

## ST. NICHOLAS BULLETIN

Sunday, Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> 2020

Martyr Paramon and 370 Martyrs in Bithynia (250)

Ephesians 4:1-6 | Luke 13:10-17

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**Next Sunday** is the feast day of our beloved Patron, St. Nicholas. Please strive to attend services Saturday and Sunday in honor of our patron, so long as you are feeling well. As it stands this year, the council has decided that we will forgo the luncheon following Liturgy this year; there will, however, be a brief cutting of cake downstairs, with gifts for the Children's school and the singing of carols to St. Nicholas. May we especially seek St. Nicholas's prayers during the coming year, that we would continue to grow in faith in the midst of challenges.

The schedule for December services will be released soon. As a member of the Body of Christ in good standing, please schedule a time during this season with Fr. John to give confession and prepare to receive Holy Communion. Confessions can be done virtually, for a time, to accommodate those who are refraining from in person attendance. Fr. John is also willing to have liturgies for the "vulnerable," for those who would not normally attend Sunday during this crisis, or is also willing to bring Holy Communion to you. As always, regular, frequent reception of Communion is encouraged, to strengthen us in virtue and the struggle against the flesh, and to unite ourselves to Christ and His Church. Those receiving weekly should also aim to confess regularly, every 1-3 months or so.

**The Wednesday night Inter-parish book study** via zoom is reading "Orthodox Worship: A Living Continuity with the Synagogue, the Temple, and the Early Church" at 7pm. 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

#### Mon. Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>

**8:30am**—Divine Liturgy for the Apostle Andrew, the First-called, at St. Nicholas Church in Weirton, WV

#### Wed. Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>

**6:30pm**—Compline & Reading from the 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. Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>

**10:00am**—40<sup>th</sup> day Pannikhida for Priscilla Kaluponov

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

#### Sat. Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>

**4:30pm**—Great vespers for the feast of St. Nicholas, followed by confession

#### Sunday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>, Feast of our Patron St. Nicholas

**9:00am**— Epistle bible study

**10am**—Divine Liturgy, hours @ 9:40

### Prayer List Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>

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

*Sandy Klizas*—in memory of Jean Zajac / in memory of Stephen & Helen Drake / in memory of Frank & June Drake / birthday blessings for grandson Jasper

*Pauline Aitken*—in memory of departed Son, Kevin, grandson, Nicholas, and husband, Lee / special intentions / health of son, Bart and daughter-in-law, Tammy

*Nick & Christine Milchovich*—health of Rondell & Stush Konat / in memory of

Priscilla Kaluponov / in memory of uncle Paul Petro / health of sister Kyra Zewe

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

*Dimitri & Pauline Petro*—in memory of newly departed Priscilla Kaluponov / for health of Fr. Igor / for health of Christine & Alexandra / for health of Kyra, Luke, & Noah / for health of Pauline Aitken / for health of brother Dan / for health of Rondell & Stush Konat

*Pauline Petro*—for birthday of husband, Dimitri

*Janice Dorsten & Dan Drahushak*—in memory of parents William and Julia Drahushak

### Altar Candles

Sun. Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> in memory of Paul Petro, offered by Barbara & Bill Bauer

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### Preparing for the Nativity of Christ

"On the feast of the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the temple, "Christ is born" begins to be sung, preparing believers for a worthy meeting of the Feast of Christ's Nativity. Having understood this inspiration, act according to it. Delve deeply into the mystery of the Incarnation of the Only Begotten Son of God; ascend to its beginning in the pre-eternal counsel of God concerning the existence of the world and man within it; see its reflection in the creation of man; joyfully meet the first tidings of it immediately after the fall; rationally trace its gradual revelation in Old Testament prophecies and prefigurations. Understand who prepared to receive God Incarnate and how they prepared, under the influence of Divine institutions and activities within Israel. Pass, if you wish, beyond the borders of God's people and gather there rays of God's light, shining in the darkness, and ponder to what degree those chosen from among all nations reached the presentiment of the extraordinary manifestation of God's providence for man. This will be a mental preparation. But now is the time of the Nativity Fast—prepare yourself, go to Confession, and receive Communion of Christ's Holy Mysteries: this will be an active and living preparation. If as a result of all this, the Lord grants you to sense the power of His coming in the flesh—then, when the Feast

comes, you will celebrate it not out of a joy foreign to you, but out of an intimate joy.” – St. Theophan the Recluse

### **Rejoice in the Lord always...**

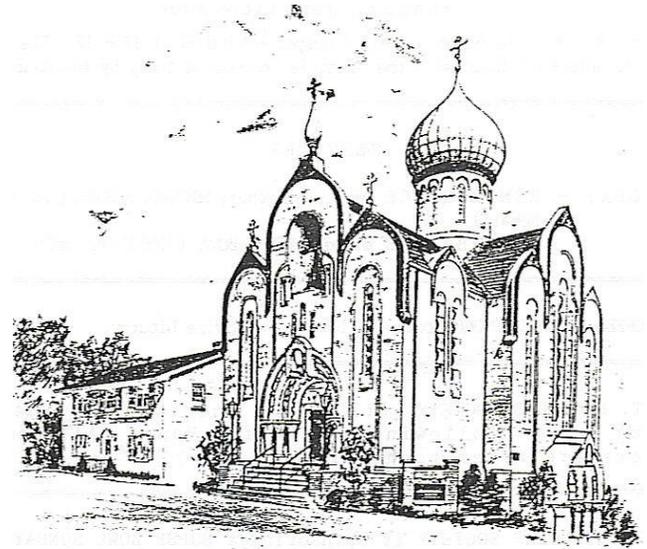
“We often can see only the negative in every event. We have forgotten how to rejoice, but in fact Orthodoxy is a religion of joy, not of sadness and grief! Think of Paschal Week, that is when we see ourselves as fulfilled people, because the joy of the Resurrection overshadows all our sorrows. But why do we so easily lose this state of joy? We constantly complain about something: we don’t like someone’s hairstyle or facial expression, then the weather does not suit us – if it is very hot, the sun is shining, we would like rain. Now that it’s pouring rain – we plead, give us heat and sun. You should understand there are circumstances that we are unable to change, and if the Lord gives them to us, they must be accepted with reverence.” – **Archpriest Pavel Weingold, Dean of Smolensk Cathedral**

“Let all involuntary suffering teach you to remember God, and you will not lack occasion for repentance.” – **St. Mark the Ascetic**

### **How dearly God loves us**

“Take delight in all things that surround us. All things teach us and lead us to God. All things around us are droplets of the love of God – both things animate and inanimate, the plants and the animals, the birds and the mountains, the sea and the sunset and the starry sky. They are little loves through which we attain to the great Love that is Christ. Flowers, for example, have their own grace; they teach us with their fragrance and with their magnificence. They speak to us of the love of God. They scatter their fragrance and their beauty on sinners and on the righteous.”

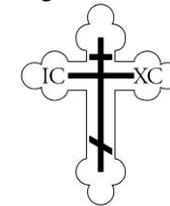
**-St. Porphyrios**



*“Sin is a wound. Repentance is a medicine.”—St. John Chrysostom*

## **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