

## ST. NICHOLAS BULLETIN

Sunday, Oct. 18th 2020

19<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost — Tone 2

Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke

Col. 4:5-9,14,18 (St. Luke) | 2 Cor. 11:31-12:9 (Sunday)

Luke 10:16-21(St. Luke) | Luke 8:5-15 (Sunday)

**Baby Jonah's baptism** and Chrismation. will be next Sunday, **Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>**, at **3:30 PM**.

A brief baptism lecture will be given beforehand at 2:30, as a good review of the meaning and purpose of baptism. **At this point, we have family coming making the count close to 30; they will all be grouped fairly close together on one side, so you all are still more than welcome to be here and spread out. However, if you have concerns about being around that many people, I intend to have some sort of recording or stream of the service, if at all possible (I will also try and record the baptism lecture). I am sorry for these inconveniences.**

Under normal circumstances, we would love to host a repast meal for all of you following the baptism and chrismation, whether in the hall, home, or restaurant; however, given the number of people, the limitations of space, those traveling in, etc., we are foregoing that and are simply going to have a small gathering with some family afterwards. I apologize to you all—it hurts my heart!

There will be Divine Liturgy here, Monday morning, the day after the baptism. All are welcome (especially any who may be staying away on Sunday mornings for fear of being around too many people; Liturgy here this past Monday only had 4 people present, so there will likely be plenty of room).

Reminder that making a habit of regular confession (ideally monthly, but at the very least during the 4 annual fasting seasons) and frequent Communion are an expected part of Christian life, as part of the body of Christ. Regularly attending Saturday Vespers also goes a long way in aiding this practice, as preparation and prayerful vigil.

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. Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>**

**6:30pm**—Compline & reading from the Lives of the Saints

**7:00pm**—Zoom book Club (email Fr. John for link; this will be our last reading session for "Walking with Moses," and we will be discussing our new book. Good time to join!)

#### **Fri. Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**6:30 pm**—Compline & reading from the Lives of the Saints

#### **Sat. Oct 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Usual evening service canceled**

#### **Sunday, Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>**

**9:00 am**—Epistle bible study

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

**2:30pm**—Baptismal lecture

**3:30pm**—baptism and Chrismation of infant Jonah

#### **Mon., Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>**

**10 am**—Divine Liturgy here at St. Nicholas

### **Prayer List Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>**

*Sandy Klizas*—in memory of Stephen & Helen Drake / in memory of Frank & June Drake / special intentions

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

*Sandy Aitken*—in memory of dad Lee / health of mother Pauline, Fr. Igor, Fr. Patrick / in memory of newly departed Paul Petro / for health of Ralph Veschio

*Denise Ricci*—in memory of Paul Petro

*Sandy Carroll*—in memory of Paul Petro / health of all parishioners / health of friend Sophia / health of family

*Deacon Rodion & Mat. Sandy*—blessed memory of Paul Petro, memory eternal / health of Deacon Rodion / health of son Nicholas and daughter Christine / blessed memory of parents Harold & Lillian, Joseph & Irene

*Dimitri & Pauline Petro*—in memory of newly departed brother, Paul / for health of Christine & Alexandra / for health of Kyra, Luke & Noah / Safe travel for Rebecca / for health of Rachel / for health of Fr. Igor & Philip / for health of Mat. Nadia & infant son Jonah / for health of Jim & Vera Hays / special intentions

*Vlad Kash*—in memory of Paul Petro

*Mr. & Mrs. Nick Milchovich*—inn memory of uncle, Paul Petro

*Pauline Petro*—in memory of departed son, Kevin, grandson, Nicholas, husband, Lee / special intentions / in memory of newly departed Paul Petro / for health of Fr. Igor

*Mr. & Mrs. Rob Montini & Stephanie*—in memory of our beloved uncle Paul

*Jim & Vera Hays*—For health and recovery of cousin, Lilian Orange Spak / for health of all parishioners / health of Fr. Igor, Phil, and Mark Soroka / Health and Recovery of Gregory Nescott / God's blessings to Father and Mat. Parker and their new son Jonah / Special intentions / For God's helping hand to all of our family and friends

---

"To be humble, it means that you believe, because of your sins, that you are worthy of being treated unfairly, to be humiliated, and to be falsely accused. To be gentle and meek, it means that you endure patiently all injustice and wrongdoings against you. And on top of this to pray for your enemies and everybody who treats you unfairly."

