

# 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 24, 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:** 2 Timothy 3:10-15 **Gospel Reading:** Luke 18:10-14

**Next Week:** 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 **Next Week:** Luke 15:11-32

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

**Altar Servers:** Tommy Slavic / Peter Mica

**Services:** Sun., Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> **Prodigal Son**  
Church School **9:15 am**  
Divine Liturgy **10 am**

**Announcements:** Our Parish, in Christ's Holy Name, will join the I.O.C.C. in their efforts to bring relief to the stricken of Haiti. We will do so in two ways. Another special collection at the rear of the Church will be taken today. 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, this Sunday and next Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, '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. 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.

Another fun winter activity . . . ORTHODOX DAY at the PPG ICE RINK . . . **Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:elizabethgoehring@gmail.com). Tickets must be ordered by January 25<sup>th</sup>. 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 that opportunities for Home Blessings are drawing to a close. Fr. Sam would very much like to complete this task by the end of January since there is such little time before

the beginning of Great Lent and other activities taking place in the Parish at the beginning of February. He plans to make a few visits today.

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 7<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm**. Several members of the Guild will be gathering on **Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> or Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>**. Thanks in advance for your generosity and help and don't forget to come and join in the fun on the 7<sup>th</sup>!

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 or give to Janet Miralles. Thanks!

## ***On the Most Discerning Prophet***

by Bishop Nikolai Velimirovic

*'Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?'* (Matt. 9:4)

When the Lord found it right to reprimand the Pharisees and Scribes, they had not at that time killed or deceived or robbed anyone. Not only that; at that time they had offended no one, even by words. Why, then, did He upbraid them, when they had committed no offence either in deed or word? Because they thought evil thoughts.

And evil thoughts are sin. This is another of those great tidings that Christ brings to the world. It is precisely evil thoughts that are the origin of all sin, for, before a man speaks or acts sinfully, he thinks sinfully. Thought is the causative sin; other sins are only resultant sins. He who wishes to exterminate the latter must uproot the former. He who wishes to stop a flow of water must first drain the source. Let no one, then, justify himself by saying: 'I am not a sinner, for I have never killed nor robbed nor profaned nor lied.' For lo, we are full of murderous, plundering, blasphemous and deceitful thoughts. If we have not sinned in deed, that is simply a matter of the mercy of God and external circumstance. Had God slackened His hold and the opportunity presented itself, we would have committed all the sins that were in our thoughts. A snake is not poisonous only when it bites, but also when it does not bite; it carries the poison in itself.

So not only is the thought evil; it is the source of sin, the beginning of sin, the seed and root of sin. This is why the all-seeing and all-knowing Lord thus reprimanded those who thought evil: 'Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?'

O all-seeing and all-knowing Lord, help us to cleanse our hearts and minds from evil thoughts, that so our words and deeds may be pure. To Thee be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

**The Leonard J. Parzynski Funeral Home sponsored this week's bulletin.**

