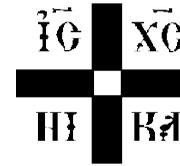


Weekly Schedule

Friday	Akathisto de Maria, 6:00p.m.
Saturday	Great Vespers, 6:00p.m. Confessions following Great Vespers
Sunday	Reading of Hours, 9:40 a.m. Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m. <i>Fellowship Hour following Divine Liturgy</i>

Saint Nicholas, the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia is famed as a great saint pleasing unto God. He was born in the city of Patara in the region of Lycia (on the south coast of the Asia Minor peninsula), and was the only son of pious parents Theophanes and Nonna, who had vowed to dedicate him to God. As the fruit of the prayer of his childless parents, the infant Nicholas from the very day of his birth revealed to people the light of his future glory as a wonderworker. His mother, Nonna, after giving birth was immediately healed from illness. The newborn infant, while still in the baptismal font, stood on his feet three hours, without support from anyone, thereby honoring the Most Holy Trinity. St Nicholas from his infancy began a life of fasting, and on Wednesdays and Fridays he would not accept milk from his mother until after his parents had finished their evening prayers. From his childhood Nicholas thrived on the study of Divine Scripture; by day he would not leave church, and by night he prayed and read books, making himself a worthy dwelling place for the Holy Spirit. Bishop Nicholas of Patara rejoiced at the spiritual success and deep piety of his nephew. He ordained him a reader, and then elevated Nicholas to the priesthood, making him his assistant and entrusting him to instruct the flock. In serving the Lord the youth was fervent of spirit, and in his proficiency with questions of faith he was like an Elder, who aroused the wonder and deep respect of believers. Constantly at work and vivacious, in unceasing prayer, the priest Nicholas displayed great kind-heartedness towards the flock, and towards the afflicted who came to him for help, and he distributed all his inheritance to the poor. There was a certain formerly rich inhabitant of Patara, whom St Nicholas saved from great sin. The man had three grown daughters, and in desperation he planned to sell their bodies so they would have money for food. The saint, learning of the man's poverty and of his wicked intention, secretly visited him one night and threw a sack of gold through the window. With the money the man arranged an honorable marriage for his daughter. St Nicholas also provided gold for the other daughters, thereby saving the family from falling into spiritual destruction. In bestowing charity, St Nicholas always strove to do this secretly and to conceal his good deeds. (see the rest at <http://ocafs.oca.org/FeastSaintsViewer.asp?SID=4&ID=1&FSID=103484>)



Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

2101 South 28th St
Philadelphia, PA 19145
Phone: (215) 904-7713 (Home)
Email: frmatthew@comcast.net

Rev. Matthew Cantrell, Acting Rector
Rev. Sergius Willis, Associate Pastor
Call to arrange sacraments, services,
instruction, counseling, home visits, sick
calls.

December 06, 2009
26th Sunday after Penecost
Tone 1
ST. NICHOLAS THE WONDER-
WORKER, ARCHBISHOP OF MYRA IN
LYCIA (ca. 345).

Troparion (Tone 1) (Resurrection)
When the stone had been sealed by the
Jews, while the soldiers were guarding
Your most pure body, You rose on the
third day, O Savior, granting life to the
world. The powers of heaven therefore
cried to You, O Giver of Life: “Glory to
Your Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to
Your Kingdom!//Glory to Your dispen-
sation, O Lover of mankind!”

Troparion (Tone 4) (Saint)
In truth you were revealed to your flock
as a rule of faith, an image of humility
and a teacher of abstinence; your humil-
ity exalted you; your poverty enriched
you. Hierarch Father Nicholas,
entreat Christ our God//that our souls
may be saved!

Kontakion (Tone 1) (Resurrection)
As God, You rose from the tomb in
glory, raising the world with Yourself.
Human nature praises You as God, for-
death has vanished. Adam exults, O
Master! Eve rejoices, for she is freed
from bondage and cries to You://“You
are the Giver of Resurrection to all, O
Christ!”

Kontakion (Tone 3) (Saint)
You appeared as a priest in Myra, O Saint
Nicholas, fulfilling the Gospel of Christ, O
venerable one; you laid down your life for
your people and rescued the innocent from
death.//Therefore, you have been blest as a
great initiate of the grace of God.

Prayers for The Faithful and Departed

Benjamin, John, Ron, John, John, Betty,
Witiak family, Corba friends and family,
Kavalkovich friends and family, Albert,
Kenneth, Alexander, Pellack family.
May God Grant Them Many Years!

John, Peter, John, Alex, Mary, Carmelm
Julia, Anna. **May Their Memories Be
Eternal!**

Glory to God for All Things!

Epistle Reading

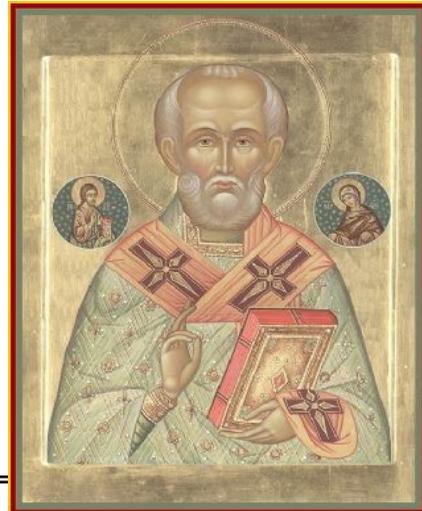
Ephesians 5:9-19

(for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore He says: "Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light." See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

Gospel Reading

Luke 17:12-19

Then as He entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off. And they lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" So when He saw them, He said to them, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan. So Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner? And He said to him, "Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well."



Welcome to our Visitors!!

A warm welcome to all our visitors and guests who have joined us in celebrating the Divine Liturgy. Please join us for our Fellowship Hour in the Church Hall . **Please note: Only those Orthodox Christians that have properly prepared themselves through prayer, fasting and confession of sins may approach the Chalice and receive Holy Communion.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Food Collection

Please bring any food you would like to donate to church. We, as a church, will offer food to one of the local food banks.

Christmas Ornaments

Our church's youth group is making memory ornaments to adorn our Christmas tree. These glass ornaments are offered to remember your loved ones, as well as any important people and events in your life. Please see any of the youth or Debbie for more information. These ornaments are still for sale.

Christmas Flowers

We are beginning to collect donations for Christmas flowers. Please see Debbie. Thank you for helping to beautify our church this coming Nativity season. Donations are still being accepted.

Diocesan Assembly

This past Friday and Saturday, Fr. Matthew and Emily Gerasimoff attended our Diocese's annual assembly. Please see either of the two for more detailed information about the event.

Panikhida Today

Since this is the first Sunday of the month, Fr. Matthew will serve a brief Panikhida following the Divine Liturgy to remember all of our beloved, who departed in December.

Council Meeting Next Sunday

I would like the council to meet next Sunday in order to review the Diocesan Assembly and to prepare for our annual meeting.