

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Forerunner

June 25th, 2023

Assigned Readings

Romans 5: 1-10

Matthew 6: 22-33

Saints of the Day:

The Virgin Martyr Febronia suffered during the reign of Diocletian (284-305). She was raised at a monastery in the city of Sivapolis (Assyria). The head of the women's monastery was the abbess Bryainē, the aunt of Saint Febronia. Being concerned about her niece's salvation, she assigned her a stricter form of life than the other nuns. According to their monastic rule, on Fridays the sisters put aside their other duties and spent the whole day in prayer and the reading of Holy Scripture. The abbess usually assigned the reading to Saint Febronia. News of her pious life spread throughout the city.

Diocletian sent a detachment of soldiers to Assyria under the command of Lysimachus for the destruction of Christians. They led Saint Febronia off to the military commander with her hands bound and a chain around her neck. Selinus urged her to deny Christ, promising her honors, rewards, and marriage with Lysimachus. The holy virgin firmly and fearlessly answered that she had an Immortal Bridegroom, and she would not exchange Him for any mortal man. Selinus subjected her to fierce torture. The saint prayed, "My Savior, do not abandon me in this terrible hour!" The tortures were so inhuman, that the people began to demand an end to the torture, since there was no confession of guilt by the girl. Selinus continued to mock and jeer at the martyr, but Saint Febronia became silent. Finally, they beheaded the holy Martyr Febronia. Departing the place of execution, Lysimachus wept and withdrew to his quarters. Selinus made ready to eat, but he was not able to take food, and went off to the quiet of his own chambers. Suddenly, he became like one deranged. Looking up to the heavens, he raved and bellowed like a bull, then fell down and struck his head on a marble column and died. When Lysimachus learned of this, he said, "Great is the God of the Christians, Who has avenged Febronia's blood, so unrighteously shed!" He prepared a coffin, placed the martyr's body in it, and took it back to the convent.

Announcements

July 2nd: Episcopal visit of His Eminence Archbishop Mark. Fr. Paul Witek and our sister parish of All Saints will join us to greet Vladyka. July 4th style picnic to follow.

July 9th: Annual Parish Picnic is being graciously hosted by Bill and Marie Evanina, dinner is provided. See Matushka Kyra about appetizers to bring. Swimsuits are encouraged, as they have a very nice pool. Please sign up at the candle desk. Thank you to Bill and Marie for their continued hospitality.

Donations are currently being collected for St. Francis of Assisi soup kitchen. \$100 dollars sponsors a meal for the day.

June 25th: Parish council will meet following Coffee Hour for a combined June and July meeting as several factors required the rescheduling of both months' meetings.

Upcoming Services:

June 28th 5:00pm 9th Hour, Great Vespers and Litya for the Feast of St. Peter and Paul.

June 29th No services. All are welcome to attend Divine Liturgy at All Saints Church in Olyphant at 9:30am to celebrate the Feast of Sts Peter and Paul.

July 1st 5:00pm Great Vespers

July 2nd 9:30am Divine Liturgy: His Eminence, Archbishop Mark presiding.

Contact Information:

Parish Mailing Address

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
305 Gravity Ave
Olyphant PA 18447

Website

Stnicholasolyphant.org

Phone number:

570-489-3891

Driving Address

600 E. Lackawanna St
Olyphant PA 18447

Troparion and Kontakion of the Day

Tone 2 Troparion (Resurrection)

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal,
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead.
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out://
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”

Tone 4 Troparion (Forerunner)

O Prophet and Forerunner of the coming of Christ,
although we cannot praise thee worthily,
we honor thee in love at thy nativity,
for by it thou hast ended thy father’s silence and thy mother’s barrenness,//
proclaiming to the world the incarnation of the Son of God!

Tone 2 Kontakion (Resurrection)

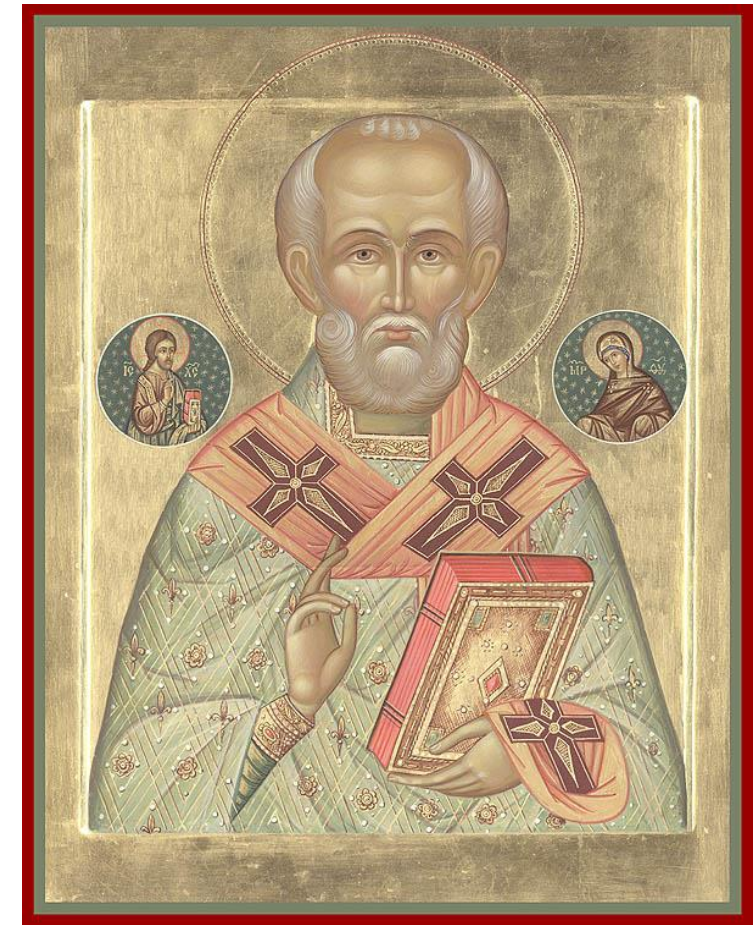
Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior,
seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb!
The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with Thee,//
and the world, my Savior, praises Thee forever.

Tone 3 Kontakion (Forerunner)

Today the formerly barren woman gives birth to Christ’s Forerunner,
who is the fulfillment of every prophecy;
for in the Jordan, when he laid his hand on the One foretold by the Prophets,//
he was revealed as Prophet, Herald, and Forerunner of God the Word.

Prayers for the Sick:

Archpriest Vladimir	Thom
Priest John	Julie
Priest James	Joan
Matushka Gloria	Vera
Matushka Myra	Helen
Matushka Nancy	Marie



St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

OCA Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania
Archbishop Mark – Hierarch

Fr. Nathan Clausson – Acting Rector
Mark Howanetz – Choir Director
Rick Cesari – Parish President