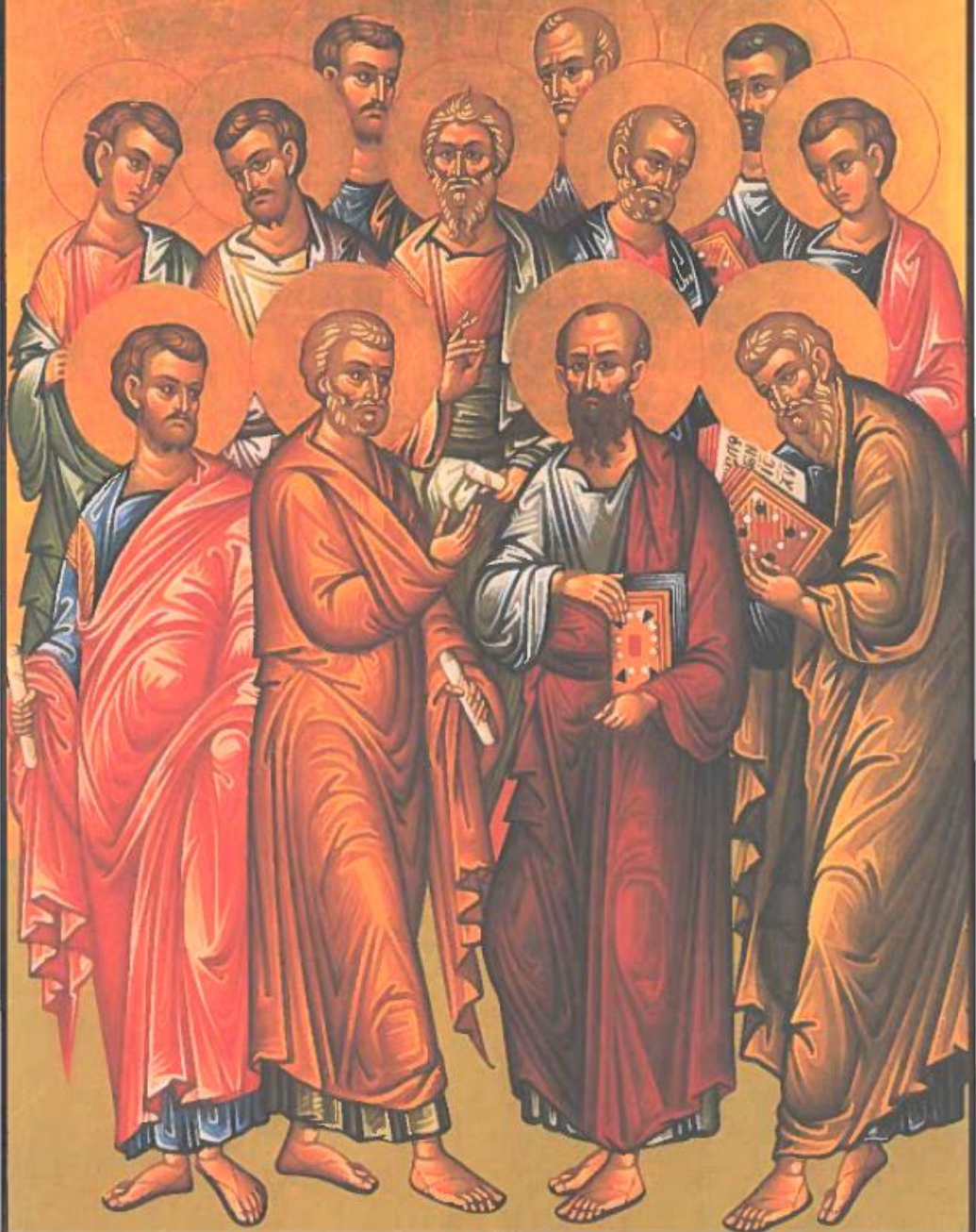
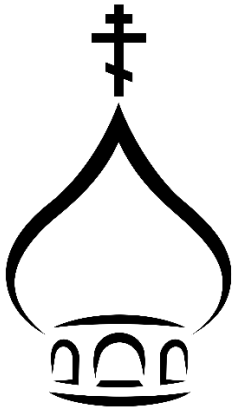


