

SAINT JOHN'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Clergy:

Rev. Father David Mastroberte
Very Rev. Protopresbyter Michael Polanichka
Rev. Deacon John Anderson

A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese – Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople

Bulletin for December 2-15, 2018



Saint Nicholas Day is Thursday, December 6th

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES & EVENTS

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------|---|
| SUN | 12/2/2018 | 27TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; TONE 2 |
| | 9:00 AM | Divine Liturgy <i>Panachida – Perpetual: +Joseph Lukac</i> <i>Election of Officers Meeting</i> |
| TUES | 12/4/2018 | |
| | 8:30 AM | Divine Liturgy <i>Special Intention of Missions</i> |
| THURS | 12/6/2018 | SAINT NICHOLAS (HOLYDAY) |
| | 9:00 AM | Divine Liturgy |
| FRI | 12/7/2018 | |
| | 6:00 PM | Moleben for the Nativity Fast |
| SUN | 12/9/2018 | 28TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; TONE 3 |
| | 9:00 AM | Divine Liturgy <i>St. Nicholas Celebration</i> |
| MON | 12/10/2018 | |
| | 6:00 PM | December Board Meeting |
| TUES | 12/11/2018 | |
| | 8:30 AM | Divine Liturgy <i>Special Intention of Vocations</i> |
| THURS | 12/13/2018 | |
| | 8:30 AM | Divine Liturgy <i>+John & +Irene Lutz, by Robert Lutz</i> |
| FRI | 12/14/2018 | |
| | 6:00 PM | Moleben for the Nativity Fast |
| SAT | 12/15/2018 | |
| | 10 AM-2 PM | Christmas Market |
| SUN | 12/16/2018 | SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FOREFATHERS; TONE 4 |
| | 9:00 AM | Divine Liturgy <i>Panachida: +William Taczak, by Diane Kupensky</i> <i>+Michael & +Mitzi Hnat (Per.)</i> <i>++Polansky Family (Per.)</i> |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

§ **Our Annual St. Nicholas Celebration** (*hosted by our Church School parents*) with a Visit from “St. Nicholas,” will take place on Sunday, December 9th following services.

§ **Pre-K Play Group** will meet on Tuesday, December 18th at 10:00 AM. This ministry is for children who have not yet entered kindergarten and their parents/care-givers. It will include playtime, a story, and a snack.

§ **Local Event: “Gyro Fest”** on Saturday, December 8th from 11 AM to 8 PM at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, 315 West Englewood Avenue, New Castle. Gyros, Greek Pastries, and More!

The Nativity Fast (Advent) continues! Please keep up with your spiritual efforts of fasting, increased prayer, and acts of charity. Come to additional services as you are able. Also, please remember to receive the Sacrament of Confession!

Pre-Christmas Confession Times

During the Nativity Fast, Fr. David will be hearing Confessions at the following times:

- 5:30-5:55 PM before 6:00 PM Evening Services
- 8:15-8:50 AM before Sunday Liturgy
- By Appointment

Please wait in the front pew on the left side of the church. When the door to the side room is open, just walk right into the Confessional. “*Let every heart prepare Him room...*”

Special Services Leading Up To Christmas...

To help us spiritually prepare to celebrate Our Lord’s Birth, we will offer a number of additional services in the weeks leading up to Christmas.

Fridays, December 7, 14, 21: **Moleben (Prayer Service)** for the Nativity Fast at 6:00 PM

Tuesdays, December 4, 11, 18: **Divine Liturgy for Special Intentions** at 8:30 AM

December 4: Missions—For the Spreading of the Faith Both Here and Abroad

December 11: Vocations—For an Increase of Priestly and Monastic Vocations

December 18: Peace—For Peace in Our Country and the Whole World

Christmas Market Announcements

If you are baking at home for the Christmas Market, please let Mary Ann Lavin or Renee Maceyko know what you are baking so they can prepare labels for your baked goods.

