
Commemorations of the Day:

The Hieromartyr Theodotus, a native of Galatia in Asia Minor, was Bishop of Cyrenia in Cyprus. During a time of persecution against Christians under the impious emperor Licinius, Saint Theodotus openly preached Christ, calling on the pagans to abandon idolatry and turn to the true God. Sabinus, the governor of Cyprus, ordered that Bishop Theodotus be arrested and brought to trial. When he heard about this order, the saint did not wait for the soldiers to be sent after him, but immediately went to the governor saying, “I, whom you seek, am here. I have shown myself in order to preach Christ my God.” The governor ordered that the saint be beaten without mercy, suspended from a tree, raked with sharp implements, and then be taken to prison. Five days later Saint Theodotus was brought to the governor, who presumed that after his tortures the bishop would prefer to renounce Christ, rather than endure new sufferings. However, Saint Theodotus did not cease to preach about Christ. At first they put the saint on an iron grate, under which they lit a fire, and then hammered nails into his feet and let him go. Many witnessed the sufferings of the martyr. Astonished at the saint’s endurance and his divinely-inspired speech, they came to believe in Christ. Learning of this, Sabinus gave orders to stop the torture and throw the saint into prison. During the reign of Saint Constantine the Great (May 21), the freedom to confess their faith was given to all Christians, and among those set free from prison was Saint Theodotus. The saint returned to Cyrenia and after two years serving as bishop he peacefully fell asleep in the Lord in about the year 326.

Saint Joachim (in the world John Patrikios) was born in 1786 in the village of Kalyvia on the island of Ithaka to devout and virtuous parents, Angelos and Agnes. John lost his mother when he was young. His father married again, but John's stepmother tormented and tortured him. During those difficult years, the Saint struggled patiently and with humility, finding refuge in prayer in Saint Spyridon's chapel, and by studying holy books. In his teenage years, he worked as a sailor on his father's boat, which caused the crew to respect and esteem him for his virtues and his character. On one of his journeys he found refuge on the Holy Mountain. There, at Vatopedi Monastery, he was tonsured as a monk and received the name Joachim. At the start of the Greek Revolution, the Monastery sent Father Joachim to the Pelopónnēsos as a preacher. The Saint taught, guided, supported, and encouraged the Greeks. Furthermore, with a boat belonging to Papa John Makrē of Kephallonia he transported old men, women, and children from the Pelopónnēsos to the Ionian Islands, thereby saving them from an invasion by Pasha Imbraim. Around 1827, Saint Joachim arrived in his English-occupied homeland of Ithaka. For 49 years he ministered in the world and protected his flock from sin, delusion, and heresy. There are reports of how Saint Joachim prayed and stood in the air above the ground, bathed in heavenly light. God gave him the gift of clairvoyance, and thus he became a counselor, an educator in Christ, and a physician of the Ithakians.

(from OCA website)

Announcements

March Charity will be associated with the OC Life National Baby Shower, hopefully directed toward Providence Pregnancy Center which serves our local region.

Perogi snow date has been set as Thursday March the 13th. Please plan to attend if possible.

Great Lent begins tomorrow. Let us all endeavor to keep the fast to the best of our abilities. Remember this is an ascetic discipline, it is better to consistently keep a simpler rule than to sporadically keep a more severe rule.

We have a vacancy in the position of auditor for the parish. Any person who is willing to serve in this important capacity please talk to Fr. Nathan.

March Parish Council meeting is set for Sunday the 16th.

Archbishop Mark will be visiting our sister parish for the Sunday of Orthodoxy. As has been our recent custom, Fr. Paul has invited us to join All Saints for Divine Liturgy on Sunday, March the 9th.

Please submit names to Fr. Nathan for commemoration during the Memorial Services of Great Lent.

Spiritual Food for Thought:

“My child, you may refrain from certain food during this fast, but even Satan does not eat. You may work hard, but Satan never rests. The only way to defeat him is through humility – for Satan has none. Strive for humility this Lent.”

+St. Moses the Ethiopian
(The Black)

Prayers for the Sick:

Archbishop Nathaniel
Archpriest Vladimir
Priest John
Archpriest Gregory
Archpriest John
Archpriest Daniel
Matushka Gloria
Matushka Myra
John

Thom
Nancy
Joan
James
Thomas
Diane
William
Oliver
Timothy

Upcoming Services:

March 3rd – Canon of St. Andrew – 6:00pm

March 5th – Presanctified Liturgy – 6:00pm

March 7th – Moloben for St. Theodore, Blessing of Koliva – 6:00pm

March 8th – Great Vespers – 5:00pm

March 9th – Divine Liturgy – 9:30am, Sunday of Orthodoxy at All Saints

Contact Information:

Parish Mailing Address
St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
P.O. Box 142
Olyphant PA 18447

Driving Address
600 E. Lackawanna St
Olyphant PA 18447

Website
Stnicholasolyphant.org

Phone number:
570-489-3891

Email:
Frnathan.clausson@gmail.com

The Lenten Triodon: Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise; Cheesefare Sunday March 02, 2025



St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

OCA Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania
Archbishop Mark – Hierarch

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