
Commemoration of the Day:

Saint Augustine was from Italy and was chosen by Saint Gregory Dialogus to lead a mission of forty monks to evangelize the people of Britain. They arrived in Kent in 597. King Ethelbert, whose Frankish wife Bertha was a Christian, welcomed them. They were allowed to base their mission at the ancient church of Saint Martin in Canterbury, which was restored for their use. This church had been built during the Roman occupation of Britain, and the queen often went there to pray. At first, the king was reluctant to give up his pagan beliefs, but he promised not to harm them, and to supply them with whatever they needed. He also promised that he would not prevent them from preaching Christianity. Saint Augustine later converted the king to Christianity, along with thousands of his subjects. Consecrated as Archbishop of Britain he threw himself into the work of evangelizing the country with zeal. Saint Augustine built Christ Church, predecessor of the present cathedral at Canterbury, and consecrated it on June 9, 603. He also founded the monastery of Saints Peter and Paul east of the city, and was instrumental in founding the dioceses of Rochester and London. In 604 he consecrated Saint Justus and Saint Mellitus as bishops for those Sees. Saint Augustine also helped the king draft the earliest Anglo-Saxon laws and founded a school in Canterbury.

Saint Augustine was not completely successful in all his efforts, however. He was not able to achieve unity with the already existing Christian communities who followed Celtic practices. He met with some of their bishops to urge them to abandon their Celtic traditions and to accept the Roman practices. He invited them to cooperate with him in evangelizing the country, but they refused to give up their ancient traditions. Before meeting with Saint Augustine in 603, the Celtic bishops asked a holy hermit whether or not to accept Augustine as their leader. The hermit replied, "If he rises to greet you, then accept him. If he remains seated, then he is arrogant and unfit to be your leader, and you should reject him." Unfortunately, Saint Augustine did not rise to greet them. Perhaps Saint Augustine was, to some degree, a bit tactless and too insistent on conformity to Roman customs. On the other hand, Celtic resentment against Roman authority also contributed to the stormy relationship.

Known in his lifetime as a wonderworker, Saint Augustine fell asleep in the Lord on May 26, 604. He was laid to rest at the entrance of the unfinished church of Saints Peter and Paul. When the church was dedicated in 613, his holy relics were placed inside. An epitaph was composed for his tomb. In part, it reads: "Here lies the Lord Augustine, first Archbishop of Canterbury, sent here by blessed Gregory, bishop of the city of Rome, who with the help of God, and aided by miracles, guided King Ethelbert and his people from the worship of idols to the Faith of Christ."

(Adapted from OCA.org)

Announcements

June Parish Council Meeting will be held on June 9th following coffee hour. Father and several members have a scheduling conflict on June 2nd.

Anyone interested in assisting at Providence Pregnancy Center please speak to Fr. Nathan for contact information.

April/May charity collection is for Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry. June Charity is being directed towards an equipment purchase for St. Tikhon's Summer Camp.

Thank you to Fr. Damian for coming to our parish this weekend, please welcome him. He has just recently graduated from St. Tikhon's and will be leaving this week to join his family out west to begin serving a parish in California.

Piroghi making is planned on Thursday May 30th, and Saturday June 1st. Please mark your calendars. Pinching usually starts about 10am.

Plans are being made for a another Friday night BBQ on June 28th after Vespers for the Feast of St. Peter and Paul.

Parish Family Picnic is scheduled for Sunday July 21st following the Divine Liturgy. Please mark you calendars and plan to attend.

Spiritual Food for Thought:

"One must force himself to prayer when he has not spiritual prayer; and thus God, beholding him thus striving and compelling himself by force, in spite of an unwilling heart, give him the true prayer of the Spirit."

-St. Macarius the Great

Prayers for the Sick:

Archbishop Nathaniel
Archpriest Vladimir
Priest John
Archpriest Michael
Archpriest Gregory
Priest Michael
Matushka Gloria
Matushka Myra
Thom

Nancy
Julie
Joan
James
James
Thomas
Diane
Cathy
Dimitrios

Upcoming Services:

June 1st – