

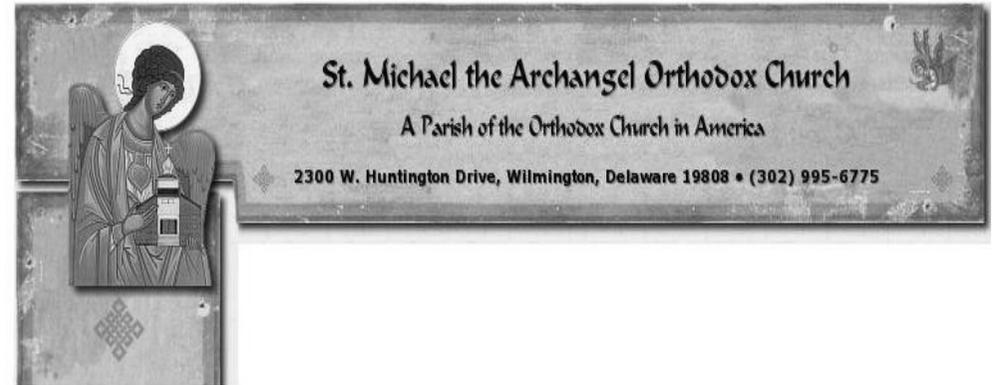
**Prayers for the Sick and Those in Need:** Fr. Vladimir Petorak, Fr. Joseph Chupeck, Fr. David Shewczyk, Mat. Ellen Chupeck, Mat. Jennifer Franchak, Lemlem Resat, Harry Wujcik, Alexander Skomorucha, Helen Bunitsky, Alfred Mokhiber, Peter Melnik, Lily Nassif, Agnes and Basil Timchak, Olga Riley, Anna Hotrovich, Marie Holowatch, Marie Karawulan, Barbara Hicks, Maria Current, Anna Herko, Luke Wales, Anna Wales, Zack Bajuyo, Evelyn Kutch., John Maloney, Mark Gundersen, Nona Carey, Joseph Wojciechowski, Mary Alice Salay

**Prayers for Women and the Children to be Born of Them:** Ruth Kendall., Maria Peck., Elizabeth Clause, Matushka Anastasia Hojnicky

**Service Ministries**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Coffee/ Fellowship Hour</u>	<u>Service Duty</u>	<u>Church Cleaners</u>	<u>Library</u>
<b>6-Dec</b>	Conover/Daubert/ Steph George	Elia/Morjana	Baldytchev/ Shatley	Conover
<b>13-Dec</b>	Kutch/ Sulpizi	Riley/ Baldytchev	Kutch/ Sulpizi	Scott Lewis
<b>20-Dec</b>	Elia/ Gundersen/ Farrell	Sulpizi/ Fink	Riley	Gundersen
<b>27-Dec</b>	Souder/ Riley	Souder/ Hojnicky	Carey/ Btnitsky	Farrell
<b>3-Jan</b>	Oberto/Bunitsky	Bunitsky/Lewis	Whalen/Fink	Skomorucha
<b>10-Jan</b>	Conover/Daubert/ George	Elia/Morjana	Farrell	Maloney
<b>17-Jan</b>	Sulpizi/Skomoucha	Riley	Kendall	Lewis

Last Week's Attendance  
 11/21 Vespers.....20  
 11/22 Liturgy.....96  
 11/25 Thanksgiving....29  
 11/28 Vespers.....25  
 11/29 Divine Liturgy.....95



**Sunday December 6, 2015 TONE 2**  
**27th Sunday After Pentecost— Tone 2. ST. NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER, ARCHBISHOP OF MYRA IN LYCIA (ca. 345).**

***This Week's Schedule***

Saturday 12/12: Great Vespers 5:00 p.m.  
 Sunday 12/13: Hours 8:40 a.m.  
**Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m.**  
*followed by Church School and Fellowship/ Coffee hour*

**Reader Schedule**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>3<sup>RD</sup> HOUR</u>	<u>6<sup>TH</sup> HOUR</u>	<u>EPISTLE</u>
Dec 6	FDN JAMES	PECK	PECK
Dec 27	A RILEY	J RILEY	J RILEY

## Hymns and Prayers

### **Tone 2 Troparion**

*(Resurrection)*

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal,  
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead.  
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,  
all the powers of heaven cried out://  
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”

### **Tone 4 Troparion** *(St Nicholas)*

In truth thou wast revealed to thy flock as a rule of faith,  
an image of humility and a teacher of abstinence;  
thy humility exalted thee;  
and thy poverty enriched thee.  
O Hierarch Father Nicholas,  
entreat Christ our God//  
that our souls may be saved!

