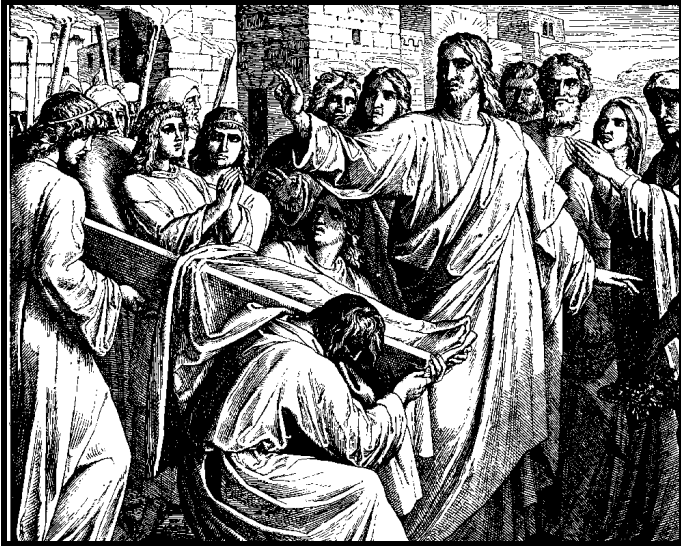




# The Sunday Messenger

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH - WILKES BARRE, PA

October 12th, 2025 + 18th Sunday after Holy Pentecost + Holy Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council



## Hymns for This Week

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: "Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom! Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!"

Thou art most glorious, O Christ our God, Who hast established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth. Through them Thou hast guided us to the True Faith. O greatly compassionate One, glory to Thee!

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Thyself. Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished. Adam exults, O Master! Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee: "Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!"

The Son Who shone forth from the Father was ineffably born, two-fold in nature, of a woman. Having beheld Him, we do not deny the image of His form, but depict it piously

and revere it faithfully. Thus, keeping the True Faith, the Church venerates the icon of Christ Incarnate.

### Please Sing Along!

Singing the hymns and responses to the litanies along with the choir throughout the Divine Liturgy is encouraged!

## Epistle Reading - 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1

And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people." Therefore "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you." "I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty." Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

## Gospel Reading - Luke 7:11-16

Now it happened, the day after, that He went into a city called Nain; and many of His disciples went with Him, and a large crowd. And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother. Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen up among us"; and, "God has visited His people."

**DEAR GUESTS AND FRIENDS:** A most sincere and heartfelt welcome to you from our community. According to the ancient tradition of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared to receive the Holy Sacrament through prayer and fasting. Speak w/ Fr. Innocent if you would like to learn more!



## This Week's Schedule

### Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

#### **THIS WEEKEND**

Saturday, Oct 11th

Friends of the Poor @ 9 AM  
Cemetery Clean-Up @ 9 AM  
Parastas for Steve Hutz @ 4 PM  
Great Vespers @ 5 PM, Confessions

Sunday, Oct 12th

Matins @ 8 AM, Hours @ 8:40 AM,  
Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM, Prayer for new Catechumens  
Brief Cathedral meeting upstairs following Liturgy  
Church School, Coffee Hour  
**Parish Council Meeting @ 11:30 AM**

#### **THIS WEEK**

**NO Wednesday services or classes this week**

*Fr. Innocent will be away for the day*

#### **NEXT WEEKEND**

Saturday, Oct 18th

Great Vespers @ 5 PM, Confessions  
Sunday, Oct 19th

Matins @ 8 AM, Hours @ 8:40 AM,  
Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM, Parastas / Memorial Service  
Church School, Coffee Hour

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### **Oct. 19th - Parastas / Memorial Service**

In remembrance of Anna & Peter Sokola, Olga Pieck, Marie,

Orlando & Alexandra Zingaretti

*Offered by Mike & Nancy Pieck*

In remembrance of Nicholas Petrishin

*Offered by Donna Hlesciak & Family*

In remembrance of Rosalie Romanuski

*Offered by Eugene & Michele Sterensky*

In remembrance of Michael Wilgus, Stetz & Wilgus Family

*Offered by Paula Barney*

In remembrance of Natalie Gripp

*Offered by Cynthia Super*

In remembrance of Leanne Kuehnle

*Offered by Irene Helen Freeman*

*If you would like to submit names for this Parastas please bring them with you to the service and give them to Fr. Innocent.*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### & Upcoming Parish Events

+++ Weekly / Monthly +++

Bible Study Wednesdays at 10 AM. Everyone is welcome. We are reading through the Epistle to the Romans with discussions.

