The Sunday Messenger

+ Holy Trinity, Wilkes-Barre + Oct 11th, 2026 + Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council + 19th Sunday after Pentecost +

Hymns & Readings

For Today's Divine Liturgy

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead. And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: "O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!"

Thou art most glorious, O Christ our God, Who hast established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth. Through them Thou hast guided us to the True Faith. O greatly compassionate One, glory to Thee!

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior, seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb! The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with Thee, and the world, my Savior, praises Thee forever.

The Son Who shone forth from the Father was ineffably born, two-fold in nature, of a woman. Having beheld Him, we do not deny the image of His form, but depict it piously and revere it faithfully. Thus, keeping the True Faith, the Church venerates the icon of Christ Incarnate.

Please Sing Along!

Singing throughout the Divine Liturgy is encouraged!

Epistle Reading - 2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9

The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. In Damascus the governor, under Aretas the king, was guarding the city of the Damascenes with a garrison, desiring to arrest me; but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped from his hands. It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord: I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago – whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows – such a one was caught up to the third heaven. And I know such a man – whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows – how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter. Of such a one I will boast; yet of myself I will not boast, except in my infirmities. For though I might desire to boast, I will not be a fool; for I will speak the truth. But I refrain, lest anyone should think of me above what he sees me to be or hears from me. And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most

Dear Guests and Friends: A most sincere and heartfelt welcome to you from our community. According to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared to receive the Holy Sacrament through prayer and fasting. If you have questions please let us know!

gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Gospel Reading - Luke 7:11-16

Now it happened, the day after, that He went into a city called Nain; and many of His disciples went with Him, and a large crowd. And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother. Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen up among us"; and, "God has visited His people."

THIS WEEKEND
SAT, Oct 10th
Friends of the Poor @ 9 AM
Great Vespers @ 5 PM, Confessions

SUN, Oct 11th
Welcome Fr. John & Mat. Jeanette Parker
and the St. Tikhon's Mission Choir
Matins @ 8 AM, Hours @ 8:40 AM
Divine Liturgy sung by St. Tikhon's Mission Choir @ 9 AM
Special Potluck for Seminarians, Church School**,** No Catechism in preparation for Jesse & Katie's wedding

Sun, Oct 11th @ 3 PM - Wedding of Katie and Jesse

Oct 11 Special Collection for St. Tikhon's Seminary.
Please consider offering a small donation in support and gratitude for the Seminary's visit and service to the Church. Leave your donation in the donation box at the candlestand marked "St. Tikhon's Seminary". Thank you!

THIS WEEK
WED @ 10 AM - Bible Study / Gospel of St. John
WED @ 11 AM - 1 PM - Church Open for Prayer
WED @ 6 PM - Akathist - Glory to God for All Things

NEXT WEEKEND
SAT, Oct 17th
Cemetery Cleanup @ 9 AM
Parish Council @ 3 PM
Great Vespers @ 5 PM, Confessions
SUN, Oct 18th
Matins @ 8 AM, Hours @ 8:40 AM
Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM, Church School, Coffee Hour, Catechism @ Noon

"The mystery of the Resurrection is not only the rising of bodies, but the re-creation of the entire human being, who becomes wholly spirit through participation in God."

St. Maximus the Confessor

Bible Study of the Gospel of St. John - Wed's @ 10 AM
ORTHODOXY 101 Orthodoxy 101 is for visitors, inquirers, catechumens or anyone interested in learning more about our faith. Classes will be Sunday's @ noon.
Parish Potlucks are usually the last Sunday of each month. Our next potluck is Sun, Oct 11th.
Friends of the Poor is usually the second Saturday of each month. The next FOP is Saturday, October 10th
Holy Trinity Parish Council: Sat, Oct 17th @ 3 PM.

TODAY - Sun, Oct 11th - The Crowning and Betrothal of Katie and Jesse: Katie and Jesse will be getting married on Sunday, October 11th. The ceremony begins at 3:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to come to the ceremony. Afterwards there will be a closed reception at the pavilion starting at 4:30 for all those who received an invitation.

TODAY - Oct 11th thru 18th - Special Collection for Ukraine - Paula Holokviak is heading up a special collection for the people of Ukraine. As they enter into the winter months they are in dire need of basic food items. Any donations of non-perishable food would be greatly appreciated. They are looking for non-perishables – especially protein such as canned tuna or chicken, spam, beans, peanut butter, rice, oatmeal, pasta, coffee, tea, soups, canned vegetables and fruit. Leave your donations in the vestibule/Narthex for Paula to pick up.

Sat, October 17th - Cemetery Cleanup Day There will be a Cemetery cleanup day at the Holy Resurrection Cemetery on William Street in Plains scheduled for October 17, 2026 from 9:00am to 1:00pm (rain date October 24). The goal is to fill low spots with topsoil, trim overgrown brush, hedges, grass and generally tidy up the Cemetery. Volunteers are asked to bring shovels, trimmers, pruners, rakes, etc. Light refreshments will be served.

