

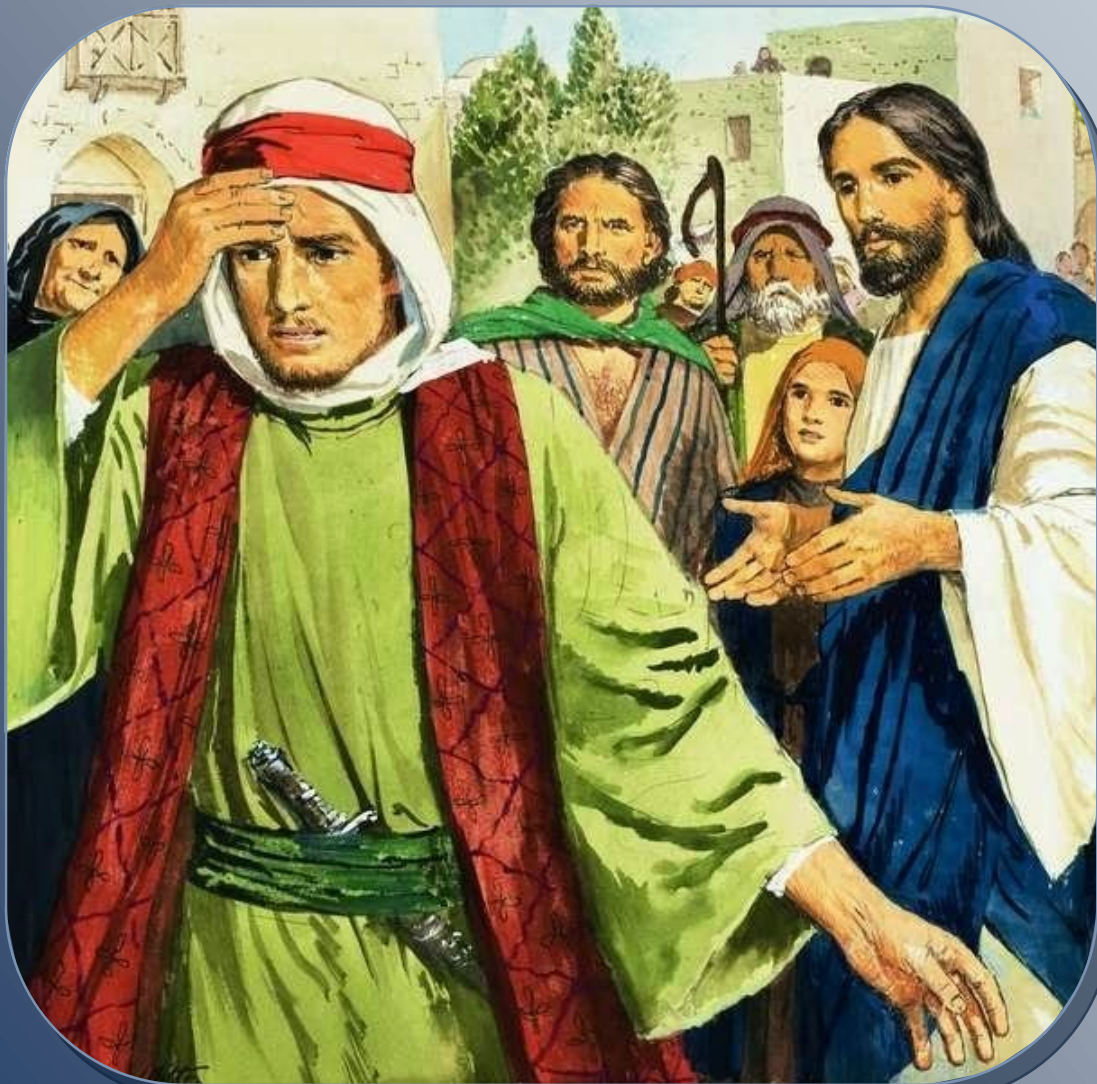
If Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain.. '1 Corint. 15:14



ST. NICHOLAS

Serbian Orthodox Church

971 St. Clair Road, Johnstown, PA 15905 ■ 814-255-1853; Parish Priest : *Rev. Dragan Zaric*



Who then can be
saved? But Jesus be-
held them, and said
unto them, With men
this is impossible; but
with God all things
are possible.

St. Matt. (19, 16-26)

Weekly Bulletin - Sunday August 28 2017

**Sunday, August 14/27, 2017. 12th Sunday after Pentecost;
Holy Prophet Micah (Forefeast of the Dormition of the Theotokos)**

• **Liturgical Readings: Gospel St. Matt. (19, 16-26)**

Epistle: 1 Cor. (15, 1-11).