### **Tone 2 Kontakion**

*(Resurrection)*

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior,  
seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb!  
The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld  
this and rejoiced with OThee,//  
and the world, my Savior, praises Thee forever.

### **Tone 3 Kontakion** *(St Nicholas)*

Thou didst appear as a priest in Myra,  
O Saint Nicholas,  
fulfilling the Gospel of Christ, O ven-  
erable one;  
thou didst lay down thy life for thy  
people  
and didst rescue the innocent from  
death.//  
Therefore, thou hast been blest as a  
great initiate of the grace of God.

### **Tone 2 Prokeimenon**

*The Lord is my strength and my song;  
He has become my salvation.  
(Ps 117/118:4)*

*v: The Lord has chastened me sorely,  
but He has not given me over to  
death. (Ps 117/118:18)*

### **Tone 7 Prokeimenon**

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord, and shall hope in Him. *(Ps 63/64:10)*

**Epistle** Ephesians 6:10-17

*Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*

*For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heav-*

Another mother is remembered by the Church on this day—Hannah, the mother of Samuel. Like Anna, she had to wait a very long time to have a child. During those years of waiting, she was "broken-hearted and wept and did not eat" (I Samuel/I Kingdoms 1: 7). Joachim and Anna suffered too. Joachim was humiliated by being turned away from the Temple as he attempted to offer his sacrifice; being a childless man he was not considered worthy to do so. All three mothers suffered, especially the Theotokos who saw her Son unjustly crucified. But their joy later on would be great, and hers would be greatest of all. That is why the Church sings to her at Pascha: "Be radiant, O Pure Theotokos, in the Resurrection of Your Son!"

*This weekly bulletin insert complements the curriculum published by the Department of Christian Education of the Orthodox Church in America. This and many other Christian Education resources are available at <http://dce.oca.org>.*

## Three Mothers

*On December 9 we celebrate "Righteous Saint Anna's Conception of the Mother of God." This lengthy, explicit title offers some important insights into Orthodox theology.*

First, it tells us that Mary the Mother of God was conceived through the union of two human parents, like any other person born in the world. Many icons of her conception clearly show her parents, Joachim and Anna, standing together in a loving embrace, with a bed behind or near them.



It is noteworthy that the day before this feast is, in the Western Church, the feast day of the Immaculate Conception. This refers to the way Mary (not Jesus Christ) was conceived. The Roman Catholic teaching is that God intervened at the moment of Mary's conception to remove the stain of original sin, which is transmitted by the act of human reproduction. This stain marks us all from the day we are born. So, since God removed that stain from Mary, she is different from every other human being.

Father Thomas Hopko, in his book "The Winter Pascha," writes that Orthodoxy does not go along with this teaching because our Church does not believe that such a stain exists. Father Thomas writes that all of us, including the Theotokos, "are born into a fallen, death-bound, demon-riddled world...We are all born mortal and tending toward sin. But we are not born guilty of any personal sin, certainly not one allegedly committed "in Adam."

The title of the Feast also tells us that the baby girl Anna conceived was indeed the one who would become the God-bearer, or Theotokos. God honors the act of human reproduction by using it to bring forth the woman who will have the most exalted privilege of any human being who ever lived. Not only that, but He leaves her free to say "no" to His plan for her if she so chooses.

We honor Mary's agreement to God's plan because it is basic to our salvation. That she is born into the world the same way we are, with no special intervention by God, means that she can be a truly human example of holiness, one that we are able to follow.

