

HOLY RESURRECTION ORTHODOX CHURCH

Mary Street, Belle Vernon, PA
(Serving the faithful of Belle Vernon and surrounding areas)

Glory be to Jesus Christ! Glory be Forever!

The Very Rev. Fr. Samuel Smolcic January 17, 2010
Cell Phone: (724) 516-9390 (weekdays 8:30 am–4 pm – however, do not leave messages)
Home Phone: (724) 837-8957 (evenings & weekends)
Email: padresam52@msn.com
Church website: www.hrocbo.org Church school website: www.hrocschool.com
Choir Director: Peter Merella

Epistle Reading: 1 Timothy 4:9-15 **Gospel Reading:** Luke 19:1-10
Next Week: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 **Next Week:** Luke 18:10-14

*Take time to read the scriptures to prepare your heart and mind for Sunday's Liturgy.

Altar Servers: Mark Farrell / Zach Billie

Services:	Sat., Jan. 23 rd	Great Vespers Sacrament of Confession	7 pm
	Sun., Jan. 24 th	Publican & Pharisee Church School Divine Liturgy	9:15 am 10 am

Announcements: Who among us has not been drawn to the human catastrophe in Haiti this past week? The dimensions of suffering in that poor nation stagger the imagination. International Orthodox Christian Charities (I.O.C.C.) immediately mobilized to assist to bring relief to the stricken. Our Parish, in Christ's Holy Name, will join the I.O.C.C. in their efforts. We will do so in two ways. Special collections at the rear of the Church will be taken up today and next Sunday. All collected funds will be sent to the I.O.C.C. as a united offering of our Parish for Haitian Relief. The Church School is being mobilized as well, for the next two Sundays, January 24 & 31, 'Health Kit' items will be collected, and then packed and shipped to the I.O.C.C. A large box will be placed in the Social Hall to receive the following items: small hand towels and wash cloths, combs, nail files or clippers, bar soap (in original wrapper), toothbrushes and band-aids. If you bring in quantities of these items, the Church School children will pack them into 'kits' (prescribed by the I.O.C.C.) and ship them. Or you could make up 'kits' yourself, enclosed in a large zip lock bags and consists of the above items. See today's bulletin insert for instructions from the I.O.C.C. website. Remembering the words of our Lord Jesus, "Inasmuch as you did it to the least of these my brethren, you did it to Me." Mt.25:40, be charitable from the heart to the glory of God.

Check out the flier on the church bulletin board for a one time performance of the Duquesne University Tamburitzans on **January 23rd** that will benefit I.O.C.C. This event offers a break from the winter doldrums and nice way to support a very worthy organization!

Another fun winter activity . . . ORTHODOX DAY at the PPG ICE RINK . . . **Sunday, January 31st from 2:00 pm to ???** Cost is \$13 per person, including admission, skate rental & food. Contact Elizabeth Goehring @ 412-369-7098 or elizabethgoehring@gmail.com. Tickets must be ordered by

January 25th. Mail checks payable to Pgh District FOCA to Elizabeth Goehring, 135 Hillendale Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15237

To check on weather related delays or closings of Parish services or meeting, tune in to a news broadcast of WPXI-TV in Pittsburgh or view closings on the internet by typing in the keyword: wpxi school closings.

All parishioners are reminded to promptly submit their Home Blessings Envelopes this year. Fr. Sam will need to get to the Home Blessings as soon as possible due to the early arrival of Great Lent this year. He plans to make a few visits today; please try to accommodate his request to schedule your visit.

If you have not picked up your 2010 Church Calendars yet, they are available in the rack to the right of the doors in the vestibule. Get yours today!

As soon as a few schedules are finalized, Fr. Sam will distribute an 80+ day calendar as he did last year which will chart all the Church services from before Great Lent through the post-Paschal period. Many people were pleased to be able to look ahead and plan their service attendance with this useful tool.

The Guild will be hosting their Valentine Penny Social on **Sunday, February 7th at 3 pm**. Several members of the Guild will be gathering on **Saturday, February 6th at 1 pm** to set up the Social Hall. As the refreshment after the Penny Social, the Guild will be putting together cookie trays. Please lend a hand and donate a dozen or two of your favorite cookies to the Guild. Also, the Guild needs some help with the donation of Table Prizes. Would you consider helping out with a donation a clean/new Table Prize? Please bring your donation(s) on **Saturday, February 6th or Sunday, February 7th**. Thanks in advance for your generosity and help and don't forget to come and join in the fun on the 7th!

Now that the holidays are done, don't forget to bring your unwanted Christmas cards to give to Holy Transfiguration Monastery for reuse. Please leave your cards on the small table next to the 2010 Church Calendars. Thanks!

SUBMISSION TO THE WILL OF GOD

by Bishop Nikolai Velimirovic
"Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven" (Matt. 6:10)

Blessed is John the Baptist, for he fulfilled the Gospel before the Gospel! Going out into the wilderness, he delivered himself over wholly to the will of God, in both body and spirit. And the will of God was done in his body on earth as also it was done in his spirit in heaven. Neither hunger nor wild beasts harmed his body during his years in the wilderness, nor did despair harm his spirit in solitude nor pride in heavenly visions. He sought neither bread nor recognition from men. God gave him all that was needful, for he was completely given over to the will of God. He did not direct his own steps either into the wilderness or out of it. His life was steered by an invisible rudder, for when the time came for him to leave the wilderness and go to meet the Lord, it is written: "*The word of the Lord came unto John*" (Lk. 3:2). John spoke with the simplicity of an innocent child of his intercourse with heavenly powers: "*And I knew Him not; but He that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me: 'Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, the same is He who baptized with the Holy Spirit.'*" And I saw, and bear record that this is the Son of God' (Jn. 1:33-34). So tenderly and simply does he speak of heavenly things! And yet how terrifying he is, how like a lion, when he speaks against unrighteous men, against Herod and Herodias! The lamb and the lion live together within him. Heaven is as near to him as a mother is to her child, and the will of God is as near and clear to him as to the angels in heaven.

O most wise Lord, guide the lives of us sinners in the wilderness of this world to the doing of Thy will, as thou didst guide the life of St. John the Baptist. To Thee be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

The Eley-McCrory Funeral Home sponsored this week's bulletin.