ΟΙ ΑΓΙΟΙ

ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΙ





SAINT NICHOLAS RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Reverend Matthew Joyner, Rector

Cell: 570-468-2261

Email: nkyorthodox@gmail.com

Very Reverend James Mason, Attached

Deacon Geoffrey LoBalbo

Mr. Bryan Distefano, Parish Council President

Reader Nicholas Lezinsky, Choir Director

Jennifer Bzik, Administrative Assistant

Email: assistant4stnicholas@outlook.com

Note to our Guests and Friends Visiting St. Nicholas:

We offer a most sincere and heart-felt welcome to St. Nicholas Church! Please be advised that according to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves to receive the Holy Sacrament.

(Please note - Information to be included in next week's bulletin must be submitted by noon on Thursday. Thank you! ~ Jennifer N. Bzik)

980 Bridle Path Road | Bethlehem, PA 18017-3120 | T: 610-867-0402
stnicholasoca.org

Schedule for the Week of March 8, 2020

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 5. Sunday of Orthodoxy. St. Theophylactus, Bishop of Nicomedia (842-845). Ven. Lazarus (1391) and Athanasius (15th c.), of Múrom. Apostle Hermas of the Seventy (1st c.). Hieromartyr Theodoretus of Antioch (4th c.). Ven. Dometius (363). The “KURSK-ROOT” Icon of the Most-holy Theotokos.

Coffee Hour Hosted By: G. Holobeny and J. Lezinsky

Father Matthew’s Office Hours This Week

Wednesday 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Thursday 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Weekly Calendar

Pierogi:

Monday 6:30 am – 11:00 am

Tuesday 6:30 am – 9:00 am

Wednesday 6:30 am – 11:30 am

Tuesday, March 10, 2020----- 7:00 pm Communication Group Meeting

Wednesday, March 11, 2020--- 6:00 pm Presanctified Liturgy

Friday, March 13, 2020----- 7:00 pm Akathist

Saturday, March 14, 2020----- 9:00 am Memorial Saturday Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm – Confessions

6:00 pm – Vespers

Sunday, March 15, 2020----- 2nd Sunday of Lent – St. Gregory of Palamas

9:10 am - Hours

9:30 am Divine Liturgy (Church School after Communion)

4:00 pm St. Gregory Palamas Pan-Orthodox Lenten Vespers at St. Philip (Antiochian) Orthodox Church, Souderton

Upcoming Events and Services

- Monday, March 16, 2020**----- 6:30 pm Safety Class w/Bob Novatnack
7:00 pm Church Council Meeting
- Tuesday, March 17, 2020**----- 7:00 pm Christian Education Meeting
- Wednesday, March 18, 2020**---6:00 pm Presanctified Liturgy
- Friday, March 20, 2020**----- 7:00 pm Akathist
- Saturday, March 21, 2020**----- 9:00 am Memorial Saturday Divine Liturgy
5:00 pm - Confessions
6:00 pm - Vespers
- Sunday, March 22, 2020**----- 9:30 am Divine Liturgy Veneration of the
Cross
4:00 pm Veneration of Precious Cross Pan-
Orthodox Lenten Vespers at St. Mary's
Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Allentown
- Tuesday, March 24, 2020**----- 7:00 pm Active Service Meeting
- Wednesday, March 25, 2020**---6:00 pm Vespersal Divine Liturgy Annunciation
- Friday, March 27, 2020**----- 7:00 pm Akathist
- Saturday, March 28, 2020**----- 9:00 am Memorial Saturday Divine Liturgy
5:00 pm - Confessions
6:00 pm - Vespers
- Sunday, March 29, 2020**----- Deadline - Paska Bread & Pierogi Sale orders
9:30 am Divine Liturgy St. John Climacus
4:00 pm St. John Climacus Pan-Orthodox
Lenten Vespers at St. Nicholas Russian
Orthodox Church, Bethlehem
- Wednesday, April 1, 2020**----- 6:00 pm Presanctified Liturgy
- Thursday, April 2, 2020**----- 7:00 pm Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
with the Life of St. Mary of Egypt
- Friday, April 3, 2020**----- 7:00 pm Akathist
- Saturday, April 4, 2020**----- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy Most Holy Theotokos
5:15 pm - Monthly Panikhida
6:00 pm - Vespers (Confessions to follow)
- Sunday, April 5, 2020**----- 9:30 am Divine Liturgy St. Mary of Egypt
4:00 pm St. Mary of Egypt Pan-Orthodox
Lenten Vespers at St. Paul Antiochian
Orthodox Church, Emmaus

