

ST. NICHOLAS BULLETIN

Sunday, Feb 23rd 2019

Sunday of Meatfare | Tone 3 | Sunday of the Last Judgment

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 | Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Hieromartyr Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna (167)

Today's Pre-Lenten Luncheon follows Liturgy: Adults \$8, Children \$6 (if cost is a barrier, talk to Fr. John privately)

Throughout Lent, all are invited to join a **book group** from **9:00-9:30 before Liturgy**, reading through the **Lenten Homilies of St. John of Kronstadt**.

Also throughout Lent, in a joint fellowship with the sister parish of Holy Resurrection in Belle Vernon, we will be having a book group read through a Lenten book by Fr. Lawrence Farley on Wednesday evenings, following Pre-sanctified Liturgy. Each parish will alternate weeks hosting back and forth, beginning the Second week of Lent (see Calendar).

The **Lenten Schedule** is now available on the Church Website Calendar; printed copies are also available in the back of the Church. Please also see flyers for upcoming retreats and events.

See flyer in the back regarding Sarris Candy Orders.

SERVICES AND EVENTS THIS WEEK:

THURS. 9:00AM Divine Liturgy for the feast of St. Raphael of Brooklyn

SATURDAY: 6:00 P.M Great Vespers followed by reading from the lives of the saints

SUNDAY: Divine Liturgy 10:00 A.M; Book group 9:00-9:30 AM, in Sanctuary

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday March 27th 7:00PM, @ St Nicholas Orthodox Church, Sixth Street Monongahela PA—Visit of the Miraculous Weeping "Kardiotissa" (Tender Heart) Icon of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Vigil Offerings Sun. Feb 2

Mary Behanna—(Virgin Mary Kiot) in memory of parents Andy & Petrina / blessings for a safe trip

Fred & Caroline Ruev—in memory of dearly beloved grandmother Xenia Timoshion, memory eternal

Dimitri & Pauline Petro—for health of Marsha Reidmiller / for health of Mrs Bogan / for health of Tobias Frances / God's blessings for Kay Joseph on her 95th birthday / birthday remembrance of uncle George Levandovich . for health of Ginny Casciani / for health of Kyra, Luke, Noah, Christine, Alexandra, & Fr. Igor

Bill Priatko—God's healing hand be with the afflicted in our parish / God's blessing to newly born Bowen Richard LeBeau / blessed memory eternal to my beloved Katrinka

Debbie & Dan Priatko—birthday remembrance for our beloved Mom (18th) / birthday remembrance of grandmother Katherine Priatko (19th) / in memory of sister-in-law Dottie / for health of all parishioners / health of Aunt Dorothy Dutka / for health of

Fr. Igor / for health of all parishioners / God's blessings upon our parish

Debbie Priatko—God's blessing upon my family

Steve Tomovich—health of sister Michele

Vladimir Kash—in memory of Joshua Fritch

Fr. Igor—in blessed memory of beloved Mat. Irene

Sandy & Dennis Carroll—for our fifteenth wedding anniversary (Feb. 15th) / health of mother, Erma Carroll

Deacon Rodion & Matushka Sandy—health of son Nicholas & daughter Christine // health of Deacon Rodion . blessings to all parish families

Tom & Elaine Backstrom—in memory of Mom & Dad / special intentions / God's healing hand be upon brother-in-law Paul / God's healing hand be upon sister Michele / God's blessings on grandchildren Sydney, Luke, Freddy & Madison

Sandy Klizaz—in memory of Stephen & Helen Drake / in memory of Frank & June Drake / birthday blessings for grandson Kai / in memory of newly departed Roxanne Drake / birthday blessings for Susan Onufer

Jim & Vera Hays—health of our parish / in thanksgiving to the Donora o Club & St. Nicholas Society members / for all the sick and suffering / for health of Fr. Igor

Altar & Analo Candles 2/23/2020

Veschio Family, Gerald & Geraldine Rozik—in beloved memory of Delores Veschio on the anniversary of her repose (Feb. 20th)

"The gospel lesson for [today] is Christ's parable of the Last Judgment...When Christ comes to judge us, what will be the criterion of His judgment? The parable answers: love – not a mere humanitarian concern for abstract justice and the anonymous "poor," but concrete and personal love for the human person, any human person, that God makes me encounter in my life. This distinction is important because today more and more Christians tend to identify Christian love with political, economic, and social concerns...they shift from the unique person and its unique personal destiny, to anonymous entities such as "class," "race," etc. Not that these concerns are wrong. It is obvious that in their respective walks of life, in their responsibilities as citizens, profession men, etc., Christians are called to care, to the best of their possibilities and understanding, for a just, equal, and in general more human society. All this, to be sure, stems from Christianity and may be inspired by Christian love. But Christian love as such is something different, and this difference is to be understood and maintained if the Church is to preserve her unique mission and not become a mere "social agency," which definitely she is not.

Christian love is the "possible impossibility" to see Christ in another man, whoever he is, and whom God, in His eternal and mysterious plan, has decided to introduce into my life, be it only for a few moments, not as an occasion for a "good deed" or an exercise in philanthropy, but as the beginning of an eternal companionship in God Himself. For, indeed, what is love if not that mysterious power which transcends the accidental and the external in the "other" – his physical appearance, social rank, ethnic origin, intellectual capacity – and reaches the soul, the unique and uniquely personal "root" of a human being, truly the part of God in him? If God loves every man it is because HE alone knows the priceless and absolutely unique treasure, the "soul" or