

## ST. NICHOLAS BULLETIN

Sunday, Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> 2021

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE – Tone 4.

Beginning of the Lenten Triodion

2 Timothy 3:10-15; Luke 18:10-14

---

Thank you to everyone who prepared food and helped sing or help in any way for the Archbishop's visit. May God bless us by his prayers.

Today is the start of the Lenten Triodion (service cycle) leading up to the start of the Great Fast. A reminder that this week is a Fast Free week.

Fr. John is still happy to bless homes; schedule a time either on the sign-up in the back or speaking to Fr. John directly.

**The Wednesday night Inter-parish book study** continues on Wednesday evening. Ask father how to join in. 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. Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>

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

**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. Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>

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

#### Sat. Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** – Divine Liturgy @ Holy Resurrection in Belle Vernon for feast of St. Raphael

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

#### Sunday, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>

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

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

**Prayer list Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>:** *Mary Behanna* – in memory of parents Andy & Petrina Gernat (Virgin Mary Kiot)

*Mat. Sandy* – for health of Deacon Rodion

*Gregory Pandrock* – for health of Mother, Minnie Pandrock

*Pauline Aitken* – in memory of departed son Kevin / in memory of departed grandson Nicholas / in memory of husband Lee / for health of sister Bunnie / special intentions

*Sandra Klizas* – in memory of Stephen and Helen Drak . in memory of Frank and June Drake / health of Bill Priatko / birthday blessings for grandson Kai  
*Fred & Caroline Ruev* – in memory of a very dear friend, Philip Kaluponov – memory eternal!

*Dimitri & Pauline Petro* – in memory of newly departed Philip Kaluponov / in memory of Cousin Jimmy Drake / for health of daughter Kyra / for health of Christine and Alexandra, Nick, & Nicholas / for health of Deacon Rodion / for health of Bill Priatko / for health of Shelby & Rachel / for health of Jonah & Catherine / for health of Natalie & Rob / for health of Fr. Igor

*Sandy Carroll* – for health of family / in memory of newly departed Kaluponov  
*Charlotte Durka* – in memory of husband, Tim / memory of parents Alex & William White / health of son Matthew

*Fr. Igor* – in blessed memory of beloved Mat. Irene

*Mark Soroka* – for health of Fr. Igor

*Vlad Kash* – in memory of brother Philip / in memory of newly departed Philip Kaluponov

*Sandy Aitken* – in memory of Father, Lee / health of Mother Pauline / health of Fr. Igor, Fr. Patrick / birthday blessings for nephews Brayden & Aidan / in memory of newly departed Philip Kaluponov

*Nick & Christine Milchovich* – in memory of newly departed Philip Kaluponov / health of sister Kyra

**Altar candles offered by Pauline Aitken in memory of beloved Husband and father, Lee Aitken**

---

### **Concerning Repentance**

*“According to the St. John of Damaskos, repentance is a return from the unnatural to the natural state and from the devil to God through asceticism<sup>1</sup> and toil<sup>2</sup>; moreover it is a*

---

<sup>1</sup> Asceticism: exercise, practice, training. The word can take on a range of different meanings in patristic text. In a broad sense, asceticism is the practice of piety, the devout life, or any spiritual exercise, training, and discipline (e.g. prayer, fasting, almsgiving, bowing, standing in vigil, etc.) carried out by all Christians.

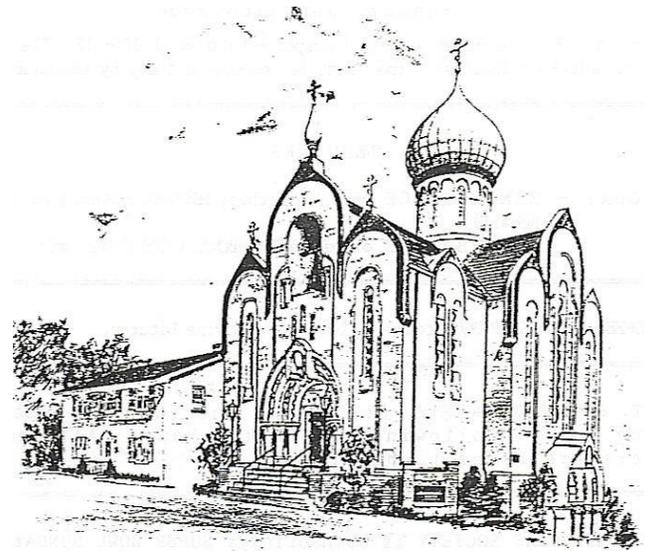
<sup>2</sup> The word in patristic texts refers to the suffering and pain associated with the spiritual struggle against evil, ascetic discipline (e.g. fasting) and mental labor (praying through distracting thoughts) undertaken by both monastics and laymen.

*voluntary return from transgressions toward the opposite virtues. The signs of repentance are remorse and a change of mind, while characteristics of repentance include contrition of the heart, tears, the rejection of sin, and the love for virtue. Repentance must, of necessity, be sincere. It is sincere when accompanied by contrition of the heart, by the disposition to compensate Divine Righteousness, and to confess one's sins.*

*True repentance is a change of mind for one's actions, an alteration of one's ethical life, a change toward the better, complete rejection of one's previous life and sin, steadfast willingness to exercise virtue, complete unification of one's own will with the Divine Will...Therefore, repentance is an ethical rebirth of man and the starting point of a new, virtuous life.*

*A model for true repentance is given to us by the Prophet Isaiah who incites the Jews to repent and return to God. This is what he says: "Wash you, be clean, remove your iniquities from your souls before mine eyes; cease from your iniquities; learn to do well; diligently seek judgment, deliver him that is suffering wrong, plead for the orphan and obtain justice for the widow. And come, let us reason together, saith the Lord: and though your sins be as purple, I will make them white as snow; and though they be as scarlet, I will make them white as wool" (Isa.1:16-18). "*

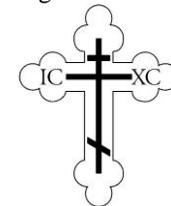
*--from "Repentance and Confession", St. Nektarios of Aegina (+1920)*



***On Sundays and Feast Days, come to church, falling down with reverence before God; be mindful of all the mercies you may ever have received from him. Thank him for them with all your heart, and as a sign of your thankfulness, promise to live as he has commanded you.*—St. Tikhon of Zadonsk**

## **St. Nicholas Orthodox Church**

1 St. Nicholas Drive  
DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA  
Organized 1916



The Reverend Father JOHN PARKER, Pastor  
Rectory Telephone (724) 379-4827  
[frjohndonora@gmail.com](mailto:frjohndonora@gmail.com)

Deacon ROBERT MOTICHAK (Attached)  
Dr. DIMITRI PETRO, Choir Director

[www.stnicholasorthodoxdonora.org](http://www.stnicholasorthodoxdonora.org)  
Facebook / Instagram: @stnicholasdonora