

# ST. NICHOLAS NEWS

Vol. 4 No. 6.4

## ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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### 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

June 28, 2015

#### PARISH CALENDAR

Sun., June 28 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost.  
Prophet Amos. Monk-priest  
Jerome. Bishop Augustine  
of Hippo.

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – Tone 3,  
pp. 87–89.

Panachida: Margaret & Michael  
Malinak by Susan Danchak.

*1:00–ish Altar Servers leave for  
their retreat*

Sun., July 5 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost.  
Martyred Bishop Eusebius.

9:30 AM Deacon's Service with Fr.  
Deacon Philip Harendza. –  
Tone 4, pp. 90–92.

*Tue., July 7 Birth of St. John the Baptist.  
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy at St.  
George in Taylor.*

*Sun., July 12 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost.  
Holy Apostles Peter & Paul.*

9:30 AM Deacon's Service with Fr.  
Deacon Philip Harendza. –  
Special Sheets.

*Men's Club regular meeting  
scheduled.*

*Sun., July 19 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost.  
Monk Sisoës the Great.*

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – Tone 6,  
pp. 96–98.

*Parish Board's regular monthly  
meeting scheduled.*

**Confessions:** Before Divine Liturgy

## FASTING AND FEASTING

**Apostles' Fast** began June 8 and goes until the Feast of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul on July 12.

The traditional fasting regulations state that red meat, poultry, and dairy products are not allowed during the entire fasting period on all weekdays, Monday through Friday. Also, Fish, wine, and oil are allowed on all days except on Wednesdays and Fridays. The diocesan rules merely require the usual Wednesday/Friday fast. All are encouraged to do more than the minimum.

### Upcoming Feasts:

*Birth of St. John the Baptist* (June 24/July 7). Since Fr. Nik will be away, all are encouraged to celebrate Divine Liturgy at St. George at 9:00 AM.

*Holy Apostles Peter and Paul* (June 29/12). This feast happens to fall on Sunday and so all will be able to celebrate the day.

## PEOPLE STUFF

*Please remember in your prayers:*

*Living:* Fr. George Dursa. Fr. Donald Valasek. Stephanie Bonk. Gloria Bracey. Tim & Christina Bracey. Bob Chalk. Susan Danchak. Ricky, Rick & Sarah. Michael Danchak. Jada Eiden. Tammy Hall. Heather Harris. Robert & Eddie Hawley. Lorraine Kacaba. Dawn & Warren Kieffer. Anna

Mae Kuklis. John Lange. Dee Lositski. Peggy Majcher. Theresa Niester. Margie Pecuch. Mary Phillips. John Polanichka. Karen Rolka. JoyAnn Scarnato. Amy Shimo. Connie Lou Slater. Faye Snell. Marion Sosnowski. Russell Spilka. Jeff Thomas. Ann Marie Tighe. Gary Wassel. Julia Worobey.

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

*Assisted Living Homes:* Julie Kovacs. Julie Roberts. Kathryn Stocoski.

## PARISH STUFF

**Fr. Nik** will be on vacation from June 30 through July 17.

- Fr. Deacon Philip Harendza of St. John's Ukrainian Church, Johnson City, NY, will be celebrating the Deacon's Service on Sunday, July 5 & Sunday, July 12. Please welcome Deacon Philip to our parish.
- *Feast of the Birth of St. John the Baptist* on July 7: There will be no services here, so all are encouraged to go to St. George in Taylor for Liturgy. Check schedule above for service times.
- In case of an emergency, please contact Fr. Mark Leasure at 570-562-1170.

**Bulletin notices deadline:** Because I will be away, I plan to finish next week's bulletin by this Sunday evening. If there is any information that you wish to get into

the bulletin, please email me or phone me by supper on Sunday. Thanks.

Also, any information that does not get into the July 7 issue will be published when I return, in the July 19 issue.

**YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND HIS CHURCH**

ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH  
June 21, 2015

\$ 386.00	General Collection
\$ 141.00	7 Day Light
\$ 65.38	Refund Pirohi Expense Advance
\$ 21.00	Holy Days
\$ 12.00	Taper Candles
\$ 100.00	Father's Day Donation -Altar Society
<b>\$ 725.38</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

*Thanks & God Bless!* We have received to date \$950 in donations toward our recent expenses for church repairs. Your concern for your parish is certainly blessed!

