being of our following loved ones within our parish:
  George Rocknage Dan Pacura Nancy Belich Tom 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:
  - +Barbara Tomac +Mika Rocknage +Betty Karlovich +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 Kotorcevich +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
  - +Sharon Young +Amy Pacura +Sophie Vranesevic +Dorothy Shumkaroff
  - +George Medich +Arlene Crnkovich

#### (5) MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- NEXT Sunday: Our Parish Annual Meeting right after Church We NEED You!
- Sunday, December 8th: STEWARDSHIP Sunday Please bring in your 2020 Pledge Cards!
- Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>: PARISH ADVENT CELEBRATION Lenten Covered Dishes needed Come enjoy the Church-School Presentation for all!

### (6) A PERSONAL NOTE:

- Thanks to all who have texted, called or sent cards about our Dad's health – he continues under Hospice Care, and the "roller coaster ride" of good days and bad ones. (Whenever possible, we will try to allow a minimum of visitation for those who wish to see him for a short period of time!) (With Dad's health declining, we, of course, HAD to put some Christmas Lights up in the house (and his room) to lift his spirit!)

#### A MODEL FOR MONASTICS

onasticism has long been a respected lifestyle for men and women in our Church. Example after example can be given of those who willingly sacrificed wealth, political position and social rank in order to submit themselves totally to Christ.

One such person was **THEODORE THE STUDITE**. He was born in Constantinople in 759 A.D. His family was a prominent one in the capitol city and there is little doubt that Theodore could have ascended to a lofty rank in the Imperial Court of the Empire. Instead, he chose to enter a monastery, where his uncle was the Abbot. When his uncle passed away, Theodore was chosen to head the monastic community. He quickly became known as a great reformer, restoring many of the ancient monastic disciplines and practices that had been lost through the years.

Theodore also developed a reputation for defending the true teachings of our Faith. When the Emperor Constantine VI chose to divorce his wife and marry his mistress, Theodore loudly expressed his disapproval. Exiled from the monastery for his boldness, Theodore was forced to live in Thessalonika until Constantine was overthrown. Returning to Constantinople, Theodore was placed in charge of the famous Studium Monastery, which became a model for monasticism in the Byzantine world. Soon however, he was exiled again – this time for speaking out against the iconoclastic Emperor Leo V. Even while banished from the Empire, Theodore continued to write treatises in defense of the dogmas of the Church, particularly those dealing with the veneration of icons. He passed away in 826 A.D.

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