Fri, October 23rd - Family & Youth Harvest Party Bring the kids Friday, October 23rd at 6 PM for an evening of fall fun. There will be a bonfire, hot chocolate bar, s'mores, wooden turkey decoration craft, games, music, corn hole, ping pong and more!. Everyone is welcome. For more information or if you'd be willing to help please contact Eva Nealon at 570-762-2782. Everyone is welcome.

New Diocesan Men's Group - St. Alexis Brotherhood Kick-off Event to be held HERE at Holy Trinity on Saturday, Oct 24th - A new opportunity for men from parishes throughout Eastern Pennsylvania to gather, build friendships, and strengthen our faith. Come and see what the St. Alexis Brotherhood is all about and help us build a strong men's group for years to come. Bring a friend! Bring a brother from your parish! Come be a part of the Brotherhood! KICKOFF EVENT Saturday, October 24, 2026 2:00pm here at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church. All men 18+ are encouraged and welcome to attend.

OCTOBER Birthdays: Paula Holoviak (10/2), Barry Benczkowski (10/2), Tommy Donlick Jr. (10/5), Brian Benczkowski (10/5), Paul Andrew Tumavitch (10/6), Irene Zimich (10/6), John Zimich (10/11), Gail Coslett (10/12), Marlene Stempien (10/14), Kristen Reznak (10/16), Jason Stankiewicz (10/18), Anela Kurtz (10/18), Amber King (10/20), Renee Eyerman (10/20), Nancy Pieck (10/20), Sarah Benzczkowski (10/22), Mary Anya Haugh (10/27), Walter Shedlock (10/28), Marie Talpash (10/28) **Anniversaries:** Nancy & Mike Pieck (10/12), William & Mary Gurka (10/15), Marianne & Paul Newmeyer (10/16), Rebecca & Steve Leonori (10/23), Michael & Lisa Talpash (10/24)

This Week's Birthdays & Anniversaries: John Zimich (10/11), Gail Coslett (10/12), Marlene Stempien (10/14), Kristen Reznak (10/16), Nancy & Mike Pieck (10/12), William & Mary Gurka (10/15), Marianne & Paul Newmeyer (10/16)

... of the Saints, Fathers & Teachers

Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council

Today the Church remembers the 350 holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council under the holy Patriarch Tarasius (February 25).

The Synod of 787, the second to meet at Nicea, refuted the

PARISH PRAYER LIST // Homebound: Evelyn, Vladimir, Marie, Pearl, Jeri, David, Paul, Archpriest Theodore, Mat. Elizabeth, Mary, Patricia, Barbara, Jeri, Joan, Irene, Alice, Sylvia, Paul **// Sick & Suffering:** Cynthia Dulsky, Nadine Breisch, Elizabeth Hutz, Mary Hutz, David Lezinsky, Tom Vaskalis, Tom O'Brian, David, Delores Tressa, Elaine & Forrest Hanson, Alexandra, Jody, Michael Noice, Paul Loftus, Santo, Susan Shiposki, Dn Jerimiah, William, Alan, Tim, Ann, Paul, Bill, Linda, Betty, Jim, George, Ali, Athansios, Hanna, Don Redmond, Alijah, John, Alexander, Max, John Goobic III **// Recently Departed:** Barbara, Bob **// Pray for our Catechumens:** Tom, Gail, Jaqueline, Michelle, Lisa, David, Ashley, Audrey, Jessica, Nicholas // **Inquirers:** Steve, Matt, April, Patrick, Grace

Iconoclast heresy during the reign of Empress Irene and her son Constantine VI.

The Council decreed that the veneration of icons was not idolatry (Exodus 20:4-5), because the honor shown to them is not directed to the wood or paint, but passes to the prototype (the person depicted). It also upheld the possibility of depicting Christ, Who became man and took flesh at His Incarnation. The Father, on the other hand, cannot be represented in His eternal nature, because "no man has seen God at any time" (John 1:18).

In Greek practice, the holy God-bearing Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council are commemorated on October 11 (if it is a Sunday), or on the Sunday which follows October 11. According to the Slavic menaion, however, if the eleventh falls on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, the service is moved to the preceding Sunday.

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

Parish Harvest Dinner

and Basket Raffle

A Family & Friends "Family Style" Turkey Dinner

at Amber Palace in Parsons

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Sunday, November 8th, 2025

Dinner at 12 noon / Doors open at 11 am / Cash bar

$20 for Adults, $10 for Children

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Reservations with payment begin Sunday Oct 11th after Divine Liturgy in the Vestibule.

Deadline Oct 30th

The Treasury

"... but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. + Jesus Christ

Monthly Cost to Keep the Church Open: $12,305
Weekly Cost to Keep the Church Open: $2,840
Last Week's Collection (10/4) : $2,933

Scan to make an online donation.

Thank You

Thank you to **all who brought a dish for this week's special coffee hour** and to those who helped clean up! Next Sunday is sponsored by Alexanne Conklin and the Redfield family. If you would like to assist in next week's coffee hour please reach out to the team!

Would you sponsor a coffee hour with a friend?
See Fr. Innocent, Mat. Melanie or Joann Dutko.

"The Resurrection is not only an event in the life of Christ but also in us, for through the Mysteries we die and rise with Him."

St. Nicholas Cabasilas