

# Weekly Schedule of Services

Saturday: 4pm Great Vespers

This ancient prayer service assists in preparing us for the most sacred of services, the Sunday Liturgy. *Coming Soon* Stay after as we preach through a book of the Bible.

Sunday: 9:30am Divine Liturgy

This is the central day of the Christian week, where we worship our great God in holy array, and receive the most sacred Body and Blood of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ.

*Coming Soon* Wednesday: 6:30pm [Prayer and] Bible Study

Join us as we study and discuss Sacred Scripture and the Core Principles of Christian Faith and Practice.

Monday through Friday: 8am Morning Prayer

Come join us in prayer for our Church family and community as she begins her day!

## Upcoming Major Feasts

Tuesday, August 6: The Transfiguration of our Lord

Thursday, August 15: Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos

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St. Tikhon's Monastery will be celebrating St. Anna's Day with an Akathis, procession, and anointing on Sunday, July 21 at 2:00pm.

St. Tikhon's Patronal Feast will be on Tuesday, August 13 at 9:00am.

*Find Peace of Soul at*

# All Saints Orthodox Church

211 Willow Avenue, Olyphant, PA 18447

[www.allsaintsolyphant.org](http://www.allsaintsolyphant.org)

Fr. Joshua Schooping - Parish Priest - 570-489-0942



Sunday, July 7, 2019

All Saints of Britain and Ireland

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Epistle: Romans 5:1-10

Gospel: Matthew 6:22-33

Biblical, Sacramental, Patristic, Christ-centered, and Spirit-filled, *All Saints Orthodox Church* is a community of Orthodox Christians seeking to live the Gospel by putting on the Mind of Christ and acquiring the Holy Spirit. Discover who you are in Christ with practical teachings to uplift and transform your mind, open and expand your heart, and experientially know the awesome and intimate presence of God in your soul.

### *Pastoral Reflection*

What is a worldview? A worldview is the way we look at and make sense of the world. It houses and organizes all our experience. It is at the heart of how we know life, and by its yardstick we measure our days, weeks, months, and years. The worldview we choose, however, also determines our destiny. There are many options for a worldview. There is a Christian worldview, a Muslim worldview, an atheistic worldview, a secular worldview, and the list could go on and on. For example, if we put on rose-colored glasses, it would be no surprise if everything looked a little pink. But, if we didn't know that we were wearing such glasses, we would not know why everything looked so rosy. We might not even notice, or we might wonder what is going on. Similarly, many people aren't sure why their life "looks" the way it does. The question therefore arises: *What is my worldview?* Do I have a Christian worldview, or have I perhaps put on a different set of glasses? Do I see things from a godly vantage, putting on a divine perspective? Or, do I see things happening around me, and to me, as if they had no divine purpose, as if Christ was not my Lord and Savior?

### *Keep Praying*

*"Have Jesus as the sweet contemplation of your heart; let Jesus be the preoccupation of your tongue; let Jesus be the honorable shape and idea in your mind. In brief, let Jesus be your breath and never grow tired of calling upon Jesus."* -St. Nicodemos

### *Wisdom, Let us Attend*

The Church Fathers are a repository of living wisdom. One such Church Father is St. Innocent of Alaska (19th Century). Writing to the Aleuts on essential truths regarding Christian life, he taught:

*No one by himself, without Jesus Christ, can turn and draw near to God, because our sins, like a high wall, do not let us come to Him.*

One way to understand this is through what might be called *natural inability*. Natural inability describes the effect that sin has on the human soul: the sin which is inextricably bound up within us, causing us and others so much misery, darkens our minds and hearts such that, left to our own will, we refuse to truly love God or our neighbor. Because of the Fall of Adam, we are all born estranged from God. Apart from Christ, we would all choose self or world, lust or anger, pleasure or power, libertinism or legalism. We may set out intending to be and do good, but by and by we would inch away from true good and end up miles off course, much as a ship with a broken compass attempting to sail straight under a totally cloudy sky. The passions make our heart like a tempestuous, wind-driven sea; on our mind they act like storm clouds covering over the sky. Try as we may, we cannot find safe harbor for *"without the Holy Spirit, it is impossible to go the way Jesus Christ went."* And though *"no human being by himself could or can restore what Adam lost,"* we cannot because we will not. The human will, without Christ, refuses God. Lost, we are made to come face to face with our natural inability, our utter helplessness to save ourselves. We absolutely require His divine intervention. Glory to God, He has made provision in the Person of His Son. In victory over death, Christ overcame our inability and bestowed on us every spiritual blessing. Seeing that we were dead in trespasses and sins, God *supernaturally enabled* us such that in Christ a conduit of grace is opened and secured whereby He fills us with His eternal life. In Christ, faithfully following Him, *"it only remains for us not to oppose Him and not to be obstinate, but to surrender ourselves completely to His will. Let Him lead us where and how He wills."*