

11th Sunday after Pentecost Afterfeast of the Dormition

August 20th, 2023

Assigned Readings

1 Corinthians 9: 2-12

Matthew 18: 23-35

Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos:

Then came the third hour (9 am), when the Dormition of the Mother of God was to occur. A number of candles were burning. The holy Disciples surrounded her beautifully adorned bed, offering praise to God. She prayed in anticipation of Her demise and of the arrival of Her longed-for Son and Lord. Suddenly, the inexpressible Light of Divine Glory shone forth, before which the blazing candles paled in comparison. All who saw it took fright. Descending from Heaven was Christ, the King of Glory, surrounded by hosts of Angels and Archangels and other Heavenly Powers, together with the souls of the Forefathers and the Prophets, who had prophesied in ages past concerning the Most Holy Virgin Mary.

Seeing Her Son, the Mother of God exclaimed: “My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God My Savior, for He hath regarded the low estate of His Handmaiden” and, rising from Her bed to meet the Lord, She bowed down to Him, and the Lord bid Her enter into Life Eternal. Without any bodily suffering, as though in a happy sleep, the Most Holy Virgin Mary gave Her soul into the hands of Her Son and God.

The most-pure body of the Mother of God was buried in the family tomb. Christians honored the sepulcher of the Mother of God, and they built a church on this spot. Within the church was preserved the precious funeral cloth, which covered Her all-pure and fragrant body. Great destruction was done to the Church in the year 1009, but in spite of the destruction and the changes, the overall original cruciform (cross-shaped) plan of the church has been preserved.

(This Sunday is the Leave Taking of the Feast, which we celebrated this past Tuesday.)

Announcements

August Charity collection is for the Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry in honor of St. Silas.

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

All Saints Orthodox Church in Olyphant is accepting donations towards their dome repair project. They will be repainting the domes in blue and regilding the crosses on top. They will be holding a food festival fundraiser on Friday August the 25th.

Our fall pierogi making and sale is planned for October 5th, 7th and 9th. With the plan to make pierogi on Thursday evening and Saturday morning. Then sell them deep fried on Monday.

Services for the Beheading of St. John the Baptist will be held at All Saints Orthodox Church with Fr. Paul. He has invited us to come and share in the celebration of the feast together. We did likewise for the Nativity of St. John with Fr. Paul coming up the hill in June.

Upcoming Services:

August 26th – Great Vespers – 5pm

August 27th – Divine Liturgy – 930 am.

Contact Information:

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Troparion and Kontakion of the Day

Troparion for the Dormition – Tone 1

In giving birth thou didst preserve thy virginity.
In falling asleep thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos.
Thou wast translated to life, O Mother of Life,//
and by thy prayers thou dost deliver our souls from death.

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 for the Dormition – Tone 2

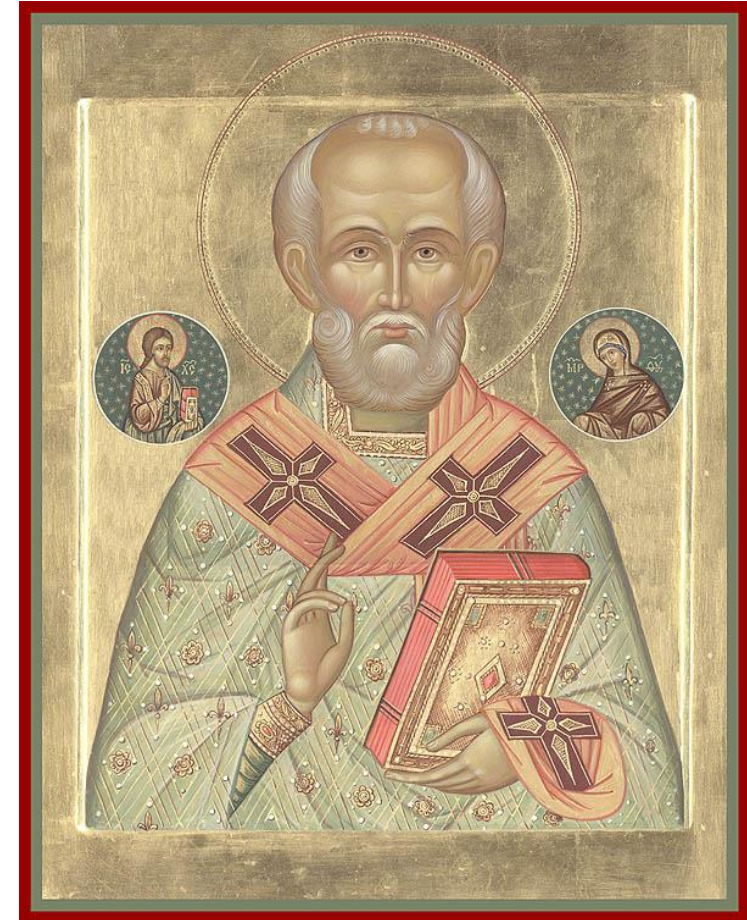
Neither the tomb, nor death, could hold the Theotokos,
who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions.
For being the Mother of Life,//
she was translated to life by the One Who dwelt in her virginal womb.

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.

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