

**St. Mary's Orthodox Church**  
**217 First Street – Coaldale Pa 18218-1602**  
**Phone.....570-645-2772**  
**OUR WEBSITE...www.stmarysnativity.org**

**Rector: V. Rev. James Weremedic**  
Retired Attached: V. Rev Paul Ropitsky

**Sunday, December 5, 2021**  
Choir Director: Wash King

**24<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – TONE 7 (11<sup>th</sup> of Luke).**  
**Ven. Sabbas the Sanctified**

*Glory Be to Jesus Christ!*

*Glory Be Forever!*

***Services:***

Sunday, December 5	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy
Monday, December 6	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – St Nicholas the Wonderworker
Sunday, December 12	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – Holy Forefathers
Sunday, December 19	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – Sunday before the Nativity
Saturday, December 25	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ
Sunday, December 26	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – Synaxis of the Most Holy Theotokos followed by Parastas

**Prayer List:**

Matushka Lovey Ropitsky, Matushka Lisa Weremedic,  
Andrew Balliet, Dr. Ronald Berezniak, Michael Birozik, Clark Andrew Bogosh, Theodore Bogosh,  
Ermalyn Naomi Buchanan, Evanna Jane Buchanan, Stephanie Chmel, Irene Davis, Ilene Devine, Julia  
Forte, Karen Harkins, John King, Michael Kulick, John & Olga Kushnir, Nancy Lorchak, MaryAnn &  
Paul Macenka, Mary Maholick, Mildred O'Shura, Anna Pisko, Melissa Schmitt, Althea Shellock, Olga  
Sidoriak, Mary Simone, Martha Stafiniak, Martha Teno, Michael Teno, Elizabeth Warcholak, Russell  
Wishousky, Russell Yallas, & Marie Yurchak.

If anyone is in need of a priest, please call Father James Weremedic at 570-645-2772. Visitation of the Sick and Infirm: If you are going into the hospital for any reason, please inform Fr. James at the Rectory. Emergency Calls: Please call the Rectory (570-645-2772) anytime (day or night) in an emergency.

**Candles (December 5)**

7-Day Vigils/Altar... In memory of **Richard York** offered by Ted Bogosh  
Altar Candles... In memory of **Marion Pickenheim** offered by William Yelsh

Eternal Lamp... In memory of **Mother, Anna Bogosh** offered by Ted Bogosh  
Vigil Crosses... In memory of **Richard York** offered by Susett Baddick  
7-Day Vigils/Tetrapod... In memory of **Gloria Ferri** offered by Ted Bogosh  
Decorated Candles/Tetrapod- In memory of **Rose (Winsko) Maliniak** offered by Friends

**December Birthdays:** 9- Odess Remington, 11- Stephanie Chmel (101), 16- Sbdn James Weremedic,  
22- Karoline Vavra, 28- Sophia James

Financials 11/25-28/21: *Operating Acct:* Candles 63 - Altar Candles 30 - Offerings 1,004 – Non-Envelope 10 - Holy Days 0 – Donations 0 = Total \$1,290.00. – Building Fund 1, Poinsettias 20.  
Please continue to keep filling your church envelopes. – Thank you!

Since no copper had to be replaced, the final cost of the roof repairs was \$6,260.00. Donations so far for roof repairs is \$2,710.00. Thank you very much for all the donations towards this project. Names of donors are on file. In the Spring, sections of the brick wall on the church will need to be sealed to prevent water leakage.

## CONFESSION

Confessions have resumed with minor modifications. Please call the rectory at 570-645-2772 and talk to Father James for a reservation. Call between 9:30 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Individual schedule times will be spread out during the week. Husband and wife can be scheduled together. Anyone wanting to have a confession, but has concerns of COVID-19, should contact Father James to make the appropriate accommodations.

Pocket Calendars have been distributed. If you did not get yours, please see Gloria Bench. **Boxes of envelopes for 2022 have arrived.** They are on the stand in the back of the church waiting to be taken home.

Please use Amazon Smile when ordering from Amazon.

If you have any Redner receipts, please call or get them to Helen King.

Please use your Boyer's card when shopping at Boyers; if you need one call Helen King.