Wednesday, April 8, 2020-----6:00 pm Presanctified Liturgy
Friday, April 10, 2020-----7:00 pm Matins for Lazarus Saturday
Saturday, April 11, 2020-----9:00 am Divine Liturgy Lazarus Saturday
 11:00 am to 2:00 pm Paska Bread & Pierogi
 Sale Pick Up Day
 5:00 pm - Confessions
 6:00 pm - Vespers
Sunday, April 12, 2020-----9:30 am Divine Liturgy Palm Sunday
 4:00 pm Bridegroom Matins
Monday, April 13, 2020-----9:00 am Presanctified Liturgy Holy Monday
 7:00 pm Bridegroom Matins
Tuesday, April 14, 2020-----9:00 am Presanctified Liturgy Holy Tuesday
 7:00 pm Bridegroom Matins
Wednesday, April 15, 2020-----9:00 am Presanctified Liturgy Holy
 Wednesday
 7:00 Holy Unction
Thursday, April 16, 2020-----9:00 am Divine Liturgy of St. Basil Holy
 Thursday
 7:00 pm The 12 Passion Gospels
Friday, April 17, 2020-----9:00 am Royal Hours Holy Friday
 4:00 pm Burial Vespers
 6:30 pm Matins - Lamentations
 All Night Watch
Saturday, April 18, 2020-----9:00 am Vesperal Divine Liturgy Holy
 Saturday
 11:30 pm Paschal Vigil and Divine Liturgy
 Followed by the blessing of baskets and the
 Agape meal
Sunday, April 19, 2020-----11:00 am Agape Vespers PASCHA
Monday, April 20, 2020-----9:00 am Divine Liturgy Bright Monday
Saturday, April 25, 2020-----5:45 pm Ninth Hour
 6:00 pm Great Vespers
Sunday, April 26, 2020-----9:30 am Divine Liturgy St. Thomas Sunday
 2:00 pm Blessing of the Graves
Saturday, May 9, 2020-----9:00 am to noon Volunteer Event: Feed the
 Children (See Mike Metz for info)
Monday, May 18, 2020-----Pennsylvania March For Life (Harrisburg, PA)

Sunday Hymns from the Octoechos, Tone 5

Tone 5 Troparion (Resurrection)

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

Tone 2 Troparion (Sunday of Orthodoxy)

We venerate Thy most pure image, O Good One; and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ our God. Of Thine own will Thou wast pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh and deliver Thy creatures from bondage to the Enemy. Therefore with thankfulness we cry aloud to Thee: "Thou hast filled all with joy, O our Savior, by coming to save the world."

Tone 8 Kontakion (from the Lenten Triodion)

No one could describe the Word of the Father; but when He took flesh from thee, O Theotokos, He accepted to be described, and restored the fallen image to its former state by uniting it to divine beauty. We confess and proclaim our salvation in words and images.

