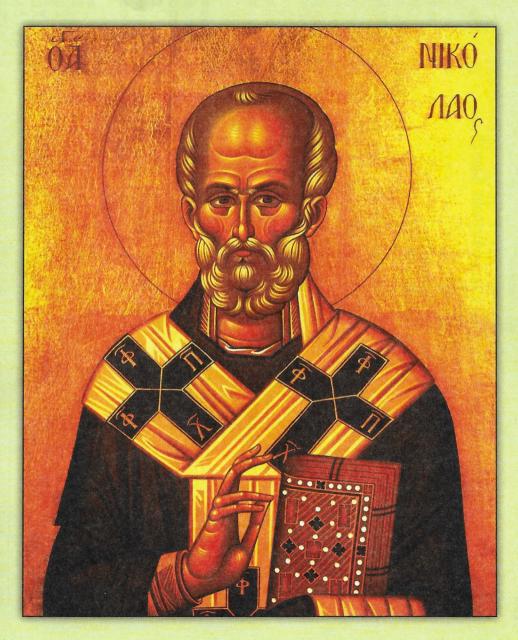
TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of Saint Nicholas -- December 6th

The Legendary Saint Nicholas

The absence of the "hard facts" of history is not necessarily an obstacle to the popularity of saints, as the devotion to St. Nicholas shows. Both the Eastern and Western Churches honor him, and it is claimed that, after the Theotokos, he is the saint most pictured by Christian artists. And yet, historically, we can pinpoint only the fact that Nicholas was the fourth-century bishop of Myra, a city in Lycia, a province of Asia Minor.

As with many of the saints, however, we are able to capture the relationship which Nicholas had with God through the admiration which Christians have had for him – an admiration expressed in the colorful stories which have been told and retold through the centuries.

Perhaps the best-known story about Nicholas concerns his charity toward a poor man who was

unable to provide dowries for his three daughters of marriageable age. Rather than see them forced into prostitution, Nicholas secretly tossed a bag of gold through the poor man's window on three separate occasions, thus enabling the daughters to be married. Over the centuries, this particular legend evolved into the custom of gift-giving on the saint's feast. In the English-speaking countries, St. Nicholas became, by a twist of the tongue, Santa Claus – further expanding the example of generosity portrayed by this holy bishop.

The critical eye of modern history makes us take a deeper look at the legends surrounding St. Nicholas. But perhaps we can utilize the lesson taught by his legendary charity, look deeper at our approach to material goods in the Christmas season and seek ways to extend our sharing to those in real need.

Saints Peter & Paul Frainian Catholic Church

Hurst Street at Union Avenue Pose office Box 126 Bridgeport, Pennsylvania 19405

Glory to Jesus Christ! Www.sspeterpaulukrchurch.us Slava Isusu Khristoo!

Dec. 4-5, 2021 St. Nicholas

THIS WEEKEND we plan to livestream the Holy Liturgy on Saturday, Dec. 4, 6 pm. Spread the word and be an Apostle of Christ by informing one and all about this great opportunity to hear the Word of God and join in our prayers and praises at the Holy Liturgy. Next weekend, we plan to livestream once again our Divine Liturgy on Sunday at 9 am as our public service to the entire Eastcoast of the USA on YOUTUBE.

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL is still growing as we wind down the fall semester and head to the Christmas break. This program had classes for all ages, from PreSchool, First Communion, Elementary and Highschool. To enroll a child, simply beam up the parish website (above), fill out the school registration form, then we will contact you and direct you to the proper classroom on Google-Meet!. It's all free, all for you!

THIS WEEKEND we celebrate the Feast of St. Nicholas (Dec. 6), a Patron Saint of our Ukrainian Church. The Saint was a Bishop of Myra in Asia Minor (today's Turkey) and was known for his love and generosity for all the people of that region. He became so well-known worldwide, that began celebrating him as "Santa Claus" in the Middleages.

WE ARE NOW IN THE SEASON OF St. Philip's Fast, the 40-day period of preparation for Christmas. The Church reminds us to mark this holy season by abstaining from all meat on Fridays, as well as both meat and dairy on Christmas Eve.

PLEASE REMEMBER TODAY IN YOUR PRAYERS this weekend our dear sickly and struggling folks: Jerry Brady, Sophie Smoczylo, Luba Jackson, Tommy Newmaster, Tracy Barrett Porter and Maureen McQuade. Perhaps a prayer, a card, a kind thought...?

WELAKE MEAKING OUK GOAL OF RAISING TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS TO INSTALL a new roof on our rectory this winter, thanks to the generosity of our dear faithful. God bless all of you for your goodness and love for this purpose. Another current project this winter is to take down the old and now dangerous White Walnut Tree next to the recory. Thanks to the Strouse Family for taking care of this effort.

DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, Dec. 4, 6 pm

Luba Jackson in Thanksqiving

Sunday, Dec. 5, 9 am

Saturday, Dec. 11, 6 pm

+Walter, Antoinette (Lois, Debbie)

+John, Betty Smisko (Barrett Fam) +Dottie Saboe (Plisiewicz Fam.) +Alex Tryciecky (Mother Vera)

Sunday, Dec. 12, 9 am

ST. NICHOLAS TROPAR: O St. Nicholas, you attained great riches in Heaven by your love and generosity on this earth. You were the bearer of gifts in your parish as a bishop just as Christ the High Priest brought gifts to His Flock on earth.

St. Nicholas, pray to God for us all, that we may obtain heavenly riches. GLORY TO THE FATHER AND THE SON AND

ST. NICHOLAS KONTAK: O St. Nicholas, You were a Bishop in Myra where You preached the gospel of Christ

You lived this Gospel by your love for your flock, even as Christ taches us all in His words and deeds, glory be to you, amen.

ST. NICHOLAS PROKIMEN: Their preaching went forth through all the earth, their deeds throughout all the world.

JE. Londe