



ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

Orthodox Church in America
Diocese of the Midwest

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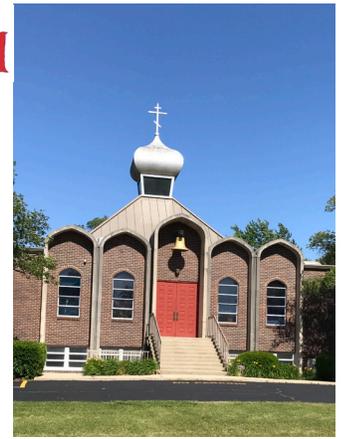
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23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 28, 2021
Ephesians 2:4-10 (Epistle)

Tone 6

114 Year, Issue 48
Luke 13:10-17 (Gospel)

A warm welcome to everyone joining us for worship.

If you are without a spiritual home, please make OUR HOME, YOUR HOME.

TODAY Monastic Martyr and Confessor Stephen the New of Mt. St. Auxentius, Martyrs Basil, Stephen, two Gregories, John, Andrew, Peter, Anna, and many others (†767); Martyr Irenarchus and Seven Women Martyrs at Sebaste (†303); St. Theodore, Archbishop of Rostov (†1394); Martyrs Timothy and Theodore—Bishops; Peter, John, Sergius, Theodore, and Nikēphoros—Presbyters; Basil and Thomas—Deacons; Hierotheus, David, Chariton, Socrates, Comasius, and Eusebius—Monks; and Etymasius, at Tiberiopolis (†8TH c.)

READERS: Hours: Sean LENCKUS

Epistle: George KLEINERT

9:40 am Third & Sixth Hours; Confession

10:00 am **Divine Liturgy - LIVE Stream on St. Nicholas Facebook Page**

11:20 am **Sunday School**

11:40 am **Fellowship**

Friday, December 3

7:00 pm **Orthodoxy Study - LIVE Stream on St. Nicholas Facebook Page**

Saturday, December 4

5:00 pm **Great Vespers**

Sunday, December 5 24TH Sunday after Pentecost; OUR CHURCH PARTON DAY Ven. Savva the Sanctified (†532); St. Gurias, Archbishop of Kazan' (†1563); Martyr Anastasius; Ven. Karion and his son, Ven. Zachariah, of Egypt (†4TH c.); Ven. Nectarius of Mt. Athos (†1406); Ven. Philotheus of Karyes (Mt. Athos—†14TH c.); Monastic Martyrs of Karyes (Mt. Athos); St. Crispina (304).

READERS: Hours: Alexis OUCHAKOV

Epistle: Marlo PERRY

9:40 am Third & Sixth Hours; Confession

10:00 am **Divine Liturgy - LIVE Stream on St. Nicholas Facebook Page**

11:20 am **Sunday School**

11:40 am **Lenten Potluck and St. Nicholas Day Performance**

STEWARDSHIP CORNER Sunday, November 21TH, 2021 - Donation / Assessments \$999.00

ST. NICHOLAS DAY On Sunday, December 5TH we will celebrate the Feast Day of our Church's Patron Saint with Liturgy and a **LENTEN POTLUCK** to follow. Please bring a lenten dish to share. As an added bonus our Sunday school children plan to delight us with a wonderful show that afternoon.

On Monday, December 6TH, St. Nicholas Day, we will have Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am.

MANY THANKS VENHRYNOVYCH family for hosting this mornings Fellowship.

CHOIR REHEARSAL Sunday, December 12TH, choir members are encouraged to attend.

ALTAR CANDLES Today Sunday, November 28TH the altar candles are sponsored by the Tatiana & Nikolaj for health of their granddaughter ROMASHCHENKO Natalia.

NATIVITY FAST We fast before the Great Feast of the Nativity in order to prepare ourselves for the celebration of Our Lord's birth. As in the case of Great Lent, the Nativity Fast is one of preparation, during which we focus on the coming of the Savior by fasting, prayer, and almsgiving.

By fasting, we "shift our focus" from ourselves to others, spending less time worrying about what to eat, when to eat, how much to eat, and so on in order to use our time in increased prayer and caring for the poor. We learn through fasting that we can gain control over things which we sometimes allow to control us - and for many people, food is a controlling factor.

