

**24th Sunday after Pentecost
Prophet Obadiah,
Martyr Barlaam of Caesarea**

November 19th, 2023

Assigned Readings:

Ephesians 2:14-22

Luke 12:16-21

Saints of the Day:

When Ahab's wife, the impious and dissolute Jezebel, hunted down all the prophets of the Lord (because of her quarrel with the Prophet Elias), Obadiah gave them shelter and food. Ahab's successor sent three detachments of soldiers to arrest the holy Prophet Elias. One of these detachments was headed by the holy Prophet Obadiah. Through the prayer of the Prophet Elias, two of the detachments were consumed by heavenly fire, but Obadiah and his detachment were spared by the Lord.

From that moment Obadiah resigned from military service and became a follower of the Prophet Elias. Afterward, he himself received the gift of prophecy. The God-inspired work of the Prophet Obadiah is the fourth of the Books of the Twelve Minor Prophets in the Bible and contains predictions about the future salvation of the Gentiles and that the Savior would come forth from Sion.

The Holy Martyr Barlaam lived in Antioch of Syria. During Diocletian's persecution against Christians, the aged Saint Barlaam was arrested and brought to trial, where he confessed himself a Christian.

The judge, wanting to compel the saint to renounce Christ, ordered that Saint Barlaam be brought to the pagan altar. His right hand was placed over it, and a red-hot censer burning with incense was put into his hand. The torturer thought that a physically weak old man could not endure the pain and would drop it on the altar. In this way he would involuntarily be offering sacrifice to the idol. However, the saint held on to the censer until his hand fell off. After this, the holy Martyr Barlaam surrendered his soul to the Lord.

St. Basil the Great said of the Martyr Barlaam, "He had a hand stronger than fire." While St. John Chrysostom marveled that he was, "a man who was himself the altar of sacrifice, and the sacrifice, and the priest."

Announcements

Correction: November Charity will be dedicated to the breadbasket of NEPA.

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. Please complete the sign up sheet at the candle desk if you are attending so that the deanery has an accurate count.

December 6th is our upcoming patronal feast day. It is a weekday morning, but I encourage everyone to try and come out and celebrate together as a community.

Panikhida for John Evanina is incorporated into the Divine Liturgy this morning in honor of his birthday (11/10). May God grant him rest among the saints and make his memory be to eternal!

Piroghi sale raised a profit of \$4,017. Thank you to all who came and participated.

Upcoming Services:

November 20th – 9th Hour, Great Vespers and Litya – 5 pm.

Eve of: Entrance of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple.

November 25th – Great Vespers – 5pm.

November 26th – Divine Liturgy – 9:30 am.

Contact Information:

Parish Mailing Address
St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
P.O. Box 142
Olyphant PA 18447

Website
Stnicholasolyphant.org

Driving Address
600 E. Lackawanna St
Olyphant PA 18447

Phone number:
570-489-3891

Email:
Frnathan.clausson@gmail.com

Troparion and Kontakion of the Day

Troparion of the Resurrection – Tone 7

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death.

To the thief Thou didst open Paradise.

For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy,

and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God,

to proclaim that Thou art 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 7

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive,

for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers.

Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry:

“The Savior has come to those in faith; //

enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

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

Priest John

Archpriest Michael

Matushka Gloria

Matushka Myra

Thom

Julie

Joan

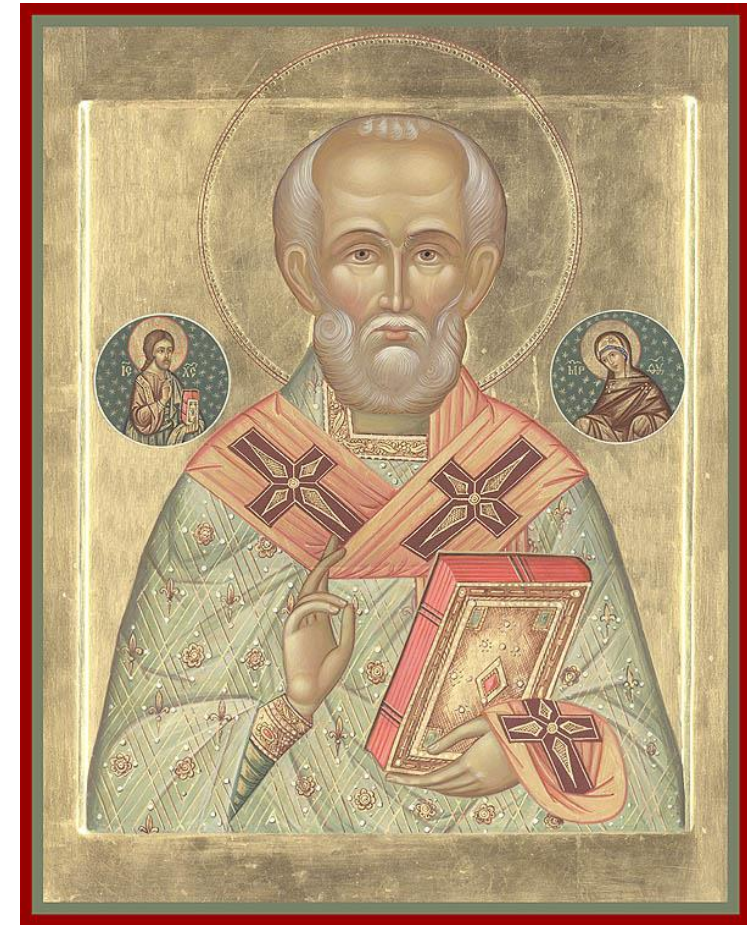
Vera

Marie

James

James

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