



Christ took upon Himself the sins of the World





**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)

**March 29<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Of Great Lent – Tone 8 – St. John Climacus**  
(Commemorating the Holy Apostle Aristobulos & the Martyr Sabinas)

**Today's Epistle Reading:**

**Today's Gospel Readings:**

**EPISTLE:** Heb. 1: 10-2:3 **MATINS:** Jn. 20: 11-18 **LITURGY:** Mk. 9: 17-31 & Mt. 4: 25-5,12

**Troparion:** “Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! Thou didst accept the three-day burial, to free us from our sufferings! O Lord, our Life and Resurrection: ‘Glory to Thee!’”

**Troparion:** “O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body! You were a wonder-worker, O our God-bearing Father John! You received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil, and prayer: healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to you by faith. Glory to Him who gave you strength! Glory to Him who gave you a crown! Glory to Him who through you grants healing to all!”

**TODAY:** We again will offer a short Prayer for the Carona-virus Pandemic!

**REMINDER:** We are NOW live-streaming BOTH our Holy Liturgy on Sundays at 9:45AM, and our beautiful Pre-Sanctified Liturgies every Wednesday at 6:30PM!

**In Regards To Holy Confession:** with the prohibition of no more than ten people at a given place, and to avoid close contact, I am offering to hear Confessions over the phone, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11-2 PM, in 10-minute slots – PLEASE call me to set up a schedule of appointments!

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

Our Parish Council and Church Health Team are working on a “**Good Samaritan Plan**” to reach out to our elderly, shut-ins, and isolated – to help fulfill their needs! Those in need will Be contacted in the near future!!

## 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 Melva Buzzelli-NH  
Beverly Stipanovich Dorothy Medic-NH Margaret Ivkovich Clarisse Ayers-H  
Bs. MILUTIN 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 +Ann Vunovic +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 2-4<sup>th</sup>, 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 Championship Round and we made it! Vote before this Tuesday, at Noon at – **theincline.com** !



## THE GARDEN BECAME A BATTLEGROUND

**G**ETHSEMANE! The very word brings an awesome image into our minds. The icon on today's bulletin captures the vivid account of Christ in the Garden. Let us recount the biblical record of this event.

It was after the Mystical Supper that the Lord took His apostles to the place which He often frequented to pray. Now Jesus came there to prepare Himself to die. He took three of the Apostles, Peter, James and John, further into the garden. These were the three who saw Him once transfigured in all His glory; now they were to see Him suffer and weep.

Christ bid His friends to "*watch and pray*," while He went on, falling to His knees and pouring out His heart and soul in agonized prayer. Sweat, like beads of blood, form on His brow as He contemplates the suffering to follow. Finally, Jesus prays: "*Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me. Let not My will but Thine be done!*" And the Father sent an Angel to strengthen Him for the agony to come.

There Jesus lies, exhausted, and we begin to realize what a price He had to pay for our salvation. As for the apostles, they were tired and asleep, unable to cope with the situation. The words of the Lord ring out: "*The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak . . .*"

What a picture we see of our Lord! His agony would end in complete submission to the will of the Heavenly Father. It is not to be interpreted as an act of weakness, but the fulfillment of a higher purpose. Jesus **CHOSE** to go to the crucifixion on Golgotha, in order to save mankind.