ORTHODOXY 101 Wednesdays @ 6:40 PM following the Akathist Service (6 PM): Orthodoxy 101 is for visitors, inquirers, catechumens or anyone interested in learning more about the foundations of our faith.

Parish Potlucks are usually the last Sunday of each month. Our next potluck is **Sunday, October 26th**

Friends of the Poor is usually the second Saturday of each month. **Saturday, October 11th.**

Holy Trinity Parish Council is usually the second Sunday of each month. The next Parish Council is **Sunday, October 12th.**

**WANTED: Coffee Hour Teams** - Sponsor a Sunday Coffee Hour with a friend. Speak with Joanne Dutko to learn more and sign up.

#### **NEXT PIEROGI PROJECT OCTOBER 24TH & 25TH:**

**We need your help!** An HTOC pierogi project is scheduled for Friday & Saturday, Oct 24th & 25th. As you know, we need as many helpers as possible in order to make it a success. Please offer any time you have available on those two days to help out. The project work schedule is as follows: **Fri. 2pm to 6pm // Sat. 9am to 3pm.** The volunteer sign up and pierogi order sheets are in the vestibule. Volunteers are needed to make the project a success. Perogies \$ 13.00 a doz. LIMIT 5 doz. To Pre-order Call 570-825-6540, October 21st & 22nd, 10am & 3pm OR signup in the vestibule. The pick up date is Saturday Oct. 25 from 1pm to 3 pm. **This is the last and only pierogi project for 2025. Help us make it a success.**

**Cemetery Clean-up Day October 11th:** There will be a Cemetery cleanup day at the Holy Resurrection Cemetery on William Street in Plains scheduled for October 11, 2025 from 9:00am to 1:00pm (rain date October 18). The goal is to trim overgrown trees, brush, hedges, grass and generally tidy up the Cemetery. Volunteers are asked to bring chainsaws, trimmers, pruners, rakes, etc. Light refreshments will be served.

**Mon, Nov 3rd - THE WYOMING VALLEY INTERFAITH COUNCIL** is honored to confer The Citation of Distinction for Community Leadership Upon

**Archpriest Father Joseph Martin** (of blessed memory) and **Protodeacon Sergei Kapral**. You are cordially invited to attend the Community Interfaith Luncheon Monday, November 3rd, 2025 at 12:00 Noon at The Holiday Inn – 600 Wildflower Dr., Wilkes-Barre, PA. To make reservations take a form from the bulletin board in the vestibule or ask at the candlestand. RSVP deadline Oct 25th.

**St. TIKHON OF MOSCOW 100TH ANNIVERSARY:** In honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Repose of Saint Patriarch Tikhon of Moscow, His Eminence Archbishop Mark of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania warmly invites the clergy and faithful of the Diocese to join him for a Festal Hierarchical **Divine Liturgy at All Saints Church, Olyphant, PA, on Saturday, October 18 2025, at 9:30 AM.** As indicated in the flyer, His Eminence will be greeted at 9:15 AM, and the Divine Liturgy will begin at 9:30 AM. Following the service, a festive luncheon will be offered to all in the Church Hall. Experienced parish singers are invited to participate in an ensemble choir that will be formed for this celebration.

**FALL TEEN RETREAT November 14-16** hosted by the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania, 2025 at Camp Hebron Retreat Center Halifax, PA. Applications will be open to Teens 7th to 12th Grade. The Diocese of Eastern PA Youth Ministries program focuses on creating opportunities for young people to deepen their faith, build lasting relationships, and engage in meaningful activities that support their journey in Christ. Retreat life centers on worship and spiritual formation as well as fellowship and fun through activities. HTOC will form a carpool to take youth to the camp. See Fr. Innocent if you have any questions. Apply At: [youth.DOEPA.ORG](http://youth.DOEPA.ORG)

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## Birthdays & Anniversaries

