

ST. NICHOLAS NEWS

Vol. 2 No. 1.3

ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

505 Jefferson Avenue, Scranton, Pa. 18510

Fr. Nicholas Ferencz, Ph.D., pastor
Rectory: 570-344-5917
Cell: 724-953-6046

Hall - 570-344-1522
www.stnicholasorthodoxscranton.org
nferencz35@gmail.com

January 20, 2013

SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY

PARISH CALENDAR HI-LITES

Please see monthly calendar for all events

Sun., Jan. 20 Sunday After Theophany. Synaxis of St. John the Baptist.

9:30 Divine Liturgy - Special Propers. See Handouts.

Parish Board meets today.

Fri., Jan. 25 Martyr Tatiana

Pirohi Sale 9:30 - 4:30

Sat., Jan. 26 Bishop Hilary of Poitiers

No Vespers

Sun., Jan. 27 Last Day of the Feast of Theophany. Luminary Sava. Equal to the Apostles Nina.

9:30 Divine Liturgy - Special Propers. See Handouts.

Church School - Elementary & High School

Altar Society meets today (resch from 1/13)

PEOPLE STUFF

Please remember in your prayers:

Living: Stephanie Bonk. Gloria Bracey. Jennifer Collins. Susan Danchak. Louis & Terri DiMichele. Michael Danchak. Michael Hrywnak. John & Jen Hrywnak. Gary Joyce. Lorraine Kacaba. Dee Lositski. Peggy Majcher. Emma Sacco. Amy Shimo. Connie Lou Slater. Jeff Thomas. Ann Marie Tighe. Gary Wassel. Julia Worobey.

At Home: Michael Andreosky. Elizabeth Basalyga. Steve & Julie Roberts. George & Anna Senich. Kathryn Stocoski.

In Assisted Living Homes: Kathryn Derenick. Julie Kovacs. Irene Munchak. Julie Soares.

Altar Vigil Candles: Safety of Douglas Orzolek in India - Walter & Mildred Orzolek.

Eternal Light: Memory of John Czibik - Laurence Czibik.

Panachida: Memory Joseph Hodanich - Madelyn Hodanich & Margaret Skotlewski.

FEASTS & FASTS

ORDINARY FAST: after the celebration of Theophany next Saturday, we return to the usual time of year, where we merely are required to fast from meat on Wednesdays and Fridays.

PARISH EVENTS

Altar Society meeting is rescheduled from last Sunday until Jan. 27.

Church School - *Please Note:* Church School will meet for all classes - elementary and High School - next Sunday. Parents please be sure to make every effort to bring your children to Church School as scheduled. Although the home is the main place that

we learn our faith, Church School is a necessary supplement to that learning!

Parish Board meets today.

House Blessings: If you would like to have your house blessed, please fill out the form in this bulletin and return it to me as soon as you can so that I can plan where I am going. Please make sure to include your address and best phone number to contact you (in case I have wrong information). Thank you.

The following should be prepared before I arrive: Place a clean cloth, preferably white, on a table in a common room (living room, dining room, kitchen, etc.) On that cloth should be a blessed candle, to be lit when I enter, icons or a crucifix, a Bible if you wish, and a small dish of newly blessed Jordan Water for me to bless the home with. If you have any religious articles you would like to have blessed, please have them on the table also.

When I enter your home for the blessing, all those present in the house should assemble at the table. All radios, TVs, etc., should be turned off. I will bring copies of the service so that I and your family can celebrate your home blessing together.

PIROHI STARTS AGAIN! Please don't forget that Pirohi Making is *this week!* As usual, Pirohi Prep starts on Wednesday at 6 AM, and we could use some extra help around 7:30 AM (so that we can get done by 9 AM-ish). Thursday we will be pinching by 9 AM. Thanks for your help!

