

Announcements

Mat. Kyra was informed by the Mid Valley School District that there are certain protocols they would like followed before we donate as planned during the July parish council meeting. We will get things situated with the school district and direct a future donation in that direction. If there are no objections I would like to direct the August collection toward Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry in honor of St. Silas.

Retirement dinner for Fr. Vladimir Fetcho is being held after Divine Liturgy at Fiorelli's in Peckville on September 10th. Cost for tickets is \$30 per person.

We are currently looking into dates in late September or early October to do a fried pierogi sale. This would involve a pierogi making session on Saturday and a fresh frying and sales date on a Monday. Please communicate with parish council or Father Nathan regarding your availability for different dates.

The Dormition Fast begins Tuesday. It is a short but important fast. Healthy Orthodox Christians are expected to participate; those needing a lessening of the fast should consult their spiritual father.

Matushka Delores Donlick fell asleep in the Lord on Friday July the 28th. Please keep her and her family in your prayers, May her memory be eternal!

Upcoming Services:

August 5th – 9th Hour, Great Vespers with Litya

August 6th – Divine Liturgy, Feast of the Transfiguration 9:30 am.

Contact Information:

Parish Mailing Address
St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
305 Gravity Ave
Olyphant PA 18447

Website
Stnicholasolyphant.org

Driving Address
600 E. Lackawanna St
Olyphant PA 18447

Phone number:
570-489-3891

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Apostles Silas and Silvanus of the 70 and those with them

July 30th, 2023

Assigned Readings

1 Corinthians 1: 10-18

Matthew 14: 14-22

Saints of the Day

St Silas, Silvanus, Crescens, Epenetus and Andronicus were all among the 70 disciples that Christ sent out two by two in the gospel to spread the word ahead of Him. Likewise, each of them served the early church after the resurrection and are numbered among the apostles. They traveled along with St. Paul after the Council of Jerusalem and would each eventually remain in different cities to complete their own ministries. St. Silvanus was the Bishop in Thessalonica and both he and St. Crescens were known to have ended their ministries in martyrdom. Sts. Silas, Epenetus and Andronicus were the bishops of Corinth, Carthage and Pannonia respectively.

I would like to direct special attention to St. Silas who is often regarded as the patron saint of prisoners, and prison ministry. The most renowned of the five saints remembered today, he has imprisoned himself on several occasions. He was with St. Paul when they were arrested together in Phillipi and despite being miraculously released from their fetters remained in prison to witness to the guard and his family.

In addition to his works generally as an apostle and bishop of the early church, he was known have performed several miracles mostly healings. His personal ministry though never forgot his own time in prison. It is important to understand that prison in that time period was temporary, you were awaiting trial or execution. So his work was frequently directed toward those who knew that their lives were soon to end. Even though the witness to and care of these people would not directly grow the church, he still dedicated time to these most needy of people. We should all think about this example throughout the year.

Troparion and Kontakion of the Day

Troparion to St. Nicholas – Tone 4

The truth of things revealed you to your flock as a rule of faith, an icon of meekness and a teacher of abstinence. You thus reached the heights through humility and wealth through poverty.

O Holy Hierarch Father Nicholas, // pray to Christ God for the salvation of our souls.

Kontakion to St. Nicholas – Tone 3

You proved yourself to be a holy priest, O Nicholas; You served God in Myra and lived the gospel of Christ. You offered your life for your people; You rescued the innocent from death.//

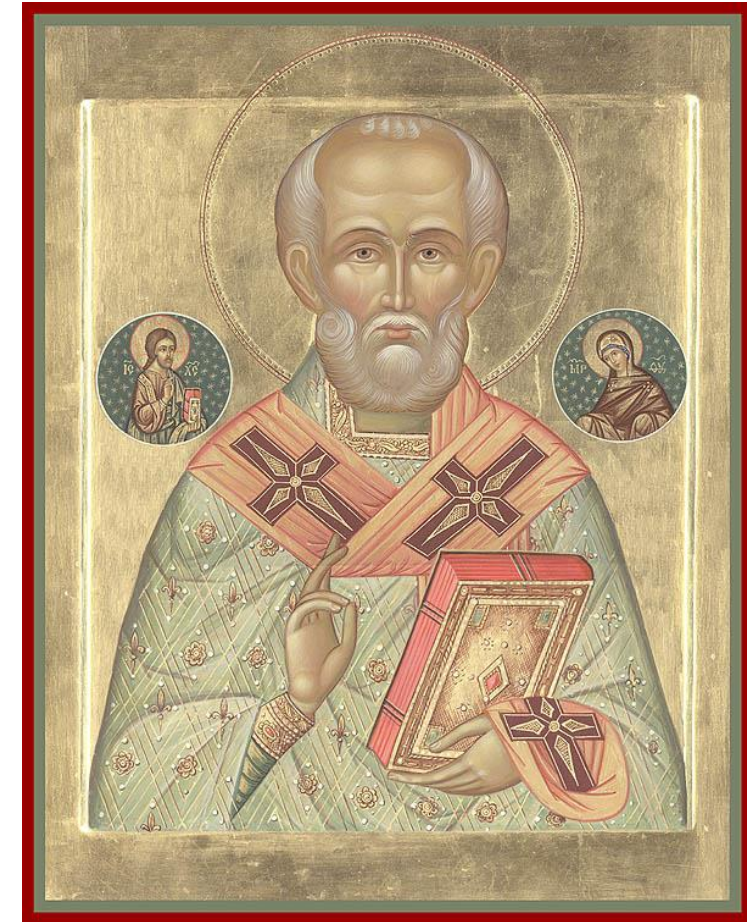
Therefore God has glorified you as a trustworthy guide of things divine.

Steadfast Protectress – Tone 6

Steadfast protectress of Christians, constant advocate before the Creator, do not despise the cry of us sinners, but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith, hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us O Theotokos// For you always protect those who honor you.

Prayers for the Sick:

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



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