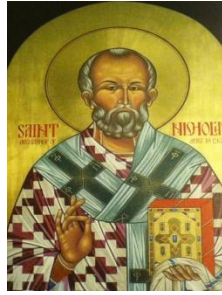


The Saint Nicholas Chronicle



ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

505 Jefferson Avenue, Scranton, PA, 18510

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Rectory: (570) 344-5917
Parish Hall: (570) 344-1522
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Camp Nazareth: <http://www.campnazareth.org>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/acrodnews>
Youtube: <https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>

SUNDAY DECEMBER 18, 2016

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, December 18 – Venerable Sabbas the Sanctified

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

Tone 1 – Blue Pew Book – pp. 81-83

Epistle: Ephesians 5:9-19

Gospel: Luke 17:12-19

Panachida for Walter Orzolek given by the Men's Club.

The Feast of Saint Nicholas, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia, the Wonder-Worker

[OUR PATRONAL FEAST!]

Sunday December 18 – 6:00 PM Vespers

Monday December 19 – 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Special Hymns – Blue Pew Book – pp. 123-127

Epistle: Hebrews 13:17-21

Gospel: Luke 6:17-23

Friday, December 23 – 7:00 PM Pre-festive Service for the Nativity Fast.

Sunday, December 25 – Saint Spyridon the Wonderworker

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

Tone 2 – Blue Pew Book – pp. 84-86

Epistle: Hebrews 13:17-21

Gospel: Luke 6:17-23

Panachida for Walter Orzolek given by Carol Sakulich.

Confessions: *Saturdays during Advent from 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM*, and as usual, before/after scheduled services or by appointment.

Please Keep in Your Prayers

Living: Fr. Lawrence Barriger. Fr. Michael Polanichka. Fr. John Gido. Fr. George Hutnyan. Fr. James Gleason. Fr. Tom Kadlec. Fr. George Dursa. Fr. Donald Valasek. Fr. Michael Rustick. Fr. John Zboyovski. Fr. Robert E. Lucas. Pani Donna Smoley. Pani Linda Barriger. Pani Peggy Teklinski. Reese: Eric, Tamsen, James, Gineva, Benjamin, and Thomas. Anna Richardson. Joseph Kacaba. Lorraine Kacaba. Stephanie Bonk. Owen Bonn. Gloria Bracey. Bob Chalk. Susan Danchak. Ricky, Rick & Sarah. Michael Danchak. Jada Eiden. Tammy Hall. Heather Harris. Robert Hawley. Madelyn Hodanich. Johnny Huniyack. Anna Mae Kuklis. Rose Markiewicz. Mary Phillips. John Polanichka. Karen Rolka. JoyAnn Scarnato. Amy Shimo. Faye Snell. Patricia Snell. Russell Spilka. Jeff Thomas. AnnMarie Tigie. Gary Wassel. Eugene Vaskalis.

At home: Michael Andreosky. Elizabeth Basalyga. Anna Senich.

Assisted Living: Julie Roberts. Marion Sosnowski. Delores Naglak. Mary Kneiss. Susan Danchak.

Eternal light: In memory of Walter Orzolek given by Bill and Beverly Thomas.

Parish News and Information

FILL UP THE BREADBASKETS OF NEPA!

Please continue to remember and support those families who rely upon food donations to help make ends meet! We have a food donation container in the Church Hall, and ***we need your help*** to fill this container with non-perishable food items: cans, dry goods, etc.

“Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food...’”

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND OUR CHURCH:

DECEMBER 11, 2016

\$735.00	General Collection
\$52.00	7 Day Light
\$2.00	Holy Days
\$8.00	Tapered Candles
\$14.00	Eternal Light
<u>\$260.00</u>	<u>Christmas Flowers</u>
\$1,071.00	Total Collection

Our Fall Pirohi-making is complete! **Thank you so much to all those who helped make this such a successful fundraiser for our church!** Let's keep it up in the Spring!

Thank you also to all those who helped with the Cookie Sale and Kolachi Sale and made them a success!

Upcoming Events

MARK THE DATES!

- Our **Annual St. Nicholas Day Dinner** is scheduled for **TODAY immediately following Divine Liturgy!** The PRICE is \$10.00 per person. Children age 12 and under are free! *Perhaps we will even get a visit from Saint Nicholas!* See below to find out what is on the menu.

