

## ST. NICHOLAS BULLETIN

Sunday, June 14th 2020

All Saints | Tone 8

Epistle: Hebrews 11:33-12:2 |

Gospel: Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30

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Washington County has entered the “Green Phase”; at this time, our directives from the Archbishop remain the same. Please continue to pray for the blessing to resume services in a more normal capacity.

Tomorrow we commence the **Apostles Fast**, until Monday **June 29<sup>th</sup>**. This is one of the four major fasts, during which it is good practice and “good standing” to give confession (Especially as we were not able to do much in the way of confession during the Shutdown). As always, I am available for confession any time during the week if we discuss a time.

### SERVICES AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

**Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm**—Great Vespers

**Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup> 9:30 A.M.**; Divine Liturgy, hours @ 9:10

#### Prayer List June 7<sup>th</sup>

*Mary Behanna*—in memory of parents Andy & Petrina Gernat

*Ginny & David Casciani*—for health of Fr. Igor

*Dimitri & Pauline Petro*—God’s blessings upon Ralph & Ina Prystash on their 65<sup>th</sup> Wedding anniversary / for granddaughter Stephanie on her 16<sup>th</sup> birthday / for birthday of Larissa / for health of Fr. Igor / for health of Christine,

Alexandra, & Nicholas / for health of Kyra, Adam, Luke & Noah

*Sandy Carroll*—health of mother-in-law Erma / in memory of parent Mae & Pete Ruv / safe travel for Pete and Kelly, Happy 10<sup>th</sup> birthday to Pete!

*Michael Horan*—memory eternal to my lovely wife, Rebecca / for health of Fr. Igor / for special intentions

*Tom & Elaine Backstrom*—for special intentions / memory of mom and dad / God’s healing hand be upon sister, Michele / God’s blessings on grandchildren Sydney, Luke, Freddy & Madison / memory of Paul Zolak / For health of Fr. Igor

*Rob & Natalie Montini*—in blessed memory of beloved grandfather Frank Gentile

## Sticheron Verses from Last Night’s Vespers

### Tone 6

The noble martyrs, burning with love of the Lord,  
laughed at the fires and were consumed as burning coals.  
Through Christ, they burned the withered arrogance of  
error.

They stilled the roaring of beasts with the voice of their  
prayers.

Beheaded, they decapitated the demonic hosts.//  
By the shedding of their own blood they watered the  
Church with faith.

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Come, let us praise the heroes of our faith:

Apostles, martyrs, holy priests, and noble women!

They fought for the faith in every part of the earth.

Though born of earth, they were united with the heavenly  
hosts.

Through their sufferings, they triumphed over evil by the  
grace of Christ.

As unfading lights, they illumine our hearts,//  
and with boldness they pray for our souls.

### **Tone 4 Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion**

The mystery of all eternity,  
unknown even by Angels,

through thee, O Theotokos, is revealed to those on earth:

God incarnate by union without confusion.

He voluntarily accepted the Cross for us,  
by which He resurrected the first-created man,//  
saving our souls from death!

### **Get to know the saints, and ask for their help!**

*“Do the saints, whom we call upon, pray for us? They certainly pray for us. If I, a sinful man, a cold-hearted, sometimes wicked and malevolently disposed man, praying for others who have instructed or have not instructed me to pray for them and do not doubt, do not weary of saying their names during prayer, although sometimes not heartily, then will not God’s saints—those lamps and torches, burning in God and before God, full of love to their earthly brethren—prayer for me and for us when we call upon them with faith, hope, and love, according to our strength? They, our speedy helpers, pray also for our souls, as our Divinely-enlightened Mother, the Holy Church, assures us. Pray therefore, undoubtedly to God’s saints, asking their intercession before God on your behalf. They hear you in the Holy Spirit; only pray in the Holy Spirit, from your soul, for when you thus sincerely pray, then the Holy Spirit breathes in you, Who is the Spirit of truth and sincerity, and is our truth and sincerity.”*

*--St. John of Kronstadt*

### **We need God’s grace...**

*“How do we attain to humility and repentance? We have Christ’s commandments before us and we try to put them into practice. We realize, however, that we cannot reach the height of His commandments. Then we realize that we are sinners and we have passions (vices). We begin to repent and weep. Grieving, we seek God’s mercy. The Christian’s life is very simple.”*

*—from “I know a man in Christ”; Saint Sophrony the Hesychast and Theologian*

### **How can we live a holy life in the busy modern world?**

*“Some people living carelessly in the world have asked me (a monastic): ‘We have families and are beset with social cares, and how can we lead the solitary (prayerful) life?’ I replied to them: ‘Do all the good you can. Do not speak evil of anyone. Do not steal from anyone. Do not lie to anyone. Do not be arrogant toward anyone. Do not hate anyone. Do not be absent from the divine services. Be compassionate to the need. Do not offend anyone. Do not wreck another man’s domestic happiness, and be content with what your own family can give you. If you behave in this way, you will not be far from the Kingdom of Heaven.’”*

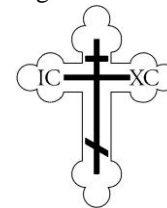
*St John Climacus, “The Ladder of Divine Ascent”*



*“What is repentance? Repentance is a change of one’s way of life; it is discarding all of his evil habits and turning toward God, toward the Truth. Repentance means becoming quiet, peaceful, humble, meek.” —Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica*

## **St. Nicholas Orthodox Church**

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