

## ST. NICHOLAS BULLETIN

Sunday, Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> 2021

31st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 6. Afterfeast of the Theophany.

Sunday after Theophany. St. Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa (4th c.)

Ephesians 4:7-13 | Matthew 4:12-17

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**Blessings to you all** during this festal season of Theophany. Let us all renew our hearts and homes with the joy of the feast and the blessing of waters. Please take Holy water home with you. Also, please sign up in the back of the Church for a house blessing or speak to father directly. Blessings can be done quickly and safely, and are greatly encourage as a way to bring the renewing grace of Christ into the home and forward in the new year. River blessing announcement coming soon.

**The St. Nicholas Society will have an advance order only Super Bowl Hoagie Sale** on Sat., Feb 6<sup>th</sup>. To place an order, call 724-389-6478 or 724-483-8428 by no later than Jan. 29<sup>th</sup>. Please give name, number, and order. Pickups are 11am to noon on Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$8.00 per hoagie. Please wear a mask when picking up order.

**The Wednesday night Inter-parish book study** will resume this week on Wednesday evening, reading “Orthodox Worship: A Living Continuity with the Synagogue, the Temple, and the Early Church.” Newcomers are always welcome.

Our **parish library** is always available to those interested; simply write down the title you’re checking out and the date so Fr. John can keep track of what goes where.

### SERVICES AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

#### Wed. Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>

**6:30pm** – Compline & Akathist of Thanksgiving

**7:00pm** – Zoom book Club (email Fr. John for link, or call to ask for the call-in number if you are participating via phone)

#### Fri. Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>

**6:30pm** – Compline & Reading from the Lives of the Saints

#### Sat. Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>

**4:30pm** – Great vespers, followed by confession

#### Sunday, Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** – On the Incarnation book study

**10am** – Divine Liturgy, hours @ 9:40

### Prayer List Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>

*Mary Behanna* – in memory of parents Andy & Petrina Gernat (Virgin Mary Kiot)

*Janine Shepler* – in memory of sister, Rebecca / for health of friend Margie, health of husband Bill / special intentions / for son Billy & daughter-in-law Dodi

*Mr& Mrs. Terry Rugh* – for health of parents, Ina & Ralph / in memory of parents Evelyn & Oakley / in memory of sister, Pamela

*Mrs. Jackie Rugh* – for health of husband, Terry

*Natalie & Robert Montini* – in memory of newly departed Archie

*Sandy Klizas* – in memory of Stephen & Helen, Frank& June Drake / in memory of Margi Clark / special intentions

*Dimitri & Pauline Petro* – in memory of newly departed Archie Montini / God’s blessings upon Fr. John on his birthday / for safe travel for nephew Joseph / birthday remembrance of uncle Stephen Drake (Jan 7) / in memory of Aunt Helen Drake (Jan 7) / birthday remembrance of Dad, Michael / for health of daughter Natalie / for health of Adam, Kyra, Luke & Noah / for health of Christine and Alexandra / for health of Tom, Shelly & Rachel / for health of Fr. Igor

*Michael Horan* – memory eternal for loving wife, Rebecca / for health of Cindy / for health of daughter, Erika

*Vladimir Kash* – in memory of Father Horosky

*Nick & Christine Milchovich* – in memory of newly departed Archie Montini

### **Special offerings**

**Sun. Jan 10<sup>th</sup>**

-Altar candles offered by Sandra Klizas, in memory of mother Helen Drake

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### *Fear only sin...*

*"Therefore, do not be cast down, I beseech you. For there is only one thing, Olympia, to fear, only one real temptation, and that is sin. This is the refrain that I keep chanting to you ceaselessly. For everything else is ultimately a fable – whether you speak of plots, or enmities, or deceptions, or slanders, or abuses, or accusations, or confiscations, or banishments, or sharpened swords, or high seas, or war engulfing the entire world. Whichever of these you point to, they are transitory and perishable, and they only affect mortal bodies; they cannot in any way injure the watchful soul. This is why, wishing to express the paltriness of both the good and the bad things of this present life, the blessed Paul stated the matter in one phrase, saying, 'For the things that are seen are transient' (2 Cor. 4:18)."*

*From Letter 7, Saint John Chrysostom's Letters to Saint Olympia.*

## The Trinity revealed in the Jordan

*“The baptism of the Lord is called Theophany because therein the one true God, worshipped in Trinity, revealed Himself palpably: God the Father through the voice from heaven, God the Incarnate Son through His Baptism, and God the Holy Spirit through His descent upon the One baptized. Here the mystery of the relationship between the Persons of the Most Holy Trinity is also revealed. God the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and rests in the Son, but does not proceed from the Son. Here also is revealed the fact that the incarnate Divine economy of our salvation is accomplished by God the Son Incarnate, consubstantial with the Holy Spirit and God the Father. And it is revealed that the salvation of each person can be accomplished in no way other than in the Lord Jesus Christ, through the grace of the Holy Spirit, according to the good will of the Father. All the Christian Mysteries shine here with their Divine Light and enlighten the minds and hearts of those who with faith celebrate this great festival. Come, let us mentally hasten on high and immerse ourselves in the contemplation of these mysteries of our salvation, singing, “When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest” – a salvation which establishes us in the Trinity, and saves us in the Trinity.”*

### **Cast your cares upon the Lord, and He will nourish you...**

*“The Lord sees your needs and efforts, and will give you a helping hand. No support can be better than His. The greatest danger lies in the soul thinking it can find this help from within itself; then it will lose everything. Evil will dominate again, eclipsing the light that as yet flickers but weakly in the soul...*

*The soul should realize how powerless it is alone; therefore, expecting nothing of itself, let us fall down in humility before God, recognizing ourself to be nothing. Then grace – which is all-powerful – will, out of this nothingness, create in it everything. He who in total humility puts himself in the hand of the merciful God, attracts the Lord to Himself, and becomes strong in His strength.”*

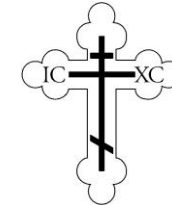
**St. Theophan the Recluse**



*“A soul that is nurtured by hatred toward man cannot be at peace with God, who has said: If you forgive not men their sins, neither shall your father forgive your sins (Matt. 6:15). If a man does not want to be reconciled, you must at least guard yourself from hating, praying with a pure heart for him, and speaking no evil of him.”—St. Maximus the Confessor*

## St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

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