

ST. NICHOLAS NEWS

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ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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August 23, 2015

12TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

. POST-FESTIVE OF TRANSFIGURATION.

PARISH CALENDAR

- Sun., Aug. 23 12th Sunday after Pentecost. Post-festive of Transfiguration. Martyred Deacon Lawrence.
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – Special Sheets
- FRI., AUG. 28 DORMITION OF HOLY MARY THEOTOKOS.
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Flowers and Herbs – pp 169–171
- Sun., Aug. 30 13th Sunday after Pentecost. Post-festive of Dormition. Martyred Priest Myron.
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – Special Sheets

Confessions: Before Divine Liturgy

FASTS . . .

DORMITION FAST BEGAN AUG. 1/14 and goes to August 27/14. The traditional fast requires a Strict Fast (no meat, dairy, wine or oil) for those fourteen days, with these exceptions: the fast is mitigated (lessened) on Saturdays. There is no fast on Sundays or on the Feast of the Transfiguration (Aug. 6/19). Diocesan rules require only the usual fast from meat on

Wednesdays and Fridays.

. . . & FEASTS

FEAST OF THE DORMITION OF HOLY MARY THEOTOKOS: Friday, Aug. 28. On this day we celebrate the death of our most holy Mother. After her death, her Son took her both body and soul into heaven to dwell with Him forever. This is a preview of our own bodily resurrection at the end of the world. At Vespers the evening before we hold a procession with the Shroud of Holy Mary Theotokos, much like the one we do on Great Friday with Our Lord. On this day, we bless flowers and herbs, in remembrance of the events which gave witness to Her miraculous assumption. All are encouraged to bring a bouquet or herbs to church to be blessed on this day.

PEOPLE STUFF

Please remember in your prayers:

Deceased: Julia Worobey. Connie Lou Slater.

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

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

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

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

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Breadbasket of NEPA: The collection bins are in the hall and starting to fill up again! Please help support this ongoing charity by bringing in canned goods and dry goods to donate to those who need our help!

PARISH STUFF

Altar Society meets Sunday, September 6.

Annual Meeting: Advance Notice. The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 25, after the Divine Liturgy. More info to come.

Church School: we are now making plans for the Church School to begin in September for our children. More information will be coming.

Adult Enrichment: I am thinking about trying to start up Adult Enrichment again this fall, but trying something a bit different. Since Sundays are no longer taken up with meetings every week, I should be able to be free one Sunday a month for a gathering of those who would like to learn more about their faith. I am thinking about once a month, although it may not be the same Sunday every month. I will try to put together a schedule for the Fall soon and we can see who is interested.

PARISH FUND RAISERS

1ST PIROHI SALE!!! Fri., Sept. 11. *Still just* \$7.00/doz. We'll be working Wed, Sept. 9 starting around 7 AM and Thu., Sept. 10 starting around 8 AM.

Chicken Dinner Saturday, September 19. 12 Noon to 4 PM or until sold out.

- \$10/dinner, includes ½ chicken, baked potato,

coleslaw, dessert.

- *Eat In, or Take Out!*
- Pre-orders are welcome! Call 570-344-1522 and leave a message. We will get back to you!
- *Altar Society members* asked to donate desserts.
- *Help!* If you would like to donate your time in helping with the dinner, please speak with Carol Pugh or Bill Thomas.

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND HIS CHURCH

August 16, 2015

\$734.00	General Collection
20.00	1st Sunday
102.00	7 Day Light
57.00	Holy Days
12.00	Taper Candles
283.00	Maintenance & Repairs
7.00	Eternal Light
295.00	Memory of Julia Worobey

\$1510.00 Total

FROM THE DIOCESE & OTHER STUFF

St. John the Baptist, Nesquehoning Annual Parish Picnic Sunday, August 23, 2015, at the Nesquehoning Hose Company Pavilion. The day's schedule is as follows: His Grace Bishop Gregory will be visiting St. John the Baptist Parish to celebrate THE DIVINE LITURGY at 10:00 AM marking the *25th Wedding Anniversary of Father Robert and Pani Peggy Teklinski, as well as, Father Robert's 15th Anniversary of Ordination to the Holy Priesthood.*

PICNIC BEGINS AT THE PAVILION AT 1:00 PM.