<i>Today's <u>Saint Nicholas Dinner Menu</u></i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Hors d'oeuvres - Kielbasi & Cheese Platter</i>- <i>Salad</i>- <i>Rolls / Sliced Bread</i>- <i>Entrée - Chicken Parmigiana with Rigatoni Pasta</i>- <i>Dessert: Cake</i>- <i>Beverages - Punch, Soda, Water, Coffee</i>	

- On **Sunday, January 1st**, we will have the induction of Parish Board, Men's Club, and Altar Society officers. **Please note that any new officers** are required to come to the Sacraments (Confession and Communion) prior to that date. Thank you!

Highlights from the December 11th Parish Board Meeting

The suggestions in the church suggestion box will be opened at the monthly Parish Board meeting. The suggestions will be discussed (which they were at the October, November, and December meetings) and then posted in the following Sunday's bulletin.

- Suggestion Info:
1. The light bulb situation is being handled.
 2. The issue of changing the calendar (which of course includes the Feast of the Nativity) must be brought up at the Annual Parish Meeting by a parishioner in good standing (so a motion can be made and all parishioners in good standing can vote).
 3. The board is looking into the suggestion of fewer board members.

The highlights from the Board meeting will be put in the bulletin on the following Sunday.

The officers of the church clubs, organizations and the Board will be sworn in on January 1, 2017.

The Christmas flowers will be delivered on January 5th from Bud Schultz's Gardening Center.

Joseph Kacaba ordered the food from Fratelli's for the St Nicholas Banquet.

Treasurer's Report: for the month of November the income was \$6856.12 less \$6061.28 in expenses for a profit of \$794.84.

News Around the Diocese

2016 Advent Mission Project – Support ZOE for Life! With the blessing of His Grace, Bishop Gregory, the National Senior ACRY is pleased to announce the 2016 Advent Mission Project. This year the National ACRY Board and Convention delegates voted to support ZOE for Life! ZOE for Life is a pan-Orthodox, non-profit Christ-centered support organization with three major goals: to help women who need confidential emotional and spiritual support during crisis pregnancies; to assist Orthodox Christians seeking to adopt; and to provide an education for Pure Living and other resources. Zoe for Life through the Zoe House provides necessary baby supplies to mothers and babies in need.

Individuals and Parishes can take part in this year's Advent Mission Project in two ways:

1. Financial contributions are being sought to help Zoe For Life which is in critical need of diapers. Financial contributions will be used by Zoe For Life to replenish their supply of diapers.

Make checks payable to National ACRY (memo Advent Mission Project), and send them to National ACRY Advent Mission Project c/o Debbie Samilenko 22 Nicole Dr. Milford, CT 06460

2. ZOE for Life! is also in need of baby items. Many mothers in crisis cannot afford a car seat and babies cannot be released from the hospital without a safe car seat. Pack 'n Plays can serve as a safe sleeping alternative to a crib. ZOE House is also in constant need of infant layette items: clothing, linens, baby wash, and baby lotion. A "baby registry" has been created on Amazon.com (view the link on www.acrod.org). All items will be shipped directly to Zoe For Life.

ZOE also currently has a campaign Bottles for Babies underway. Churches may wish to place a baby bottle in a common area to collect loose change! THERE IS NOW A LARGE CLEAR BABY BOTTLE WITH A BLUE LID IN THE VESTIBULE!!!

Please take time to visit Zoeforlifeonline.org for more information on ZOE for Life and ZOE House. **While the Baby registry will be available indefinitely, we are asking that parishes and individuals wishing to participate by making financial contributions and/or purchasing items from the baby registry do so during the Advent Season by January 31, 2017 at the latest!** The earlier the financial contributions are received, the sooner they can be used by Zoe to purchase the much needed diapers!

Please email Amy Coffman, Advent Mission Coordinator for more information at Alo2474@verizon.net (Please put Advent Mission Project in subject line.) *The ACRY, The Fellowship of Sts Cyril and Methodios, is an Orthodox Christian family fellowship dedicated to the purpose of encouraging spiritual growth through charitable and apostolic missionary works, prayer and fellowship for the Glory of God and the building up of the Church and our Diocese.* To learn more about the ACRY visit their website at www.acry.org.

