
Commemoration of the Day:

Saints Athanasius and Cyril were Archbishops of Alexandria. These wise teachers of truth and defenders of Christ's Church share a joint Feast in recognition of their dogmatic writings which affirm the truth of the Orthodox Faith, correctly interpret the Holy Scripture, and censure the delusions of the heretics.

Saint Athanasius took part in the First Ecumenical Council when he was still a deacon. He surpassed everyone there in his zeal to uphold the teaching that Christ is consubstantial (homoousios) with the Father, and not merely a creature, as the Arians proclaimed. This radiant beacon of Orthodoxy spent most of his life in exile from his See, because of the plotting of his enemies. He returned to his flock as he was approaching the end of his life. Like an evening star, he illumined the Orthodox faithful with his words for a little while, then reposed in 373. He is also commemorated on May 2 (the transfer of his holy relics).

St Cyril was the nephew of Patriarch Theophilus of Alexandria, who educated him from his youth. He succeeded to his uncle's position in 412, but was deposed through the intrigues of the Nestorian heretics. He later resumed his See, however. St Cyril presided at the Third Ecumenical Council in 431, which censured the Nestorian blasphemy against the Most Holy Theotokos. His wise words demonstrated the error of their false doctrine. St Cyril departed to the Lord in the year 444, and is also commemorated on June 9 (the day of his repose).

Saint Athanasius of Synadem and Vologda was a disciple of Saint Alexander of Svir. After the death of his mentor, he established the Dormition hermitage in the forests of Karelia, not far from the city of Olonets, on an island of Lake Synadem. The slander and pettiness of the local inhabitants compelled Saint Athanasius to move back to the Svir monastery, where they chose him as igumen. Later returning to the Dormition hermitage, Saint Athanasius died in about the year 1550 in great old age, and was buried on one of the promontories of Roschinsk island. Afterwards, a church was built over his grave, named for Saints Athanasius and Cyril of Alexandria. The incorrupt relics of Saint Athanasius were placed in this church in 1720.

(Adapted from the OCA website.)

Announcements

Our parish Parish Book Study continues on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month following Vespers. Our next text will be The Art of Myrrh Bearing. The next meeting will be on January the 24th.

January Charity will be directed toward the Diocesan Appeal for Seminarian Support. February charity will be directed toward the the breadbasket of NEPA.

Annual parish meeting is scheduled for February the 1st, this is the second formal announcement as per the parish bylaws. Agenda for the meeting will be available Sunday January 25th.

Anyone who wishes to have their home blessed this year please reach out to Fr. Nathan to schedule.

Perogi making is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday 2/3 and Saturday 2/7. Pinchers please arrive at 10:30am.

Spiritual Food for Thought:

“It is only necessary to seek one thing: to be with Jesus. The man who remains with Jesus is rich, even if he is poor with regard to material things. Who ever desires the earthly more than the heavenly loses both the earthly and the heavenly. But whoever seeks the heavenly is Lord over the whole world.”

-St. Ignatius Bryanchaninov

Prayers for the Sick:

Archpriest Vladimir
Archpriest John
Archpriest Gregory
Archpriest John
Archpriest Daniel
Priest Michael
Matushka Gloria
Matushka Myra
John

Joan
James
Thomas
Diane
William
Oliver
Timothy
Joseph

Upcoming Services:

January 24th – Great Vespers – 5:00pm

January 25th – Divine Liturgy – 9:30am

February 2nd – Great Vespers – 5:00pm

February 1st – Divine Liturgy – 9:30am

February 2nd – Divine Liturgy – 9:30am – Feast of the Presentation

Contact Information:

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**32nd Sunday after Pentecost;
Sts. Athanasius the Great and Cyril,
Archbishops of Alexandria
January 18th, 2026**



St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

OCA Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania
His Eminence, Archbishop Mark – Hierarch

Rev. Nathan Clausson – Rector
Very Rev. Vladimir Fetcho – Attached
Very Rev. John Nightingale – Attached
Mark Howanetz – Choir Director
Thomas LaTournous – Parish Council President