

# ST. NICHOLAS NEWS

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## ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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JANUARY 10, 2016

SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS. REMEMBERING HOLY JOSEPH THE BETROTHED, KING AND  
PROPHET DAVID & APOSTLE JAMES, BROTHER OF THE LORD.

### PARISH CALENDAR

Sun., Jan. 10 *Sunday After Christmas. Remembering Holy Joseph the Betrothed, King and Prophet David & Apostle James, Brother of the Lord.*

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – Special Sheets  
Panachida: Marion Pucher by the Pucher family  
*Men's Club meets*

***There is No Fasting this Week.***

Thu., Jan. 14 *Circumcision of Our Lord. Remembering St. Basil the Great.*

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy – pp 140–141.  
Panachida: Julia Worobey by M/M Steve Fueshko.

Sun., Jan. 17 *Sunday Before Theophany. Synaxis of the 70 Apostles.*

8:45–9:15 AM Confessions  
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – Special Sheets  
Newly Elected Board Members take the Oath of Office.  
*Parish Board meets.*

### MON., JAN 18 VIGIL OF THEOPHANY.

6:00 PM Great Compline & Blessing of the Jordan Water.

### TUE., JAN. 19 THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy – pp 145–148  
Panachida: Julia Kovacs - John & Mary Brizinski.

Wed., Jan. 20 Synaxis of St. John the Baptist.

8:00 AM *Pirohi Prep*

Thu., Jan. 21 Monk George the Chozebite. Confessor Emilian.

8:00 AM *Pirohi Making*

Fri., Jan. 22 Martyr Polyeuctus. Bishop Peter of Sebaste.

10 AM – 4 PM *Pirohi Sale*

Sun., Jan. 24 *Sunday after Theophany.* Monk Theodosios. Michael of Novgorod, Fool for Christ.

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – Special Sheets  
*Church School Begins!*

### FEASTING. . .

*The Circumcision of Our Lord and the Feast of St. Basil the Great* are celebrated on Thursday, January 14 (Jan. 1) Divine Liturgy will be celebrated on that day at 9:00 AM. All are encouraged to celebrate as much of the Christmas season with us as you can.

*The Theophany of Our Lord* is on Tuesday, Jan. 19. This is the day we remember the Baptism of Our Lord in the Jordan. It is also the day that we bless the Jordan water. See Parish Calendar for service times.

**...AND FASTING**

- There is **NO FASTING** permitted between Christmas (Jan. 7) and Theophany Eve (Jan. 18). These are days of celebration of the goodness of our God Who loves us so much that He becomes one of us for our salvation.
- **Theophany Eve**, Jan. 18, we fast from *meat and dairy*, just like we did Christmas Eve. The old tradition was to re-celebrate the *Vilija (Holy Supper)* on this day before Church services.

**Confessions** are available before Divine Liturgy.

**PEOPLE STUFF**

*Please remember in your prayers:*

*Deceased:* George Senich.

*Living:* Fr. George Dursa. Fr. Donald Valasek. Stephanie Bonk. Owen Bonn. Gloria Bracey. Bob Chalk. Susan Danchak. Ricky, Rick & Sarah. Michael Danchak. Jada Eiden. Tammy Hall. Heather Harris. Robert Hawley. Lorraine Kacaba. Anna Mae Kuklis. John Lange. Dee Lositski. Peggy Majcher. Rose Markiewicz. Theresa Niester. Mary Phillips. John Polanichka. Karen Rolka. JoyAnn Scarnato. Amy Shimo. Faye Snell. Russell Spilka. Jeff Thomas. Ann Marie Tigie. Gary Wassel.

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

*Assisted Living Homes:* Julie Roberts. Marion Sosnowski. Kathryn Stocoski. Dolores Naglak. Mary Kneiss.

**40-day Commemoration:** I forgot to note that the 40-day memorial for George Senich will be on Sunday, February 7.

**Our Shut-in Parishioners:** Some folks have expressed a wish to contact those of our parishioners who are in Assisted-living homes or otherwise in Rehab. Here is a partial list:

*Green Ridge Care Center:* Marion Sosnowski. Kathryn Stocoski.

*Old Forge Manor:* Julia Roberts.

*Allied Rehab Hospital:* Susan Danchak.

*Clark Summit Senior Living:* Dolores Naglak.

