

June 26, 2016

Bulletin

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Orthodox Church in America

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SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2016 1ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 8. St. David of Thessalonica (ca. 540). St. Dionysius, Archbishop of Suzdal' (1385). Translation of the Relics of St. Tikhon of Lukhov (Kostromá— 1569). St. John, Bishop of the Goths in the Crimea (8th c.). Appearance of the TIKHVIN Icon of the Most-holy Theotokos (1388). The "SEDMIYEZERSKAYA" Icon of the Most-holy Theotokos (17th c.).

TROPARIA

(Tone 8) Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! Thou didst accept the three –day burial to free us from our sufferings! O Lord, our Life and Resurrection: glory to Thee!

(Tone 4) As with fine porphyry and royal purple, Thy Church has been adorned with Thy martyrs' bloodshed throughout all the world. She cries to Thee, O Christ God: Send down Thy bounties on Thy people, grant peace to Thy habitation, and great mercy to our souls.

(Tone 4) In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith, a model of meekness, and teacher of abstinence, so you won the heights by humility, and riches by poverty, O Holy Father Nicholas, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

KONTAKION

(Tone 8) The universe offers Thee the God-bearing martyrs as the first-fruits of creation, O Lord and Creator. Through the Theotokos and their prayers establish Thy Church in peace.

The Prokeimenon in the Eighth Tone: Pray and make your vows / before the Lord our God!
v. In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.

THE READING FROM THE EPISTLE OF THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL TO THE HEBREWS (11:33-12:2) *Brethren:* who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy - wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Alleluia, Tone 4

v: The righteous called, and the Lord heard them.

v: Many are the afflictions of the righteous; but the Lord delivers them out of them all.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT MATTHEW (10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30)

At that time, Jesus said to His disciples: “So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.” Then Peter said in reply, “Lo, we have left everything and followed you. What then shall we have?” Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of man shall sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first.”

COMMUNION HYMNS

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Sunday following Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints, both those who are known to us, and those who are known only to God. There have been saints at all times, and they have come from every corner of the earth. They were Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and Righteous, yet all were perfected by the same Holy Spirit.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to rise above our fallen state and to attain sainthood, thereby fulfilling God's directive to “be holy, for I am holy” (Lev. 11:44, 1 Peter 1:16, etc.). Therefore, it is fitting to commemorate All Saints on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

This feast may have originated at an early date, perhaps as a celebration of all martyrs, then it was broadened to include all men and women who had borne witness to Christ by their virtuous lives, even if they did not shed their blood for Him.

St Peter of Damascus, in his “Fourth Stage of Contemplation,” mentions five categories of saints: Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, and Monastic Saints (PHILOKALIA [in English] Vol. 3, p.131). He is actually quoting from the OCTOECHOS, Tone 2 for Saturday Matins, kathisma after the first stichology.

St Nicodemus of the Holy Mountain (July 14) adds the Righteous to St Peter's five categories. The list of St Nicodemus is found in his book THE FOURTEEN EPISTLES OF ST PAUL (Venice, 1819, p. 384) in his discussion of I Corinthians 12:28.

The hymnology for the feast of All Saints also lists six categories: “Rejoice, assembly of the Apostles, Prophets of the Lord, loyal choirs of the Martyrs, divine Hierarchs, Monastic Fathers, and the Righteous...”

Some of the saints are described as Confessors, a category which does not appear in the above lists. Since they are similar in spirit to the martyrs, they are regarded as belonging to the category of Martyrs. They were not put to death as the Martyrs were, but they boldly confessed Christ and came close to being executed for their faith. St Maximus the Confessor (January 21) is such a saint.

The order of these six types of saints seems to be based on their importance to the Church. The Apostles are listed first, because they were the first to spread the Gospel throughout the world.

The Martyrs come next because of their example of courage in professing their faith before the enemies and persecutors of the Church, which encouraged other Christians to remain faithful to Christ even unto death.

Although they come first chronologically, the Prophets are listed after the Apostles and Martyrs. This is because the Old Testament Prophets saw only the shadows of things to come, whereas the Apostles and Martyrs experienced them firsthand. The New Testament also takes precedence over the Old Testament.

The holy Hierarchs comprise the fourth category. They are the leaders of their flocks, teaching them by their word and their example.

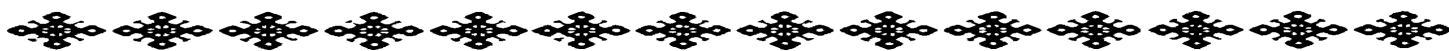
The Monastic Saints are those who withdrew from this world to live in monasteries, or in seclusion. They did not do this out of hatred for the world, but in order to devote themselves to unceasing prayer, and to do battle against the power of the demons. Although some people erroneously believe that monks and nuns are useless and unproductive, St John Climacus had a high regard for them: “Angels are a light for monks, and the monastic life is a light for all men” (LADDER, Step 26:31).