**Recent major expenditures include:**

- \$1900 Church interior repairs & paint.
- \$ 900 New Photocopier machine

**COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES**

**Ongoing Food Collection Project:**

The food donation container continues to be available in the Church Hall. Please help fill this container with non-perishable

food items: cans, dry goods, etc. This is an ongoing good thing.

**FROM THE DIOCESE & OTHER STUFF**

**From the Diocese, re Amazon:**

Glory to Jesus Christ!

We have been asked to forward to your attention the following information:

The on-line shopping store, *Amazon.com* will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Diocese of the USA whenever you shop on AmazonSmile. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.

Simply go to the home page of our Diocesan website <http://www.acrod.org> and click on the Amazon Smiles button in the far left column and then shop as usual.

Please include this information in your parish bulletin.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, Sincerely,

The Diocesan Chancery Staff

Diocesan Apostolate for Information Technology and Communications, American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese of the USA

**Slavic Festival** at St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church, 320 Mifflin Ave., Scranton, Pa. on Fri. Aug. 14 (4-10pm); Sat. Aug. 15 (3-10pm); Sun. Aug. 16 (12-5pm). There will be Live Entertainment Friday, (Joe Stanky), Saturday, Doubleshot and Sunday, (D.J. Sara). Featuring Homemade Ethnic Foods, Carnival Foods, Clams, Homemade Soups, Beer Tent, Games, Raffles, White Elephant Sale and More!!!

**International Dinner Club** at St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church, 310 Mifflin Ave., Scranton, Pa. on Thursday July 9, 2015 at the Church Center. The theme this month is "God Bless America" and Chef Robert Olecki is preparing a real treat. To start we have a Watermelon Gazpacho (Fresh summer melon, cucumber, sea salt lime juice and fresh summer vegetables with the Entree of Blueberry Bar-B-Que Ribs, slow roasted with a topping of fresh blueberry Bar-B-Que Sauce and Patriotic Potato Salad with purple potatoes, new red potatoes and baby white potatoes, celery, scallion and cider mustard vinaigrette. Dessert will be a Berry Stack, summer berries stacked with fresh cake and layered with sweet cream. Coffee, Tea, Water or Soda are included and a Cash Bar is available. This wonderful meal is only \$20.00 per person so call 570-343-5151 and make your reservation by July 6!!!

## ST JEROME (HIERONYMUS) OF STRIDONIUM

June 15/June 28

*from www.oca.org*

Saint Jerome of Stridon was born into a Christian family in the city of Stridon located on the border between Dalmatia and Pannonia. His full name is Eusebius Hieronymos Sophronius. His parents sent him to Rome, where he studied the secular sciences. At the beginning of his life in the capital, the youth was captivated by worldly vanities and fell into temptation. At the end of his time in Rome, Jerome resolved to change his life and to live in goodness and purity. When the youth was about 20 years old, he accepted holy Baptism. After this he visited in Gaul (France). Then St Jerome decided to dedicate himself totally to God, and to become a monk.

In about the year 372 St Jerome returned to his native city, but his parents had already departed this life. On him fell the responsibility of raising his younger sisters and his brother Paulinian. These cares forced him to put aside his plans to enter a monastery, at least for a time.

Having made arrangements for the care of his siblings, he journeyed to the East with several of his friends. In 374, he decided to dwell in the desert of Chalcis southeast of Antioch. There he remained for about 5 years, combining work on the Holy Scriptures with austere ascetic deeds.

Besides this, St Jerome mastered the Hebrew and Chaldean languages. During this period he began his correspondence with numerous persons upon a variety of questions. About 120 letters, considered as authentically written by St Jerome, have been preserved.

At the beginning of the 360s there arose a controversy between the proponents of bishops Meletius, Paulinos and Vitalis. The controversy also reached the monastery where St Jerome toiled. In consequence, the disputes caused him to leave the monastery and go to Antioch. Here Bishop Paulinos ordained him to the priesthood. Afterwards, St Jerome visited Constantinople and conversed with the holy hierarchs Gregory the Theologian and Gregory of Nyssa. In the year 381 he set off for Rome. At Rome he continued his studies. The holy Pope Damasus I (366-384), who also devoted much of his time to the study of Holy Scripture, made Jerome his secretary.

