



Sunday December 2, 2018 27th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 2. Prophet Habákkuk (*Abbacum*, Avakkum—6th c. B.C.). Ven. Afanásii (*Athanasius*) “the Resurrected One”, *Recluse, of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves—ca. 1176)*. Ven. Afanásii, *Recluse, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—13th c.)*. Martyr Myrope of Chios (ca. 251). Ss. John, Heraclemon, Andrew, and Theophilus, of Egypt (4th c.). St. Jesse, Bishop of Tsilkani in Georgia (6th c.). St. Stephen-Urosh, King of Serbia (1367).

This Week's Schedule

Wednesday 12/5 Great Vespers St. Nicholas 7:00 p.m.

Thursday 12/6 St. Nicholas Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m.

Saturday 12/8 Great Vespers 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 12/9 Hours 8:40 a.m.

Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m.

followed by coffee hour

Reader Schedule

DATE	3 RD HOUR	6 TH HOUR	EPISTLE
Dec 02	BUNITSKY	BUNITSKY	LEWIS
Dec 06	ST. NICHOLAS DAY		
Dec 09	SULPIZI	SOUDER	CAREY
Dec 16	WALES	WALES	WALES
Dec 23	RILEY	RILEY	RILEY

Hymns and Prayers

Tone 2 Troparion (*Resurrection*)

When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,
You destroyed hell with the splendor of Your Godhead.
And when from the depths You raised the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out://
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!”

Tone 2 Troparion (*Prophet Habakkuk*)

We celebrate the memory
of your Prophet Habakkuk, O Lord;
through him we beseech You://
“Save our souls!”

Tone 2 Kontakion (*Resurrection*)

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

Tone 8 Kontakion (*Prophet Habakkuk*)

Divinely eloquent Habakkuk, you announced to the world the
coming forth of God from the south; from the Virgin.
Standing on the divine watch, you received a report from the radiant
Angel:
“You proclaimed the Resurrection of Christ to the world!”
Therefore in gladness we cry out to you://
“Rejoice, splendid adornment of the Prophets!”

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)

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 heavenly 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;

Tone 2

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

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

Gospel Luke 18:18-27

Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God.

You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not steal,' 'Do not bear false witness,' 'Honor your father and your mother.'"

And he said, "All these things I have kept from my youth."

So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich.

And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, “How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” And those who heard it said, “Who then can be saved?” But He said, “The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.”

Communion Hymn

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

This Week's Announcement

St. Barbara's Day Celebration Today at coffee hour we will have a special celebration in honor of the feasts of the Great Martyr Barbara (Dec. 4th) and St. Nicholas the Wonderworker (Dec 6th). St. Barbara is venerated in many cultures and is highly regarded as a patron especially those bearing her name. St. Nicholas is also highly regarded in many cultures for his mercy and in the Church, we also remember his defense of the Faith. Each of these feasts has its own wonderful customs and traditions that we hope to incorporate into the day. Join us to celebrate these blessed feasts.

Feast of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker On Wednesday evening Dec 5th, we will celebrate the feast of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker Archbishop of Myra and Lycia with Great Vespers at 7:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy for the feast will be Thursday morning Dec 6th, at 9:00 a.m. Join us!

Nativity Parish Holy Supper Holy Supper on Nativity eve is a pious tradition from the Christian faithful of various Eastern European regions. The supper is observed on the eves of our Lord's Nativity in the flesh and His baptism by Saint John in the Jordan River. The meal is a fasting meal with 12 courses representing Christ's twelve apostles. We will once again have a Parish Holy Supper on the Eve of Nativity. We will begin at 5:00 p.m. followed by Nativity Vigil at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to join us. Please see the sign up in the Narthex.

General Cleaning Saturday, December 15th at 9:00 a.m. we will have a general church cleaning in preparation for the feast of Nativity. All help is welcome!

2019 Church Directory We are currently updating the church directory in preparation for 2019. We are asking parishioners to review the 2018 directory in the Vestibule and to make any necessary changes. For new members, or members not currently listed and would like to be included, please add your information--name(s), address, telephone number(s), email address and also birth date(s) for the Birthday List.

Poinsettias for Nativity It's time to order Poinsettias to beautify the church for our Lord's Nativity! Order forms are available in the narthex

Study Group Our study group will break this Thursday for the feast of St. Nicholas. We will resume next week (Dec. 13th) with chapter 5 of the gospel of St. Matthew (*The Sermon on the Mount*). All are welcome to join us!

Bookstore Nativity Gifts Our Parish Bookstore has a wide selection of gifts for this Nativity season. Stop by and pick something up today!

The Nativity Fast This is just a reminder that the Nativity fast continues until Dec. 25th .(please make an effort) The celebration of the feast of the Nativity of Christ in the Orthodox Church is patterned after the celebration of the feast of the Lord's Resurrection. A fast of forty days precedes the feast, with special preparatory days announcing the approaching birth of the Savior. Thus, on Saint Andrew's Day (November 30) and Saint Nicholas Day (December 6) songs are sung to announce the coming birthday of the Lord: 'Adorn yourself, O Cavern. Make ready, O Manger. O Shepherds and wisemen, bring your gifts and bear witness. For the Virgin is coming bearing Christ in her womb' (Vesperal Hymn of Saint Nicholas Day)

What Would St. Nicholas Do?

