

# ST. NICHOLAS NEWS

Vol. 3 No. 10.3

## ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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October 19, 2014

19<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

### PARISH CALENDAR

Sun., Oct. 19 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost. 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Luke. Apostle Thomas.

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – Tone 2 pp. 84–86.

*Parish Board meets*

*Church School Begins*

Wed., Oct. 22 Apostle James Alpheus. Patriarch Tikhon of Moscow.

7:30 AM *Pirohi Prep*

Thu., Oct. 23 Martyrs Eulampios & Eulampia.

8:00 AM *Pirohi Making*

Fri., Oct. 24 Apostle Philip the Deacon

10:00 AM – 4:00 PM *Pirohi Sale*

Sun., Oct. 26 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost. 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke. Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council.

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – Special Sheets

*Annual Parish Meeting*

### FEASTS . . . & FASTS

Next Feast Day is *St. Michael and all the Bodiless Powers of Heaven*, on Fri., Nov. 21.

### PEOPLE STUFF

*Please remember in your prayers:*

*Deceased:* Mary Ann Weber.

*Living:* Matt & Lori Algar. Stephanie Bonk. Gloria Bracey. Mary Chupron. Susan Danchak. Ricky, Rick & Sarah. Michael Danchak. Fr. George Dursa. Jada Eiden. Heather Harris. Robert & Eddie Hawley. Lorraine Kacaba. Anna Mae Kuklis. Dee Lositski. Dan & Teri Ludwig. Peggy Majcher. Theresa Niester. John Polanichka. Emma Sacco. Amy Shimo. Connie Lou Slater. Faye Snell. Marion Sosnowski. Russell Spilka. Jeff Thomas. Ann Marie Tigue. 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.

### PARISH STUFF

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING:** This is the third official announcement that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 26, after the Divine Liturgy.

**Parish Board** will meet for its regular monthly meeting today, Sunday, Oct. 19, after Divine Liturgy.

**FOOD BANK COLLECTION UNTIL OCT. 31:** While we have been doing this at holiday times, most other churches and organizations do their collections at the same time. So, the odd times, like now, are when the Food Bank is running desperately low on stock. We are now accepting donations of non-perishable food items to help support our local Food Bank. This collection ends on October 31. *Note: any items which are out of date have to be thrown away.*

**PIROHI SALE THIS WEEK:** See calendar for schedule. Thanks to all who donate their time. Many hands make the work go faster.

**Church School:** Church School begins today, Oct. 19, after Divine Liturgy. As of now, the schedule for classes will be Oct. 19. Nov. 2. Nov. 16. Nov. 30. Dec. 14.

### YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND HIS CHURCH

#### Sunday, October 12

\$ 246.00	General Collection
\$ 10.00	First Sunday
\$ 54.00	7-day Candles
\$ 2.00	Holy Days
\$ 270.00	Church dues
\$ 5.00	Maintenance & Repairs
\$ 10.00	Tapers
\$ 10.00	Vigil Light
\$ 1234.00	Pirohi Sale
<b>\$ 1571.00</b>	<b>Total Collection</b>

*DDD Donors 2014 to date:* Edward Bonk, Jr. \$100. Stephanie Bonk \$100. John Polanichka \$100. Carol Pugh \$100.

**DDD Dinner Info:** Sunday, November 9, at St. George's Center, Taylor. Cocktails will begin at 1:30 p.m. with dinner beginning at 2:30 p.m. Thank you for your support of the DDD!

### FROM THE DIOCESE & OTHER STUFF

**Olyphant Crime Watch "Trunk or Treat" Halloween celebration** on Saturday October 25, 2014. at the Wargo-Monsignor Hrynuck-Beckage Baseball Park, 700 Block of East Grant Street, Olyphant, PA. (Fern Hill Section) Sponsored by the Olyphant Crime Watch.

Come and join us for Fun, Safe and Family Friendly Event in Olyphant. Participants can decorate their trunks/vehicles and hand out treats. Kids dressed in costumes of all ages to their teens will go car to car in a safe secure area on the Baseball field.

The deadline for register vehicles will be Friday October 24, 2014. Contact David Krukovitz at 570-780-4446 or Facebook at Olyphantcrimewatch. ONLY Registered vehicles will be allowed on the Baseball field. Competition for the "BEST" decorated

trunk/car will be judged at 3:45 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

**TIME OF EVENTS:** Car arrivals and Trunks set-up from 3:00 P.M TO 3:45 p.m. Competition for the Best TRUNK at 3:45 p.m. Kids "Trunk and Treating" begins at 4:00 p.m.

