

## Recap from Sunday, August 18 –

### Annual Back to College Sunday Prayer

Thank you to all the college-bound students who attended Liturgy two Sundays ago ... Una, Pavle, Milica, Nikola, Stana, Sava, Tatiana, Anjelia, and Jelena! No last names required when you have first names like this group!

The message of the Gospel reading was very timely, relating to Peter in the boat and his fear of the “wind” and “waves.” This can apply to all and how our faith is there to calm the waters and troubling winds. We know Father’s words of wisdom hold true as our students encounter new challenges this coming school year. All the best and we look forward to seeing you in church when you’re home on break and hearing about all your successes!

If you would like to share your college student’s personal email address, we can include them in all upcoming SS and HTC email messages during the course of the first semester. Just contact me at mike.winowich@comcast.net.

### Orthodox Christian Fellowship Opportunity

 **OCF** We received information about a Fellowship program geared towards college students. Parents, please review this website, [www.ocf.net](http://www.ocf.net), to assess if you would like to register your college student. There are details about the program and contact information for different college chapters. We believe the Pittsburgh-area universities in Oakland share a chapter with chapters at Penn State, WVU, and Ohio State, among many others. They especially try to welcome incoming freshmen in the first few weeks of classes – there is a description on the site of the “First Forty Days” program. Please share your experiences/feedback with us.

## 2019-2020 Sunday School Year Kick Off!

### Sunday, September 15

#### First day of church school classes

- Please complete the attached Registration Form before the start of the season and forward to my attention: mike.winowich@comcast.net.
- Work is in progress to update the current school page on the website. This is the link if you have any additional suggestions for content or material ... <https://htsoc.com/churchschool>.

#### Blessing of the Backpacks

- Children are invited to bring their school backpacks or book bags to church to receive a special blessing within the context of worship. It is a wonderful way to acknowledge the beginning of a new school year and recognize the importance of learning.



#### Kick Off Picnic after Liturgy

- Come and enjoy cevaps, hot dogs, hamburgers!
- A coordinator or two or three is needed to help with the various aspects of the event.

## Call for Teachers

The church school program is in need of a few teachers for the coming school year. With two teachers assigned to each class,



the teaching responsibilities are “shared” and average about twice a month. Our classes start immediately after the Gospel, about 10:20-10:25 a.m., and typically last 30 to 45 minutes with instruction based on the Christian Orthodox

educational materials provided. This is a wonderful, rewarding opportunity to volunteer so please consider becoming teachers in Pre-school/Kindergarten or 3/4<sup>th</sup> grade.

#### Current teachers:

| Class                            | Teacher                            |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Preschool/K                      | “Open positions”                   |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> | Jennifer Wechner and Melissa Yoest |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> | Mark Winowich and “Open position”  |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup> | Lara Trbovich and Mike Winowich    |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> | Maca Topich and Grace Dean         |
| High School                      | Mark Popovich and Mark Zivkovich   |

## Epistle Readers

Last year we were very successful in having a group of kids participate for the first time with epistle reading assignments. As the reading schedule is coordinated by Joe Hayden in the Altar, please let him know whether your son/daughter would like to be on the list to read the Epistle.



## Altar Boys

Please let us know if your son(s) are interested in serving in the Altar to ensure that the schedule is correct and current.



With the transition of high school graduates, we can use the influx of the “young” group (ages 6, 7, and 8) to continue to learn and experience the importance and benefits of being a server on Sundays.



## Meet the Church School Co-Superintendents!

We have been blessed to have two parishioners agree to coordinate the school program this year - Dawn Weiss (middle) and Milica Surla (far right) in the picture below. Welcome aboard and we look forward to working with both of you in this very important role! Who are the two ladies you ask? Their bios follow.



### Dawn Weiss:

Hello everyone! My name is Dawn Musulin Weiss and I am going to be the new co-coordinator of the HTC Church School for 2019-2020. Just wanted to tell you a little about myself as we kick off this new school year.

I grew up on the South Side Slopes with my parents, two sisters and two brothers. During that time, I attended the Pittsburgh Public Schools, which included Arlington Elementary School, Knoxville Junior High School, and South High School. Upon graduation in 1973, I attended the University of Pittsburgh. I graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and a minor in Psychology in 1977. A few years later, I earned a Master's Degree in Elementary Education.

While working on my Master's, I began my teaching career in the Pittsburgh Public Schools. I taught various grade levels and different subjects which lasted for 37 years. In addition to my teaching responsibilities, I was a member of the Leadership Team as an Instructional Teacher Leader for six years. I retired in 2015.

Now I enjoy spending time with my four grandchildren, my family, and my friends. I'm looking forward to meeting all of you! Please stop by and introduce yourself. Everyone's welcome! We hope to make this an exciting year for our children as well as the parents. See you September 8<sup>th</sup>!

### Milica Surla

I was born in Gracac, Croatia (Lika) former Krajina, and lived there until the end of civil war (Oluja) in 1995. Afterwards, I lived in different parts of Serbia, including Kosovo, until immigrating to the United States at the age of 13.

I attended Baldwin High School. I have a Paralegal Certificate and a Bachelor's Degree in Organizational Leadership. Currently, I work at PNC Bank as a Compliance Officer.

Most importantly, I have a 20-month old son who has already started attending Sunday (Nursery) School so it made sense for me to get involved in Sunday School activities. I am also a member and the Financial Secretary of the HTC Choir.

Some of my visions for Sunday School include having more activities for the kids, community events and fund raisers, and getting the Serbian speaking community more involved.

## Sunday School Registration

Registration for Sunday School is now in progress. As a parishioner of our Church we invite you to register your child for the upcoming school year for 2019-2020. Registration is open for children ages 2 through High School Seniors.

Sunday school at our Cathedral is a very positive experience for every child with Serbian heritage or anyone who is willing to expand their knowledge of Serbian traditions and the Orthodox faith. Participating in the Sunday school program has many benefits for your children and for your family, including but not limited to:

- Building on the love and knowledge of Serbian history
- Learning about Orthodox faith and its traditions
- Participation in the annual Sveti Sava Program
- Annual participation in the Serbian Orthodox Camp
- Platform to make new relationship and lifelong memories

One of many goals of our Church is to help our parishioners, especially from an early age, recognize what it means to be a good Orthodox, a good person and how to give back to those less fortunate. The only way we can do this is by coming to Church and getting involved in Programs such as the Sunday school.

Please know that having busy schedules, wanting free time on weekends, or just catching up on those errands is understandable, but think about finding time in those busy schedules to show your children the importance in investing in your faith, traditions, and our Heavenly Father who invests so much in us. With his blessing, everything is possible.

If you have any comments or questions, please feel free to contact the any of us. We look forward to seeing everyone very soon as we begin another exciting year together!

Warm regards,

Mike Winowich (mike.winowich@comcast.net)  
Dawn Weiss (weiss1719@comcast.net)  
Milica Surla (milicac86@hotmail.com)

**Visit our website at  
<https://htsoc.com/churchschool>  
to download the fillable registration form (Excel)  
or the PDF version and to get more information!**