

THE ENTRY OF THE THEOTOKOS  
INTO THE TEMPLE



**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*  
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**December 1<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost – Tone 7**  
(Remembering the Holy Martyrs Plato, Romanus and the child Barulas)

**Today's Epistle Reading:**

**EPISTLE:** Ephesians 2: 14-22

**Today's Gospel Readings:**

**MATINS:** Mk. 16: 1-8/**LITURGY:** Luke 8: 41-56

**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 invite you to take an ACTIVE role and get involved by providing input for our Parish Leaders TODAY 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 4<sup>th</sup> – 7 PM
- **ACTIVITIES & WELCOMING** – Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> – 6:30PM

- **Sign up for STUDY Groups for our Men and Women, continuing in November!**  
**NEXT TUESDAY the 10<sup>th</sup> (Men) – 7 PM!**

**NOTE:** We will hold our Adult Education Discussions EVERY OTHER Sunday, **So our next Session is TODAY** – 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 hope you will all stay for the important Annual meeting of our Parish, as We look to the future with plans and strategies to achieve our goals – JOIN US!

(1-A) **The Christmas Lenten Fast is here** – Confessions on Saturdays between 5 and 6 – stay for Vespers please!

(2) **THIS WEDNESDAY: Entrance of the Theotokos – 9:30AM Liturgy!**

(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 Kotorcevic +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:**

- **Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>:** 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!

(Join us for a wonderful celebration of the Holy Season of Advent – GREAT Fellowship!)

(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!)

(7) **2020** Wall Church Calendars (FREE) and Pocket Calendars (\$4) are at the Tutor's Desk!

## A FEASTDAY WITH LESSONS FOR TODAY

**T**he Feast of the **PRESENTATION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN IN THE TEMPLE** points out the great need for the Christian nurture of children. The Child Mary, about three years of age, is taken by her parents, Joachim and Anna, to the temple in Jerusalem where she will be prepared for the awesome work that awaits her. She goes to the temple that she herself might become the "temple" bearing the Body of the Son of God become Man.

In our day, in which society bemoans the shortcomings of our educational system, we can learn lessons from this event. Certainly parents must bear the primary responsibility for Christian education. After all, the first school is the home. What a child learns here will last a lifetime. Ideals, standards, morals and attitudes are all taught by the lifestyle of parents and family members.

Years ago, the Christian home had an effective way of imparting the faith to children. But times have changed. Many have turned holydays into holidays, reverence into recreation, and devotion into disinterest. Faith must be vital in the lives of parents if it is to become vital in the lives of their children.

The parish, too, is a school. It teaches by what it emphasizes week upon week. Through worship, through the mysteries, through the preaching of God's Word, through its social and charity programs, and through the lifestyles of its leaders and people, the parish teaches.

The parish school has come to carry an increasing burden of Christian nurture. Religious education is vital and demands a greater commitment from us all.