• **Donations Received Sunday August 20, 2017**

Offering \$1025.00 Candles \$54.00 Hall rental \$125.00

Donation of \$75 from Blaine Pynkala for the continued good health of Tom Locher

Donations to the Building Fund in memory of Pete Povich for \$25 from Joe & Connie

Bartis. In memory of Sylvester Saula for \$20 from Jeanette & Vincent Czubak

In memory of Lillian Fleck for \$20 from Jeanette & Vincent Czubak, For \$25

From Pete & Joanne Todorich, and Natalie & John Ofsanko. \$50 from Norma

Dodge

Church Liturgy will begin at 10:00am starting September

Sunday School will start September 17th Pancakes and sausage will be served after Liturgy.

Donation and children are free.

Large Candle donations In Memory of Victoria Bartis, Dudukovich & Knezevich

Families, Stella & Steve Baich, Nikola, Milka & Nick Jr Todorich.

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost (Matthew 19:16-26)

And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet? Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me. But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions. Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved? But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible. (KJV)

Homily by V. Rev. Stav. Rodney Torbich-When a person treasures other than Christ and the Kingdom of God first and foremost, the person limits the self. The current Gospel describes the rich man's strong attachment to his personal wealth.

Individuals in contemporary society often choose other than Christ as first and foremost in their lives. Even some professed believers will live lukewarm Christian lives. Some professed believers are nominal in their belief in Christ. At Holy Baptism the total person is dedicated to Christ. Every remaining moment after the person exits the Baptismal font is to be lived in totality to Christ. Love and dedication to Christ are expected. Baptisms are a time of great joy. Family and friends rejoice, Expressed belief in Christ, immersion and the anointing with the seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit change the person's identity forever. Baptism intends the life-long responsibility to follow Christ. The present Gospel reaffirms the expectation that believers are to follow Christ completely. Complete dedication to Christ is possible throughout life. Serious personal examination will reveal if love of Christ dominates the heart and mind. Study of the use of personal time and resources will provide the evidence is Christ first and foremost in life. God's Holy Church offers personal peace. God's Holy Church teaches the path to salvation. The Gospel proclaimed in the Church is of lasting benefit to attentive listeners. Believers learn about the love of God and love for each other in church. Forgiveness is prominent in the Church's teaching throughout the year. Life improves when believers heed the message to repent. The Church has a long and proven history dating to the time of the Holy Apostles. Saints and martyrs have paved the roads of faith through the centuries. Individuals locked into material possessions lead shallow lives. Fully experiencing Christ requires more than accumulating material wealth. Living in Christ changes the content of the heart, the mind and the soul. Joy radiates in the lives of serious believers. The rich man in the current Gospel had the opportunity to grow in Christ. He was not ready to move forward with Christ. His attachment to his material possessions held him back. How many men and women devote time to acquiring material wealth and give no time to their families? How many children are deprived of personal love and attention because of parents having goals far from the Kingdom of God? The present Gospel is a basis for assessing personal interests and attachments. Honesty with the self will reveal if Christ is first and foremost in life. Baptism is a marking point for assessing the remaining days of life. A person's life will be assessed from the point of Baptism until departure from this life. The use of time between Baptism and death will serve as a basis for Christ's final judgment. Wise believers are careful in the use of the time and resources of life. Wise believers seek to constantly repent and be united and reunited with Christ. Clinging to Christ keeps the person on the path to the Kingdom of God. Clinging to Christ keeps the person away from perils to the soul. Having Christ first and foremost in life puts relationships, interests and possessions in the proper perspective. Christ defines the path a person is to follow. Christ —

describes the nature of relationships a believer is to desire. Christ establishes the goals a person is to maintain. Heeding the present Gospel in personal life is an opportunity to begin anew in Christ. Every Divine Liturgy is expected to make a difference in personal life. Believers are to exit the church as better Christians than when entering. Christians are to be active in Christ throughout life. Active prayer is always possible if the mind is capable of thought. Christ's love and healing power are within reach of each believer.

The Divine Liturgy is an expression of Christ's love and presence. The Divine Liturgy makes the Precious Body and Blood available to each believer. Each believer is invited to draw near and be united with Christ. Amen!

**INVITATION TO THE PATRONAL FEAST
OF THE FEDERATION OF THE CIRCLES OF SERBIAN SISTERS
OF THE DIOCESE OF EASTERN AMERICA
THE DORMITION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS**

**ST. NICHOLAS SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, MONROEVILLE, PA
MONDAY, AUGUST 28TH, 2017**

Beloved Clergy, Monastics and Faithful of the Eastern American Diocese,

It is with great paternal joy, that we invite you on behalf of our dedicated Sisters to participate, on the day of Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos, on **Monday, August 28th, 2017**, in the Patronal Feast and Agape—*Slava* of the Federation of the Circles of Serbian Sisters, at St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church in Monroeville, Pennsylvania.

The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy will begin at 10:00 AM, followed by a Festal Banquet.

On this occasion, we express our most heartfelt appreciation to this year's hosts, for their demonstrated love toward our Federation of the Circles of Serbian Sisters, and in so doing to the Lord of Hosts Himself and His Most Holy Mother, our most fervent intercessor.

WELCOME, INDEED – OUR JOY!

With Archpastoral blessings and Paternal love,

+IRINEJ

BISHOP OF EASTERN AMERICA