[We live in the only society in which an entire TV network is devoted to food!] While fasting from food, however, we are also challenged to fast from sin, from gossip, from jealousy, from anger, and from those other things which, while well within our control, we all too often allow to control us.

Just as we would refrain from eating a lot before going to an expensive restaurant for dinner - if we "ruin our appetite" we will enjoy the restaurant less - so too we fast before the Nativity in order to more fully feast and celebrate on the Nativity itself.

During the Nativity Fast, we are called upon to refrain from meat, dairy, fish, wine, and olive oil. At the same time, we are challenged, within this framework, to fast to the best of our ability, and to do so consistently. If we must modify the extent to which we fast within this framework, it is of course possible, but in every instance our fasting should be consistent and regular, for Christ does not see fasting as an option, but as a "must." In Matthew Christ says, "WHEN you fast, do not be like the hypocrites," not "IF you fast" or "IF YOU CHOOSE to fast."

It seems quite odd that in our society - a society in which people gladly and freely spend huge sums of money for diets, most of which recommend that one refrain from red meats and dairy products - fasting is not more widely embraced. How odd that a Jenny Craig consultant or diet guru or physician will tell us to refrain from eating meat or cheese or butter and we will gladly embrace - and pay large sums of money for - his or her advice, while when the Church offers the same advice [at "no cost"] we tend to balk, as if we were being asked to do the impossible. **Fr. John MATUSIAK**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS the following people, who are in need of God's healing and grace:

Dn. David HANNEMAN	Tom KOMPARE	Joseph ORLOVICH	Jovan HAUG	Jose FELIX	Toma ANDREEV
Sevasti BERGSTROM	Timothy KLEINERT	Josephine ORLOVICH	Elena PAVLOVA	Stefan KARADJOV	Nina ARNOLD
Katherina BRADLEY	June BRADLEY	Chrystyna ZATKHEY	Yurij PAVLOVA	Natalia MALAIDAKH	Nadia BILANYK
Galyna SHAFRANEC	Richard GARRETT	Thomas GARRETT	Alice PISTILLI	Lubov SIROTUK	Joann HILK

Today Epistle (Ephesians 2:4-10)

Brethren... But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Today Gospel (Luke 13:10-17)

Now He was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way raise herself up. But when Jesus saw her, He called her to Him and said to her, "Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God. But the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath; and he said to the crowd, "There are six days on which men ought to work; therefore come and be healed on them, and not on the Sabbath day." The Lord then answered him and said, "Hypocrite! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or donkey from the stall, and lead it away to water it? So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound - think of it - for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?" And when He said these things, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the multitude rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by Him.

Апостол Дня (Ефессянам 2:4-10)

Братия... Бог, богатый милостью, по Своей великой любви, которою возлюбил нас, и нас, мертвых по преступлениям, оживотворил со Христом, - благодатью вы спасены, - и воскресил с Ним, и посадил на небесах во Христе Иисусе, дабы явить в грядущих веках преизобильное богатство благодати Своей в благости к нам во Христе Иисусе. Ибо благодатью вы спасены через веру, и сие не от вас, Божий дар: не от дел, чтобы никто не хвалился. Ибо мы - Его творение, созданы во Христе Иисусе на добрые дела, которые Бог предназначил нам исполнять.

Евангелие Дня (Луки 13:10-17)

В одной из синагог учил Он в субботу. Там была женщина, восемнадцать лет имевшая духа немощи: она была скорчена и не могла выпрямиться. Иисус, увидев ее, позвал и сказал ей: "женщина! ты освобождаешься от недуга твоего." И возложил на нее руки, и она тотчас выпрямилась и стала славить Бога. При этом начальник синагоги, негодуя, что Иисус исцелил в субботу, сказал народу: "есть шесть дней, в которые должно делать; в те и приходите исцеляться, а не в день субботний." Господь сказал ему в ответ: "лицемер! не отвязывает ли каждый из вас вола своего или осла от яслей в субботу и не ведет ли поить? сию же дочь Авраамову, которую связал сатана вот уже восемнадцать лет, не надлежало ли освободить от уз сих в день субботний?" И когда говорил Он это, все противившиеся Ему стыдились; и весь народ радовался о всех славных делах Его.