We will be raffling off a “**Basket of Cheer**” at the Christmas Market. So far, we have received donations of a few bottles of wine. In addition to this, we are looking for donations of bottles of other alcoholic beverages (vodka, whiskey, rum, scotch, etc.) to diversify the contents of this gift basket. Please see Mary Ann Lavin or Renee Maceyko if you can help!

| Chinese Auction Report | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Revenue Category | 2018 Revenue | 2017 Revenue |
| Kitchen | \$266.00 | \$304.50 |
| Admission Tickets | \$1,055.00 | \$1,005.00 |
| Admission Tickets Sold | 211 | 201 |
| Extra Sheets | \$2,533.00 | \$2,492.00 |
| Main Raffle | \$1,669.00 | \$1,446.00 |
| Basket Raffle | \$1,264.60 | \$858.00 |
| Electronics Raffle | \$800.00 | \$606.00 |
| Lottery Tree | \$664.00 | \$692.00 |
| 50 /50 Raffle | \$373.00 | \$275.50 |
| Donations | \$0.00 | \$53.00 |
| Total Revenue | \$8,624.60 | \$7,732.00 |

Shop at Saint John's!

When doing your Christmas shopping, don't forget to visit our church's **Religious Showcase** (with lots of new items in stock) and the “**Smart Money**” counter in the hall to purchase gift cards for a variety of stores. *These sales help support our parish!*

THOUGHTS ON STEWARDSHIP

By Dan Hromyak

And to love him with all your heart, with all your understanding, with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself, is worth more than all the burnt offerings and sacrifices."- Mark 12:33

Of all the gifts that God gives us the one He wants the most is our heart. He wants us to share out of love, not out of obligation. Using our talent in parish ministry and contributing money to support our parish mission is important, but it's more important to spend time in prayer with God daily and discern how He is calling us to be generous with all of our gifts. Not just the visible ones, but the invisible ones like love, mercy and forgiveness.

I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the contributors to the treasury. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of poverty has put in everything she had her whole living."- Mark 12:43-44

Jesus gets right to the point - we are all called to give money to support the mission of the Church, regardless of our circumstance. No gift is too small or insignificant! Giving money to support the mission of our local parish is a matter of our faith, just like praying and participating in parish ministries. When you make a financial offering, is it from your "first fruits" or from what is "left over"?

Sacramental and Membership Information

Sick Calls can be made at any time. Please phone the rectory (724-346-4457) when a family member is admitted to the hospital, or to request a home visit.

Marriages are solemnized on Saturdays or Sundays. Circumstances may require a dispensation from the diocesan bishop. Consult the pastor at least six months in advance and before any plans have been made for the wedding reception. Marriages cannot be celebrated during the fasting seasons of the church, or on Fridays.

Baptisms are usually scheduled on Saturdays or Sundays. Consult the pastor. Two godparents (godfather and godmother) are required, at least one of whom must be a practicing Orthodox Christian in good standing, and the other a practicing, baptized Christian.

Church Funerals are, under ordinary circumstances, provided for practicing Orthodox Christians who are current in their spiritual and material obligations to the parish; otherwise, the funeral service is conducted at the funeral home. The Church does not permit cremation.

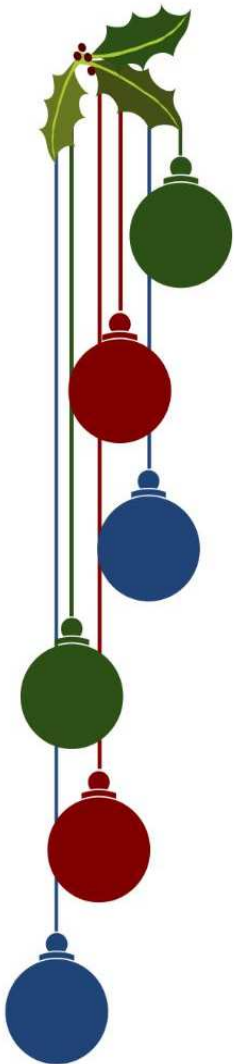
Parishioners in "good standing" are those Orthodox Christians who, as members of Saint John's Orthodox Church, strive to live according to the teachings of the Orthodox Church; participate in the life of the parish through regular church attendance, regular reception of Holy Communion and periodic Holy Confession (and receive these sacraments no less than once a year); and financially support the parish (especially through an annual "pledge"). **Prospective members and returning members** are asked to fill out an application form, copies of which are available in the church office.

