

December 23, 2018

Upcoming Services:

- Sun. Dec. 23, 9:00 am. - Divine Liturgy, Hours at 8:45
- Sat. Dec. 29, 5:00 pm - Great Vespers
- Sun. Dec. 30, 9:00 am. - Divine Liturgy, Hours at 8:45
- Sat. Jan. 5, 5:00 pm. - Great Vespers
- Sun. Jan. 6, 9:00 am. - Divine Liturgy, Hours at 8:45,
- Sun. Jan. 6, 6:30 pm. - Nativity Eve dinner, Caroling & Compline Service
- Mon. Jan. 7, 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy for Nativity of Christ

St. Spyridon the Wonderworker and Bishop of Tremithus:

Saint Spyridon of Tremithus was born towards the end of the third century on the island of Cyprus. He was a shepherd, and had a wife and children. He was devoted to the needs of his neighbors and the homeless, for which the Lord rewarded him the gift of wonderworking. The saint cared for his flock with great love. Through his prayers, drought was replaced by abundant rains, and incessant rains were replaced by fair weather. He healed those who were incurably sick, and cast out demons.

After the death of his wife he was made Bishop of Tremithus, Cyprus. The saint did not alter his lifestyle after becoming bishop, but combined pastoral service with deeds of charity. It was his custom to distribute one part of the gathered harvest to the destitute, and another portion to those having need while in debt. He did not take a portion for himself, but simply showed them the entrance to his storeroom, where each could take as much as was needed, and could later pay it back in the same way, without records or accountings.

At the First Ecumenical Council the saint disputed a Greek philosopher on Arian heresy, and won him over to Christianity by remarkable discourse and display. Depicting the unity of the Holy Trinity, he took a brick in hand and squeezed it. Fire shot up from it, water dripped down from it, and dust remained in hand. "There is only one brick," Saint Spyridon said, "but it is composed of three elements. In the Holy Trinity there are three persons, but only one God."

The gift of wonderworking, granted to him by God, was abundant. Through a word of the saint the dead were awakened, the elements of nature tamed, and idols smashed. Once he went into an empty church, ordered the lamps and candles be lit, and then began the service. After saying, "Peace be unto all," both he and the deacon heard from above the resounding of a great multitude of voices saying, "and with your spirit." To each petition of the litanies the invisible choir sang out, "Lord have mercy." People who lived nearby hastened towards the melodic litany. But when they entered the church, they were astonished to see no one was there but the bishop and some servers, and no longer did they hear any music.

Colossians 3: 12-16

Luke 17: 12-19

Reader Schedule:
 Sun, Dec. 23 - Kurtis Lauser
 Sun, Dec. 30 - Greg Kuzmenchuk
 Sun, Jan. 6 - Cynthia Neff

Birthdays:

- December 23 - Elizabeth Hershey
- December 29 - David Neff

Upcoming Events:

- Sun. Dec. 23 - St. Anastasia Sisterhood mtg.
- Thur. Dec. 27 - 7:00 pm. Exec. Board Meeting
- Sun. Jan. 6 - Nativity Eve dinner & Caroling
- Tue. Jan. 15 - 7:00 pm. Executive Board Mtg.
- Sun. Jan. 27 - Annual Parish meeting - following coffee hour

Jan 2 - 5 ? Change altar clothes. Date and time to be announced

Sun, 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 is at 7:30 pm, followed by Compline Service at 8:00 pm.

Sun, Jan. 27 -Annual Parish Mtg. following coffee hour. The names of nominees for board positions and agenda items to be discussed must be submitted, in writing, to the executive board prior to their Tuesday, Jan. 15 evening meeting.

Prayer Corner:

For the Health of: Lillian Maskula, Richard Ziegler, Sandy Knisley, Erin Bove, Rose Dymtryk, Florine, Charline, Mark Danczak, Zenon Forosty, Linda, Minerva, Sawa & Wes Hatch

Anniversaries:

None this week

Notices:

Election of Sisterhood Officers

If you or someone you know would like to serve in 2019 as an officer of the Saint Anastasia Sisterhood, please give the name to Illaria Steele. Election of officers will take place at the next sisterhood meeting.

Christmas Flowers

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

Bizarre Foods Available

- Pierogies - potato & cheese -\$6 per box of 15
- Pierogies - sweet potato - \$6 per box of 15
- Halupki - stuffed cabbage - \$16 per dozen
- Nut Rolls - \$12 per roll

2019 Orthodox Calendars

The 2019 Orthodox calendars are available for church members at the book store, courtesy of the Wentz Funeral Home.

December Charity - Handicrafters

Bulletin Additions

Provide bulletin additions to Wesley Hatch by Friday at 6 pm