

# ST. NICHOLAS NEWS

Vol. 5 No. 6.4

## ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

505 Jefferson Avenue, Scranton, Pa. 18510

Fr. Nicholas Ferencz, Ph.D., Pastor  
Rectory: 621 Vine St., Scranton, PA 18510  
Rectory: 570-344-5917  
Cell: 724-953-6046  
[nferencz35@gmail.com](mailto:nferencz35@gmail.com)  
[www.stnicholasorthodoxscranton.org](http://www.stnicholasorthodoxscranton.org)  
Parish Hall: 570-344-1522

Jane Togher, Board President  
570-842-3311

[jctogher@gmail.com](mailto:jctogher@gmail.com)

Diocesan Website: <http://www.acrod.org>

Camp Nazareth: <http://www.campnazareth.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/acrodnews>

You Tube: <https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>

JUNE 26, 2016

SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

### PARISH CALENDAR

Sun., June 26 FEAST OF ALL SAINTS  
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – pp 217–218  
Anne Frenzel 40 day memorial by Fr. Nik

Mon., June 27 Prophet Elisha.  
*Holy Apostles' Fast Begins*

Thu., June 30 Martyrs Manuel, Sabel & Ishmael of Persia.  
*Officially Fr. Nik's last day as pastor here.*

Fri., July 1 Martyrs Leontios et al.  
*Officially Fr. Daniel's first day as pastor here.*

Sun., July 3 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost. Martyred Bishop Methodius of Patara.  
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – Tone 1, pp 81–83.

**Confessions:** available before scheduled services.

### FASTING AND FEASTING

**Apostles' Fast** begins Monday, June 27 and goes until the Feast of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul on July 12. This year, it is a very short fast.

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).*

*Holy Apostles Peter and Paul (June 29/12).*

### PEOPLE STUFF

*Please remember in your prayers:*

*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. Madelyn Hodanich. Johnny Huniyack. Lorraine Kacaba. Anna Mae Kuklis. John Lange. Rose Markiewicz. Mary Phillips. John Polanichka. Karen Rolka. JoyAnn Scarnato. Amy Shimo. Faye Snell. Patricia Snell. Russell Spilka. Jeff Thomas. Ann Marie Tigue. Gary Wassel.

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

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

*Eternal Light:* Memory of Denise Sovitch by

Laurence Czibik.

### PARISH STUFF

**Special Parish Board Meeting:** Sunday, July 3, after Divine Liturgy.

**Thank you and God bless all of you:** I wish to thank all of you who have remembered me in your prayers, your thoughts, your cards and your gifts. I truly appreciate all your expressions of caring. Please keep me in your prayers as I begin this new phase of my life, as I will keep you in mine. Many, blessed years to you all and to St. Nicholas Parish!

**Welcome Fr. Dan!** Please offer your warmest welcome to your new pastor, as he begins his service to St. Nicholas Parish this coming week!

### COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

**Breadbasket of NEPA.** Let's start filling them up again!

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND OUR CHURCH	
June 19, 2016	
\$ 417.00	General Collection
\$ 120.00	7 Day Light
\$ 119.00	Holy Days
\$ 11.00	Taper Candles
<b>\$ 667.00</b>	<b>Total Collection</b>
<i>Renovation Donations to date: \$1029</i>	

### FROM THE DIOCESE, ETC.

**We pray for** our clergy and their families, a number of whom have recently experienced issues with their health and well-being: Fr. Michael Rustick (surgery); Pani Donna Smoley (car accident); Fr. Paul Herbert (surgery). May God watch over them and grant them his blessings. Many years!

**"TAKE A TRIP UP THE VALLEY"** via the Historical Diesel Train from Scranton to Olyphant, PA. Saturday, July 9, 2016:

The Steamtown National Historic Site of Scranton, PA will be running the Historical Diesel Train "Queen City Special" on Saturday, July 9, 2016 to Olyphant, PA. This will coincide with Olyphant Queen City Nights (off of Lackawanna Ave. and Willow Street/ Nestor Chylak St.) The Train will leave Scranton at 1:30 p.m. and arrive at the Olyphant