## THE EXAMPLE ST. NICHOLAS SET FOR US

**E**ach year, as we approach the celebration of our Lord's Nativity, our Church honors the memory of **SAINT NICHOLAS**, the 4th century Archbishop of Myra. He is revered and remembered by us primarily because he dedicated his life to following Christ's uncomplicated dictate: **TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER.**

And what a shining example of love this holy hierarch was! St. Nicholas loved his fellow man so much that he gave away everything he possessed to those who were in need. Perhaps the most popular tale of his generosity centers around his secretly throwing three bags of gold through the window of a house one night when he heard that a father was being forced to sell his three daughters into slavery because he was so destitute! This beloved

bishop had a special fondness for children, a love that has transcended time itself, for even in today's world, his kindly spirit touches the hearts of youngsters everywhere. St. Nicholas loved his Orthodox Faith so deeply that he was willing to defend it at any cost. He faced exile and possible execution at the hands of the Emperor Diocletian. He risked being removed from his episcopal office for striking the heretic Arius at the 1st Ecumenical Council in 325 A.D. Through these and other trials and tribulations during his lifetime, his love for Christ's Church never wavered!

Truly the life of St. Nicholas teaches us that love does conquer all! Without this great virtue, as St. Paul writes to the Corinthians, we are **NOTHING AT ALL!** May his memory inspire us.

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

### AN ACT OF CHARITY

St. Nicholas giving money to a poor father as a dowry for his three daughters



24th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 7. Ven. Savva the Sanctified (532). St. Gurias, Archbishop of Kazan' (1563). Martyr Anastasius. Ven. Karion (Cyron) and his son, Ven. Zachariah, of Egypt (4th c.). Ven. Nectarius of Mt. Athos (1406). Ven. Philotheus of Karyes (Mt. Athos—14th c.). Monastic Martyrs of Karyes (Mt. Athos). St. Crispina (304).

### **Ephesians 2:14-22 (Epistle)**

For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.

Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

### **Galatians 5:22-6:2 (Epistle, Saint)**

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

### **Luke 17:12-19 (Gospel)**

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."

### **Matthew 11:27-30 (Gospel, Saint)**

All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.

Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."



## Venerable Savva the Sanctified

**Troparion — Tone 8:** With the streams of your tears you cultivated the barrenness of the desert; / and by your deep sighs, you bore fruit a hundredfold in your labors. / You became a luminary, shining upon the world with miracles. / O our righteous Father Savva, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved!

**Kontakion — Tone 8:** From your youth you offered yourself to God as a blameless sacrifice, / having been dedicated to Him before your birth, blessed Savva. / You were an adornment of the righteous and a praiseworthy citizen of the desert. / Therefore, we cry to you: "Rejoice, ever glorious Father."

Saint Savva the Sanctified was born in the fifth century at Cappadocia of pious Christian parents, John and Sophia. His father was a military commander. Journeying to Alexandria on military matters, John and Sophia left their five-year-old son Savva in the care of an uncle. When the boy reached eight years of age, he entered the monastery of Saint Flavian located nearby. The gifted child quickly learned to read and became an expert on the Holy Scriptures. In vain did his parents urge Saint Savva to return to the world and enter into marriage.

When he was seventeen years old he received monastic tonsure, and attained such perfection in fasting and prayer that he was given the gift of wonderworking. After spending ten years at the monastery of Saint Flavian, he went to Jerusalem, and from there to the monastery of Saint Euthymius the Great (January 20). But Saint Euthymius sent Saint Savva to Abba Theoctistus, the head of a nearby monastery with a strict cenobitic rule. Saint Savva lived in obedience at this monastery until the age of thirty.

After the death of the Elder Theoctistus, his successor blessed Saint Savva to seclude himself in a cave. On Saturdays, however, he left his hermitage and came to the monastery, where he participated in divine services and ate with the brethren. After a certain time Saint Savva received permission not to leave his hermitage at all, and he struggled in the cave for five years.

Saint Euthymius attentively directed the life of the young monk, and seeing his spiritual maturity, he began to take him to the Rouba wilderness with him. They set out on January 14, and remained there until Palm Sunday. Saint Euthymius called Saint Savva a child-elder, and encouraged him to grow in the monastic virtues.

When Saint Euthymius fell asleep in the Lord (+ 473), Saint Savva withdrew from the Lavra and moved to a cave near the monastery of Saint Gerasimus of Jordan (March 4). After several years, disciples began to gather around Saint Savva, seeking the monastic life. As the number of monks increased, a lavra sprang up. When a pillar of fire appeared before Saint Savva as he was walking, he found a spacious cave in the form of a church.

Saint Savva founded several more monasteries. Many miracles took place through the prayers of Saint Savva: at the Lavra a spring of water welled up, during a time of drought there was abundant rain, and there were also healings of the sick and the demoniacs. Saint Savva composed the first monastic Rule of church services, the so-called "Jerusalem Typikon", accepted by all the Palestine monasteries. The saint surrendered his soul to God in the year 532.

## Saint Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia

**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.

**Kontakion — Tone 3:** You revealed yourself, O saint, in Myra as a priest, / for you fulfilled the Gospel of Christ / by giving up your soul for your people, / and saving the innocent from death. / Therefore, you are blessed as one become wise in the grace of God.