

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

Orthodox Church of America

A Parish of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey

170 Lexington Avenue, Passaic, New Jersey, 07055

www.stjohnspassaic.org

V. Rev. Maryann Chaykivsky, Rector 973-473-1928 (Phone/Fax)

Email: fr.maryanch@gmail.com 908-930-2274 (cell)



December 6, 2020

26th Sunday after Pentecost - Nov 2

**St. Nicholas the Wonderworker,
Archbishop of Myra in Lycia**

- 9:10 am - Hours
- 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy
Eph. 5:9-19 Luke 17:12-19
Heb. 13:17-21 Luke 6:17-23

Schedule of Services

Tuesday, December 8

- 7:00 pm - Akathist to Saint John,
Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord.

Friday, December 11

- 7:00 pm - Moleben to the Most
Holy Theotokos:

Saturday, December 12

- 1:00pm - Akathist (healing
service) - Confession
- 5:00 pm - Great Vesper

Sunday, December 13

- 9:10 - Hours
- 9:30 - Divine Liturgy.



WEEKLY BIBLE MESSAG

Saint Nicholas of Myra also known as Nicholas of Bari, was an early Christian bishop of Greek descent from the maritime city of Myra in Asia Minor during the time of the Roman Empire. Because of the many miracles attributed to his intercession, he is also known as Nicholas the Wonderworker. Saint Nicholas is the patron saint of sailors, merchants, repentant thieves, children, unmarried people, and students in various cities and countries around Europe. Very little is known about the historical Saint Nicholas. The earliest accounts of his life were written centuries after his death and contain many legendary elaborations. He is said to have been born in the Greek seaport of Patara, Lycia in Asia Minor to wealthy Christian parents. In one of the earliest attested and most famous incidents from his life, he is said to have rescued three girls from being forced into prostitution by dropping a sack of gold coins through the window of their house each night for three nights so their father could pay a dowry for each of them. Other early stories tell of him calming a storm at sea, saving three innocent soldiers from wrongful execution, and chopping down a tree possessed by a demon. In his youth, he is said to have made a pilgrimage to Egypt and Palestine. Shortly after his return, he became Bishop of Myra. He was later cast into prison during the persecution of Diocletian, but was released after the accession of Constantine. An early list makes him an attendee at the First Council of Nicaea in 325, but he is never council.

mentioned in any writings by people who were actually at the Late, unsubstantiated legends claim that he was temporarily defrocked and imprisoned during the Council for slapping the heretic Arius. Another famous late legend tells how he resurrected three children, who had been murdered and pickled in brine by a butcher planning to sell them as pork during a famine. Fewer than 200 years after Nicholas's death, the St. Nicholas Church was built in Myra under the orders of Theodosius II over the site of the church where he had served as bishop and Nicholas's remains were moved to a sarcophagus in that church. In 1087, while the Greek Christian inhabitants of the region were subjugated by the newly arrived Muslim Seljuk Turks, and soon after their church was declared to be in schism by the Catholic church, a group of merchants from the Italian city of Bari removed the major bones of Nicholas's skeleton from his sarcophagus in the church without authorization and brought them to their hometown, where they are now enshrined in the Basilica di San Nicola. The remaining bone fragments from the sarcophagus were later removed by Venetian sailors and taken to Venice during the First Crusade. His relics in Bari are said to exude a miraculous watery substance known as "manna" or "myrrh", [attribution needed] which some members of the faithful regard as possessing supernatural powers.

Intercessory Prayers

Please keep in your prayers our Brothers and Sisters in Christ: Genevieve Bobenko, Barbara Bogart, Michael Bzik, Mary Ann Dolak, Dorothy Fabian, Barbara Kary, Margaret Kovalycsik, Kathleen Lazoreczyk, Dennis Maixner, Marian Nagel, MaryAnn Rabakozki, Helen Rahnefeld, Anna Rozanovich, Maryann Stagen, Eva Stashitsky, Patricia Galley.

Birthday Greeting

Happy Birthday go out this week to **Greg Cahayla** – 12/06; **Effie Stankovci** – 12/07; and **Georgiana Stankiewicz** – 12/07. May God continue to enrich them life with the fullness of joy and happiness for many years – Mnogaya Lyeta!

Our Parish Life

♦ **St. Nicholas Day a Virtual Celebration.** An online gala showcasing the musical talents of the St. Tikhon's community and other churches across North America. **DECEMBER 6, 2020 | 7-9 pm Online At [YOUTUBE.STOTS.EDU](https://www.youtube.com/stots.edu) & [FACEBOOK.COM/SAINTTIKHONS](https://www.facebook.com/sainttikhons).** For more information call (570) 561-1818 or email info@stots.edu

♦ On **Saturday, December 12** at **1 PM** there will be an **Akathist** (healing service) to the Mother of God in front of her icon "Queen of All", followed by **Parish Confession**. Take this opportunity to rejuvenate your spiritual life as we prepare to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord.

♦ The flowers adorning the icon of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker on the center tetrapod were given by **Maryann Stagen**. We sincerely thank her with prayers for God's blessing always.

♦ Please be aware that Christmas is just around the corner. Keep in mind those of our neighbors who are in need. Our Pantry Coordinator, Helen Baron, is asking for your help with food or funds to donate to those who need assistance especially at this holiday season.