**- St. John of Kronstadt -**

"Do your best to get good thoughts for others. If it is possible, to see everybody as a person with virtues and goodness. Only in ourselves to see defects and bad things. This helps a lot to gain humility."

**- Eldress Theosemni of Chrysopigi -**

A young couple once visited St. Gabriel (Urgebadze). The woman was pregnant. St. Gabriel blessed them and said, "My dears, be aware, a child understands everything, therefore read the word of God to him, so he will grow up properly from the very beginning."

The husband was amazed by what St. Gabriel said and asked, "Yes, but Father, I don't even understand what's said through a half-closed door, so how will a child in the womb understand?" St. Gabriel looked at the woman and addressed the child in his mother's womb: "Hello baby, I ask you — do you hear the word of God?"

He had just finished saying it when the child began to move so much that the mother grabbed her stomach and couldn't hide her emotions. Her husband, amazed and already believing what St. Gabriel had said, looked at his wife, astounded...

## The Saints...

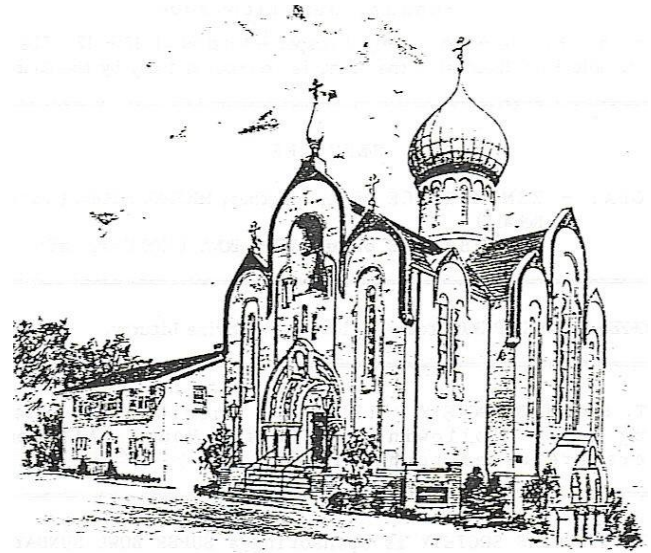
From the examples of the Saints, we see that it is possible to meet God anywhere and at any point in our life. We can glorify Him in our joys and sorrows, in life and in death, and even when we are in the deepest hell.

St. Sophrony would sometimes say to me, "If I had never known the lives of the Saints, I would have fallen into despair many times; but being familiar with them, I was able to bear more." It is important to know the lives of the Saints for they contain descriptions of the various phenomena and stages of the spiritual life. When we come to experience these for ourselves, we recall what we have read in order to be confirmed and reassured on the way of salvation. During times of testing, great consolation can be derived even from indirect knowledge of the spiritual life. This gives us the courage to say, "Lord, let me experience this for myself," which is exactly what God wants. He never forces anything on us, for He is noble and kind, and He wants us to know our freedom. He offers us His words and saving commandments, leaving it up to us to conduct our experiment with Him so that we can verify His truth, that His truth may become the law of our being.

God targets man and visits him from morning until evening and from evening until morning. Continually and from all eternity, God waits patiently at the door of man's heart, and when He finds a tiny opening, namely, a little humility and gratitude, He enters in, and of course, when He does, He makes a feast with Man.

God visits man in a personal way and therefore each life is different. Very often, the smallest opening is enough for God to enter man's heart and make Himself known.... Someone who steals ten times a day might decide one day to steal only nine times and this may be enough for God to enter in and remove him from his sinful ways. God's love is madness indeed, but the madness of God is infinitely wiser than the wisdom of men.

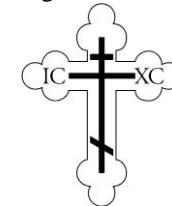
- Fr. Zacharias of Essex: Remember Thy First Love -



*"Love every person, regardless of his sinful state. Sin is sin, but the basis of a human being is one and only—the image of God."—St. John of Shanghai & San Francisco*

## 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