

# 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 31, 2010  
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Church website: www.hroc bv.org Church school website: www.hrocschool.com  
Choir Director: Peter Merella

**Epistle Reading:** 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 **Gospel Reading:** Luke 15:11-32  
**Next Week:** 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 **Next Week:** Matthew 25:31-46

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

**Altar Servers:** Mark Farrell / Zach Billie

<b>Services:</b>	Mon., Feb. 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Meeting of Christ in the Temple Vespertal Divine Liturgy</b>	<b>7 pm</b>
	Sun., Feb. 7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Meatfare Sunday – Last Judgment</b> General Confession Divine Liturgy	<b>9:30 am 10 am</b>
	Sat., Feb 13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>2010 Lenten Retreat Great Vespers</b>	<b>3 pm</b>

**Announcements:** God bless our Parish for joining together to help bring relief to the stricken of Haiti. We were able to send off a cash donation to the I.O.C.C. of \$552 from special collections gathered after Liturgy on Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Any additional monies coming in for Haitian Relief will also be passed on to the I.O.C.C. Our Church School is mobilizing this Sunday to assemble 'Health Kits' with items donated/collected, and to be 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 soaps (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 bag which 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.

**TODAY is ORTHODOX DAY at the PPG ICE RINK from 2:00 pm to ???**

**DON'T FORGET TO PICK UP YOUR 11 Week Lenten/Holy Week/Paschal calendar TODAY!** It is a wonderful, useful tool which charts all the Church services from before Great Lent through the post-Paschal period so you don't miss a service. See you in church!

Mark your calendars and register to attend the Annual Parish Pre-Lenten Retreat, "The Orthodox Life in a Secularist Culture", on **Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>**. Registration opens at **9:30 am!** Attend this timely retreat to find out what secularism is and how it affects our daily lives as Orthodox Christians.

Our Retreat Master, His Grace, Bishop MELCHISEDEK, Bishop of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania, will offer guidelines to help us resist the temptations that secularism offers us in today's world.

As a part of the Retreat Weekend, His Grace, Bishop MELCHISEDEK will preside at a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy on **Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>** here at Holy Resurrection. It marks His Grace's first pastoral visit at our Church. Greeting and vesting of the Bishop will commence at **9:30 am** on that day. Come early and offer the hospitality that befits the importance of this auspicious day in the life of our parish. A Luncheon reception in the Social Hall will follow services that day. Please note: There will be **NO CHURCH SCHOOL** on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

St. Barbara's Altar Guild had a brief meeting last Sunday to discuss final arrangements for the upcoming Penny Social (**Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>**) and the Luncheon following the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy on **Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>**. The details have been finalized, however, **a piece of the picture IS MISSING – YOU!** If you can assist with **set up, clean up or in any way, please come early and/or stay late at either event.** One piece of "Old Business" that was shared by Patty Snodgrass regarded the Adopt-a-Family Christmas Project with the Washington Women's Shelter. Mrs. Snodgrass reported that through the generosity of fellow parishioners, \$575 in cash was collected for gift purchases; \$35 in gift cards were donated, and wish lists containing requests for coats and microwave ovens were granted. Mrs. Snodgrass thanks everyone for their generosity in these trying times, God Bless everyone!

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>!

## ON THE MUTUAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE FATHER AND THE SON

By Bishop Nikolai Velimirovic

*'I know Him, for I am from Him and He hath sent Me'* (John 7:29)

No man has ever dared to say that he knows God. Many have said: 'I believe in God', but the Lord Jesus alone has pronounced the words: 'I know Him.' And He immediately explained how He knows Him, saying: 'for I am from Him and He sent Me'. The first reason: 'for I am from Him', testifies to the eternal being of the son; and the second: 'He sent Me', testifies to the temporal appearing of the Son in the physical world as an emissary of the Holy Trinity.

It is not given to us Christians to know the Father as His only-begotten Son knows Him, but it is given to us and demanded of us to believe. Our merit is in believing, not in knowing. If we all knew God through seeing Him, where would be the merit? What sort of merit is there in knowing through sight? But not to see and yet to believe – in that is merit and virtue and our salvation. We are not worthy to see God and to know Him by sight, for we are weakened by sin and alienated from God. But the mercy of God has given us faith, which can help us draw near to God in this life and lead us to the Kingdom of eternal seeing and knowing in the life to come.

Oh, my brethren, let us believe Christ the Lord, for He knows, He speaks not by faith but by sight.

O merciful Lord, strengthen our faith. Show us the hem of Thy garment, that we may grasp it and hold it to the end of our days. To Thee be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

**The James C. Stump Funeral Home sponsored this week's bulletin.**

