

December 30, 2018

Upcoming Services:

- 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

Colossians 3: 4-11

Luke 14: 16-24

Reader Schedule:
 Sun, Dec. 30 - Greg Kuzmenchuk
 Sun, Jan. 6 - Cynthia Neff
 Sun, Jan. 13 - Kurtis Lauser

Great Martyr Anastasia:

The Great Martyr Anastasia was Roman by birth, her father a pagan, but her mother secretly Christian. After her mother's death her father gave Anastasia in marriage to a pagan named Publius, but feigning illness, she preserved her virginity. Clothing herself in the garb of a beggar, and accompanied by only a servant, she visited the prisons. She fed, doctored and often ransomed captives who were suffering for their faith in Christ. When her servant told Publius about everything, he subjected his wife to a beating and locked her up at home. Anastasia then began to correspond secretly with Chrysogonus, who encouraged Anastasia to be patient, to cleave to the Cross of Christ, and to accept the Lord's will. He also foretold the impending death of her husband Publius in the sea, who did indeed drown subsequently. After the death of her husband, St. Anastasia began to distribute her property to the poor.

Following St. Chrysogonus' martyrdom, Anastasia went from city to city ministering in the medical arts to Christian captives far and wide, healing their wounds and relieving their suffering, obtaining the name, "Deliverer from Potions" (Pharmakolytria), since she had healed many from potions and poisons. She had a faithful helper, the young widow Theodota, in the prisons, but both were eventually arrested.

After unsuccessful attempts to persuade St. Anastasia to offer sacrifice to idols, she was handed over to the pagan priest Ulpian in Rome. The unsavory pagan offered her the choice between jewelry and fine clothing versus fearsome tools of torture, but Anastasia refused the riches and chose the torture. Ulpian gave her three days to reconsider, during which time he tried to seduce her, but as soon as he touched her he became blind. His head ached so severely that he screamed like a madman, but on the way to the temple of idols for help, he fell down dead.

St. Anastasia, set free, once again returned to the care of imprisoned Christians with Theodota, until caught and condemned to death by starvation. She remained in prison without food for sixty days. Seeing that hunger caused St. Anastasia no harm whatsoever, the judge sentenced her to drowning together with other prisoners.

The prisoners were put into a boat and cast out to sea, but St. Theodota appeared to the captives and steered the ship to shore. When they reached dry land, 120 men believed in Christ, were baptized by Sts. Anastasia and Eutychianus, and received a martyr's crown. St. Anastasia was stretched between four pillars and burned alive, and a woman named Apollinaria buried her body, unharmed by the fire, in the garden outside her house.

Birthdays:

- January 1 - Katie Thomas
- January 5 - Nicholas Sparano

Upcoming Events:

- Thur. Jan 3 - 6:30 pm - Change altar cloths. and decorating with poinsettias for Nativity
- Sun, Jan.6 - 6:30 pm. Nativity Eve Dinner A sign-up sheet is posted in the church hall 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.

Tue, Jan. 15 - 7:00 pm Executive Board Mtg. Any agenda items you would like to have discussed at the annual parish meeting on January 27, and the names of nominees for the 2019 executive board positions need to be submitted in writing to the executive board prior to this meeting. Please consider running for the Executive Board

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.

Bulletin Additions

Provide bulletin additions to Wesley Hatch by Friday at 6 pm

Anniversaries:

None this week

Notices:

Sisterhood of Anastasia 2019 Board Elect

- President: Illaria Steele
- Vice President: Cynthia Neff
- Treasurer: Rose Dymtryk
- Secretary: Linda Kozlowski

Christmas Flowers

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

Coffee Hour

Don't forget to return your Coffee Hour Sign-up form either in the collection basket or to Tabitha Bentley

Bizarre Foods Available

- Pierogies - potato & cheese -\$6 per box of 15
- Pierogies - sweet potato - \$6 per box of 15
- Nut Rolls - \$12 per roll

December Charity - Handicrafters

Prayer Corner:

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