Tone 4 Prokeimenon (Song of the Fathers)

Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers, / and praised and glorified is Thy name forever! (Song of the three Holy Children, v. 3)
~~For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us! (v. 4)

Epistle Lesson for Today: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2

Read by: Reader Matthew Lezinsky

By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and

Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented - of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Alleluia Verses - Tone 4

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Moses and Aaron were among His priests; Samuel also was among those who called on His Name. (Ps 99/100:6)

They called to the Lord and He answered them. (Ps 99/100:6)

Gospel Lesson for Today: John 1:43-51

The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote - Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Hymn to the Theotokos

All of creation rejoices in thee, O Full of Grace: the assembly of Angels and the race of men. O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, the glory of virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a Child: our God before the ages. He made thy body into a throne, and thy womb He made more spacious than the heavens. All of creation rejoices in thee, O Full of Grace. Glory to thee!

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (Ps 148:1)
Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; praise befits the just! (Ps 32/33:1)
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Candle Offerings for Sunday, March 8, 2020

Vigils in Altar

Happy Birthday Lydia Bzik
Offered by Godparents Moses and Carmen, Alex & Chris Hodson

Vigils in Altar

Safe Travels Olga & Nikolay (Guliana's Parents), Offered by Holobeny Family

Vigils in Altar

In Memory Of Richard Scheetz, Offered by Amber & Michael Metz

Crosses

In Honor Of John & Maryann Mikita Anniversary
Offered by Children & Grandchildren

Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary

In Memory Of Matushka Olga Kudrikoff, Offered by Fr. Jim & Mat. Pat

Vigils - Icon of St. John the Baptist

Happy Birthday Cate, Offered by Paddy Shea

Vigils on South Wall Window Sills

Happy Birthday Walt Grigoruk, Offered by Paddy Shea & Mike Isbansky

Vigils on North Wall Window Sills

For Health Of Fr. Tom & Mat. Evelyn Edwards, Offered by Cate & Paddy Shea

Vigil of St. Andrew

In Memory Of Andrew Sabric
Offered by Subdeacon Michael & Michele Guydan

Announcements

Volunteer Event

Active Service Committee is teaming up with Feed the Children, a nationwide, non-profit organization that distributes food and other essentials to families in need. **We are looking for 6-10 volunteers** to help package food on **Saturday, May 9th from 9am to noon.** Volunteers will be organizing food into boxes on a conveyor belt. It's easy work, and in one morning you will help to provide meals for hundreds of families! Please see the sign-up sheet at the candle desk for details.

Pussy Willow Branches



Reminder: It will soon be time for pussy willows to start blooming. Please cut the branches of willows and bring them to the church as soon as they bloom. Since Pascha is April 19th we will need to store the willows until Saturday, April 11th for Palm Sunday, April 12th. Please wrap the willows loosely in newspaper so we can save them for Palm Sunday. Thank you for your help in gathering the willows.



Safety Class

On March 16th Bob Novatnack will be conducting a safety class for council members and any others who are interested in attending. This information will help to prepare us to conduct a fire drill at some point in the future. The class will begin at 6:30 pm and is expected to finish around 7:10 pm, at which time the regular Church Council Meeting will begin. All are welcome to attend.

Paska Bread & Pierogi Sale

Please contact Maxine Marsh to place orders for the Paska Bread & Pierogi Sale. Orders must be placed by noon on Sunday, March 29, 2020 and picked up on Saturday, April 11, 2020 between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm.