Queen City Train Station approximately 2:15 p.m. The Diesel Train will depart Olyphant approximately 5:00 p.m. and return to Scranton approximately 6:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited to the 3rd Annual FREE Historical Walking Tour of Olyphant, from the Olyphant Train Station at 2:30 p.m. People will be given info about famous Olyphant Residents: Judy McLane, Nestor Chylak, AndyTurko, Mike Metrinko etc.... tours of the local churches and a casual walk through the town pointing out landmarks from the past. Lauren Telep is the Volunteer Tour Guide for this event. (570-383-0319)

For a late lunch, the Food Vendors from the "Queen City Nights" will be available (off of Lackawanna Ave. and Willow Street/ Nestor Chylak St.) from 3:00 p.m or tourist can eat at the various restaurants/pizza places in town, after the tour.

Contact: 570-340-5204 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for tickets.

Adults (ages 16-61) \$24.00, and Seniors (ages 62+) \$22.00 and Child (ages 6-15) \$17.00 and Child (to age 5) Free Ticket required. Excursions reservations must be pre-paid and are non-refundable.

**St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church Center**, 320 Mifflin Ave., Scranton, Pa. will feature "ALL AMERICAN" at there INTERNATIONAL DINNER CLUB on Thursday July 14, 2016. Seatings are at 5:30pm or 6:30pm. Reservations can be made at:570-343-5151 by July 12th. The menu will start with a Summer Salad of Baby Spinach with Watermelon and Feta Cheese. The Entree is a Southern inspired Chicken Delight and will be served with a Twice Baked Potato and Il Corn on the Cob. Strawberry & Blueberry Shortcake is the dessert. Non Alcoholic Beverages Included and a Cash Bar is available. This wonderful meal is only \$20.00 per person!

**News From St. Tikhon's Monastery:** All are invited to a couple of important events which will be taking place at the Monastery this summer:

- St. Anna's Day: Sunday, July 24, at 2:00 PM, we will have an Akathist, procession and anointing in honor of the Miraculous Icon of St. Anna that resides here at the Monastery.
- Feast of St. Tikhon of Zadonsk, Saturday, August

13. On this, the Patronal feast of our Monastery, please join Metropolitan Tikhon and the Monastery Brotherhood for Divine Liturgy and a festive meal beginning at 9:00 AM.

### 15th annual Lebanese-American Food Festival

- Date: August 13 and 14, 2016
- Time:
  - Sat. Aug 13th is 4 to 11 pm
  - Sun. Aug 14th is 12pm to 7pm
- Location: St. Joseph Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, 130 N. St. Francis Cabrini Ave (off lower Jackson St). West Scranton, PA
- Great Middle Eastern Food and pastries. Local picnic favorites, games, used book sale, baskets, clams, beer. Entertainment- DJ both Sat & Sun.
- Contact:
  - 570-562-6482,
  - [apatch@csprecycling.com](mailto:apatch@csprecycling.com)
  - [www.melkitescranton.org](http://www.melkitescranton.org)
  - or follow us on facebook-Saint Joseph Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, Scranton

**Diocesan Mission Trip To St. Herman's House in Cleveland.** With the blessing of His Grace, Bishop Gregory, the National Senior ACRY is pleased to announce the first Sr. ACRY mission trip to Saint Herman's House in Cleveland, Ohio in an ongoing effort in the ACRY to provide opportunities for hands-on mission work. With the success of ACRY Ambassador Daniel Coffman's Real Break Trip to Saint Herman's, the national board has decided to spend a weekend helping at the house.

Saint Herman's House was founded in 1977 with the purpose to provide shelter, clothing and food to the homeless men of the greater Cleveland area. At any given time, they can house up to 28 men and provide more than 73,000 meals a year.

The mission trip to Saint Herman's House has been inspired by the Jr. ACRY and their countless trips to Saint John the Compassionate in Toronto. With this visit, the National ACRY hopes to encourage the faithful of the Diocese to volunteer their time and talents to help those less fortunate.

For those who are interested, the National Board

is currently seeking a team of 12 volunteers, ages 18 and up to help at Saint Herman's House during the weekend of August 12-14. If you wish to know more information about the trip or to volunteer, please contact Father Peter Paproski at [rppaproski@gmail.com](mailto:rppaproski@gmail.com) or 203-375-2564. If you wish to know more about Saint Herman's House, their website is [www.sainthermans.com](http://www.sainthermans.com) or contact Daniel Coffman at [dpc693@yahoo.com](mailto:dpc693@yahoo.com).