Diocese to Send Two Diocesan High School Students to The Crossroad Summer Institute - Johnstown, PA - The Diocese and an anonymous donor are teaming up to send two Diocesan 11th and/or 12th graders to the Crossroad Institute held each summer at Holy Cross - Hellenic College in Brookline, MA. Crossroad is a ten day academic summer institute that prepares high school juniors and seniors to make big life decisions and connect with the Orthodox Christian theological and spiritual tradition. Hosted on the scenic Hellenic College campus which overlooks the beautiful Boston skyline, participants experience daily worship, visit local parishes, tour Boston, and spend a day at the beach.

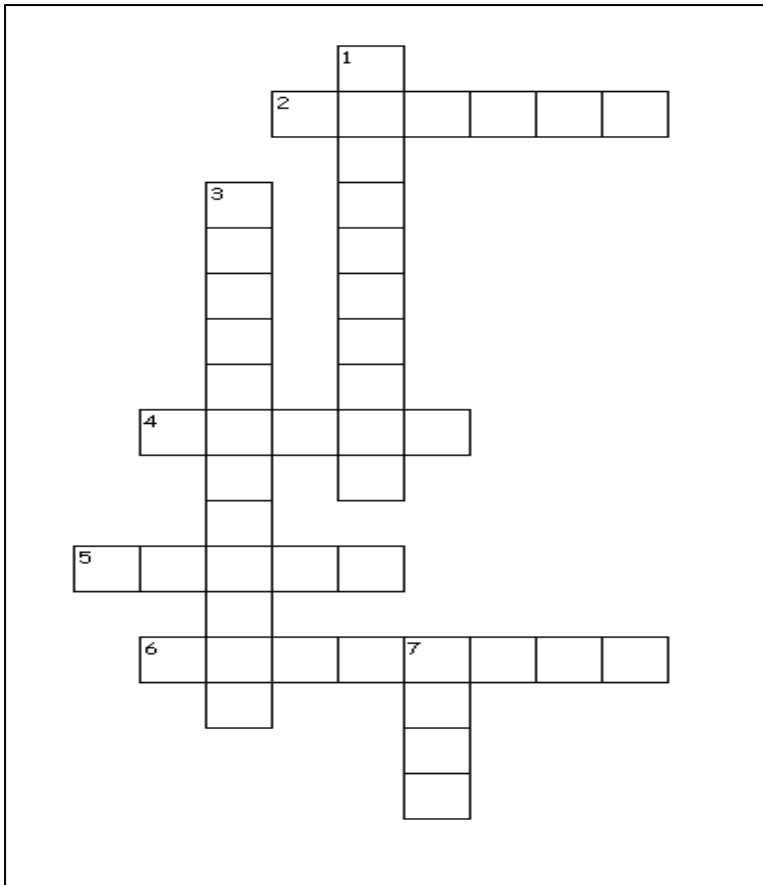
The 2017 sessions are either a 1. **June Session from June 17 - 27** or a 2. **July Session from July 5 - 15**. More detailed information can be found at the Crossroad website: <http://www.crossroadinstitute.org>.

You may also contact Father Miles Zdinak at (814) 467-7444 or frmiles@gmail.com for more information regarding this opportunity. ***The deadline to apply to Father Miles is December 22, 2016.***

Malanka 2017! - Northeastern Pennsylvania's 13th Annual Ukrainian New Year Dinner Dance - MALANKA - will take place from **6:00pm to 11:00pm** on **Saturday evening, January 14, 2017** at La Buona Vita, 200 Reilly Street, Dunmore, PA. Please note that we are moving from St. Vladimir parish center to a different venue, engaging a popular caterer who has an outstanding reputation and contracting with a different musical group. Basically, we have followed the same format for twelve years and many agree it is time for some changes.

The menu will feature both Ukrainian and American fare catered by Kathy Gavin of Stirna's Catering. Music for dancing will be provided by the Ukrainian band "Fourth Wave Ensemble" of Philadelphia. Cash bar will be available. Wearing Ukrainian attire is encouraged.