There will be free Child Fingerprinting by the Olyphant Police Department, Free Hot Dogs and Hot Chocolate for the kids from 4:00 p.m. at the Eureka Hose Company #4 across the street from the baseball park. The "Volunteer Emergency Notification" Form for Olyphant Residence will be available. (Allows residents to fill out a notification form with contact information of persons that Olyphant Police can get in touch in case of an accident.)

**JR. ACRY WEEKEND ENCOUNTER AT CAMP NAZARETH!** The National Jr. ACRY will once again be hosting its Weekend Encounter at Camp Nazareth over Veteran's Day Weekend. The event will be held from November 7 - 9, 2014, and is open to youth ages 8 - 18. *You do not have to be a member of the Jr. ACRY to attend.*

Contact Rachel Pribish for further information or questions, rprib89@yahoo.com (with Jr. ACRY Encounter in the subject line) or by phone at 908.247.2269. The deadline to register for the event is October 29th.

**Bus Trip to New York City - Sunday, December 7, 2014.** A Christmas Season bus trip to New York City is set for Sunday, December 7th to include lunch in the Ukrainian Village, visiting the Ukrainian Museum's annual Christmas Bazaar, admiring the spectacular Christmas decorations and shopping in midtown Manhattan, or for a day on your own. Donation is \$38.00 per person with a portion of the proceeds to benefit the Childrens' Religious Education program of St. Vladimir parish. For details and reservations contact Paul Ewasko at 570 563-2275.

### GLORIFICATION OF ST TIKHON, THE APOSTLE TO AMERICA

September 26/October 9 (*from oca.org*)

St Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and Apostle to America was born as Vasily Ivanovich Belavin on January 19, 1865 into the family of Ioann Belavin, a rural priest of the Toropetz district of the Pskov diocese. His childhood and adolescence were spent in the village in direct contact with peasants and their

labor. From his early years he displayed a particular religious disposition, love for the Church as well as rare meekness and humility.

When Vasily was still a boy, his father had a revelation about each of his children. One night, when he and his three sons slept in the hayloft, he suddenly woke up and roused them. He had seen his dead mother in a dream, who foretold to him his imminent death, and the fate of his three sons. She said that one would be unfortunate throughout his entire life, another would die young, while the third, Vasily, would be a great man. The prophecy of the dead woman proved to be entirely accurate in regard to all three brothers.

From 1878 to 1883, Vasily studied at the Pskov Theological Seminary. The modest seminarian was tender and affectionate by nature. He was fair-haired and tall of stature. His fellow students liked and respected him for his piety, brilliant progress in studies, and constant readiness to help comrades.

In 1888, at the age of 23, Vasily Belavin graduated from the St Petersburg Theological Academy as a layman, and returned to the Pskov Seminary as an instructor of Moral and Dogmatic Theology. He led an austere and chaste life, and in 1891, when he turned 26, he took monastic vows. The meek and humble young man was given the name Tikhon in honor of St Tikhon of Zadonsk.

He was transferred from the Pskov Seminary to the Kholm Theological Seminary in 1892, and was raised to the rank of archimandrite. Archimandrite Tikhon was consecrated Bishop of Lublin on October 19, 1897, and returned to Kholm for a year as Vicar Bishop of the Kholm Diocese. Bishop Tikhon zealously devoted his energy to the establishment of the new vicariate.

*On September 14, 1898, Bishop Tikhon was made Bishop of the Aleutians and Alaska.* As head of the Orthodox Church in America, Bishop Tikhon was a zealous laborer in the Lord's vineyard. He did much to promote the spread of Orthodoxy, and to improve his vast diocese. He reorganized the diocesan structure, and changed its name from "Diocese of the Aleutians and Alaska" to "Diocese of the Aleutians and North America" in 1900. Both clergy and laity loved their archpastor, and held him in such esteem that the Americans made Archbishop Tikhon an honorary

citizen of the United States.

On May 22, 1901, he blessed the cornerstone for St Nicholas Cathedral in New York, and was also involved in establishing other churches. On November 9, 1902, he consecrated the church of St Nicholas in Brooklyn for the Syrian Orthodox immigrants. Two weeks later, he consecrated St Nicholas Cathedral in New York.

In 1905, the American Mission was made an Archdiocese, and St Tikhon was elevated to the rank of Archbishop. He had two vicar bishops: Bishop Innocent (Pustynsky) in Alaska, and St Raphael (Hawaweeny) in Brooklyn to assist him in administering his large, ethnically diverse diocese. In June of 1905, St Tikhon gave his blessing for the establishment of St Tikhon's Monastery.

In 1907, he was recalled to Russia, and was appointed to Yaroslavl, where he quickly won the affection of his flock. They came to love him as a friendly, communicative, and wise archpastor. He spoke simply to his subordinates, never resorting to a peremptory or overbearing tone. When he had to reprimand someone, he did so in a good-natured, sometimes joking manner, which encouraged the person to correct his mistakes.

