

# ST. NICHOLAS NEWS

Vol. 2 No. 10.1

## ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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October 6, 2013

1st Sunday of Luke. 15th Sunday after Pentecost.  
Conception of St. John the Baptist.

### PARISH CALENDAR

Sun., Oct. 6 1st Sunday of Luke. 15th Sunday after Pentecost. Conception of St. John the Baptist.

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy - Special Sheets

*Church School meets - Elementary and Middle School.*

*Altar Society meets*

*Pirohi making & Sale this week: See Monthly Calendar for days and times.*

Sun., Oct. 13 2nd Sunday of Luke. 16th Sunday after Pentecost. Martyred Bishop Gregory of Armenia.

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy - Tone 7, p. 99-101.

*Men's Club meets.*

### FEASTS . . . . . & FASTS

Next Feast Day: PROTECTION OF HOLY MARY THEOTOKOS, MON., OCT. 14.

### PEOPLE STUFF

*Please remember in your prayers:*

*Living:* Stephanie Bonk. Gloria Bracey. Mary Chupron. Susan Danchak. Michael Danchak. Jada Eiden. Robert & Eddie Hawley. Lorraine Kacaba. Dawn, Warren & Colten Kieffer. Anna Mae Kuklis. Dee Lositski. Peggy Majcher. Emma Sacco. Amy

Shimo. Connie Lou Slater. Faye Snell. Jeff Thomas. William Thomas. Ann Marie Tigue. Gary Wassel. Julia Worobey. Eric Youshock.

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

*In Assisted Living Homes:* Julie Kovacs.

### YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND HIS CHURCH

September 29, 2013

\$ 582.50	General Collection
\$ 64.00	7 Day Lights
\$ 17.00	Taper Candles
\$ 61.50	Holy Days
\$ 90.00	Church Dues
\$ 1147.00	Pirohi
\$ 30.00	Heat Offering
\$ 10.00	Decorated Candle
\$ 300.00	Donation: 3-branch Candelabra
<b>\$ 2302.00</b>	<b>Total Collection</b>

### PARISH STUFF

**Parish 75th Anniversary, October 27 Update:** So far, we have a total of 30 people coming to the dinner. We ask that you return your reservations and money as soon as possible. Deadline is *Next Sunday, October 13!*

By The Way, I just realized that I kept re-printing the *wrong* time for Divine Liturgy that day. It will

be at **10:30 AM**, not 10:00 AM. (I know, even the letter had it wrong.) The intent was to try to make sure that people wouldn't have to hang around too long waiting for the hors d'oeuvres to begin at the Green Ridge Club. The preprandial begins at Noon, with the dinner following at 1 PM.

**Altar Society's** regular monthly meeting is scheduled for today.

**Men's Club** meets next week.

**Cookie Walk is just around the corner!** Again, we are asking that folks think about what they are baking even now. If we get a jump on that, freeze a little at a time, we'll have plenty for the Walk. More information about the Walk will be available shortly.

**Church School News.** We will begin Church School today for Elementary and Middle School. As of now, I have no teacher for Kindergarten, so there will only be

2<sup>nd</sup> grade: teacher Rosemary Hrwynak.

Middle School: teacher Nancy Barnett.

Jr. Hi/Hi School: Fr. Nik

If anyone is willing to teach kindergarten, please let me know.

Once again, I encourage parents to make sure that your children attend the Church School - it is a small, but necessary, part of their growth in the faith and their love of their Church.

**Adult Enrichment Gatherings:** Next AEG will be Wednesday, Oct. 16, at 6 PM. We will focus on the Bible.

### **Candlesticks and Lamps Update.**

*So far*, we have the following items spoken for:

1. All 4 Hanging Lamps in front of the Main Icons on the Icon Screen.
2. *Both* 3-branched candelabra for the Main Altar.

*This is* the list of what we have left. If you would like to donate one or more items, please let Fr. Nik know as soon as possible:

1. 6 single candlesticks, for \$100 each. They will be used as follows:
  - a. 2 candlesticks on the Preparation Altar.

- b. 2 candlesticks on the Diakonicon (the other side altar)
- c. 2 candlesticks used by the Altar Servers during liturgical services.

*These items* will remain in use, and are not being redone (I'm listing them just so people know what we are *not* asking donations for):

1. 2 enameled candlesticks now on the Tetrapod will still be used on the Tetrapod.
2. 2 floor candle stands will still be used at the analogy of Our Lord and the Theotokos.
3. 2 floor candle stands will be used for other liturgical purposes, as needed (one example: one at the head and one at the foot of the casket at funerals).

The project is almost completed. It looks like we may have to wait at least one more Sunday before all is ready.

### **FROM THE DIOCESE & OTHER STUFF**

**St. Vladimir Parish Annual Flea Market:** The Annual Flea Market sponsored by St. Vladimir Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church will be held in the Parish Center, 428 North Seventh Avenue, Scranton on Saturday, October 26, 2013 from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Doors will not open before 9:00am. This event benefits the Parish Children's Religious Education Program. Ukrainian and American foods will be available for purchase. To reserve a table or for additional information contact Daria at 570 963-1580.