I am sure that any and all of these folks would appreciate a note, a phone call or a visit.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES**

**Thanks for your recent donations!** On the hall bulletin board you will find thank you notes from the *Breadbasket of NEPA* and from the *Gino Merli Veterans Home*. Both express their profound thanks to our parish for our support.

**Breadbasket of NEPA:** We are starting up again. Donation boxes are in the hall.

**PARISH FUND RAISERS**

**St. Nicholas Banquet:** You may not noticed last week. The profit for the Banquet was \$765.

**Christmas Bake Sale:** The Altar Society netted \$688.00 from the Sale. Thank you all for your support!

**Pirohi Sales Begin:** From Nick & Maryann: As we will begin making pirohi again, we would like to thank all of the dedicated pirohi workers. Your hard work during the fall resulted in another successful sale. Many of our pirohi patrons have stated that "we make the best pirohis in the area." The compliments keep coming every Friday sale. We cannot express our thanks and appreciation for all your work.

Thank you for your kind expressions to us and your continued work. We look forward to January 20th and 21st as we once again get together for a fun time. God bless all of you.

WINTER/SPRING PIROHI SALES		
Wed	Thu	Fri
Jan 20	Jan 21	Jan 22
Feb 3	Feb 4	Feb 5
Feb 17	Feb 18	Feb 19
Mar 2	Mar 3	Mar 4
Mar 16	Mar 17	Mar 18
Mar 30	Mar 31	Apr 1
Apr 13	Apr 14	Apr 15

## PARISH STUFF

**2016 Envelopes and Calendars** are now available in the church hall for pick up.

**Men's Club** has its regular monthly meeting today.

**Parish Board** meets next Sunday.

**House Blessings:** I am in the process of preparing the house blessing routes. I will announce the areas I plan to visit as soon as I can.

*You may want to get some of the New Jordan Water so that you are ready to have your house blessed when I come. Just saying.*

**Church School** begins the Winter term on Sunday, January 24.

### CHURCH SCHOOL CLASS SCHEDULE

Jan. 24	Mar. 13
Feb. 7	Mar. 37
Feb. 28 (Note change)	Apr. 10
	Apr. 24 - Palm Sunday, Last Class

**Oath of Office for the Newly Elected Board Members** has been rescheduled for Sun., Jan. 17.

**Christmas Trees available:** We have two slightly used Christmas trees which are free for the taking. If you are interested, please see Frank Pucher who can show them to you. First come, first serve.

### YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND OUR CHURCH

Jan.3 & Christmas

\$600.00	General Collection
171.00	7 Day Light
1982.00	Christmas
100.00	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday
22.00	Taper Candles
9.00	Calendars
461.00	Church Dues
100.00	Donation in memory of Jane Guzek
150.00	Donation
42.00	Christmas Flowers
<b>\$3,637.00</b>	<b>Total</b>

*Renovation Donations to date: \$1000.*

## FROM THE DIOCESE & OTHER STUFF

**Stewardship Workshop Saturday, January 16.** At St. George's in Taylor. Starts at 9:00 AM. Lunch provided. Please contact Michael Shimko by phone (570-430-6749) or by e-mail at [michael.shimko@me.com](mailto:michael.shimko@me.com).

**St. Mary's International Dinner Club Presents "Greece"** on Thursday, January 14, 2016 with Seatings at 5:30 and 6:30. The Menu will start with an Assorted Sample Tasting Plate of (Stuffed Grape leaves, Spanakopita, Hummus and Olives served with fresh pita bread. The Entrée is Braised Lamb Shanks with Orzo and oven roasted zucchini & eggplant with Kalamata olives. The dessert is a Homemade Baklava. Coffee, Tea, Soda and Water is included. Cash Bar is available. Special Beverages will be Cuzo and Retsina. Reservations can be made at 570-343-5151 by January 11. The price for this culinary delight is only \$20.00 per dinner.

**Pirohi, Haluski, Clam Chowder Sale St. John's Auxiliary,** 310 Broadway Ave. Scranton will be held on Feb. 10th. Orders will be taken until Jan. 16 or while manageable. Pick up date is Feb. 10th between 10 and 2pm. Prices: Pirohi \$8.00 dozen; Haluski \$7.00 qt.; Clam Chowder \$8.00 qt. Please call 570-343-8820.