Once again, our picnic will feature a pig roast by LORAH'S PIG ROASTERS CATERER from Walnutport, PA. The menu will consist of roast pork, roasted chicken, hot dogs, and all the trimmings. Parishioners are kindly asked to make desserts.

Tickets are \$15 each for adults and children are free. Picnic tickets will be on sale in the Church Hall each Sunday starting on June 14th and ending on August 16th. Call for more information: Rectory (570)

669-6623 Church Hall (570) 669-6036.

Come to the Annual Parish Picnic and enjoy good food, fellowship, games, raffles, and prizes. We look forward to seeing you there!

Twenty-fourth Annual Ukrainian Folk Festival, Celebrating Ukraine's Independence Day. Sunday, August 23, at 12:00 Noon. The Ukrainian American Sport Center Tryzub (County Line and Lower State Rds., Horsham, PA.) invites you to attend our festival. Enjoy an outdoor concert of Ukrainian Folk and Modern Dance, Music and Song, featuring: ISKRA Ukrainian Dance Ensemble from Whippany, NJ; Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble from Jenkintown, PA; violinist Innesa Tymychko Dekajlo from Lviv, Ukraine; The Vox Ethnika Orchestra from New York; and the Prometheus Ukrainian Male Chorus from Philadelphia, PA. A Ukrainian Social Dance (Zabava) to the tunes of The Vox Ethnika Dance Band will follow the stage show. Ukrainian ethnic foods, baked goods, standard picnic fare and cool refreshments will be plentiful. Visit vendors' grove and the kids' fun area. Information: 267-664-3857; website: www.tryzub.org.

Ethnic Dinner *St. Mary's Orthodox Church, 522 Main St., Dickson City, PA 18519.* THURSDAY, SEPT. 10. 11:30 AM to 5:30 PM. Featuring Holubki, Kielbasi, Halushki, Vegetable, Roll and Dessert. \$12/dinner.

- *Take out only!*
- Advance Orders Requested
- Group orders welcome! Call by Sept. 8!
- 570-489-3301 or 570-489-4283

5th Annual 2015 Rummage Sale *Ss. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church, Olyphant, Pa.* St. Cyril's Parish Hall – NEW LOCATION – for 2015 207 River Street, Olyphant. SEPTEMBER 18th 19th 20th. Time: 8:00 a.m-4:00 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Contact Lauren Telep at 570-383-0319 or Rev. Nestor Iwasiw 570-489-2271. <http://stcyrils.weconnect.com>. Free parking across the Street from St. Cyril's Church on River Street.

Ukrainian Folk Group to Perform in Scranton. St. Vladimir Ukrainian Greek Catholic Parish of Scranton is proud to announce the appearance of the "Korinya Ukrainian Folk Band" which will be joined by several members of the "Kazka Ukrainian Dance Ensemble" on Sunday, September 20, 2015 beginning at 3:00pm at *St. Vladimir Parish Center, 428 North Seventh Avenue.* Adult tickets can be purchased in advance for \$15.00. Children fifteen years of age and younger are free. Tickets purchased at the door the day of the performance are \$20.00. For ticket purchase and additional information, please contact Dr. Olenka (Helen) Chandoha at 570 842-3539; Diann Wolfe at 570 341-9383; or Paul Ewasko at 570 563-2275.

Purchasing tickets in advance is strongly encouraged as a sell-out is expected.

St. Mary's Villa, Coming Events:

Wednesday, August 26th 2pm - 4pm

- "First Auxiliary Meeting - Mad Hatters Tea Party Theme"

- Food/Refreshments provided

- RSVP by 8/21 to Addie @ 570-795-2808

Thursday, August 27th 5pm - 7pm

- "Art Show / Silent Auction"

- 7 paintings of the Poor Sisters of Jesus crucified

- Food/Refreshments and Entertainment

- RSVP to Dave @ 570-795-2810

****This event is located at the Pavilion behind our nursing home****

Where: One Pioneer Place, Elmhurst Township, PA 18444. Contact tel: (570) 795-2810.fax: (570) 795-0010.