**OCTOBER Birthdays:** Paula Holoviak (10/2), Barry Benczkowski (10/2), Tommy Donlick Jr. (10/5), Brian Benczkowski (10/5), Paul Andrew Tumavitch (10/6), Irene Zimich (10/6), John Zimich (10/11), Gail Coslett (10/12), Marlene Stempien (10/14), Kristen Reznak (10/16), Jason Stankiewicz (10/18), Anela Kurtz (10/18), Amber King (10/20), Renee Eyerman (10/20), Nancy Pieck (10/20), Sarah Benczkowski (10/22), Mary Anya Haugh (10/27), Walter Shedlock (10/28), Marie Talpash (10/28) **Anniversaries:** Nancy & Mike Pieck (10/12), William & Mary Gurka (10/15), Marianne & Paul Newmeyer (10/16), Rebecca & Steve Leonori (10/23), Michael & Lisa Talpash (10/24)

This Week: Birthdays – Gail Coslett (10/12), Marlene Stempien (10/14), Kristen Reznak (10/16), Jason Stankiewicz (10/18), Anela Kurtz (10/18) **Anniversaries** – Nancy & Mike Pieck (10/12), William & Mary Gurka (10/15), Marianne & Paul Newmeyer (10/16)

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## Holy Trinity Orthodox Church



## Parish Harvest Dinner

A Family & Friends “Family Style” Turkey Dinner  
at Amber Palace in Parsons

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**Sunday, November 9, 2025**

Dinner at 12 noon / doors open at 11 am / cash bar  
\$20 for Adults, \$10 for Children

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Reservations with payment begin Sunday Oct  
5th after Divine Liturgy in the Vestibule.

**Deadline Oct 31st.**

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*“Let no one grieve at his poverty, for the  
universal Kingdom has been revealed.*

*Let no one mourn that he has fallen again and  
again, for forgiveness has risen from the grave.*

*Let no one fear death, for the Savior’s death has  
set us free. He that was taken by death has  
annihilated it! Christ is risen, and life reigns!”*

St. John Chrysostom

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**PARISH PRAYER LIST // Homebound:** Evelyn, Vladimir, Jeri, David, Paul, Archpriest Theodore, Mat. Elizabeth, Mary, Patricia, Barbara, Jeri, Joan, Irene, Alice // **Sick & Suffering:** Cynthia Dulsky, Nadine Breisch, Elizabeth Hutz, Mary Hutz, David Lezinsky, Gregory Krevko, Tom Vaskalis, Tom O’Brian, David, Delores Tressa, Sylvia Dreater, Pearl Tutko, Marie Dutko, Elaine & Forrest Hanson, Alexandra, Jody, Sergei, Priest Michael // **Recently Departed:** Rosalie Romanuski // **Pray for our Catechumens:** Tom, Gail, Jaqueline, Dejure, Eric // **Inquirers:** James, Raven, John, Adrienne, Michelle, Trey, Sammy



## Words of Wisdom From the Saints & Teachers

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### Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council

Today the Church remembers the 350 holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council under the holy Patriarch Tarasius (February 25).

The Synod of 787, the second to meet at Nicea, refuted the Iconoclast heresy during the reign of Empress Irene and her son Constantine VI.

The Council decreed that the veneration of icons was not idolatry (Exodus 20:4-5), because the honor shown to them is not directed to the wood or paint, but passes to the prototype (the person depicted). It also upheld the possibility of depicting Christ, Who became man and took flesh at His Incarnation. The Father, on the other hand, cannot be represented in His eternal nature, because “no man has seen God at any time” (John 1:18).

In Greek practice, the holy God-bearing Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council are commemorated on October 11 (if it is a Sunday), or on the Sunday which follows October 11. According to the Slavic menaion, however, if the eleventh falls on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, the service is moved to the preceding Sunday.



### The Treasury

*“... but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. + Jesus Christ*

**Monthly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$12,305**  
**Weekly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$2,840**  
**Last Week's Collection (10/5/25) : \$2,006**

### Quotes on the Resurrection

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*“He became what we are, that He might bring us to be what He Himself is. ... He renewed in Himself that ancient formation of man, that He might kill sin, deprive death of its power, and vivify man.”*

St. Ireneaus of Lyon

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*“When Christ destroyed death by His Resurrection, He became for us the beginning of a new life; He raised the whole nature of man together with Himself.”*

St. Cyril of Alexandria

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*“The mystery of the Resurrection is not only the rising of bodies, but the re-creation of the entire human being, who becomes wholly spirit through participation in God.”*

St. Maximus the Confessor

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*“The Resurrection is not only an event in the life of Christ but also in us, for through the Mysteries we die and rise with Him.”*

St. Nicholas Cabasilas