

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
Choir Director: Wash King

Sunday, January 24, 2021
33rd Sunday after Pentecost
Tone 8 – Holy New Martyrs

Glory Be To Jesus Christ!

Glory Be Forever!

Sun...January 24...9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy, Short Parish Council Meeting at 11:00 am

Sat... January 30– NO VESPERS

Sun... January 31...9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

Sat...February 6 – NO VESPERS

Sun...February 7...9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

Prayer List: *HEAVENLY FATHER ... Physician of our souls and bodies, Who has sent your only begotten Son to heal every sickness and infirmity, visit us and heal us, Your servants, from all physical and spiritual ailments through the grace of Your Son Jesus Christ; grant to us patience in this sickness, strength of body and spirit, and recovery of health. Lord, You have taught us through Your word to pray for each other that we may be healed. You are the source of healing and to You, we give glory; to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.*

Matushka Lovey Ropitsky, Matushka Lisa Weremedic, Andrew Balliet, Michael Birozik, Clark Bogosh, Theodore Bogosh, Cecil Buchanan, Emmalyn Naomi Buchanan, Evanna Jane Buchanan, Stephanie Chmel, Edward Conarty, Irene Davis, Ilene Devine, Julia Forte, Olga Hebda, Peter Holoviyak, John King, Claire Kononchuk, Michael Kulick, John Kushnir, Nancy Lorchak, MaryAnn Macenka, Mary Maholick, Mildred O'Shura, Anna Pisko, Melissa Schmitt, Althea Shellock, Olga Sidoriak, Helen Suda, Martha Stafiniak, Joseph Tosca, Martha Teno, Michael Teno, Nancy Vanno, Elizabeth Warcholak, Russell Wishousky, Russell Yallas, & Richard York.

January Birthdays: 2- Tommy Shanosky, 3- Allysa Vavra, 7- Ted Bogosh (96), 10-Helen Yurchak (95), 13- Dr. Ronald Berezniak, 21- Helen Sheers

January Wedding Anniversaries: 9- Wash & Helen King, 23- Russell & Geri King.

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 (January 24):

7-Day Vigils/Altar... For the health of Matushka Lisa Weremedic offered Mildred O'Shura

Altar Candles... For the health of Odess Remington offered by Stephanie Chmel

Eternal Lamp... In memory of Kay & Paul Maliniak offered by William Yelsh

Vigil Crosses ... In memory of Marion Pickenheim offered by William Yelsh

7-Day Vigils/Tetrapod... In memory of Lillian Yelsh offered by William Yelsh

Decorated Candles/Tetrapod...In memory of Joseph & Sophie Herbert offered by Herbert Family

Financials 1/11-17/21: *Operating Acct:* Candles 56 - Altar Candles 90 - Offerings 1,313 – Non-Envelope 170 - Holy Days 45 – Christmas 15 = Total \$1,689.00; – Please continue to keep filling your church envelopes. – Thank you!

Please use Amazon Smile when ordering from Amazon.

Sam's Club memberships are open (\$45.00 per year) – See Helen King as soon as possible if interested.

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

January 24, 2021 will be observed as Sanctity of Life Sunday in parishes of the Orthodox Church in America. The clergy and faithful are encouraged to utilize the special liturgical petitions and prayers for the occasion.

The following petitions are to be inserted into the Litany of Fervent Supplication as part of the annual commemoration of Sanctity of Life Sunday:

Again we pray that You will grant to the people of this nation the will to do good, to flee from evil, and to practice all righteousness, making us respectful of life and sharers of Your blessings, caring for one another in mercy and truth.

Again we pray that You will banish all evil from our hearts and wickedness from our laws, enabling us to be servants of Your holy will and performers of Your Love.

Again we pray that You will kindle in our hearts the will to care for the needy, to show kindness to the poor, to aid the homeless and help the helpless.

The bishops of the Orthodox Church in America have always strongly supported and participated in the annual March for Life held in Washington DC. However, due to the ongoing global health crisis, this year His Beatitude will lead a virtual March for Life event which will be live-streamed on Thursday, January 28 beginning at 7:30 pm ET on oca.org/live and via the OCA's YouTube and Facebook pages. The live-stream will feature a prayer service led by Metropolitan Tikhon, followed by reflections by His Beatitude. The main address will be given by Dr Ana Iltis of Wake Forest University, a leading Orthodox Christian bioethicist. The broadcast will also highlight Orthodox organizations that support women in crisis pregnancies.

If you do not feel comfortable coming to church yet,
you may continue to watch On-line Services:

Go to the Diocese of Eastern PA website at the bottom of our church website.
At the top of the page – Click on Live Streaming – Scroll down to church services
St. Nicholas Orthodox Church – Mogadore, OH – You Tube



"NOTHING" IN THE BIBLE

During Church every Sunday there is a sermon. Each sermon has a subject which allows the priest to say "**SOMETHING**" . . . words and thoughts for us to ponder and reflect upon. However, today we will explore the idea of "**NOTHING**" and how it relates to the Holy Scriptures.

"Let **NOTHING** be done through selfish ambition or conceit . . ." (Philippians 2:3) Conceit is a common vice that gets in the way of our spiritual growth. It causes us to despise those who have a different way of life. It makes us think that we are better than our fellow man. To be conceited is a form of idolatry and exposes those who seek to please others more than God.

So how do we overcome this strife? Ponder for a moment, the humility displayed by Christ our God. He voluntarily took on our human shape and experienced our human condition. He showed the fullness of His humility by experiencing death, which enslaves mankind. He brutally died on a cross, the penalty of a common criminal, to save us from sin. And by doing so, His death and resurrection bring life to all who follow Him.