MARTYR AND ARCHDEACON

LAWRENCE OF ROME

August 10/23. *from www.oca.org*

The Martyrs Archdeacon Laurence, Pope Sixtus, Deacons Felicissimus and Agapitus, the Soldier Romanus were citizens of Rome, and suffered in the year 258 under the emperor Valerian (253-259). Holy Pope Sixtus, born at Athens, received a fine education, preached in Spain and was made bishop in Rome following the martyr's death of Holy Pope

Stephen (253-257, commemorated on August 2). These were times when a pope occupying the Roman throne, was known to choose death for the faith. In a short while St Sixtus also was arrested and put in prison together with his deacons Felicissimus and Agapitus.

When the holy archdeacon Laurence visited Pope Sixtus, whom they held in prison, he cried out with tears: "Whither art thou gone, father? Why hast thou forsaken thine archdeacon, with whom always thou hast offered the Bloodless Sacrifice? Take thy son with thee, that I may be thy companion in having blood shed for Christ!" St Sixtus answered him: "I have not forsaken thee, my son. I am old and go to an easy death, but yet greater sufferings await thee. Know, that after three days upon our death thou shalt follow after me. And now go, take the church treasury and distribute it to the poor and needy Christians." St Laurence zealously did the bidding of the holy hierarch.

Having heard, that Pope Sixtus had been taken to trial with the deacons, St Laurence went there so as to witness their deed, and he said to the holy bishop: "Father, I have already fulfilled thy command, and distributed by hand thine treasury; forsake me not!" Hearing something about treasure, soldiers put him under guard, and the other martyrs were beheaded (+6 August 258). The emperor locked up St Laurence in prison and ordered the chief jailer Hyppolitus to keep watch over him. In prison St Laurence with prayer healed the sick gathered together with him and he baptized many.

Astonished by this, Hyppolitus himself believed and accepted Baptism from St Laurence together with all his household. Soon the archdeacon Laurence was again brought to the emperor and commanded to produce the hidden treasure. St Laurence answered: "Give me a period of three days, and I shalt show thee this treasure". During this time the saint gathered up a crowd of the poor and the sick, who ate only because of the charity of the Church, and bringing them he explained: "Here are the vessels in which is contained the treasure. And everyone, who puts their treasure in these vessels, will receive them in abundance in the Heavenly Kingdom".

After this they gave St Laurence over to fierce tortures, urging him to worship idols. The martyr was

scourged (with a fine iron flail with sharp needles), they burned his wounds with fire, and struck at him with metal switches. At the time of the martyr's suffering, the soldier Romanus suddenly cried out: "St Laurence, I behold a bright youth, who standeth about thee healing thy wounds. Beseech thy Lord Christ not to forsake me!" After this they stretched St Laurence on a rack and returned him to prison to Hyppolitus. Romanus brought there a waterpot with water and besought the martyr to baptize him. And immediately after the Baptism of the soldier, he was beheaded (+9 August). When they took St Laurence to his final torture, St Hyppolitus wanted to declare himself a Christian and die together with him, but the confessor said: "Conceal for now thy confession in thy heart."

After some length of time I shall summon thee, and thou shalt hear and come unto me. Weep not for me, but rather rejoice, for I go to receive a glorious crown of martyrdom." They placed him in an iron cage, under which they set an intense fire, and the flames of the fire flicked towards the body of the martyr. St Laurence, glancing at the governor, said: "Here now, you burn only but one side of my body, turn over the other and do my whole body". Dying, he uttered: "I thank Thee, Lord Jesus Christ, that Thou hast accounted me worthy to enter into Thy gates" -- and with these words he gave up the spirit.

St Hyppolitus took the body of the martyr by night, he wrapped it in a shroud with ointments and gave it over to the priest Justin. Over the relics of the martyr in the home of the widow Kyriake they made an all-night vigil and Divine Liturgy. All the Christians present partook of the Holy Mysteries and with honor they buried the body of the holy martyr Archdeacon Laurence in a cave on 10 August 258. St Hyppolitus and other Christians suffered three days after the death of St Laurence (13 August), as he had foretold them of this.