Announcements

A Note of Thanks from Walter

I would like to express my deepest thanks to Reverend Fr. Matthew Joyner, our pastor, and all my many fellow parishioners who have displayed their heartfelt concern for my wellbeing through their many visits, frequent prayers and uplifting, cheerful cards. May God grant all of you many blessed and healthy years. With prayer-filled thanks for God's gift of you to me, sincerely, Walter Grigoruk

A Note of Thanks from St. Michael Cathedral

Parishioners of St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church,

Thank you for your most generous contributions to our Repairs Fund! Your timing is perfect, as we had run out of money and are waiting for donations to be able to continue. I wear many hats here at St. Michael's and one of them is Parish Treasurer - so I'm aware of our need, in order to continue restoring and repairing. Also, I grew up in a Russian Orthodox church parish in Philadelphia so Bethlehem PA is on my radar. We are all very grateful to you. In Christ - Ana Dittmar

A Note of Thanks from Patty

Dear Fr. Matthew, Council and Parish -

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for honoring me with a gramota. It was a total surprise and I am very grateful to you all. Love, Patty

A Note of Thanks from Olga

Thanks to you all for not giving up on me, each in your own way, during my recent convalescence. With Gratitude, Olga Frimenko

Contact Information Update Reminder

If you have not yet updated your contact information, please see Jennifer Bzik as soon as possible. Your help is greatly appreciated as we update our communications methods!

Volunteer Event: Feed the Children

Feed the Children is a nationwide, non-profit organization that distributes food and other essentials to families in need. The Active Service Committee is looking for **6-10 volunteers** to help package food.

What: Volunteers will work in pairs, placing food into boxes on a conveyor belt. It's easy work, and in one morning you will help to provide meals for hundreds of families!

When: Saturday, **May 9th** from **9am to noon**.

Where: 47 South Commerce Way, Bethlehem, PA 18017, only 10 minutes away from St. Nicholas church.

How to join us: Please sign up on the sheet at the candle desk. You will need to sign up on the Feed the Children website, we will provide assistance with signing up.

Children must be 11 years of age or older to volunteer



Any questions, contact Mike Metz at metz.mike747@gmail.com

Announcements

Looking for a gift for someone?

We've got a perfect way to say "Thanks!"
or "I'm Thinking of You".



Grocery Gift Cards are the ideal gift that everyone can use. When you purchase a gift card from our parish, you are helping our parish earn 5% income every time on each card. Last year alone, your card purchases helped raise \$2,000 for our church.

Participating stores are: Giant, Valley Farm, and Weis Markets. Card denominations are \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, and \$100. Special value cards for \$200 and \$300 may be ordered upon request with advance notice. Cards do not expire, so please consider purchasing a Grocery Gift Card the next time you need to buy a gift for someone. Better yet, why not get yourself a grocery gift card to use for your weekly shopping purchases and help earn some money for our parish!

See Stephanie Pasquel for Grocery Gift Cards. (Cash or checks please.)

Please Help Me Be Accurate!

When you're signing up for things at the candle desk, please print clearly so that I can use accurate information with correct spellings. I am human, so mistakes will happen, but your neatness is a big help in getting things right as much as possible. Thank you!!! ~~~ Jennifer Bzik

Upcoming Events Information Request

If your church ministry or group will be having any event or using the church facilities in any way, please notify Jennifer Bzik so that she may reflect the information on our internal calendar. You may also indicate if the event should be posted on the church website for the public. Thank you!

Announcements

**Throughout the year, please remember those
in our parish family who are homebound.**

Mrs. Jean Butrymowicz

Mr. Walter Grigoruk

Mr. Andrew Hasenecz

Mrs. Doris Johnson

Mrs. Helen Karel

Mrs. Pauline Kasick

Miss Mary K. Koretski

Mrs. Antoinette Lebeduik

Mrs. Theresa Nalepa

Mat. Irene Rachko

Ms. Nancy Sabol

Mrs. Julia Smolenski

Heavenly Father...