*The most incredible thing about miracles is that they happen.*

-Phillip C. McGraw

SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY:  
COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY  
RIGHTEOUS DAVID THE KING, JOSEPH THE  
BETROTHED, AND JAMES THE BROTHER OF  
THE LORD

*From www.oca.org.*

The Holy Prophet-King David, St Joseph the Betrothed, and St James the Brother of the Lord are commemorated on the Sunday after the Nativity. If there is no Sunday between December 25 and January 1, their commemoration is moved to December 26.

At an early date, some churches in the East began to commemorate certain important figures of the New Testament at the time of Theophany, and later during

the Nativity season. In Syria, for example, St Stephen (December 27), Sts James (April 30) and John (September 26), and Sts Peter and Paul (June 29) were commemorated near the end of December.

In Jerusalem, the saints mentioned above were combined with a feast that the Jews of Hebron celebrated on December 25 or 26 in honor of the Old Testament Patriarch Jacob. Later on, the Christians substituted St James (October 23) for Jacob, and then the commemoration of the Brother of the Lord became associated with his ancestor King David. In time, St. Joseph was linked with Sts David and James.

#### HOLY RIGHTEOUS JOSEPH THE BETROTHED

Saint Joseph the Betrothed was of the lineage of King David. In his first marriage, he had four sons and two daughters. After he became a widower, St Joseph led a life of strict temperance. He was chosen to be the husband and guardian of the Most Holy Theotokos, who had taken a vow of virginity.

An angel told him of the Incarnation of the Son of God through her. St Joseph was present when the shepherds and the Magi worshiped the new-born divine Infant. On the orders of the angel, he fled into Egypt with the Mother of God and the Infant Jesus, saving them from the wrath of King Herod. He lived in Egypt with the Virgin Mary and the divine Child, working as a carpenter. St Joseph reputedly died at the age of one hundred.

St Joseph is commemorated on the Sunday after the Nativity. If there is no Sunday between December 25 and January 1, his Feast is moved to December 26. The Righteous Joseph is also commemorated on the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers.

#### HOLY PROPHET DAVID THE KING

The Holy Prophet-King David was a forefather of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh. The youngest son of Jesse, David shepherded a flock of sheep belonging to his father. He was distinguished by his deep faith, and he zealously fulfilled the will of God.

During a battle with the Philistines, he vanquished the giant Goliath in single combat, which decided the outcome of the war in favor of the Israelites. He endured many things from King Saul, who saw him as a favorite of the people and his rival. David, however,

showed his own decency and magnanimity. Twice, when he had the possibility of killing Saul, he did not do so.

After Saul and his son perished, David was proclaimed king of the southern part of Israel, and after Saul's second son was killed, he became king of all Israel. He built a new capital, Jerusalem ("the City of Peace"), and a new tabernacle. His great wish to build a Temple was not realized. It was foretold to him that his son would build the Temple.

The life of the Prophet David was darkened by a grievous falling: he took Uriah's wife for himself, and sent Uriah to his death in battle. He was also an example of great repentance, humbly and with faith bearing the sorrows sent in punishment for his sins. St David gave a model for repentance in Psalm 50/51. King David died in great old age with steadfast faith in the coming of the promised Messiah, our Lord Jesus Christ. His divinely-inspired Psalter is widely used in the divine services and in personal prayers. (See the Books of Kings and Chronicles).

The holy Prophet-King David is invoked by those facing a difficult situation, such as an interview, etc.

#### HOLY APOSTLE JAMES THE BROTHER OF THE LORD

The Holy Apostle James, Brother of the Lord, was the eldest son of Joseph the Betrothed from his first marriage with Solomonia. The Apostle James is remembered after the Feast of the Nativity of Christ together with his father Joseph and the Prophet-King David, since he accompanied his family on the Flight into Egypt and lived there with the Infant Jesus, the Mother of God and Joseph. Later, he returned to Israel with them.

After the Ascension of the Lord, St James was the first Bishop of Jerusalem, gaining the great esteem not only of Christians, but also of Jews. He was thrown from the roof of the Jerusalem Temple because he had publicly preached to the people about the God-manhood of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Holy Apostle James is also commemorated on October 23.

*When you are grateful, fear disappears and abundance appears.*

-Anthony Robbins