Another **NOTHING** is written by St. Paul in Philippians 4:6. "Be anxious for **NOTHING** . . ." How do we handle the pressures of our daily lives? We know that anxiety can destroy our health, homes and dreams. It does nothing to help us cope with tomorrow and only drains our strength today. Have **FAITH** that the Lord is present, guiding us through our times of trouble. This is the secret to contentment.

As you can see, there are several "**NOTHING**s" in the Bible. But what we can conclude from them is that **NOTHING** should hold us back from our full commitment to Jesus Christ.

33rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Ven. Xenia of Rome and her two female servants. St. Gerásim, Bishop of Perm. Martyr John of Kazan'. Martyrs Babylas of Sicily, and his two disciples: Timothy and Agapius. Bl. Xenia of St. Petersburg.

Colossians 3:4-11 (*Epistle*)

When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

Therefore, put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.

But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth.

Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

Luke 18:35-43 (*Gospel*)

Then it happened, as He was coming near Jericho, that a certain blind man sat by the road begging.

And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant.

So, they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by.

And he cried out, saying, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

So, Jesus stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him, saying, "What do you want Me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, that I may receive my sight."

Then Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well."

And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

Venerable Xenia of Rome, and her two female servants

Saint Xenia of Rome, in the world Eusebia, was the only daughter of an eminent Roman senator. From her youth she loved God, and wished to avoid the marriage arranged for her. She secretly left her parental home with two servants devoted to her, and set sail upon a ship. Through the Providence of God she met the head of the monastery of the holy Apostle Andrew in Milassa, a town of Caria (Asia Minor). She besought him to take her and her companions to Milassa. She also changed her name, calling herself Xenia [which means "stranger" or "foreigner" in Greek].

At Milassa she bought land, built a church dedicated to Saint Stephen, and founded a woman's monastery. Soon after this, Bishop Paul of Milassa made Xenia a deaconess, because of her virtuous life. The saint helped everyone: for the destitute, she was a benefactress; for the grief-stricken, a comforter; for sinners, a guide to repentance. She possessed a deep humility, accounting herself the worst and most sinful of all.

In her ascetic deeds she was guided by the counsels of the Palestinian ascetic, Saint Euthymius. The sublime life of Saint Xenia drew many souls to Christ. The holy virgin died in 450 while she was praying. During her funeral, a luminous wreath of stars surrounding a radiant cross appeared over the monastery in the heavens. This sign accompanied the body of the saint when it was carried into the city, and remained until the saint's burial. Many of the sick received healing after touching the relics of the saint. Following the death of Saint Xenia, first one of her former servants died, then the other. They were buried at the saint's feet.

Local March for Life, held in Tamaqua

In honor of the March For Life we will be holding a local Pro-Life demonstration on the day of the march during the time that the individuals at the march will be marching to the supreme court building. The demonstration will be as follows: Date: January 29, 2021 Time: 2:00 to 4:00 PM Where: Broad Street and Center Street Tamaqua, PA Event: You will be asked to hold sign and stand or sit on the sidewalks so the signs can be visible to the cars driving by on Broad or Center streets. Please stand or sit in silence pray or song. You will need to position yourself in a respectful manor so as to not block the total use of the sidewalks nor impact the traffic. If you prefer to sit you will need to bring your own chair. You are welcome to bring your own sign as long as it is respectful. Limited number of signs will be available to be borrowed and returned after the event. The signs will be distributed near at the Five Point park in the center of town, in the metered parking-lot.

Please respect the COVID-19 guidelines of social distancing and prevention of the spread of the virus. “We believe that it is time for the Church to fight for the unborn with spiritual weapons. The battle for life will not be won in the courtroom or the voting booth until it is first won in prayer. We call for pastors to lead the Church in repentance for our nation. When God’s people humble themselves, pray, seek His face, and turn from their own ways, we believe that God will hear from heaven, forgive our sins, and heal our land (2 Chronicles 7:14-15).” The Life Chain website (<https://lifechain.org>)

Priest: O Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son, Who are in the bosom of the Father, True God, source of life and immortality, Light of Light, who came into the world to enlighten it, Thou wast pleased to be conceived in the womb of the Virgin Mary for the salvation of our souls by the power of Thine All-Holy Spirit. O Master, Who came that we might have life more abundantly, we ask that Thou might enlighten the minds and hearts of those blinded to the truth that life begins at conception, and that the unborn in the womb are already adorned with Thine image and likeness; enable us to guard, cherish and protect the lives of all those who are unable to care for themselves. For Thou art the Bestower of Life, bringing each person from non-being into being, sealing each person with divine and infinite love. Be merciful, O Lord, to those who, through ignorance or willfulness, affront Thy divine goodness and providence through the evil act of abortion. May they, and all of us, come to the light of Thy Truth and glorify Thee, the Giver of Life, together with Thy Father and Thine All-Holy and Life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Prayer for Healing for Women who have had abortions

Eternal Father, Source of all mercy and love, out of love for us you sent your Son, and willed that blood and water flow from his side to cleanse us of sin and restore lost innocence. Hear the cry of each woman and man who mourns the loss of their child to abortion. Forgive their sin, restore them to your grace, and still the terror of their hearts with a peace beyond all understanding. Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of all tenderness and our Mother, strengthen their faith in you. Give them the consolation to believe that their child is now living in the Lord. We ask this through Christ our Lord, who conquered sin and death, and who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

FROM: [The Office of Prayer and Supplication for the Victims of Abortion \(oca.org\)](https://oca.org)