

BULLETIN FOR NOVEMBER 26-DECEMBER 9, 2023

— *Information About Confession Times on Next Page* —

*SUN 11/26/2023 9:00 AM 25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — TONE 8
Divine Liturgy

Perpetual Commemorations for November 26-December 2:

*JAEGER, Joseph
KUDELKO, Anne
LUKAC, Joseph*

WED 11/29/2023 6:00 PM Prayer Service (Moleben) for the Nativity Fast

THURS 11/30/2023 9:00 AM ST. ANDREW THE “FIRST-CALLED” APOSTLE
Divine Liturgy (CHAPEL)
With Weekly Perpetual Commemorations

*SUN 12/3/2023 9:00 AM 26TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — TONE 1
Divine Liturgy
*Election of Officers Meeting
Decorating Church for the Christmas Season*

Perpetual Commemorations for December 3-9:

*HNAT, Michael & Mitzi
POLANSKY Family*

TUES 12/5/2023 9:00 AM Memorial Service for Weekly Perpetual Commemorations (CHAPEL)

WED 12/6/2023 9:00 AM ST. NICHOLAS THE WONDER-WORKER (HOLYDAY)
Divine Liturgy
Special Intention: All Parish Youth and College Students

FRI 12/8/2023 6:00 PM EVE OF THE CONCEPTION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD BY ST. ANNA
Vespers

SAT 12/9/2023 9:00-1:00 Christmas Market

*SUN 12/10/2023 9:00 AM 27TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — TONE 2
Divine Liturgy
St. Nicholas Celebration with Visit from “St. Nicholas”

The Nativity Fast (Advent) Continues!

As we draw ever closer to our celebration of the Nativity, let us all focus more deliberately on our spiritual preparation for Christmas:

- **Fast with a joyful heart.** Accept the challenge. Aside from observing the regular weekly fast days of Wednesday and Friday, strive to abstain from meat on additional days, as you are able. (*Christmas Eve is a strict fast day – no meat or dairy.*)
- **Pray every day.** Dust off your prayer book. Crack open your Bible. Make sure you are offering the “**Nativity Fast Prayer Challenge**” from Metropolitan Gregory every evening.
- **Attend additional services.** We have a number of weekday services scheduled.
- **Go to Confession.** Confession is available before all upcoming Sunday and weekday Liturgies starting at 8:20 AM and before evening services starting at 5:20 PM. Remember: if the door to the “confessional” room is open and the light is on DON’T SIT IN THE FRONT PEW AND WAIT – WALK RIGHT IN. (Fr. David has done it this way for 10 years now – let’s try to remember.) If the door is SHUT, then sit in the front pew. Confessions end 10 minutes before service time. *“Let every heart prepare Him room!”*
 - **Don’t wait until the last minute to go to Confession!** To ensure this, Confessions will NOT be heard on Christmas Eve – Sunday, December 24. Plan accordingly!

◆ **Remember: there is no Christmas without CHRIST**

In Memoriam

Our condolences are extended to brother Tom Doyle, aunts Helen and Mary, and all family and friends at the passing of +JOHN DOYLE on November 15. Blessed Repose and Eternal Memory! Vičnaja Pamjat!





ST. NICHOLAS VISIT

Sunday, December 10th

Join Us For Our Annual St. Nicholas Celebration!

December 6th is the holyday of St. Nicholas, a beloved saint known for his faith and generosity. "St. Nicholas" will be making his annual visit to our church on **Sunday, December 10th**.

We will have a potluck meal following Liturgy. All are welcome! If you want to bring a dish to share, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the hall.

Parents, please let Fr. David know by December 3rd if your child will be in attendance, so we can prepare accordingly!

STEWARDSHIP

From Dan Hromyak

"...whatever you did for one of the least of my brothers, you did for me." - Matthew 25:40

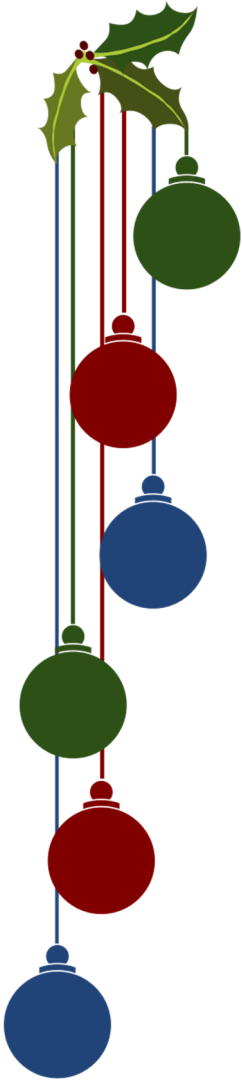
Most of u are generous when it's convenient for us. We are generous when we have the time or the money. But real generosity is the opposite of that. It means giving of one's time, money, compassion, forgiveness or mercy when it's not convenient to us, when it's not on our schedule, but on the other person's timeline.

"Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." - Mark 13:33

We all take things for granted. In particular, we take time for granted. We make our lives too busy. We plan our days, weeks, months, even years in advance. Remember our time on earth is a gift. None of us knows how long we will be here. Start today and begin thanking God for each and every day. Take time in silence, every day, and listen to how God is calling you right now to help build His kingdom on earth.

Join Us for our Sixth

CHRISTMAS MARKET



Saturday, December 9, 2023

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

BAKED GOODS & FOOD

- ◆ Homemade Cookies
- ◆ Nut Roll
- ◆ Other Baked Goods

SHOPPING

- ◆ Holiday & Decorator Items
- ◆ Religious Items Icons, Crosses, Jewelry
- ◆ European Folk Crafts Nesting Dolls, Ornaments, Seasonal Gifts

If you would like to bake or volunteer for this event, please speak with Mary Ann Lavin and Renee Maceyko.

2023 Chinese Auction: THANK YOU!

The financial report is on the **next page**. *What a great success! Glory to God!*

We are very grateful to Renee Maceyko and Mary Ann Lavin for their efforts at organizing the Auction. We thank Lorraine Amos for working the kitchen, Steve Saluga for the office/financial aspects, and ALL of our members who assisted before, during and after the Auction. We also thank all those who gave donations, prizes, and desserts. **GOD BLESS YOU!**

ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS MEETING NOTICE

Our Annual Election of Officers Meeting will take place on **Sunday, December 3, 2023** following Divine Liturgy. All members in good standing who are current on their spiritual and material commitments to the parish (*including the reception of Holy Communion and Holy Confession*) are asked to attend.

In addition to the election of the 2024 board members, we will be voting on the following two **amendments to the church by-laws**: one to update the location of our church from Sharon to Hermitage, and the other to set parameters around the use of online bill payments. Please familiarize yourself with these by-laws revisions as listed below:

“ARTICLE 1, SECTION 1.- is stricken in part while the remainder of said paragraph shall remain in full force and effect and the following substitution made:

The name of this corporation shall be Saint John Orthodox Church of Hermitage, Pennsylvania, and all references in the present-day By-Laws referring to Sharon, Pennsylvania are hereby deleted and reinstated as 3180 Morefield Road, Hermitage, Pennsylvania 16148.

ARTICLE V, SECTION 3 d.- is stricken in part while the remainder of said paragraph shall remain in full force and effect and the following substitute made:

“All bills shall be paid by checks, signed by the President, Financial Secretary, and Treasurer” is hereby amended to “The Church Board, on a case-by-case basis, can direct and authorize the Treasurer to make arrangements with utility companies or any other monthly financial obligations, to use the new banking process of Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), which voids the necessity to sign physical checks to a utility or any other approved monthly bill each month.”

In all other respects and aspects, BY-LAWS OF SAINT JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH shall remain in full force and effect.”

2023 Chinese Auction Report

<u>Revenue Category</u>	<u>2023 Revenue</u>	<u>2022 Revenue</u>	Revenue 2023 Higher <u>(2023 Lower)</u>	Admission Tickets Sold 2023 Higher <u>(2023 Lower)</u>
Kitchen	\$261.50	\$255.00	\$6.50	
Admission Tickets	\$1,025.00	\$835.00	\$190.00	
Admission Tickets Sold	205	167		38
Extra Sheets	\$3,037.00	\$2,462.00	\$575.00	
Main Raffle	\$2,140.00	\$1,406.00	\$734.00	
Basket Raffle	\$1,349.00	\$1,104.00	\$245.00	
Electronics Raffle	\$795.00	\$871.00	(\$76.00)	
Lottery Tree	\$843.00	\$730.00	\$113.00	
50 /50 Raffle	\$428.00	\$255.00	\$173.00	
Donations	\$2,845.00	\$2,810.00	\$35.00	
Total Chinese Auction Revenue	\$12,723.50	\$10,728.00	\$1,995.50	

Respectfully Submitted
 Stephen J Saluga Jr.
 November 22,2023

Become a Distinguished Diocesan Donor

The **Distinguished Diocesan Donors** Program was begun in the early 1970s by the late +Bishop John R. Martin. Some fifty years later, the DDD Program continues to be a critical source of revenue that is extremely helpful in the successful operation of our beautiful Camp Nazareth.

His Eminence, Metropolitan Gregory, the Diocesan Consistory and the Diocesan Board of Trustees take this opportunity to urge you to contribute to this outstanding Program. All gifts of \$100 or more are acknowledged. DDD Gifts may be sent to the Diocesan Chancery, 312 Garfield St., Johnstown, PA 15906 by using the giving form published in "The Church Messenger".

Thank you in advance for your support!

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS...

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT ON #GIVINGTUESDAY



Thanks to a generous donor, OCMC will match all gifts, \$1-for-\$1 dollar, up to \$15,000.

From now until Nov. 28, double your gift today! All proceeds will help give OCMC's global partners a **STEP** forward in their good works and impactful initiatives, through projects that are **Self-Sustaining**, and emphasizing **Theological education**, promote **Evangelism**, and are **Philanthropic**. [Go to OCMC.org for more information.](http://OCMC.org)