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## **Commemoration of the Day:**

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The Martyr Tryphon was born in Phrygia. From his early years the Lord granted him the power to cast out demons and to heal various maladies. He once saved the inhabitants of his native city from starvation. Saint Tryphon, by the power of his prayer, turned back a plague of locusts that were devouring the grain and devastating the fields. Saint Tryphon gained particular fame by casting out an evil spirit from the daughter of the Roman emperor Gordian. Helping everyone in distress, he asked only one thing from them: faith in Jesus Christ, by Whose grace he healed them.

When the emperor Decius assumed the imperial throne, he began a fierce persecution of Christians. Someone reported to the commander Aquilinus that Saint Tryphon was boldly preaching faith in Christ, and that he led many to Baptism. The saint was arrested and subjected to interrogation, during which he fearlessly confessed his faith. He was subjected to harsh tortures: they beat him with clubs, raked his body with iron hooks, they scorched his flesh with fire, and led him through the city, after iron nails were hammered into his feet. Saint Tryphon bravely endured all the torments without complaint.

Finally, he was condemned to beheading with a sword. The holy martyr prayed before his execution, thanking God for strengthening him in his sufferings. He also asked the Lord to bless those who should call upon his name for help. Just as the soldiers raised the sword over the head of the holy martyr, he surrendered his soul into the hands of God. This event occurred in the city of Nicea in the year 250. Christians wrapped the holy body of the martyr in a clean shroud and wanted to bury him in the city of Nicea, where he suffered, but Saint Tryphon in a vision commanded them to take his body to his native land to the village of Lampsacus. Later on, the relics of Saint Tryphon were transferred to Constantinople, and then to Rome. In Russia, Saint Tryphon is regarded as the patron saint of birds. The holy martyr is greatly venerated in the Russian Orthodox Church as the heavenly protector of Moscow. Many Russian icons depict the saint holding a falcon on his arm.

(Adapted from the OCA website.)

## **Announcements**

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

January Charity will be directed toward the Diocesan Appeal for Seminarian Support. Due to snow closures the charity collected this morning will be added to the January total. February charity will be directed toward the the breadbasket of NEPA.

Annual parish meeting is scheduled for February the 8<sup>th</sup>, this is the third formal announcement as per the parish bylaws. Agenda for the meeting is available today.

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.

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## **Spiritual Food for Thought:**

“When our heart has no love for Christ, we are like ships that have no fuel, no gas in their engines. We must always remember Christ with love. Then our soul will leap with Joy.”

-St. Amphilochios of Patmos

## 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:

February 2<sup>nd</sup> – Divine Liturgy – 9:30am – Feast of the Presentation

February 7<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers – 5:00pm

February 8<sup>th</sup> – Divine Liturgy – 9:30am

February 14<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers – 5:00pm

February 15<sup>th</sup> – Divine Liturgy – 9:30am

## Contact Information:

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## 34<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost; Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee Forefeast of the Meeting February 1<sup>st</sup>, 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