

ST. NICHOLAS NEWS

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ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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July 20, 2014

6TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

PARISH CALENDAR

Sun., July 20 6th Sunday of Pentecost. Great-martyr Kyriake.

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – pp. 93–95

Sun., July 27 7th Sunday of Pentecost. Fathers of the first six Ecumenical Councils.

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – Tropar p. 96. All the rest p. 164.

FEASTS . . . & FASTS

Feasts: The next Feast Day is the Holy Prophet Elias, on August 2.

PEOPLE STUFF

Please remember in your prayers:

Living: Stephanie Bonk. Gloria Bracey. Mary Chupron. Susan Danchak. Ricky, Rick & Sarah. Michael Danchak. Fr. George Dursa. Jada Eiden. Robert & Eddie Hawley. Lorraine Kacaba. Anna Mae Kuklis. Dee Lositski. Peggy Majcher. Mildred Orzolek. Emma Sacco. Amy Shimo. Connie Lou Slater. Faye Snell. Marion Sosnowski. Russell Spilka. Jeff Thomas. Ann Marie Tigie. Fr. Donald Valasek. Gary Wassel. Julia Worobey.

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

Assisted Living Homes: Michael Besket. Julie Kovacs. Julie Roberts.

Altar Vigil Candles: Wishing Daughter Pamela Joyce Domin Koberecki a very blessed, healthy and happy birthday - Paul & Mary Ann Domin

PARISH STUFF

Email – A note to all parishioners: If you email me, I always respond to the email. I try to respond within 24 hours if you are expecting an immediate reply. So, if you do not receive a reply from me, please email again or call me to confirm I received it.

Knoebel Family Day Saturday, August 9- This year the parish Family Day will be on Saturday, August 9. The Men's Club is donating ride tickets to the children of the parish, as in past years. For more information, please contact Bill Wassel at 570-241-3700 or bwassel@hibblerealty.com.

Chicken Barbeque & Bake Sale! Saturday, August 16, Noon to 5 PM. The Men's Club is holding the BBQ, and the Altar Society is having the bake sale in support of the BBQ. Put it on your calendar!

Parish Board Meeting will be rescheduled.

Fr. Nik will be away for a few days this week. For emergencies, please call Fr. Mark Leasure at 570-562-1170 and/or call my cell phone.

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND HIS CHURCH

Will be available in next week's bulletin

FROM THE DIOCESE & OTHER STUFF

Concert: A Tribute to Johnny Richards, composer, arranger, genius musician. The "Upper Valley Winds" Founder and conductor Patrick J. Marcinko Jr. is having a concert in Scranton, PA, on Tuesday, July 22, 2014, at Scranton High School at 7 PM. Tickets are \$25.00 per adult and \$10.00 High School Student with ID Contact info: Mr. Marcinko at 570-876-2888.

Gazebo Concert with Tom Rogo. At Oakwood Terrace, 400 Gleason Drive (off Rocky Glen Road), Moosic, PA 18507. *Thursday, July 24, 2:00–4:00 PM.* Free Admission. Open to the public. Giveaways, Door Prizes, Light Refreshments. Info: 570-451-3171, ext. 116. OakwoodTerraceInc.com.

47TH ANNUAL MSGR. MICHAEL TIDICK MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT. Sunday, July 27th, Binghamton, NY. See Poster in hall for details!

Flea Market & Ziti Dinner St. Michael's Byzantine Catholic Church, 205 North Main Street, Pittston, Pa. will be having their 18TH ANNUAL FLEA MARKET & ZITI DINNER on August 2nd & 3rd, 2014. The Flea Market will be in the Church Hall. Saturday, Aug. 2 from 9am to 4pm and Sunday, Aug. 3rd from 9am - 3pm. We will also have a BAKE SALE, RAFFLE and ETHNIC FOOD SALE during the Flea Market. The ZITI DINNER will be Sat. Aug. 2nd from 12 to 4pm and on Sun. Aug. 3rd from 10am to 3pm. Take-outs are available only during dinner time schedule. Walk-ins are welcome! All proceeds benefit St. Michael's! Come one, come all!

GREAT MARTYR KYRIAKE OF NICOMEDIA

July 7/July 20.

Sources: *Biography of Saints*, Antiochian Orthodox Church of North America. *The Prologue from Ohrid*, Serbian Orthodox Church of Western America

Saint Kyriake was the only child of Greek parents Dorotheus and Eusebia. They were devout Christians, wealthy but childless. Unceasing in prayer they obtained a child and since she was born on a Sunday (the day of the Lord, or *Kyriake*, in Greek), she was given the name Kyriake. (In the West she is known as Saint Domenica – the Latin word for Sunday, and among the Slavs as Saint Nedelya, the common Slavic name for Sunday)

From her childhood, Kyriake consecrated herself to God. When she matured, beautiful in body and soul, many suitors came to ask for her hand in marriage but she refused them all saying that she betrothed herself to Christ the Lord and that she desires nothing more than to die as a virgin. A magistrate of Nicomedia also wished to betroth Kyriake to his son, especially since she came from a wealthy family, but as he was also rejected he denounced Kyriake and her parents to emperor Diocletian as Christians.

The emperor ordered her parents to be tortured and Dorotheus was beaten until the soldiers grew tired and were unable to continue. Since neither flattery nor torment had any effect, Diocletian exiled Dorotheus and Eusebia to Melitene (located between Cappadocia and Armenia) where they died enduring much suffering for Christ. He then sent Kyriake to Nicomedia to be interrogated by his son-in-law and co-ruler, Maximian.

Kyriake refused to renounce her faith and as a result Maximian ordered for her to be whipped. The men tortured Kyriake in every possible way, but her faith wouldn't be broken. One night, as she lay in prison, God spoke to her and said: "Don't be afraid of torture Kyriake. My spirit is with you". She survived through many terrible ordeals and since Maximian failed to convince the young woman to change her faith he sent her to Hilarion, the eparch of Bithynia, at Chalcedon. He told Hilarion to either convert Kyriake to paganism, or send her back to him.

Hilarion tried his best to achieve this goal. One of the tortures he tried was to keep her suspended by her hair for several hours while soldiers burned her body with torches. Finally, she was taken down and thrown into a prison cell. That night Christ appeared to her and healed her wounds. When Hilarion saw her the next day, he declared that she had been healed by the gods because they pitied her. Then Hilarion urged her to go to the temple to give thanks to the gods. In the temple, St Kyriake prayed that God would destroy the soulless idols. Suddenly, there was a great earthquake which toppled the idols, shattering them to pieces. Instead of recognizing the power of Christ, the eparch blasphemed the true God as the destroyer of his pagan gods. He was struck by a bolt of lightning and died on the spot. Seeing the miraculous salvation of Kyriake many pagans believed in Christ; they were all beheaded however.

Kyriake was tortured again by Apollonius, who succeeded Hilarion. When she was cast into a fire, the flames were extinguished. When she was thrown to wild beasts, they became tame and gentle. Apollonius then sentenced her to death by the sword. As she was given a few minutes to pray, she asked God to receive her soul and to remember those who honored her martyrdom. Upon completing her prayer, she rendered her soul to God before the sword was lowered on her head. At the time of her death she was 21 years old.