**The Holy and Great Council of 2016.** Hundreds of Orthodox bishops from around the world are now gathered at the Orthodox Academy on Crete for the Holy and Great Council of the Orthodox church. This historic event continues through most of this week. Please pray for the bishops and all of the clergy and laity who will be involved. May they be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit to meet the challenges and needs of the church in the 21st century.

### SYNAXIS OF ALL SAINTS

Sunday after Pentecost.

*From [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org)*

The Sunday following Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints, both those who are known to us, and those who are known only to God. There have been saints at all times, and they have come from every corner of the earth. They were Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and Righteous, yet all were perfected by the same Holy Spirit.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to rise above our fallen state and to attain sainthood, thereby fulfilling God's directive to "be holy, for I am holy" (Lev. 11:44, 1 Peter 1:16, etc.). Therefore, it is fitting to commemorate All Saints on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

This feast may have originated at an early date, perhaps as a celebration of all martyrs, then it was broadened to include all men and women who had borne witness to Christ by their virtuous lives, even if they did not shed their blood for Him.

St Peter of Damascus, in his "Fourth Stage of Contemplation," mentions five categories of saints: Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, and Monastic Saints (PHILOKALIA [in English] Vol. 3, p.131). He is actually quoting from the OCTOECHOS, Tone 2 for Saturday Matins, kathisma after the first stichology.



St Nicodemus of the Holy Mountain (July 14) adds the Righteous to St Peter's five categories. The list of St Nicodemus is found in his book THE FOURTEEN EPISTLES OF ST PAUL (Venice, 1819, p. 384) in his discussion of I Corinthians 12:28.

The hymnology for the feast of All Saints also lists six categories: "Rejoice, assembly of the Apostles, Prophets of the Lord, loyal choirs of the Martyrs, divine Hierarchs, Monastic Fathers, and the Righteous...."

Some of the saints are described as Confessors, a category which does not appear in the above lists. Since they are similar in spirit to the martyrs, they are regarded as belonging to the category of Martyrs. They were not put to death as the Martyrs were, but they boldly confessed Christ and came close to being executed for their faith. St Maximus the Confessor (January 21) is such a saint.



The order of these six types of saints seems to be based on their importance to the Church. The Apostles are listed first, because they were the first to spread the Gospel throughout the world.

The Martyrs come next because of their example of courage in professing their faith before the enemies and persecutors of the Church, which encouraged other Christians to remain faithful to Christ even unto death.

Although they come first chronologically, the Prophets are listed after the Apostles and Martyrs. This is because the Old Testament Prophets saw only the shadows of things to come, whereas the Apostles and Martyrs experienced them firsthand. The New Testament also takes precedence over the Old Testament.

The holy Hierarchs comprise the fourth category. They are the leaders of their flocks, teaching them by their word and their example.

The Monastic Saints are those who withdrew from this world to live in monasteries, or in seclusion. They did not do this out of hatred for the world, but in order to devote themselves to unceasing prayer, and to do battle against the power of the demons. Although some people erroneously believe that monks and nuns are useless and unproductive, St John Climacus had a high regard for them: "Angels are a light for monks, and the monastic life is a light for all men" (LADDER, Step 26:31).

The last category, the Righteous, are those who attained holiness of life while living "in the world." Examples include Abraham and his wife Sarah, Job, Sts Joachim and Anna, St Joseph the Betrothed, St Juliana of Lazarevo, and others.

The feast of All Saints achieved great prominence in the ninth century, in the reign of the Byzantine Emperor Leo VI the Wise (886-911). His wife, the Holy Empress Theophano (December 16) lived in the world, but was not attached to worldly things. She was a great benefactor to the poor, and was generous to the monasteries. She was a true mother to her subjects, caring for widows and orphans, and consoling the sorrowful.

Even before the death of StTheophano in 893 or 894, her husband started to build a church, intending to dedicate it to Theophano, but she forbade him to do so. It was this emperor who decreed that the Sunday after Pentecost be dedicated to All Saints. Believing that his wife was one of the righteous, he knew that she would also be honored whenever the Feast of All Saints was celebrated.