



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

March 22nd – 3rd Sunday Of Great Lent – Tone 7 – The Cross Of Our Lord
(Commemorating the 40 Holy Youth-Martyrs of Sebaste)

Today's Epistle Reading:

EPISTLE: Heb. 1: 10-2:3

Today's Gospel Readings:

MATINS: Jn. 20: 1-10 **LITURGY:** Mk. 8: 34-9: 1

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!”

Troparion: “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!”

TODAY: We again will offer a short Moleben for the Coronavirus Pandemic and you will all be anointed with Holy Oil – Come and Receive!!

CHURCH HEALTH MINISTRY MEETING DATES & UPCOMING EVENTS:

A BIG DAY - Sunday, May 17th: A special Presentation of ALL Ministry Teams and their specific Ministry Goals to our Parish and our College Students who will be invited to be with us that day – an important day in our journey to a stronger, spiritually healthier future!

REMINDER: Our beautiful **Pre-Sanctified Liturgies** continue **THIS Wednesday** with Confessions at 5:45 PM, and the Liturgy at 6:30 PM – JOIN US!

(If you wish to receive Holy Communion, please avoid eating from Noon till the service)

In Regards To Holy Communion: as has been stated previously, one cannot contract any disease through the reception of the Body and Blood of our Lord, even in the use of one spoon for the faithful – but if you are unsure, just keep your mouth open to receive.

In Regards To Venerating The Cross – just make a reverent bow – no need to kiss now!
(PLEASE read the UPDATED Directives Regarding Holy Confession on our Website)

NOTE: Even in Church, practice social distancing – be smart!

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

(1) FROM HIS GRACE, Our Bishop IRINEJ:

“Due to the dangers of covid-19, **UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**, ALL coffee hours are cancelled, as well as Church and Serbian school classes, parish meetings, joint vespers and lectures..”

(And, at the Divine Liturgy, only 10 are permitted, including the Priest, Chanter, and a few singers, plus our Camera-Technician!”

(1-A) This past week, ALL surfaces here in Church were sanitized and ALL books as well....this will have to be done weekly until further notice – YOUR HELP is needed!

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

William Packosky Nancy Belich Marianne Hantz Helen Trkula Gary Popovich
Danileja Belo Katie Elizabeth Repasky Mary Sayers LuAnne
Ann Vunovic-NH Beverly Stipanovich Dorothy Medic-NH Margaret Ivkovich
Melva Buzzelli-NH Prota Adam Yonitch Prota Paul Lazor Prota Joseph Cervo
Vlade Baskot Timothy & Gregory Melva Dandrea Eugene Gould John Ratesic

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

+Dan Petrovich +George Belancik +George Rocknage & +Mika Rocknage
+Barbara Tomac +Joseph Stercula +Anna Pacura +Mark Vojnovich +Nick Trbovic
+Protas: Dr. Filipovic, Den Pavichevich,, +Rast.Trbuhovich,, +Vaso Sokolovic,
+Carl Magdic +Ray & Donna 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 +Peter Miljus +George Medich
+Keith Bedell +Tammy Alexander +Arlene Crnkovich +Hubert Witte
+Smilja Blagovich

(4) Stewardship Pledges For 2020 – Have You Turned Yours in yet?????

(5) We Need Your Support even if you cannot come – MAIL in your pledge donations!

(6) "SERB-FEST" NEWS: Our Parish Festival – officially named, “A Taste of Serbia” has A LAUNCH DATE: **October 2-4th, 2020** – please mark your calendars, and SAVE the date, As well as pass the word amongst all your family and friends! Remember: YOUR help is needed to make this inaugural event a success – more details to follow soon!!

(7) FINALLY: The Ultimate Pittsburgh Fish Fry Tournament has reached the “Final Four” – and We made it! Vote before this Tuesday, the 24th Noon at – **theincline.com** !

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY REACHES ITS MIDWAY POINT

Those involved with athletics are fully aware of the importance of “**halftime**” in any sporting event. It is an opportunity to pause before continuing with the vigor of the game. More importantly, it is a time to correct any mistakes or deficiencies in one’s “**game plan**” and to become recommitted to the ultimate goal of victory.

This morning, our Holy Church has reached the midway point of Great Lent. For three weeks, the spiritual disciplines of prayer and fasting have been emphasized. The theme of repentance has been placed before us repeatedly. Those who are “**weak in spirit**” may be faltering on this 40-day journey to Pascha.

In her wisdom, the Church places before us the greatest of symbols today: The precious and life-giving Cross. We are encouraged to focus our attention on this instrument of Christ’s passion. At the same time, we are reminded of the necessity of being willing to deny ourselves, take up our own cross, and follow Christ. These thoughts should serve to strengthen us as we continue along the road that will take us to Golgotha and, ultimately, to the empty tomb!

On the third Sunday of Lent, the following hymn from Matins clearly expresses the essence of today’s spiritual message: “**On this day, when we look at the precious Cross of Christ, let us adore it in faith, let us embrace it, fervently asking our Lord, Who of His own choice, gave Himself to be crucified upon it, to make us worthy of adoring His most precious Cross, so that, free from all defilement, we may attain the day of Resurrection.**”