

**34th Sunday after Pentecost
New Martyrs of Russia,
Venerable Ephraim the Syrian,**

January 28th, 2024

Assigned Readings:

Colossians 3:4-11; Romans 8:28-39

Matthew 22: 35-46; Luke 21:8-19

Saints of the Day:

On the Sunday closest to January 25, the Church commemorates the Synaxis of the Holy New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia, remembering all those Orthodox Christians who suffered for Christ at the hands of the godless Soviets during the years of persecution. These include the royal Passion Bearers Tsar Nicholas II and his family, and the Grand Duchess Elizabeth. Countless thousands of martyrs, both clergy and laity also suffered, some of whose names are known, as well as millions of simple believers whose names have been lost to history.

It is estimated that the number of the New Martyrs of Russia, who were glorified by the Russian Orthodox Church at the Jubilee Council of 2000, far exceeds that of all the martyrs who died for Christ during the first three centuries of Christianity. The Russian Church lost millions of its sons and daughters, not only at the hands of external enemies, but also those of their own country. Among those who were murdered and tortured in the years of persecution were countless Orthodox: laity, monks, priests, and bishops, whose only “crime” was their unshakable faith in God.

In the long history of the world, never have so many new heavenly intercessors been glorified by the Church in such a way (more than one thousand New Martyrs were numbered among the saints). Among those who suffered for their faith were some who labored in America before the Russian Revolution: St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia (April 7); St. Alexander Hotovitzky (Dec. 4); St. John Kochurov (Oct. 31).

- From OCA website

Announcements

Annual Parish Meeting is scheduled for Sunday February 4th, with an inclement weather back-up date of February 11th.

A signup sheet is on the candle desk for house blessings. I will try to visit everyone who wishes their home to be blessed before the start of Great Lent. If you do not wish to have your house blessed, please tell Fr. Nathan.

Piroghi making is planned for Thursday, February 8th and Saturday, February 10th. The most help is needed for pinching which usually starts at about 10 am.

On Monday, January 22nd our beloved sister Vera Price fell asleep in the Lord, and we laid her to rest on January 26th. Please keep her and her grieving family in your prayers. May the Lord grant her rest among His saints and make her memory to be eternal!

Upcoming Services:

February 1st – 9th Hour, Great Vespers with Litya – Feast of the Presentation – 6pm.

February 3rd – Great Vespers – 6pm

February 4th – Divine Liturgy – 930am.

Contact Information:

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Troparion and Kontakion

Troparion of the Resurrection – Tone 1

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,
while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body,
Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world.
The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life:
“Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ!
Glory to Thy Kingdom! // Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!”

Troparion for the New Martyrs – Tone 4

Today the Church of Russia forms a chorus in joy, praising her new martyrs and confessors;
hierarchs and priests, royal passion-bearers, right-believing princes and princesses,
venerable men and women, and all Orthodox Christians.
Having laid down their life for faith in Christ during the days of godless persecution,
they preserved the truth by the shedding of blood.//
By their protection, O long-suffering Lord,
preserve our land in Orthodoxy till the end of the age.

Kontakion of the Resurrection – Tone 1

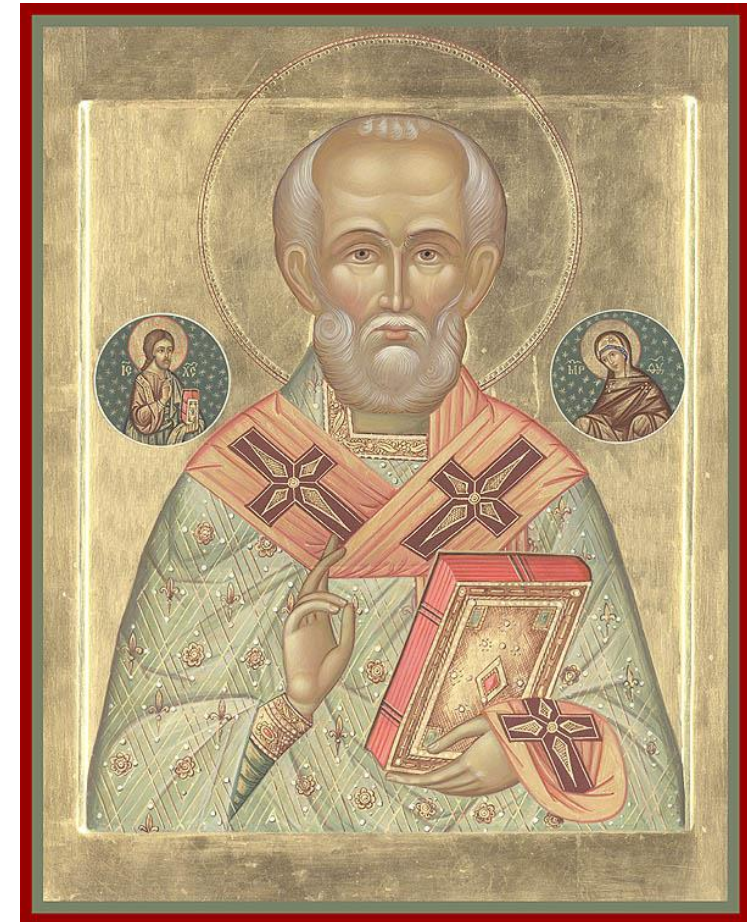
As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Thyself.
Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished.
Adam exults, O Master!
Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee://
“Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

Kontakion for the New Martyrs – Tone 3

Today the new martyrs of Rus’ stand in white robes before the Lamb of God,
and with the angels they sing to God the hymn of victory:
“Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and praise, and honor,
and power, and strength be to our God // unto the ages of ages. Amen.”

Prayers for the Sick:

Archpriest Vladimir	Julie
Priest John	Joan
Archpriest Michael	Marie
Archpriest Gregory	James
Matushka Gloria	James
Matushka Myra	Dimitrios
Thom	



St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

OCA Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania
Archbishop Mark – Hierarch

Fr. Nathan Clausson – Acting Rector
Fr. Vladimir Fetcho – Attached
Fr. John Nightingale – Attached
Mark Howanetz – Choir Director
Rick Cesari – Parish President