Physician of our souls and bodies, Who has sent Your only-begotten Son to heal every sickness and infirmity, visit and heal us, Your Servants, from all physical and spiritual ailments, through the grace of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant to us patience in this sickness, strength of body, and recovery of health. Lord, You have taught us through Your Word to pray for each other that we may be healed. For You are the source of healing, and to You we give glory; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers at the Divine Liturgy for the Health of the Servants of God:

Igumen David Lewis

Archbishop David Mahaffey

Archpriests: Thomas Edwards, John Perich, Rodion Pfeifer, James Mason, Claude Vinyard, Dimitri Oselinsky, David Shewczyk, Dennis Swenki, James Weremedic

Priests: Matthew Joyner, Ian Shipley, John Nightingale

Matushki: Ashley Joyner, Marie Mason, Johanna Bohush, Evelyn Edwards, Paraskeva Vansuch, Myra Kovalak, Gloria Martin, Irene Rachko, Maryann Oselinsky, Priscilla Shipley, Katia Vansuch, Lisa Weremedic

Servants: Bethany Bruder, Mary Brzuchalski, Jean Butrymowicz, Helen & George Cotirgasanu, Roberta Cusick, Val Danchenko, Christopher Felix, Olga Frimenko, Patricia G. Fu, Barbara Horsky, David Gowarty, Walter Grigoruk, Rachel Hardesty, Nicholas Hazzard, Jonathan Hontz, Michael H. Isbansky, Doris Johnson, Sarah Jubinski, Pauline Kasick, Greg Konsevitch, Mary K. Koretski, Stephanie Koretski, David Lezinsky, Judy Lezinsky, Olga Maksimova, Peter Marsh, Lanelle Mikolaitis, Catherine Miller, Mary Orzolek, Ryan Pinkowicz, Kiera Pheiffer, Gordon Roberts, Clara Roman, Victoria Ross, Mary Ruzila, Nancy A. Sabol, Robert Schainfeld, Cate Shea, Julia Smith, Julia G. Smolenski, Mary Strohecker, Ola Tatusko, John Uzick, Irene Witanek

Child of God: Emily Estrin

Handmaidens of God: Mat. Ashley Joyner, Jamee Bresee-Slivka, Leona Roberts & their unborn children

Please remember them and all our homebound and nursing home parishioners in your daily intercessory prayers.

✦ ✦ A LESSON ABOUT HOLY IMAGES ✦ ✦

On this SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY, let us ponder the wise words of the Church Father, ST. JOHN OF DAMASCUS:

"In former times God, who is without form or body, could never be depicted. But now when God is seen in the flesh conversing with men, I make an image of the God whom I see. I do not worship matter, I worship the Creator of matter who became matter for my sake. Never will I cease honoring the matter which wrought my salvation! I honor it, but not as God. How could God be born out of things which have no existence in themselves? God's body is joined to His person by a union which shall never pass away. The divine nature remains the same, the flesh created in time is quickened by a reason endowed soul. Because of this I salute all remaining matter with reverence, because God has filled it with His grace and power. Through it, my salvation has come to me. Was not the blessed wood for the Cross considered matter? What of the life bearing rock, the holy and life-giving tomb, the fountain of our resurrection, was it not matter? Is not the ink in the most holy Gospel-book matter? Is not the life-giving altar made of matter? From it we receive the bread of life! Are not gold and silver matter? From them we make crosses, patens, chalices! And over and above all these things, is not the Body and Blood of our Lord matter? Either do away with the honor and veneration these things deserve, or accept the tradition of the Church and the veneration of images."

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.

Daily Scripture Readings

Week of March 9, 2020

Monday	Isaiah 4:2-5:7, Genesis 3:21-4:7	Proverbs 3:34-4:22
Tuesday	Isaiah 5:7-16, Genesis 4:8-15	Proverbs 5:1-15
Wednesday	Isaiah 5:16-25, Genesis 4:16-26	Proverbs 5:15-6:3
Thursday	Isaiah 6:1-12, Genesis 5:1-24	Proverbs 6:3-20
Friday	Isaiah 7:1-15, Genesis 5:32-6:8	Proverbs 6:20-7:1
Saturday	Hebrews 3:12-16	Mark 1:35-44
Sunday	Hebrews 1:10-2:3	Mark 2:1-12