

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 November 28, 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.hrocby.org *Church school website:* www.hrocschool.com
Choir Director: Peter Merella

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 6:10-17 **Gospel Reading:** Luke 13:10-17
Next Week: Corinthians 1:12-18 **Next Week:** Luke 18:18-27

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

Services Sun., Dec. 5th **Venerable Sabbas the Sanctified;
Saint Gurias of Kazan; Venerable
Nectarius of Mt. Athos**
General Confession **9:30 am**
Divine Liturgy **10 am**

Announcements: Fr. Sam has started his Advent Sacramental Visitations. When he calls, please try to accommodate his visit.

TODAY -- DON'T FORGET your orders for your nut and poppyseed rolls are due today! Please submit your orders at the Candle Stand and remember to include telephone numbers on the order form. Due to the large demand for Baba's rolls, no orders can be accepted after the due date.

Do you need some notecards, Christmas cards, incense & incense burners, psalter or prayer books for your upcoming gift giving needs? See Mary Jo Weinheimer during coffee hour **TODAY** to purchase any of these wonderful gift items.

**** Please see the reverse side of the candle list for names and addresses of our Parish Shut-ins.** They would really appreciate a card or call during the Holiday Season.

Looking ahead to December --- Saturday night Great Vespers with Confessions to follow will be held on Saturday, December 11th and 18th. This adjustment in our regular Vespers schedule will allow for two Holy Confession opportunities before Christmas.

The Babas will be gathering together to bake the holiday rolls on **Saturday, December 4th and December 11th at 7 am**. Come on over to lend a hand, enjoy the fellowship and get into the holiday spirit. Nothing beats the aroma of freshly baked holiday rolls!

Christmas Yolka – Our children are busy rehearsing their parts for the annual Christmas Yolka. Come see our church school children perform in the annual Yolka program immediately following Divine Liturgy on **December 5th**. Bring your cameras, as we may have a “Special Visitor” arrive that day! Please help make our Yolka a festive occasion for all – please stop by the bulletin board in the

Social Hall and sign up to lend a hand to welcome St. Nicholas! “*Oh, who loves, Nicholas the saintly*”...

Holy Resurrection's **Adopt-a-Family Christmas Project** is off and running. Let's help the Washington Women's Shelter make the holidays an enjoyable and peaceful time for women who are struggling financially as they build violence-free lives for themselves and their families. The Women's Shelter hopes that our parish can assist with some of the bigger ticket items needed. Visit the bulletin board in the vestibule to select a Wish List item. (Remember, you don't have to go it alone on any one of the Wish List items, coordinate with a fellow parishioner.) See today's bulletin insert for more information. Please return all gifts to Patty Snodgrass on **Sunday, November 28th, December 5th or December 12th**. The Washington Women's Shelter thanks you in advance for your generosity and concern. God Bless!

Christmas Altar Candles: Gifts are now being accepted for the Christmas Altar Candles. If you would like to make a gift in memory of loved ones or in honor of loved ones – place your offering in an envelope marking it “Christmas Candles” and leave it at the Candle Stand.

THOUGHTS FROM THE HOLY FATHERS

by St. Nikolai

‘But his delight is in the Law of the Lord; and in His Law will he exercise himself day and night’ [Ps. 1:2]. Blessed is that man, my brethren, thrice blessed is he, whose will is submitted to the will of God, whose mind can think nothing in opposition to the counsel of God and whose heart desires nothing in opposition to God's desire, for the mind is the rudder of the will and the heart. If the mind is fixed constantly on God, it will then eagerly keep itself day and night in the Law of God, and will not walk ‘in the counsels of the ungodly’, but will seek the truth and revelation of all that is in God's Law. If the mind is thus fixed on God, then a man's heart and will quickly be fixed on Him. Then the will, as the perfect expression of the inner man, will perform only that which accords with the will of God and which is ordained in the Law of God. Then a man will not ‘stand in the path of sinners’, nor ‘sit in the seat of the scornful’; that is, he will neither sin nor lead others into sin. At the beginning of this psalm, the Prophet David praises the man who does not do three evils, and here continues with the praise of him who does two good things. The three evils are: seeking wisdom among the sinful, living a sinful life and scandalizing others by one's evil example. The two good things are: conforming one's will utterly to the will of God, and so directing one's mind that it cleaves day and night to God's Law.

Oh, my brethren, what a lamentable shallow mind is theirs who do not know the Law of God! The depth of a man's mind is measured by the depth of his knowledge of the Law of God. Whoever cleaves to the mysteries of God's Law, his mind is deep and broad and uplifted, for the mind is the rudder of the heart and will. Oh, my brethren how shallow and fickle and dissolute is the will of those who do not cleave in their own wills to the will of God! Truly lamentable shallow and fickle and dissolute. What is the Law of God, brethren? It is the expression of the will of God. Where is this expression found? In Holy Scripture and in the teaching of the holy saints of God's Church. Blessed is he who knows the will of God and fulfills it.

O Lord God, great and mighty, merciful and righteous, enlighten our minds with Thy Holy Law and conform our wills to Thy loving and saving will. To Thee be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

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

