

**26th Sunday after Pentecost
Prophet Zephaniah**

December 3rd, 2023

Assigned Readings:

Ephesians 5:9-19

Luke 18:18-27

Saint of the Day:

The Holy Prophet Zephaniah was the ninth of the twelve minor prophets. Born on the mountain of Savarat and of the tribe of Simeon, he lived and prophesied in the seventh century before Christ, in the time of Josiah the pious king of Judah, and was a contemporary of the Prophet Jeremiah. With his great humility, pure mind and constant striving after God, he was found worthy of seeing into the future. He foretold the day of wrath of God and the punishment of Gaza, Ashkalon, Ashdod, Ekron, Ninevah, Jerusalem and Egypt. He looked upon Jerusalem as 'a filthy, polluted and oppressing city ... her princes with in her are like roaring lions; her judges are evening wolves ... her prophets are light and treacherous persons; her priests have polluted the sanctuary, they have done violence to the Law.' Foreseeing the coming of the Messiah, he cried out with rapture: "Sing, O daughter of Sion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all thy heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!" This seer of secrets and mysteries went to his rest in the place where he was born, there to await the general Resurrection and his reward from God.

--adapted: The Prologue from Ochrid

Announcements

Paint and Sip planned for the parish women on December 17th at 1:30pm.

Parish Council Meeting following coffee hour today. Please offer suggestions for the December Charity collection.

Please welcome everyone who comes from one of our neighboring parishes in the Valley for the Patronal Feast and Parish Anniversary.

Upcoming Services:

December 5th – 9th Great Vespers – 5 pm.

December 6th – Divine Liturgy – 9:30 am. Patronal Feast of St. Nicholas

December 9th – No service

December 10th – Divine Liturgy – 930 am.

Contact Information:

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Troparion and Kontakion

Troparion of the Resurrection – Tone 1

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,
while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body,
Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world.
The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life:
“Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ!
Glory to Thy Kingdom! // Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!”

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 1

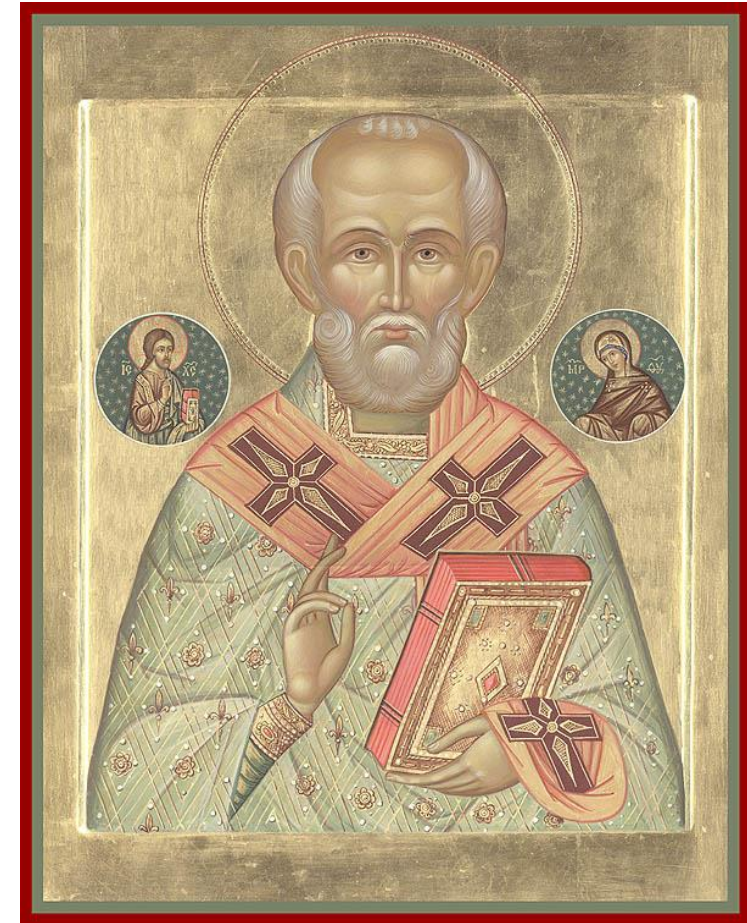
As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory,
raising the world with Thyself.
Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished.
Adam exults, O Master!
Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee://
“Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

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



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