

## ST. NICHOLAS BULLETIN

Dec. 20th

Sunday before Nativity – Tone 3.

Hieromartyr Ignatius the God-bearer, Bishop of Antioch

Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40 | Matthew 1:1-25

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**Blessings** to you and your families in these final days approaching the Feast of our Lord's nativity! Nativity Newsletter is posted in the back, if you don't have email to receive the digital copy. Keep the Fast!

In addition to the listed services, the Church will be generally "open" all week, for prayer in preparation. Especially for those who have not yet returned to Sunday services, please feel welcome to come in and pray any time this week. Speak to Fr. John if you still need to schedule a confession. After services is ideal.

Several local families in need have benefited from your generosity these past weeks. There are still a few families I know of in need; any other donations, gift cards, or items you would like to donate will go towards these families. God bless you openly for what you do in secret!

Contributions for 2020 are now due; please submit to the candle room. Calendars and contribution envelopes are available downstairs, though I HIGHLY recommend you consider doing some sort of pledge or tithe system instead, as we plan to "phase out" the envelopes in coming years.

There is no Zoom book club this week, but we will recommence soon.

There WILL be Divine Liturgy next Sunday; however, it will be a fill-in priest, as I will be away. Please call my cell phone (719-332-3925) if there are any emergencies, or else contact Fr. Stephan Gresh (937-869-8037) in Belle Vernon for anything immediate.

### SERVICES AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

Tues. Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>

6:30pm – Compline & Canon (or Vespers), followed by confession

Wed. Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>

6:30pm – Compline & Canon (or Vespers), followed by confession

**No Zoom Book Club this Week**

Thurs. Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>

10:00am – Royal Hours, followed by confession

8:00pm- **Compline and Matins for the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ**

Fri. Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>

10:00am – Divine Liturgy, **Feast of the Nativity of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ**

Sat. Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>

**No Vespers Service**

Sun. Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>

**No book study; will recommence following Sunday**

**10am – Divine Liturgy, w/ Fr. Smolcic, hours @ 9:40**

**Prayer List Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>**

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

*Sandy Aitken* – in memory of dad Lee, brother Kevin / for the intercession of St. Nicholas / health for mother Pauline, Fr. Igor, Fr.

Patrick / God's blessings for nephew Ian

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

*Fred & Caroline Ruev* – in memory of departed Fred Ruev Sr, Memory Eternal!

*Natalie & Rob Montini* – for health of parents Archie and Mary Lou / for health of Aunt Teresa and & Aunt Flavia

*Pauline Aitken* – in memory of departed son Kevin, grandson Nicholas, and husband Lee / special intentions / health of son Bart & Daughter-in-law Tammy

*Dimitri & Pauline Petro* – in memory of father, William Drahushak / for health of Ted, Jaceline, Jonah and Catherine / for health of Chrstine and Alexandra / for health of Kyra, Luke, & Noah / for health of Fr. Igor / God's healing hand upon Mary Lour and Arsenio Montini, Teresa & Flavia / for health of Bisson Family / for health of Joyce Champagne

*Tom & Elaine Backstrom* – special intentions / memory of mom & dad / God's blessings on grandchildren Sydney, Luke, Freddy & Madison / God's healing hand be upon sister, Michele / for health of all parishioners

*Vlad Kash* – in memory of newly departed, Mrs Onufer

*Sandy Carroll* – health of family / in memory of departed parents, Mae & Pete Ruev

*Nick & Christine Milchovich* – for health of Montini family / memory of grandfather William Drahushak / memory of uncle Paul / in memory of Priscilla Kaluponov / for health of Sister Kyra, Fr. Igor / special intentions

*Sandy Klizas* – in memory of Stephen, Helen, Frank & June Drake / in memory of George Wallo Jr, sister-in-law Carolyn

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

*Mark Soroka* – for health of father, Fr. Igor

## Hymns from Vespers

### Tone 6 (for the Forefeast)

The never-setting Sun presses forward to rise,  
enlightening all things under heaven.

Let us hasten with clean hands and pure deeds to meet Him;  
let us prepare to be borne on high with Him in spirit!

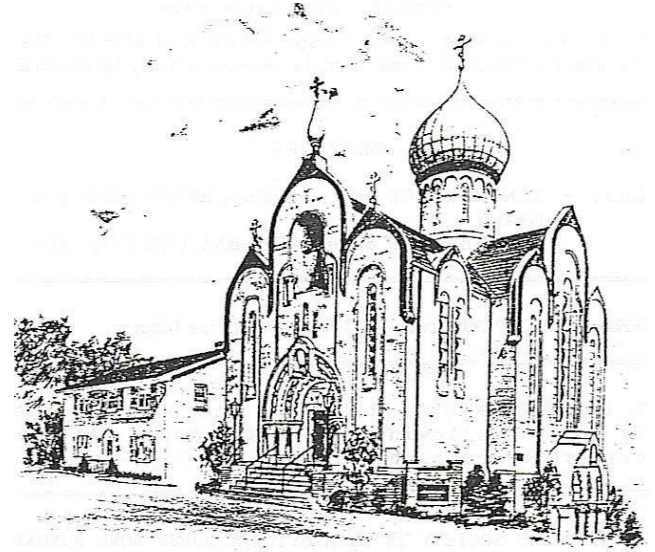
Let us beseech Him in His compassion,  
that, as He comes in His good pleasure to His own strange birth,  
He may lead us, who have become strangers to the path of life in  
Eden, //  
into Bethlehem where He comes to be born!

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(For the Holy Fathers)

Adorned with the glory of divine communion,  
Adam rejoices today,  
as he is the foundation and support of the wise Ancestors.  
With him Abel leaps with joy, and Enoch makes glad;  
Seth dances, and Noah with him;  
the all-praiseworthy Patriarch Abraham sings;  
Melchizedek beholds from afar the birth that is without a father.  
Therefore, as we celebrate the divine memory of the Forefathers  
of Christ, //  
we pray for the salvation of our souls.

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**Tone 4**

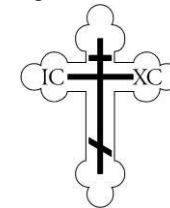
Prepare, O Bethlehem, for Eden has been opened to all!  
Adorn thyself, O Ephratha, for the Tree of Life blossoms forth  
from the  
Virgin in the cave!  
Her womb is a spiritual paradise planted with the Divine Fruit;  
if we eat of it, we shall live forever and not die like Adam. //  
Christ comes to restore the image which He made in the  
beginning.



*“If you give all your life to the earth, the earth will give you a tomb; But if you give your life to heaven, Heaven will give you a throne.”—St. Ephrem the Syrian*

## St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

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