The last category, the Righteous, are those who attained holiness of life while living “in the world.” Examples include Abraham and his wife Sarah, Job, Sts Joachim and Anna, St Joseph the Betrothed, St Juliana of Lazarevo, and others.

The feast of All Saints achieved great prominence in the ninth century, in the reign of the Byzantine Emperor Leo VI the Wise (886-911). His wife, the Holy Empress Theophano (December 16) lived in the world, but was not attached to worldly things. She was a great benefactor to the poor, and was generous to the monasteries. She was a true mother to her subjects, caring for widows and orphans, and consoling the sorrowful.

Even before the death of StTheophano in 893 or 894, her husband started to build a church, intending to dedicate it to Theophano, but she forbade him to do so. It was this emperor who decreed that the Sunday after Pentecost be dedicated to All Saints. Believing that his wife was one of the righteous, he knew that she would also be honored whenever the Feast of All Saints was celebrated.

June 26, 2016



CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

Special Intention	Joe Tome
Happy Birthday & God’s Blessings Eileen Branoff (June, 20) and Dennis Goodman (June, 21)	John & Rose Goodman
Health & Blessings Peter & Jo Sredich	Anna Branoff
Health & God’s Blessings on Father’s Day to all father, grandfathers, Godfathers and Uncles of our parish	St. Catherine’s League
Fr. Joe, Fr. Moses, Fr. Lavrenty, Deacon Anthony, Aaron, Efrem, Jo Ann, Nikolai, Gloria, Laurie, Walt & Zina, Dorothy, Jeanette, Reggie, Ruth, Stojan & Mira, Bosa, Joseph, Helen, Ted & Marlene, Gladys, my family & friends	Joe Tome
Health & Blessings Mary and Paul, Madeline, Heather	Lucy Hogg

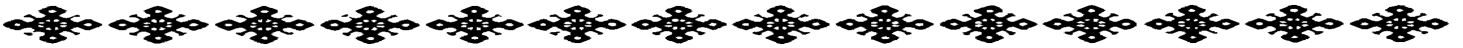
Health & Blessings on Father's Day to Angelo, Michael, Christopher, Thomas,
Carl, Kerry, Paul, Steven & Phillips.....Christine Panoff

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR ALL THOSE IN BLESSED REPOSE

1yr Blessed Repose Jim Brown Angelo & Christine
Simeon Panoff his family
Blessed Repose for all fathers, grandfather, Godfather and uncles of our parish..... St. Catherine's League
Chris, Lazo, Sam, Stavro, John, Michael, Dincho, Michael Christine Panoff
Peter Popoff Alex & Magda Popoff

ETERNAL LIGHT

In memory of Walter Borkovich on his birthday June 21 Allison & sister Mary



Welcome all of our friends and visitors to St. Nicholas! A special welcome to Bishop Alexander, the clergy and laity of our Diocese.

Axios! Fr. Esteban Vázquez on your ordination into the priesthood.

DIOCESAN CONFERENCE & ORDINATION BANQUET we have a limited number of tickets available that will be sold on a first come first served basis.

CHARITY MINISTRIES

HOPE IN A BOX is collecting Laundry Soap for the month of June. Place the items in the Blue Box in the hall. Catholic Charities Community Closet will distribute the items.

FOOD DRIVE Place non-perishable food items in the other blue box in the hall.

NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN We serve this Thursday, July 7 from 9 am to 1 pm.

MEMORY ETERNAL +Vera Brayan, wife of Carl, mother of Jill Sebert and Gregory Brayan, fell asleep in the Lord on Monday, June 20 at home. Viewing and Parastas were held at Swartz Funeral Home. Funeral services were held in church on Wednesday, June 22 followed by interment at Evergreen Cemetery. May God grant his servant +Vera a blessed repose and rest among the saints. Bog da Prosti!

Schedule of services and events for the week of June, 26:

Monday, June 27 Ss. Peter & Paul fast begins

Tuesday, June 28 Father in Toledo

Wednesday, June 29 **Ss. Peter & Paul**
10:00 am Combined Divine Liturgy
1:00 pm Adult Education

Saturday, July 2
10:00 am Divine Liturgy followed by a light luncheon give by Popadia Amanda
5:00 pm Vespers

Sunday, July 3

9:30 am

10:00 am

Third Hour

Divine Liturgy

Monday, July 4

Independence Day

Parish Office Closed

Offerings for the week June 19, 2016

<i>Weekly Offerings</i>	\$1,727.00
<i>Estimated Average Weekly Expenses</i>	\$5,255.62
	-\$

*90 people were in attendance on
Sunday, June 19, 2016*

“If you cannot see Christ in the beggar at the church door, you will not find Him in the chalice.”

St. John Chrysostom