On December 6th we celebrate the beloved Saint Nicholas of Myra in Lycia. We know the stories of his saving miracles, his love of children, and the gifts secretly gave. But another story seems less in character. Hearing Arius profess his heretical beliefs with smooth, convincing language at the Council of Nicaea, Nicholas finally had had enough. He struck Arius to keep him from speaking more blasphemy. As a result he

lost his position as a bishop, and it was not restored until the Theotokos directed that it should be.

If the saint had a hard time listening to Arius, what would he do with Bill Maher, a social and political commentator, stand-up comic, and opponent of religion? Maher's film "Religulous" (a play on the words "religion" and "ridiculous") might draw St. Nicholas' ire, but perhaps it would merely elicit a resigned sigh at its silly pretentiousness.

Like many people who criticize religion, Maher is articulate, but has only a superficial understanding of his subject, and is deeply impressed with his own opinions. He constantly interrupts the people he is interviewing in the film to interject his own ideas. One rabbi asks him at least four times to "let me finish" but Maher continues to break in. He demonstrates his disagreement with what the rabbi is saying by walking out on him, on camera. This kind of petulance is unbecoming to any interviewer and especially one who constantly claims, as Maher does, that he is completely objective and "only wants to ask questions."

One person interviewed is Francis Collins, a leading geneticist who was raised as an atheist but found his way to faith. Maher tells Collins that he is in a distinct minority as a scientist who is also a believer. The soft-spoken Collins tries to disagree. Maher again interrupts, insisting that few scientists have ever been people of faith (conveniently ignoring Einstein, Mendel and Johannes Kepler, among others). Since Maher talks several times about his own abandonment of his childhood Catholic faith, it would have been fascinating to hear a prominent scientist tell how he went in the other direction, from atheism to belief. But that journey, which could have made the movie more even-handed, doesn't interest Maher. The Collins interview is considerably shorter than those he conducts with inarticulate and foolish-seeming believers, obvious charlatans, and people who agree with him.

Bill Maher doesn't possess the dangerous power Arius had in the fourth century. But he appears often on television, and is regarded as a serious commentator and even an intellectual by some. We should be ready, especially in talking with young people, to give a solid and authentic exposition of the faith, and to point out errors and pretense in those who attack it.

St. Nicholas wouldn't give in to people with half-baked ideas. Neither should we, though it would probably be advisable for us to keep our hands in our pockets.

Troparion - Tone 4

In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith, / an image of humility and a teacher of abstinence;/ your humility exalted you; /

your poverty enriched you./ Hierarch Father Nicholas, / entreat Christ our God / that our souls may be saved.

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>.

Wisdom from the Holy Fathers

"We may find the same teaching in the Old Testament as well. As though in complete agreement with the Gospels, it says: 'Do not hate your brother in your heart' (Lev. 19:17); and: "The way of the rancorous leads to death" (Prov. 12: 28. LXX). These passages, then, not only forbid anger in what we do but also angry thought. If therefore we are to follow the divine laws, we must struggle with all our strength against the demon of anger and against the sickness which lies hidden within us. When we are angry with others we should not seek solitude on the grounds that there, at least, no one will provoke us to anger, and that in solitude the virtue of long-suffering can easily be acquired. Our desire to leave our brethren is because of our pride, and because we do not wish to blame ourselves and ascribe to our own laxity the cause of our unruliness. So long as we assign the causes for our weaknesses to others, we cannot attain perfection in longsuffering.

Self-reform and peace are not achieved through the patience which others show us, but through our own longsuffering towards our neighbor."

- St John Cassian

On the Eight Vices: On Anger, Philokalia, Vol. 1, 85 (c. 360 - c. 435 AD), a Christian monk and theologian celebrated in both the Western and Eastern Churches for his mystical writings. Cassian is noted for his role in bringing the ideas and practices of Christian monasticism to the early medieval West

Prayers for the Departed: Archpriest Joseph Martin, Virginia Sekerak
Marie Holowatch, Maria Proch, Mark Gundersen, John Berket, George
Sarmousakis, Alfred Mokhiber

Prayers for the Sick and Those in Need: Fr. John Zabinko, Fr. Joseph Chupeck, Fr. Josef Petranin, Fr. John Nightingale, Fr. Dimitry Perez, Fr. Deacon James Carpenter, Mat Julia Petranin, Mat. Ellen Chupeck, Mat. Lisa Weremedic, Matushka Myra Kovalak, Lemlem Resat, Peter Melnik, Olga Riley, , Marie Karawulan, Barbara Hicks, James Hicks, Anna Herko, Luke & Anna Wales, Nona Carey, Maria & Doug Dozier, Mona Elia, Lydia Kendall, Mary Anne Farrell, John Griffith, Cynthia Griffith, Benjamin, Patricia, Lubov, Stephanie Hojnicki, Michael Sinovich, Laura Cristina Najemy, Harry Kutch, Dimitrios Jim Petrides,

Prayers for Catechumen: Robert Jaquette

Prayers for Women and the Child to be born: Catalina Mary Finck

Date	<u>Coffee Hour</u>	<u>Service Duty</u>	<u>Church Cleaner</u>	<u>Library</u>
2-Dec	POT LUCK - Peck	Riley/Riley	Baldychev/Shatley/	Gundersen
9-Dec	Bacuta/Fravel	Hojnicki/Souder	General Cleaning	Farrell
16-Dec	Najemy/Kendall	/Baldychev	Suplizi	Skomorucha
23-Dec	Hojnicki/Flynn/Roberts	Bunitsky/Lewis	Riley	Maloney
30-Dec	Pacienza/George	Elia/Morjana	Bunitsky	Lewis

Last Week's Attendance
Divine Liturgy: