

ST. NICHOLAS NEWS

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ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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September 14, 2014

14TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

PARISH CALENDAR

Sun., Sep. 14 14th Sunday of Pentecost. Church New Year.

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – pp. 93–95.

SUN., SEP. 21 BIRTH OF HOLY MARY THEOTOKOS. Sunday before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. 15th Sunday of Pentecost.

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – Special Sheets

Parish Board meets

Wed., Sep. 24 St. Euphrosynus the Cook

8:00 AM *Pirohi Prep*

Thu., Sep. 25 Last day of Feast of the Birth of Holy Mary Theotokos. Bp. Autonomous.

7:30 AM *Pirohi Making*

Fri., Sep. 26 Dedication of the Church of the Resurrection in Jerusalem.

Pirohi Sale

SAT., SEP. 27 EXALTATION OF THE HOLY, LIFE-GIVING CROSS.

9:00 AM Enthronement of the Holy & Life-giving Cross. Divine Liturgy
Strict Fast today

Sun., Sep. 28 Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Great-martyr Nicetas.

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – Special Sheets.

FEASTS . . . & FASTS

THE BIRTH OF HOLY MARY THEOTOKOS is next Sunday, September 21.

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS is Saturday, September 27. That day is a day of *Strict Fast*.

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. Theresa Niester. 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.

Eternal Light: Memory of Mary Hafich by the Barnett family.

PARISH STUFF

Parish Board meets next Sunday, Sept. 21, after Divine Liturgy. *Note: There was a mistake in the Calendar in last week's bulletin showing this meeting today. Please disregard.*

PIROHI SALE UPDATE: There was a very nice turnout for both working days last week. Thank you! We were able to be done with pinching before lunch because we had enough people to help! *Please* put the next sale (Sep. 24, 25, 26) on your calendar and plan to spend a little time with us!

Next sale dates: *Pirohi Prep*, Wednesday, 9/24, starting at 8 AM. *Pirohi Making*, Thursday, 9/25, starting at 7:30 AM.

Evening Prep Crew? Also, although we were not able to put together an Evening Prep Crew this time, it can still happen for the next sales. We have 3 who are willing to do the evening, starting around 5 or 6 PM? (Time to be determined) . If we can get 3 or 4 more, we can have one crew doing the prep Wednesday night and one doing the making Thursday morning. That would really help spread the load a lot. Let Fr. Nik know if you are willing to help out this way.

Study Group: Is anyone interested in starting up the study group again this fall? I am thinking maybe on the odd Wednesdays that are not Pirohi Prep days. Email me or talk to me today in the hall.

Church School: It is past due time to be thinking about Church School again. If possible, I'd like to speak briefly with the teachers after Liturgy today. Thanks.

Altar Society Bake Sale 50/50 raffle results: The tickets were sold at the Bake Sale and then at the mall afterwards. total earned for the raffle was \$218. The winner was Jim Williams, who donated the money back to the Society to help pay for the cost of repairing the altar linens. Many years! *Also*, AAA donated a Membership prize for the same raffle and that winner was M McHale from Duryea. Congrats!

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND HIS CHURCH

Sunday, September 7, 2014

\$ 665.00	General Collection
\$ 197.00	1 st Sunday
\$ 69.00	7-day Candles
\$ 113.00	Holy Days
\$ 180.00	Church Dues
\$ 30.00	Maintenance & Repairs
\$ 7.00	Eternal Light
\$ 9.00	Tapers
\$ 25.00	Heat Offering
\$ 1295.00	Total Collection

DDD Dinner Info hopefully coming soon to a bulletin near you!

FROM THE DIOCESE & OTHER STUFF

SS. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church, Olyphant, PA- 4th Annual Rummage Sale in Sept. 2014. Where? The American Legion Hall, Raymond Henry Post #327, 101 Willow Ave./Lackawanna Ave.in Olyphant. Dates: Friday-September 19, Saturday-September 20 and Sunday-September 21. Time: Friday and Saturday 8:00 a.m to 4:00 p.m. Sunday 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Food: Sponsored by the American Legion Woman's Auxiliary. Raffle Baskets: The Raffle Baskets will be "raffled" off on Sunday September 21, 2014. We will have: (Assortment of items) PRICED TO SELL!!!!

Furniture, household items, kitchen items, bathroom, bedroom, living room, basement, outdoor, garden, craft items, religious, toys, games, sporting goods, books, holiday, ladies accessories, children's books, tools, NEW ITEMS, music media-records etc... antiques, Ukrainian items, etc....) Some of the New Items Include: The 125th Anniversary (1888-2013) DVD for SS. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church, "Christmas in Ukraine" Book from World Book, "Favorite Recipes from our Best Cooks" from the SisterHood of St. John's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, New York. Volume I and II.

For more information contact Father Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor at 570-489-2271 and Lauren Telep at 570-383-0319.

Ukrainian Food Festival: St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Scranton

Sunday, September 21, 2014 - 11:00am to 5:00pm

Come and enjoy delicious Ukrainian specialties: holubchy, pyrohy, kobasa, kapusta and more.