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND HIS CHURCH

January 13, 2013

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| \$ 524.00 | General Collection |
| \$ 83.00 | Holy Days |
| \$ 78.00 | 7 Day Light |
| \$ 88.00 | Church Dues |
| \$ 60.00 | Christmas |
| \$ 7.00 | First Sunday |
| \$ 20.00 | Vigil Lights |
| \$ 860.00 | Total Collection |

AROUND AND ABOUT

St. Michael's Annual Festival of Hearts Dinner Dance
Saturday, February 9, 2013

- 5:00 to 6:00pm: Champagne & Hors D'oeuvres
- 6:00 to 7:00pm: Turkey Dinner, Dressing & Holubki
- 7:00 to 10:00pm: Dancing to the music of "Brotherhood"
- Price is \$30 per person. Seating is reserved with round tables of eight (8).
- The band is located on the floor in a gazebo with round tables surrounding the dance floor with a night club atmosphere.
- Contact 607-729-1283 for reservations.
- St. Michael's Recreation Center, 296 Binghamton, NY 13905

Ecumenical Service for the Worldwide Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (January 18-25). Most Rev. Joseph Bambera, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Scranton, invites all to an Ecumenical Celebration of God's Word on Thursday, Jan. 24, 12:10 PM, at St. Peter's Roman Catholic Cathedral, 300 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, PA. Right Rev. Bernard Nowicki, new bishop of the Central Diocese of the Polish National Church, will be the homilist. Liturgical Music by Our Lady of Peace School Choir. All are welcome to participate in this ecumenical event.

DIOCESAN NEWS

MARCH FOR LIFE - The annual March for Life takes place on January 25. All are encouraged to participate. Details regarding the March for Life can be found on the diocesan website www.acrod.org. As in past years, Fr. Peter & the Resurrection parish of Potomac, MD, offers the following message:

"With the blessing of His Grace, Bishop Gregory, Holy Resurrection Church in Potomac will once again host a light meal for those coming to the March for Life in Washington, DC on Friday, 25 January. All of our diocesan faithful coming to the Nation's Capital, as parish groups or individuals, are invited to attend. Please RSVP to Fr. Peter Zarynow (frzarynow@gmail.com) **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 18 JANUARY**. The parish needs a headcount so that they will know how much food to prepare."

OTHER STUFF

THE BLESSING OF THE JORDAN WATER ON THE FEAST OF THEOPHANY

The Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord is the occasion for the Great Blessing of Water. There are two water blessings prescribed for this Feast. The first, done on the eve of the Feast, is usually done with new water in the church itself. This blessing commemorates the blessing of the baptismal waters for new converts (in the old days, baptisms were only done on great feast days like Pascha, Christmas and Theophany). We can still see this because the prayers of blessing for Theophany and for baptisms are both parts of the same long prayer written by Patriarch Sophronius of Jerusalem. This baptismal water then began to be used by all Christians, who treat it as a very sacred thing. For instance, in many places, before drinking this water, people will fast the same way they do for Holy Eucharist. People take this blessed Jordan Water home with them so that they can drink of it regularly, and so that they can have their homes and families blessed with it.

The second Blessing of Water is done on Theophany day. After the Divine Liturgy, the congregation processes to the nearest river or stream, which is blessed with the same blessing as the water in the Church. This blessing remembers the Baptism of Our Lord in the Jordan, which is why all the Holy Water from this day is known as 'Jordan Water.' Perhaps we will have the opportunity some day to celebrate this blessing in our own parish.

So, when you come to the Feast of Theophany, bring your container for the newly blessed Jordan Water. Remember that this water is the water of your baptism and it is also the water of the baptism of Our Lord. As you drink it and use it in your homes, God's grace will come upon you through this water that you may renew your faith in Him and your love for Him. To Him be all glory and honor!

SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY SYNAXIS OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

1st Antiphon

When Israel went out of Egypt, * the house of Jacob from a people of a strange language.

Through the prayers of the Birth-giver of God, O Savior, save us.

Judah was his sanctuary, * and Israel his dominion.

Through the prayers of the Birth-giver of God, O Savior, save us.

The sea saw it and fled: * Jordan was driven back.

Through the prayers of the Birth-giver of God, O Savior, save us.

What ailed you, O sea, that you should flee? * O Jordan, that you were driven back?

Through the prayers of the Birth-giver of God, O Savior, save us.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, * now and ever and forever. Amen.

Through the prayers of the Birth-giver of God, O Savior, save us.

2nd Antiphon

I am well pleased, * for the Lord will hear the voice of my prayer.

