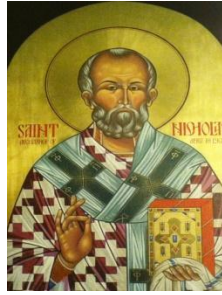


# The Saint Nicholas Chronicle



## ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

505 Jefferson Avenue, Scranton, PA, 18510

Fr. Daniel Vaskalis, Pastor  
Rectory: 621 Vine St., Scranton PA, 18510  
Rectory: (570) 344-5917  
Parish Hall: (570) 344-1522  
Church Website:  
[www.stnicholasorthoxscranton.org](http://www.stnicholasorthoxscranton.org)  
\*\*\*Fr. Daniel Cell: (570) 861-2712 ← PLEASE USE  
Fr. Daniel Email: frdvaskalis@gmail.com

Jane Togher, Board President  
(570) 842-3311  
[jctogher@gmail.com](mailto:jctogher@gmail.com)  
Diocesan Website: <http://www.acrod.org>  
Camp Nazareth: <http://www.campnazareth.org>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese>  
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/acrodnews>  
Youtube: <https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>

## SUNDAY DECEMBER 25, 2016

### PARISH CALENDAR

**Sunday, December 25** – Sunday of the Holy Forefathers, the Patriarchs (*Second Sunday before the Nativity*), Saint Spyridon the Wonderworker

**9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy**

Tropar Tone 2 – Blue Pew Book – pp. 84 and **Special Hymns** p. 128

**Epistle:** Colossians 3:4-11

**Gospel:** Luke 14:16-24

*Panachida* for Walter Orzolek given by Carol Sakulich.

*Merry Christmas and Blessed  
New Year to all those  
celebrating with family  
members and friends!*

**Friday, December 30** – 7:00 PM Pre-festive Service for the Nativity Fast.

**Sunday, January 1** – Sunday of the Holy Fathers (*Sunday before the Nativity*), Martyr Boniface

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

Tropar Tone 3 – Blue Pew Book – pp. 87 and Special Hymns p. 129

**Epistle:** Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40

**Gospel:** Matthew 1:1-25

*Panachida* for Walter Orzolek given by Stephen and Sonia Fueshko.

**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 Tigue. 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 Sonia and Ted Goosley.

**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 18, 2016*

\$325.00	General Collection
\$70.00	7 Day Light
\$2,898.00	Pirohi
\$65.00	Holy Days
\$67.00	Maintenance and Repairs
\$5.00	Tapered Candles
\$7.00	Eternal Light
\$38.00	Flowers
\$450.00	<u>Saint Nicholas Dinner</u>
<b>\$3,925.00</b>	<b>Total Collection</b>

***A special THANK YOU to all those who helped with the Saint Nicholas Dinner and made it such a successful and joyous occasion for our Patronal Feast!***

**Upcoming Events**

**MARK THE DATES!**

- On **Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup>**, 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!
- The Feast of the Nativity is nearly upon us! Please keep in mind that Christmas Eve (January 6<sup>th</sup>) is a day of strict fast (abstinence from meat and dairy products).
- The next **Altar Society** Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The next **Men's Club** Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>.
- The next **Parish Board** Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>.

**ANN RICHARDSON'S 90<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY!**

Our parish of Saint Nicholas Church has received an invitation to join in a celebration of the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of Ann Richardson, hosted by her children and grandchildren. No presents necessary, just our presence and prayers for Ann's health. This celebration will be held in the Church Hall with a buffet dinner at 4:00 PM on Saturday, January 14, 2017.

**Please RSVP by calling Sandy Winters by January 3<sup>rd</sup>!**  
**Home – (570) 489 - 7390**  
**Cell – (570) 470 - 5331**

**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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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 11<sup>th</sup> and/or 12<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 LIVES OF THE SAINTS

Saint Spyridon the Wonder-Worker

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

"The island of Cyprus was both the birthplace and the place where this glorious saint served the Church. Spyridon was born of simple parents, farmers, and he remained simple and humble until his death. He married in his youth and had children, but when his wife died he devoted himself completely to the service of God. Because of his exceptional piety, he was chosen as bishop of the city of Tremithus. Yet even as a bishop he did not change his simple way of living, handling his livestock and cultivating his land himself. He used very little of the fruits of his labor for himself; instead, he distributed a greater share to the needy. He manifested great miracles by God's power: he brought down rain in time of drought, stopped the flower of a river, raised several people from the dead, healed Emperor Constantius of a grave illness, saw and heard angels of God, foresaw future events, discerned the secrets of men's hearts, converted many to the true Faith, and did much else. He took part in the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea (325), and he brought many heretics back to Orthodoxy by his simple and clear expositions of the Faith as well as by his mighty miracles. He was so simply dressed that once, when he wanted to enter the imperial court at the invitation of the emperor, a soldier, thinking he was a beggar, struck him on the face. Meek and guileless, Spyridon turned the other cheek to him. He glorified God through many miracles, and was of benefit, not only to many individuals but also to the whole Church of God. He entered into rest in the Lord in the year 348. His miracle-working relics rest on the island of Corfu, and even today they glorify God with many miracles."



### **Troparion** (Tone 1)

You showed yourself a defender of the First Council and a worker of miracles. \* You summoned the woman back from the grave and turned the snake into gold. \* Angels came to minister beside you, O priestly father, \* when you offered your ardent prayers. \* Glory to Him who strengthened you! \* Glory to Him who chose you! \* Glory to Him who heals us through you!

### **Kontakion** (Tone 2)

O all-holy father, enraptured by the love of Christ, \* you soared on the wings of the Spirit to pure contemplation \* which inspired your apostolic life, \* and you became an altar of sacrifice, \* beseeching the Lord that He may enlighten all of us.