Father Nestor Kowal and parishioners extend a warm welcome.

St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church, 320 Vine St. Old Forge, PA is having a **Gigantic Flea Market** on Saturday, September 27 (hours - 8am to 4pm) & Sunday, September 28, 2014 (hours - 10am to 4pm) in the church hall. We have everything you can think of and then some. Antiques, vintage, furniture, appliances, flowers, clothing, toys and much much more. Various foods, baked goods and refreshments will also be available! Come one and all, rain or shine!

St. John's Byzantine Catholic Church, Broadway & 4th Ave., Scranton, Pa. 18505 will be holding a "ETHNIC FOOD FEST" on October 4th, 2014 at the Church Hall from Noon until supplies last. Join us for Homemade Pirohi, haluski, kielbasi, holupki, potato pancakes, home made desserts and a basket raffle.

Annual Fall Rummage Sale sponsored by St. Thomas More Parish, at 1625 N. Main Ave. North Scranton. Gently used clothing, books, household items, children's toys and games, and other goods will be accepted for donation on Sundays or office hours during the week. Sale will be held on Saturday, October 18, from 8 a. m. to 2 p.m. A bake sale will be included. For more information please call 570-343-0634, Parking is available.

CHURCH NEW YEAR

September 1/14

The first day of the Church New Year is also called the beginning of the Indiction. The term Indiction comes from a Latin word meaning, "to impose." It was originally applied to the imposition of taxes in Egypt. The first worldwide Indiction was in 312 when the Emperor Constantine (May 21) saw a miraculous vision of the Cross in the sky. Before the introduction of the Julian calendar, Rome began the New Year on September 1.

According to Holy Tradition, Christ entered the synagogue on September 1 to announce His mission to mankind (Luke 4:16-22). Quoting Isaiah 61:1-2), the Savior proclaimed, "The spirit of the Lord is upon me; because He has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent me to proclaim release to captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord..." This scene is depicted in a Vatican manuscript (Vatican, Biblioteca. Cod. Gr. 1613, p.1).

Tradition says that the Hebrews entered the Promised Land in September.

THE NATIVITY OF OUR MOST HOLY LADY THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY

September 8/21

The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born at a time when people had reached such a degree of moral decay that it seemed altogether impossible to restore them. People often said that God must come into the world to restore faith and not permit the ruin of mankind.

The Son of God chose to take on human nature for the salvation of mankind, and chose as His Mother the All-Pure Virgin Mary, who alone was worthy to give birth to the Source of purity and holiness.

The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary is celebrated by the Church as a day of universal joy. Within the context of the Old and the New Testaments, the Most Blessed Virgin Mary was born on this radiant day, having been chosen before the ages by Divine Providence to bring about the Mystery of the Incarnation of the Word of God. She is revealed as the Mother of the Savior of the World, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born in the small city of Galilee, Nazareth. Her parents were Righteous Joachim of the tribe of the Prophet-King David, and Anna from the tribe of the First Priest Aaron. The couple was without child, since St Anna was barren.

Having reached old age, Joachim and Anna did not lose hope in God's mercy. They had strong faith that for God everything is possible, and that He would be able to overcome the barrenness of Anna even in her

old age, as He had once overcome the barrenness of Sarah, spouse of the Patriarch Abraham. Sts Joachim and Anna vowed to dedicate the child which the Lord might give them, to the service of God in the Temple.

Childlessness was considered among the Hebrew nation as a Divine punishment for sin, and therefore the righteous Sts Joachim and Anna had to endure abuse from their own countrymen. On one of the feast days at the Temple in Jerusalem the elderly Joachim brought his sacrifice to offer to God, but the High Priest would not accept it, considering him to be unworthy since he was childless.

St Joachim in deep grief went into the wilderness, and there he prayed with tears to the Lord for a child. St Anna wept bitterly when she learned what had happened at the Jerusalem Temple. Never once did she complain against the Lord, but rather she prayed to ask God's mercy on her family.

The Lord fulfilled her petitions when the pious couple had attained to extreme old age and prepared themselves by virtuous life for a sublime calling: to be the parents of the Most Holy Virgin Mary, the future Mother of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Archangel Gabriel brought Joachim and Anna the joyous message that their prayers were heard by God, and of them would be born a most blessed daughter Mary, through Whom would come the Salvation of all the World.

The Most Holy Virgin Mary surpassed in purity and virtue not only all mankind, but also the angels. She was manifest as the living Temple of God, so the Church sings in its festal hymns: "the East Gate... bringing Christ into the world for the salvation of our souls" (2nd Stikhera on "Lord, I Have Cried", Tone 6).

The Nativity of the Theotokos marks the change of the times when the great and comforting promises of God for the salvation of the human race from slavery to the devil are about to be fulfilled. This event has brought to earth the grace of the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom of Truth, piety, virtue and everlasting life. The Theotokos is revealed to all of us by grace as a merciful Intercessor and Mother, to Whom we have recourse with filial devotion.

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