Join Us for our Second Annual

CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday, December 15, 2018

10:00 am to 2:00 PM



- ◆ **Homemade Cookies, Nut Roll & Other Baked Goods**
- ◆ **Pirohi & Halushki** Packaged "To Go"
- ◆ **Holiday & Decorator Items**
- ◆ **Religious Items** Icons, Crosses, Jewelry
- ◆ **European Folk Crafts** Nesting Dolls, Ornaments, Seasonal Gifts
- ◆ **Gift Wrapping Station** **FREE** gift wrapping for items purchased at our event
Bring your own gifts and we will wrap them for a donation
- ◆ **And More...** Visit our **Church**, decorated for the Christmas Season
Snap a Selfie with "Saint Nicholas"!



November 2018 Calendar Winners

| | | |
|------------------|-----|--------------------------------|
| 1st | 090 | not sold |
| 2 nd | 265 | Melinda Ristvey, Hermitage |
| 3 rd | 882 | not sold |
| 4 th | 493 | Sunday |
| 5 th | 643 | Lorraine A. Amos, Hermitage |
| 6 th | 309 | not sold |
| 7 th | 581 | Debbie Cross, Sharon |
| 8 th | 146 | Helen Mirkovich, Farrell |
| 9 th | 547 | Helen Lucas, New Castle |
| 10 th | 755 | not sold |
| 11 th | 765 | Sunday |
| 12 th | 698 | Kathy Yonchak, Masury |
| 13 th | 589 | Jerry Chupak, W. Middlesex |
| 14 th | 020 | not sold |
| 15 th | 533 | Karen Bich, Brookfield |
| 16 th | 430 | not sold |
| 17 th | 909 | Debbie Songer, Hermitage |
| 18 th | 632 | Sunday |
| 19 th | 465 | not sold |
| 20 th | 480 | Terri Brown, S. Plainfield, NJ |
| 21 st | 415 | Karsten Baker, Hermitage |
| 22 nd | 424 | Karen Hynes, Masury (\$100) |
| 23 rd | 083 | not sold |
| 24 th | 131 | Cynthia Saluga, Hermitage |
| 25 th | 406 | Sunday |
| 26 th | 754 | Jarad Baldwin, Floral City, FL |
| 27 th | 880 | Robert A. Amos, Hermitage |
| 28 th | 817 | not sold |
| 29 th | 419 | Christine Frejik, Winston, GA |
| 30 th | 040 | not sold |

Coffee Hour Sponsor

Sunday December 2nd

Billie & Andy Lutz in honor of their
62nd Wedding Anniversary

Election of Church Officers
Sunday, December 2nd

St. Nicholas Celebration
Sunday December 9th

Eternal Lamp Sponsors

Sunday December 9th

In loving memory of

William Taczak Sr.

Sponsored by: Diane & Kyle Kupensky



Board Meeting
6:00 PM Monday, December 10th

MEN TO HOLD CANDLES

Sunday, December 9th

Gary Yonchak
Bob Amos
Bob Andras
Jason Baker
Robert Banas

Sunday, December 16th

Dennis Burprich
John Cataloni
Jerry Chupak
Daniel Corridori
Ed Fabian



Congratulations to
Billie & Andy Lutz who
are celebrating their
62nd
Wedding Anniversary



BIRTHDAYS

December 2nd Chuck Kretchek
December 9th Debbie Anderson
December 9th Shannon
Slovesko

2nd Annual
Christmas Market
Saturday,
December 15
10:00 AM / 2:00 PM

