

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Martyr Anastasia the Roman; Venerable Abramius the Recluse

October 29th, 2023

Assigned Readings:

Galatians 2:16-20

Luke 8:26-39

Saints of the Day:

Holy Martyr Anastasia the Roman lived in the mid-third century, and was born to a . Orphaned at the age of three she was raised in one of the earliest monastic enclaves in Europe by the Abbess Sophia. For seventeen years she was raised in strict asceticism and prayer. Growing into adulthood she was known among the Christians for her piety and among the pagans for her beauty. When she was called before the authorities, they first tried to flatter her and offer her a husband of wealth and standing. Then they tried to lure her with the temptations of the aristocratic life and its luxuries. When these failed, they tried to humiliate her stripping her bare before the crowds. She was not deterred from her faith in Christ, and after a horrific series of tortures, she was beheaded. Her remains were gathered by the Abbess and some of her relics reside to this day on Mt. Athos and in St. Petersburg.

Saint Abramius began his difficult exploit of the solitary life in the prime of youth. He left his parents' home and settled in a desolate wilderness place, far from worldly enticements, and he spent his days in unceasing prayer. After the death of his parents, the saint refused his inheritance and requested his relatives to give it away to the poor. By his strict ascetic life, fasting, and love for mankind, Abramius attracted to him many seeking after spiritual enlightenment, prayer and blessing. Soon his faith was put to a serious test, as he was appointed presbyter in one of the pagan villages of Mesopotamia. For three years, and sparing no efforts, the saint toiled over the enlightenment of the pagans. He tore down a pagan temple and built a church. Humbly enduring derision and even beatings from obstinate idol-worshippers. The zealous pastor was granted the happiness to see the culmination of his righteous efforts: the pagans came to believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and Saint Abramius baptized them himself. Having fulfilled his priestly duty, Abramius again withdrew into his wilderness, where he continued to glorify God and do His holy will. The devil, put to shame by the deeds of Saint Abramius, tried to entrap him with proud thoughts. Saint Abramius defeated the Enemy, being strengthened by divine grace. After fifty years of ascetic life, he peacefully fell asleep in the Lord.

Announcements

November Charity will be dedicated to St. Tikhon's Seminary.

Archbishop Mark will be in Olyphant at All Saints on November the 12th. Father Paul has invited us to come and celebrate together with His Eminence.

On December the 2nd the Wilkes-Barre Deanery is hosting an event at All Saints. Divine Liturgy at 9 a.m. followed by a Lenten brunch. Then a discussion and Q&A with Nathan Hoppe, OCMC's longest-serving missionary. The Deanery would like to have a solid number for attendees by November 26th so that proper arrangements can be made.

Fall Piroghi making is scheduled for Nov. 2nd and 4th. 10:30 am for pinching. Please let Matushka Kyra know of any orders before October 29th. (Today)

Parish Council meeting following Divine Liturgy next Sunday.

Upcoming Services:

November 4th – Great Vespers – 5 pm.

November 5th – Divine Liturgy – 9:30 am.

Contact Information:

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Troparion and Kontakion of the Day

Troparion of the Resurrection – Tone 4

When the women disciples of the Lord
learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection,
they cast away the ancestral curse
and elatedly told the apostles: “Death is overthrown!
Christ God is risen, // granting the world great mercy!”

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 of the Resurrection – Tone 4

My Savior and Redeemer
as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains.
He has shattered the gates of hell,
and as Master, // He has risen on the third day!

Kontakion to St. Nicholas – Tone 3

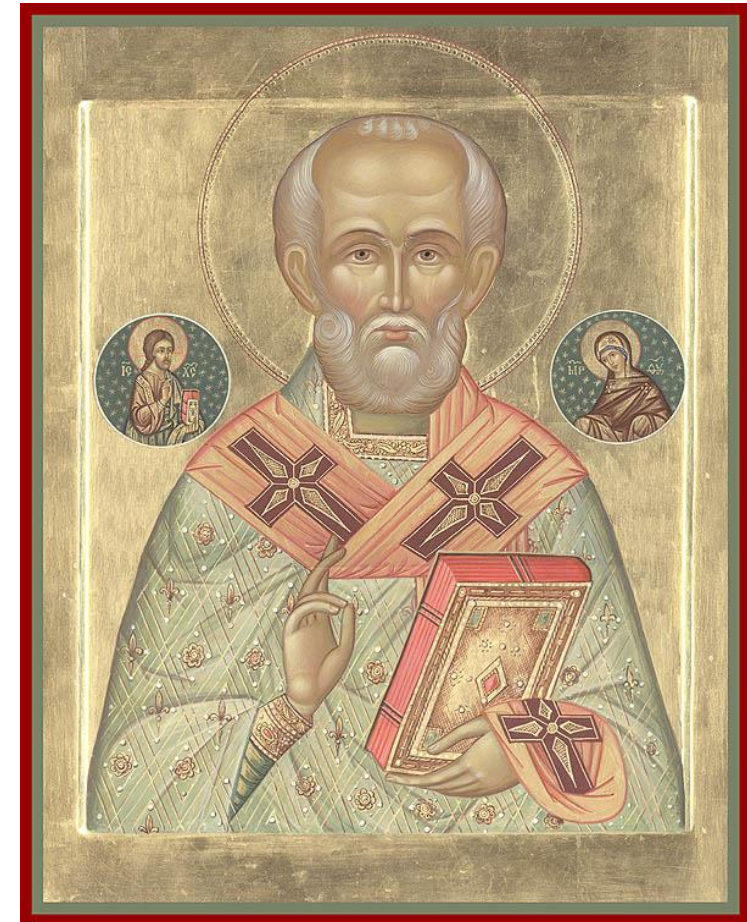
You proved yourself to be a holy priest, O Nicholas;
You served God in Myra and lived the gospel of Christ.
You offered your life for your people;
You rescued the innocent from death.//
Therefore God has glorified you as a trustworthy guide of things divine.

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



St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

OCA Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania
Archbishop Mark – Hierarch

Fr. Nathan Clausson – Acting Rector
Fr. Vladimir Fetcho – Attached
Fr. John Nightingale – Attached
Mark Howanetz – Choir Director
Rick Cesari – Parish President