**Annual Fall Youth Encounter at Camp Nazareth:** from Nov 8-10, 2013. While it is sponsored by the JR ACRY it is open to all Diocesan Youth ages 8-18. It is a perfect opportunity for our youth to reconnect after Camp. Also it is an opportunity for those who have never taken part in the Diocesan camping program to get a taste of what Camp is like. Flyer is posted in the hall. Also, you can get information on the diocesan website: <http://www.acrod.org/news/releases/2013-youth-encounter>.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>St. Nicholas Orthodox Church</h1> <h2>October 2013</h2>						
		1	2 Mar. Trophimu et al.  <i>6 PM - Adult Enrichment</i>	3	4	5
6 Conception of John the Baptist. 1 <sup>st</sup> Luke  9:30 AM Divine Liturgy Church School - Elementary Altar Society Meets	7	8	9 Apostle & Evangelist John  <i>6 AM Pirohi Prep</i>	10 Mar. Callistratus et al.  <i>7 AM Pirohi Making</i>	11 Monk Chariton  <i>9:30 AM - 4:30 PM Pirohi Sale</i>	12
13 2 <sup>nd</sup> Luke. Mar. Bp. Gregory of Armenia  9:30 AM Divine Liturgy Men's Club Meets	14 PROTECTION OF HOLY MARY THEOTOKOS  9 AM Divine Liturgy. Remembering Julie Soares	15	16 Mar. Bp. Dionysios the Areopagite  <i>6 PM Adult Enrichment</i>	17	18	19
20 3 <sup>rd</sup> Luke. Mar. Sergius & Bacchus  9:30 AM Divine Liturgy Church School - Elementary Parish Board Meets DIOCESAN SOBOR	21 Nun Pelagia  DIOCESAN SOBOR	22 Ap. James Alpheus.  DIOCESAN SOBOR	23 Mar. Eulampios & Eulampia  <i>6 AM Pirohi Prep</i> DIOCESAN SOBOR ENDS	24 Apostle Philip the Deacon  <i>7 AM Pirohi Making</i>	25 Bp. Martin of Tours  <i>9:30 AM - 4:30 PM Pirohi Sale</i>	26
27 4 <sup>th</sup> Luke. Fathers of the 7 <sup>th</sup> Ecumenical Council. <i>75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY</i> <i>10:30 AM Divine Liturgy</i> <i>Noon Hors D'oeuvres</i> <i>1 PM Banquet</i>	28	29	30 Prophet Hosea  <i>6 PM Adult Enrichment</i>	31		

THE CONCEPTION OF THE VENERABLE PROPHET,  
FORERUNNER AND BAPTIST OF THE LORD, JOHN  
September 23/October 6

Most saints of the Church are remembered on the day of their death (if known), because that is the day of their salvation, their 'birthday' into heaven. There are only 3 people whose Birth is remembered as well as their death: Our Lord, his Mother, Holy Mary Theotokos, and St. John the Baptist, called by Jesus "the greatest man ever born of woman." Not only do we remember their births, but also their conceptions, since the Church has from the beginning recognized that human life begins at conception, not at birth.

Only Our Lord's conception was perfect; not even Holy Mary's was. So, to emphasize this fact, the Tradition of the Church has been to celebrate Our Lord's conception exactly 9 months before his birth: March 25/December 25. But, the time of gestation for Holy Mary and St. John are celebrated one day off, to show that neither conception was by nature perfect. The Theotokos' birth is celebrated one day *short* of nine months: December 9/September 8. St. John's is celebrated one day *longer* than nine months: September 23/June 24. These celebrations of St. John's life emphasize the Baptist's role in the Plan of our Salvation.

**The following is from the *Synaxarion* (the Church's book of the *Lives of the Saints*):**

The holy Prophet Malachi prophesied that before the Messiah's birth His Forerunner would appear, and would indicate His coming. The Jews therefore in awaiting the Messiah also awaited the appearance of His Forerunner.

In a city of the hills of Judea in the land of Palestine lived the righteous priest St Zachariah and his wife St Elizabeth, zealously observing the commandments of the Lord. The couple, however, had a misfortune: they remained childless in their old age, and they prayed unceasingly to God to grant them a child.

Once, when St Zachariah took his turn as priest at the Temple of Jerusalem, he went into the Sanctuary to offer incense. Going behind the veil of the Sanctuary, he beheld an angel of God standing at the right side of the altar of incense. St Zachariah was astonished and halted in fear, but the angel said to him, "Fear not, Zachariah, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John." But Zachariah did not believe the words of the heavenly messenger, and then the angel said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stand in the presence of God; and I was sent to speak to you, and to bring you the good news. Behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things come to pass, because you did not believe my words...."

Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zachariah and they were astonished that he had not come out from the Sanctuary after so long a time. And when he did come out, he was supposed to pronounce a blessing upon the people, but could not do so because he had been struck speechless. When Zachariah explained by gestures that he was unable to speak, the people then understood that he had experienced a vision. The prophecy of the Archangel was fulfilled, and Righteous Elizabeth was delivered from her barrenness, and gave birth to John, the Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord.

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