*enly places.*

*Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.*

*Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.*

*And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;*

### **Hebrews 13:17-21 (St Nicholas)**

*Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.*

*Pray for us; for we are confident that we have a good conscience, in all things desiring to live honorably. But I especially urge you to do this, that I may be restored to you the sooner.*

*Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.*

### **Tone 2**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*v: May the Lord hear thee in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect thee! (Ps 19/20:1)*

*v: Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call! (Ps 19/20:9)*

### **Tone 4 (St Nicholas)**

*v. Thy priests shall be clothed in righteousness, and Thy saints shall rejoice. (Ps 131/132:9)*

### **Gospel 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."*

### **Luke 6:17-23 (St Nicholas)**

*And He came down with them and stood on a level place with a crowd of His disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem, and from the seacoast of Tyre and Si-*

don, who came to hear Him and be healed of their diseases, as well as those who were tormented with unclean spirits. And they were healed.

And the whole multitude sought to touch Him, for power went out from Him and healed them all.

Then He lifted up His eyes toward His disciples, and said: Blessed are you poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who hunger now, for you shall be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

Blessed are you when men hate you, and when they exclude you, and revile you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of Man's sake.

Rejoice in that day and leap for joy! For indeed your reward is great in heaven, for in like manner their fathers did to the prophets.

#### **Communion Hymns**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (Ps 148:1)

The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil tidings. (Ps 111/112:6)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

### **This Week's Announcements**

**Family Night in December** Thanks to all who made this past Friday's family game night such a success. We look forward to the next opportunity to get together for some fun.

**St. Michael's Christmas Play** will be held on Dec. 27th this year. Please sign up your child on the sheet in the Narthex. Our play will be about the life of St. Nicholas the Wonder-Worker.

**December Perogio Project** We will have a perogie session in preparation for Nativity. The project is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 8th at 9:00 AM. Any and all help would be appreciated.

**Adopt-a-Family** - We have reached out to "adopt" two adult individuals who need our help this Christmas season (through the Division of Social Services.) Below are their casework descriptions and list of requests. As you can see, these folks are not asking for extravagances, but rather things that we sometimes take for granted. Please donate what you can! This is a quick turnaround mission! Please drop off at the church by Sunday, De-

cember 13th. Please place gifts in gift bags, rather than wrapping, and mark them #1 or #2. Any monetary donations will be used for gift cards. Sign-up sheet is in the vestibule. Hope LaChance can be reached at 302.561.1870 with any questions. Thank you! #1 – Resident is a disabled man who has limited/no family visitors. He has been increasingly anxious lately. He is bound to his wheelchair, but enjoys discussions and table bowling. #2 – Resident is a 92-year-old female with minimal family involvement. She is confused, pleasant, and feisty. She enjoys talking with staff and likes clothes and watching television.

**Eve of Nativity Holy Supper:** Holy Supper is a traditional solemn lenten meal on the Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas Eve). Since Christmas is preceded by forty days of fasting, the Holy Supper is the last meal of the fast. This Nativity Eve we would like to invite all to share in Holy Supper. Dinner will begin at about 5:00 p.m. or so and then you can stick around for Nativity Eve Vigil. We welcome especially those who have no family to share. Please come and join our family for this special meal!

**Christmas Cookie Exchange** A Christmas cookie exchange is a wonderful way to help with the cookie preparation popular at Christmas time. It also gives an opportunity to spend time with the people that you love. Everyone who comes will be sure to leave the exchange with memories of a lovely time, and a large container of delicious Christmas cookies to enjoy on Nativity! The Christmas cookie exchange will be Sunday December 20th following coffee hour. All are invited to come!

**Thursday Study Group** This past week five of us continued our study of 2nd Corinthians chapter 8. Our next study group will meet on Thursday Dec. 17th. We will once again be reading and discussing from 2nd Corinthians 8 & 9. Bring your Orthodox Study Bible and join us for this opportunity for continued Orthodox adult education.

**Check out a Book During the Nativity Fast** The library is open every Sunday after liturgy so that you may browse and check out a book during this Nativity season. There are many books on spirituality, orthodoxy, theology, lenten cooking, and many more.