

## ST. NICHOLAS BULLETIN

Dec. 27th

29th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 4.

Third Day of the Feast of the Nativity.

Holy Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen (34).

Sunday after Nativity. Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James the Brother of the Lord.

Acts 6:8-15; 7:1-5, 47-60; Galatians 1:11-19

Matthew 21:33-42; Matthew 2:13-23

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**Blessings to you all** in these days of the joyous feast of the Nativity of Christ! Continue to carry goodwill and joy of the feast in your hearts, and remember that Christmas has not ended, but continues into the new year! Do good to fellow man – forgive, comfort, support those in need, celebrate and sing with joy. God bless you all. .

### SERVICES AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

Wed. Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>

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

7:00pm Zoom Book Club

Thurs. Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>

6:30pm Vespers for the Feast of the Circumcision of the Lord

Fri. Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>

9:00am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Circumcision of the Lord

Sat. Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>

4:30pm Great Vespers, followed by confession

Sun. Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>

9:00am – “On the Incarnation” by St. Athanasius book study

10am – Divine Liturgy, hours @ 9:40

Prayer List Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>

*Mary Behanna* – in memory of parents Andy & Petrina Gernat  
*Sandy Aitken* – in memory of dad Lee, brother Kevin / health for mother Pauline, Fr. Igor, Fr. Patrick / For health of Jim & Vera Hays / health of Bart & Tamara Aitken / God’s blessings upon Fr. John, Mat. Nadia and baby Jonah / God’s blessings for deacon Rodion & Mat. Sandy, health of Uncle Ron & Aunt Bunnie  
*Natalie & Rob Montini* – in memory of newly departed Aunt Teresa Montini  
*Pauline Aitken* – in memory of departed son Kevin, grandson Nicholas, and husband Lee / special intentions / God’s blessings upon all my children / health of granddaughter Amanda / God’s blessings upon Fr. John & Mat. Nadia & Jonah

*Dimitri & Pauline Petro* – God’s blessings for grandson Jonah on his 10<sup>th</sup> birthday / in memory of newly departed Teresa Montini / in memory of sister Evangeline, brother Paul, Norman Champagne, parents William & Julia, parents Micahel & Mary / for health of Christine & Alexandra, Kyra, Luke, & Noah / For health of Fr. Igor / health of Tom & Shelley

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

*Vlad Kash* – in memory of Mary Guzi / in memory of newly departed Bill Evansky Sr.

*Nick & Christine Milchovich* – in memory of Teresa Montini / health of Fr. Igor Soroka / God’s blessing on Baby Jonah’s 1<sup>st</sup> Christmas / God’s blessings on Fr. & Mat. Nadia / health of Godmother Bunnie

*Sandy Klizas* – in memory of Stephen, Helen, Frank & June Drake / health and safety of son-in-law, daughter and all other healthcare workers / in memory of William Drahushak / in memory of Albert Klizas

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

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

**Altar Candles 12/25/20**

Offered by Sandy Carroll in memory of all departed members of the Ruev Family

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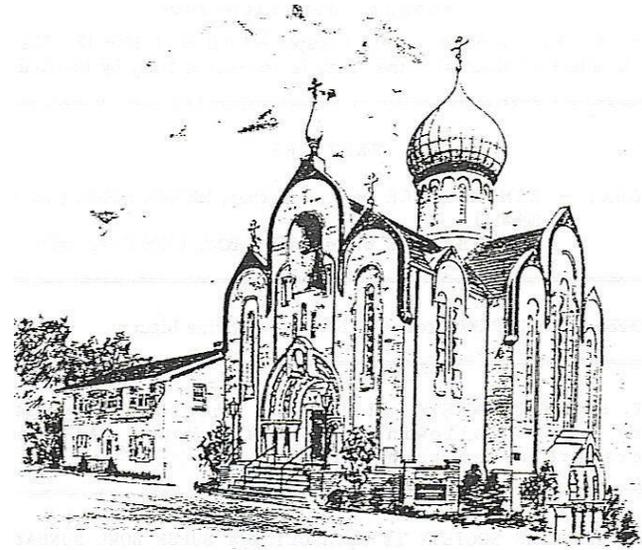
“When God became known to us in the flesh, He neither received the passions of human nature, nor did the Virgin Mary suffer pain, nor was the Holy Spirit diminished in any way, nor was the power of the Most High set aside in any manner, and all this was because all was accomplished by the Holy Spirit. Thus the power of the Most High was not abased, and the child was born with no damage whatsoever to the mother’s virginity.” – St. Gregory of Nyssa

*Now that Christ has been born...*

“It was God’s good pleasure to annul the pretext for the pride which brought down His rational creatures... And how does He do this? The very Word of God from God emptied Himself in an indescribable way, came down from on high to the lowest state of man’s nature, and indissolubly linked it with Himself, and in humbling Himself and becoming poor like us, He raised on high the things below, or rather, He gathered both things into one, mingling humanity with divinity, and by so doing He taught everyone that humility is the road which leads upwards, setting forth today Himself as an example before men and holy angels alike.

Because of this, the angels now possess steadfastness, having learnt in a practical way from the Master that the way to be exalted and to resemble Him is not arrogance but humility. Because of this men are easily set right, as they recognize humility as the road by which they are recalled. Because of this, the prince of evil, who is conceit itself, has been put to shame and overthrown, whereas previously he imagined that he could somehow stand and was something, inasmuch as he had enslaved some, and pulled them down with himself, through their desire for something greater... Now that Christ has been born, the devil is trampled down by those who were previously under his feet, who are no longer presumptuous, as the destroyer advised, but identify with the lowly, as the Savior taught through His deeds, and win heavenly exaltation through humility. That is why God who sits upon the cherubim is set before us as a babe on earth. He upon whom the six-winged seraphim cannot look, being unable to gaze intently not only at His nature but even at the radiance of His glory, and therefore covering their eyes with their wings, having become flesh, appears to our senses and can be seen by bodily eyes. He who defines all things and is limited by none is contained in a small, makeshift manger. He who holds the universe and grasps it in the hollow of His hand, is wrapped in narrow swaddling bands and fastened into ordinary clothes. He who possess the riches of inexhaustible treasures submits Himself voluntarily to such great poverty that He does not even have a place at the inn; and so He enters into a cave at the time of His birth.... He who is by nature Lord of all is now ranked with the servants and enrolled with him, clearly making humble service to others no less honorable than the exercise of lordship, or rather, showing the servants as having greater honor than the earthly ruler at that time, provided of course they understood and obeyed the magnificence of grace.

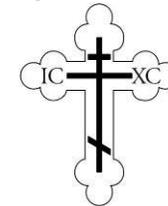
- St. Gregory Palamas



*“It is not that I want merely to be called Christian, but to actually be one. Yes, if I prove to be one, then I can have the name.”—St. Ignatius the Godbearer of Antioch*

## St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

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Organized 1916



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