O Son of God, baptized by John in the Jordan, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

He has inclined his ear to me: * therefore I will call upon Him as long as I live.

O Son of God, baptized by John in the Jordan, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

The sorrows of death encompassed me, * and the pains of hell took hold of me: * I found trouble and sorrow, * and I called upon the Name of the Lord.

O Son of God, baptized by John in the Jordan, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Gracious is the Lord and righteous: * yes, our God is merciful.

O Son of God, baptized by John in the Jordan, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, * now and ever and forever. Amen. O Only begotten Son and Word of God, Who being immortal, willed for the sake of our salvation to become incarnate of the holy Birth-giver of God and ever-Virgin Mary, and without change became man, and was crucified for us, O Christ God, Who by your death did conquer death. O You Who are One of the Holy Trinity, equally glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit, save us.

3rd Antiphon

Come let us sing joyfully to the Lord; * let us shout with joy to God our Savior.

O Son of God, baptized by John in the Jordan, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving, * and let us joyfully sing psalms to Him.

O Son of God, baptized by John in the Jordan, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

For God is a great Lord, * and a great King over all the earth.

O Son of God, baptized by John in the Jordan, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Entrance Hymn

O come let us adore and bow down before Christ,

O Son of God, baptized by John in the Jordan, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Tropar of the Resurrection - Tone 8

You came to earth from heaven, O Gracious One. * You allowed Yourself to be in the grave for three days, * that we might be freed from our passions. * O Lord, our Life and our Resurrection, glory to You.

Tropar of Theophany - Tone 1

At your baptism in the Jordan, O Lord, * worship of the Trinity was revealed, * for the Father's voice bore witness to You, * calling You his "Beloved Son," * and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truth of these words. * O Christ God, Who appeared and enlightened the world, glory to You!

Tropar of John - Tone 2

The remembrance of the just is worthy of praise, * but the Lord's testimony is enough for you, O Forerunner; * for it has shown that you are indeed more worthy of honor than the prophets. * You were found worthy to baptize in the waters the One Whom you foretold. * For this, you suffered for the truth * and rejoicing, also announced the good news to those in the realm of death, * that God had appeared as man * taking away the sins of the world * and granting to all of us his great mercy.

Kondak of John - Tone 6

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

You presence in the flesh terrified the Jordan River, * and it reversed its course from fear. * John hesitated in fear to baptize You * even though it was foretold by the prophets. * The angels were overtaken with wonder * when they saw You being baptized as a man. * All those who were in darkness, enlightened, sang praises to You, O Lord, * Who appeared and shed your Light upon all.

Kondak of Theophany - Tone 4

Now and ever and forever. Amen.

You have appeared today to the inhabited earth, * and your light, O Lord, has been marked upon us, * who with knowledge sing your praise. * You have come, You are made manifest, * the Light that no man can approach.

Prokimen of Sunday - Tone 1

Let your mercy be upon us, O Lord, as we have put our hope in You, as we have put our hope in You.

Reader: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, praise befits the upright.

Prokimen - Tone 7

The just man is glad in the Lord, and takes refuge in Him.

Reader: Hear my voice, O God, when I pray to You.

Epistles:

For Sunday: Hebrews 4:1-6

For John: Acts 19:1-8

Alleluia - Tone 5

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

Reader: For your steadfast love was established forever, your faithfulness is firm as the heavens.

Reader: Light has shone forth upon the righteous, and gladness for the upright of heart!

Reader: Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.

Gospels:

For Sunday: Matthew 4:12-17

For John: John 1:29-34

Glorification and Irmos (instead of "You are truly deserving")

Magnify, O my soul, her who is greater in honor than the hosts on high.

Every tongue is at a loss to give you proper praise. * Even a spirit from on high is overcome * when it seeks to sing your praises, O Mother of God. * But since you are good, accept our faith. * For you know well our love inspired by God. * For you are the protector of Christians * and we magnify you.

Communion Hymn

The grace of God * that brings salvation * to all men * has appeared. Alleluia!

| | |
|------------|-------|
| NAME | _____ |
| STREET | _____ |
| CITY/ZIP | _____ |
| BEST PHONE | _____ |

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
621 Vine St.
Scranton, PA 18510