Tickets are \$45.00. Reservations are required and can be made by contacting Michael Trusz at [570 489-1256](tel:5704891256). **No tickets will be sold at the door.**



The Life of Saint Nicholas



Across

- 2. the city where the parents of Saint Nicholas were from; also the place where his uncle was bishop (P _ _ _ _ _)
- 4. Saint Nicholas struck this bishop for his heresy
- 5. in 325, Saint Nicholas was present at the ___ Ecumenical Council
- 6. the month in which we remember Saint Nicholas

Down

- 1. the popular "jolly bearer of gifts" made famous because of Saint Nicholas
- 3. the title attributed to Saint Nicholas (Saint Nicholas the ___)
- 7. the city of which Saint Nicholas was bishop

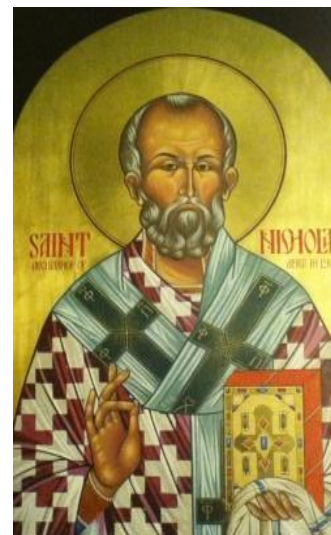
THE LIVES OF THE SAINTS

Saint Nicholas the Wonder-Worker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia

[Text from THE PROLOGUE of Ohrid (VOLUME TWO: July to December)]

“This glorious saint, celebrated even today throughout the entire world, was the only son of his eminent and wealthy parents, Theophanes and Nona, citizens of the city of Patara in Lycia. Since he was the only son bestowed on them by God, the parents returned the gift to God by dedicating their son to Him. Saint Nicholas learned of the spiritual life from his uncle Nicholas, Bishop of Patara, and was tonsured a monk in the Monastery of New Zion founded by his uncle. Following the death of his parents, Nicholas distributed all his inherited goods to the poor, not keeping anything for himself. As a priest in Patara, he was known for his charity, even though he carefully concealed his charitable works, fulfilling the words of the Lord: “*Let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth*” (Matthew 6:3). When he gave himself over to solitude and silence, thinking to live that way until his death, a voice from on high came to him: “Nicholas, for your ascetic labor, work among the people, if thou desirest to be crowned by Me.” Immediately after that, by God’s wondrous providence, he was chosen archbishop of the city of Myra in Lycia. Merciful, wise and fearless, Nicholas was a true shepherd to his flock. During the persecution of Christians under Diocletian and Maximian, he was cast into prison, but even there he instructed the people in the Law of God. He was present at the First Ecumenical Council of Nicaea [325] and, out of great zeal for the truth, struck the heretic Arius with his hand. For this act he was removed from the Council and from his archiepiscopal duties, until the Lord Christ Himself and the Most-holy Theotokos appeared to several of the chief hierarchs and revealed their approval of Nicholas. A defender of God’s truth, this wonderful saint was ever bold as a defender of justice among the people.”

“On two occasions, he saved three men from an undeserved sentence of death. Merciful, truthful, and a lover of justice, he walked among the people as an angel of God. Even during his lifetime, the people considered him a saint and invoked his aid in difficulties and in distress. He appeared both in dreams and in person to those who called upon him, and he helped them easily and speedily, whether close at hand or far away. A light shone from his face as it did from the face of Moses, and he, by his presence alone, brought comfort, peace and goodwill among men. In old age he became ill for a short time and entered into the rest of the Lord, after a life full of labor and very fruitful toil, to rejoice eternally in the Kingdom of Heaven, continuing to help the faithful on earth by his miracles to glorify God. He entered into rest on December 6th (19th on the Julian calendar), 343.”



O who loves Nicholas the Saintly,
O who serves Nicholas the Saintly.
Him will Nicholas receive,
And give help in time of need,
Nicholas, Nicholas.

O who dwells in God’s holy mansions;
Is our help on the land and oceans.
He will guard us from all ills,
Keep us pure and free from sins.
Nicholas, Nicholas.

Nicholas, tearfully we sinners
Beseech you fervently in our prayers.
Help us in our tribulations
Comfort every Christian nation.
Nicholas, Nicholas.

Troparion (Tone 4)

The sincerity of your deeds has revealed you to your people * as a teacher of moderation, * a model of faith, and an example of virtue. * Therefore you attained greatness through humility, * and wealth through poverty. * O Father and Archbishop Nicholas, * ask Christ our God to save our souls.

Kontakion (Tone 3)

You were truly a priestly worker in Myra, O Holy Nicholas, * for zealously living the Gospel of Christ, * you dedicated your life to your people; * you saved the innocent from death. * Therefore, you have been sanctified * as one who has entered the mystery of God’s grace.