

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 December 12, 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: Colossians 3:4-11 **Gospel Reading:** Luke 14:16-24

Next Week: Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23,32-40 **Next Week:** Matthew 1:1-25

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

Services	Sat., Dec. 18 th	Great Vespers and Holy Confession	7 pm
	Sun., Dec. 19 th	Martyr Boniface; Martyr Aglae and Saint Elias of Murom	
		Church School	9:15 am
		Divine Liturgy	10 am

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

This month's Parish Council Meeting will be on **Monday, December 13th** starting at **7 pm**.

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.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be Choir rehearsal **Friday, December 17th** at **7 pm**.

Holy Resurrection's **Adopt-a-Family Christmas Project** has come to a close. **TODAY** is the day that Santa "Patty Snodgrass" will load her sleigh to transport Holy Resurrection's gifts to brighten the Christmas of the women and children of the Washington Women's Shelter. A big THANK YOU to all! One small gesture can do so much! May the spirit of giving continue throughout the year! God Bless!

Adult Church School Project – The Adult Church School Class has decided to offer an on-going book sale for all our readers in the Parish. The books will be sold for 50 cents an inch and will be available every Sunday during coffee hour. The proceeds will be given to the Blackburn Center for abused women in Greensburg. Donations of novels are welcome!

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.

The Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood of Greater Pittsburgh has invited our parish to join in a charitable outreach of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians United to Serve (FOCUS) entitled "Tackle Poverty with Troy and Theodora Polamalu". This is the 'kick-off' fundraiser for this local ministry. To launch it, the Brotherhood has sent all local parishes a Christmas Stocking to fill to help this program meet its organizational goals. The Stocking will be hung in the vestibule the next three Sundays (12th, 19th & 26th).

DON'T FORGET -- Our Parish is registered with WPXI-TV (Channel 11) to list Closings or Delays of services or meetings. If you are wondering about weather related changes in start times or cancellations, check WPXI first before making phone calls to other parishioners. Do this by tuning in on a newscast on Channel 11 or by checking closings on the internet by typing in the keyword, wpxi school closings. Furthermore, Trooper Will Pierce of PA State Police (and parishioner of Holy Resurrection) has agreed to supply Fr. Sam with information regarding road and travel conditions in Fayette, Washington and Westmoreland counties. This information will be invaluable in reaching decisions about Closings or Delays. Thanks Will!

THOUGHTS FROM THE HOLY FATHERS

by St. Nikolai

'Be ye angry, and sin not' [Ps. 4:4]. Be angry with yourselves, my brethren, and sin no more. Be angry at your sins of thought and deed, and sin no more. Be angry with Satan, the father of lies, and no longer do his will. Be angry at the sin in the world and at the fouling of God's holy Church by godless men, but beware of healing sin by sin. Be angry with your friends when they sin, but let your anger be directed towards turning them back and not to driving them into further evil. The anger of a friend towards his friend, of a parent towards his child and – dare I say it? – of God towards men, is not a storm that roots up trees but a wind that makes the tree stronger, making the rotten fruit fall so that the good fruit may be even better and finer. Control your anger, that it may heal and not poison. To have this control, keep God before you in your anger. Anger can have no stronger dam or lock than God. All anger that is not in the name of God and His righteousness is sin. Do not be angry for nothing, but be angry at that at which God is angered. If your will is set firmly in God's Law, you will always be able to be angry when anger is needed, and to the measure to which it is needed. This cannot all be spelled out in words and explained to the ignorant. Anger in its place acts as mercy does in its.

Oh, my brethren, do you see how various powers are put into our souls, that man can use freely for life or for death? Anger with oneself can never be recommended strongly enough. It is a marvelous fact that the more a man learns to be angry with himself, the less he is angry with others, for knowing his own weaknesses, he either does not look at others or, if he sees them, judges them gently.

O Lord God, the only righteous One, sow in us the remembrance of the day of Thy righteous anger, that we may keep ourselves from sin in our souls. To Thee be glory and praise for ever. Amen