But because the saint denounced the morals of the contemporary Christian society, a whole party of those bearing malice towards the saint came forward to spread slanders about him. After a three year stay at Rome, St Jerome felt compelled to abandon this city for good. Together with his brother Paulinian and friends, St Jerome visited the Holy Land, and also the monks of the Nitria wilderness monastery. In the year 386 he settled into a cave at Bethlehem near the cave where Christ was born, and

there he began a life of austere asceticism.

This was the period of blossoming of his creative activity. Attending to the studies of his time, St Jerome left to the Church a rich written legacy: collections of dogmatic-polemic works, moral-ascetic works, commentaries on Scripture, and historical works. But the most important of his works was a new translation the books of the Old and New Testaments into the Latin language. This Latin translation is called the "*Vulgate*," and it passed into general use throughout the Western Church. The *Vulgate* translation of the Bible is extremely accurate as a translation, a remarkable achievement for only one man. Usually a group of scholars work together on any translation. The *Vulgate* is still used by modern biblical scholars as a resource in new translations and in biblical studies..

St Jerome lived through the fall of his beloved city Rome, which was sacked by the Goths in the year 410. In the year 411 a new ordeal beset the saint, Bethlehem was invaded by wild Bedouin Arabs. Only through the mercy of God was the community of the aged ascetic saved from complete destruction. He finished his life at the cave in Bethlehem. St Jerome is believed to have reposed in 420. His relics were transferred from Bethlehem to Rome in 642, but their present location is unknown. His hand is enshrined in a church near Rome's Piazza Farnese.

NATIVITY OF THE HOLY GLORIOUS  
PROPHET, FORERUNNER AND  
BAPTIST, JOHN

June 24/July 7

The Nativity of the Holy Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John: The Gospel (Luke. 1: 5) relates that the righteous parents of St John the Baptist, the Priest Zachariah and Elizabeth (September 5), lived in the ancient city of Hebron. They reached old age without having children, since Elizabeth was barren. Once, St Zachariah was serving in the Temple at Jerusalem and saw the Archangel Gabriel, standing on the right side of the altar of incense. He predicted that St Zachariah would father a son, who would announce the Savior, the Messiah, awaited by the Old Testament Church. Zachariah was troubled, and fear fell upon him. He had doubts that in old age it was possible to have a son, and he asked for a sign. It was given to him, and it was also a chastisement for his unbelief. Zachariah was struck speechless until the time of the fulfillment of the archangel's words.

St Elizabeth came to be with child, and fearing derision at being pregnant so late in life, she kept it secret for five months. Then her relative, the Virgin Mary, came to share with her Her own joy. Elizabeth, "filled with the Holy Spirit," was the first to greet the Virgin Mary as the Mother of God. St John leaped in his mother's womb at the

visit of the Most Holy Virgin Mary and the Son of God incarnate within Her.

Soon St Elizabeth gave birth to a son, and all the relatives and acquaintances rejoiced together with her. On the eighth day, in accordance with the Law of Moses, he was circumcised and was called John. Everyone was amazed, since no one in the family had this name. When they asked St Zachariah about this, he motioned for a tablet and wrote on it: "His name is John." Immediately his tongue was loosed, and St Zachariah glorified God. He also prophesied about the Coming into the world of the Messiah, and of his own son John, the Forerunner of the Lord (Luke. 1: 68-79).

After the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ and the worship of the shepherds and the Magi, wicked king Herod gave orders to kill all male infants. Hearing about this, St Elizabeth fled into the wilderness and hid in a cave. St Zachariah was at Jerusalem and was doing his priestly service in the Temple. Herod sent soldiers to him to find out the abode of the infant John and his mother. Zachariah answered that their whereabouts were unknown to him, and he was killed right there in the Temple. Righteous Elizabeth continued to live in the wilderness with her son and she died there. The child John, protected by an angel, dwelt in the wilderness until the time when he came preaching repentance, and was accounted worthy to baptize the Lord.