St Tikhon was transferred to Vilnius in Lithuania on December 22, 1913. There he did much in terms of material support for various charitable institutions. There too, his generous soul and love of people clearly manifested themselves. World War I broke out when His Eminence was in Vilnius. He spared no effort to help the poor residents of the Vilnius region who were left without a roof over their heads or means of subsistence as a result of the war with the Germans, and who flocked to their archpastor in droves.

After the February Revolution and formation of a new Synod, St Tikhon became one of its members. On June 21, 1917, the Moscow Diocesan Congress of clergy and laity elected him as their ruling bishop. He was a zealous and educated archpastor, widely known even outside his country.

On August 15, 1917, a local council was opened in Moscow, and Archbishop Tikhon was raised to the dignity of Metropolitan, and then elected as chairman of the council. The council had as its aim to restore the life of Russian Orthodox Church on strictly canonical principles, and its primary concern was the restoration

of the Patriarchate. All council members would select three candidates, and then a lot would reveal the will of God. The council members chose three candidates: Archbishop Anthony of Kharkov, the wisest, Archbishop Arseny of Novgorod, the strictest, and Metropolitan Tikhon of Moscow, the kindest of the Russian hierarchs.

On November 5, following the Divine Liturgy and a Moleben in the Cathedral of Christ the Savior, a monk removed one of the three ballots from the ballot box, which stood before the Vladimir Icon of the Mother of God. Metropolitan Vladimir of Kiev announced Metropolitan Tikhon as the newly elected Patriarch.

St Tikhon did not change after becoming the primate of the Russian Orthodox Church. In accepting the will of the council, Patriarch Tikhon referred to the scroll that the Prophet Ezekiel had to eat, on which was written, "Lamentations, mourning, and woe." He foresaw that his ministry would be filled with affliction and tears, but through all his suffering, he remained the same accessible, unassuming, and kindly person.

All who met St Tikhon were surprised by his accessibility, simplicity and modesty. His gentle disposition did not prevent him from showing firmness in Church matters, however, particularly when he had to defend the Church from her enemies. He bore a very heavy cross. He had to administer and direct a Church which was in total disarray due to the Revolution. The Church situation was complicated by external circumstances: the change of the political system, the accession to power of the godless regime, hunger, and civil war. This was a time when Church property was being confiscated, when clergy were subjected to court trials and persecutions, and Christ's Church endured repression. News of this came to the Patriarch from all ends of Russia. His exceptionally high moral and religious authority helped him to unite the scattered and enfeebled flock. In his messages, he called on people to fulfill the commandments of Christ, and to attain spiritual rebirth through repentance. His own life was an example to all.

In order to save thousands of lives and to improve the general position of the church, the Patriarch issued a message in Sept. 25, 1919, urging the clergy to stay away from political struggle by refraining from

making purely political statements.

The summer of 1921 brought a severe famine to the Volga region. In August, Patriarch Tikhon issued a message to the Russian people and to the people of the world, calling them to help famine victims. He gave his blessing for voluntary donations of church valuables, which were not directly used in liturgical services. However, on February 23, 1922, the All-Russian Central Executive Committee (Russian government) published a decree making all valuables subject to confiscation.

According to the 73rd Apostolic Canon, such actions were regarded as sacrilege, and the Patriarch issued statements denouncing such total confiscation. This forcible confiscation aroused popular indignation everywhere. Nearly two thousand trials were staged all over Russia, and more than ten thousand believers were shot. The Patriarch's message was viewed as sabotage, for which he was imprisoned from April 1922 until June 1923.

It was extremely painful and hard for the Patriarch's loving, responsive heart to endure all the Church's misfortunes. Upheavals in and outside the church, the Renovationist schism, his primatial labors, his concern for the organization and tranquility of Church life, sleepless nights and heavy thoughts, his confinement that lasted more than a year, the spiteful and wicked baiting of his enemies, and the unrelenting criticism sometimes even from the Orthodox, combined to undermine his strength and health.

In 1924, Patriarch Tikhon began to feel unwell. He checked into a hospital, but would leave it on Sundays and Feast Days in order to conduct services. On Sunday, April 5, 1925, he served his last Liturgy, and died two days later. On March 25/April 7, 1925 the Patriarch received Metropolitan Peter and had a long talk with him. In the evening, the Patriarch slept a little, then he woke up and asked what time it was. When he was told it was 11:45 P.M., he made the Sign of the Cross twice and said, "Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee." He did not have time to cross himself a third time. Almost a million people came to say farewell to the Patriarch.

On September 26/October 9, 1989, Patriarch Tikhon was glorified as a saint. In Feb. 1922, St Tikhon's relics, believed lost, were discovered hidden in the Donskoy Monastery.