

December 15, 2019

Ephesians 5: 5 - 19

Luke 18: 18 - 27

Upcoming Services:

- Sun. Dec. 15, 9:00 am. - Divine Liturgy, Hours at 8:45
- Sat. Dec. 21, canceled. - Great Vespers canceled
- Sun. Dec. 22, 9:00 am. - Divine Liturgy, Hours at 8:45
- Sat. Dec. 28, 5:00 pm. - Great Vespers
- Sun. Dec. 29, 9:00 am. - Divine Liturgy, Hours at 8:45
- Sat. Jan. 4, 5:00 pm. - Great Vespers
- Sun. Jan. 5, 9:00 am. - Hierarchical Liturgy, Hours at 8:45
- Mon. Jan. 6, 6:30 pm. - Nativity Eve dinner, Caroling & Compline Service

Reader Schedule:
 Sun Dec. 15 - Cynthia Neff
 Sun Dec. 22 - Kurtis Lauser
 Sun Dec. 29 - James Hamer
 Sun. Jan. 5 - Wesley Hatch

December Vespers

Vespers will be starting at 5pm in December

St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myrna in Lycia

St. Nicholas was born in the city of Patara. As the fruit of childless parents, the infant Nicholas, from the day of his birth, revealed to people the light of his future glory as a wonderworker. From his youth, he had proficiency with questions of faith like an elder, which kindled the wonder and respect from fellow Christians. As a young priest, Nicholas showed great kindness toward his flock and the afflicted who came to him for help, and he distributed all his inheritance to the poor.

Upon the death of Archbishop John, one of the bishops of the council said that a new archbishop should be revealed by God, not chosen by men. One of the elder bishops had a vision that the one who came first to church that night should be made archbishop, and his name would be Nicholas. The bishop went up to church early that night to greet the first arrival, and in asking him, "What is your name, child?" God's chosen one replied, "My name is Nicholas, master, and I am your servant."

Even after his consecration as archbishop St. Nicholas retained his image of gentleness, kindness, and love for people. Despite the peaceful demeanor, St. Nicholas was an ardent warrior for Christ, fighting off evil spirits, pagan idols, and the heretic Arius at the First Ecumenical Council.

St. Nicholas worked many miracles in his long life, and in his old age, when he fell asleep in the lord, his relics were preserved with curative myrrh, from which many received healing. Then in 1087 his relics were transferred to Italy. Many Russian cathedrals, monasteries and churches are consecrated in his name. His icons and miracles are too numerous to mention.

Birthdays:

- Dec. 17 - Ron Hersey & Stephen Shermonski
- Dec. 16 - Joan Leslie & Larissa Teijaro
- Dec. 18 - Elizabeth Kutteh
- Dec. 20 - John Gbur

Upcoming Events:

- Sun. Dec.15 - St. Nicholas Sunday after Liturgy
- Tues. Dec.17 - Executive Board Mtg. 7 PM
- Sat. Jan. 6 - Nativity Eve dinner & Service
- Sat. Jan. 11 - Game night, following Vespers
- Sun. Jan. 26 - Annual Parish meeting

Notices:

The Nativity Fast (Pylypivka) / Advent) Began Nov. 28 - The Fast runs until the Eve of the Nativity of our Lord on Monday, January 6. As in Great Lent, you should establish for yourself a rule of fasting and stick to it. It is often said that the Nativity Fast is so much more difficult because of the nature of society around us (and being on the Old Calendar, the false thought of celebrating 'two Christmases'). We can enjoy the season with our extended family & friends and still keep the spirit of the Fast. Everyone should try, at a minimum, to keep Monday, Wednesday & Friday as fast days, no matter what is happening on the 'new calendar.' If you have questions, please talk with Father Nick. Prepare the Manger of your Soul for the coming of the new borne Messiah!

Mon, Jan.6 -6:30 pm. Nativity Eve Dinner in the church hall. Please sign up in advance to bring a fasting dish, and indicate the number of family and friends attending. Caroling in the church at 7:30 pm, and Compline Service at 8:00 pm.

Anniversaries:

None this month.

Notices:

Metropolitan Antony

The Metropolitan will be visiting Holy Ghost on Jan. 5 for Hierarchical Liturgy.

Christmas Flowers

St. Anastasia Sisterhood is collecting funds for poinsettias. Envelopes are included in your stewardship packet.

Coffee Hour Hosts

We need families to host our Coffee Hour
 Dec. 15 - Hume / Teijaro
 Dec. 22 & 29 - Open

Food for Sale

There are food items available:
 Pierogis - Sweet potato - \$8 / box
 Pierogis - Sauerkraut or mushroom \$8 / box
 Halushki - noodles & cabbage - \$7 / quart
 Rolls, - Pumpkin, Apple, Apricot \$13 / roll
 Smoked Kielbasa - \$7 / ring
 Borscht soup \$7 / quart
 Baked Sauerkraut \$7 / quart

Christmas at St. Sophia Seminary

Anyone wanting to come along on Dec. 21 to Boundbrook to deliver gift box, contact Illaria

December Charity

Chester County Food Bank

For bulletin additions contact Wesley Hatch by Friday 6 pm

Prayer Corner:

For the Health of: Metropolitan Antony, Joe Domsohn Sr., Olga Ward, Linda Gindin, Toby Seip, Erin Bove, Richard Ziegler, Sandy Knisley, & Karen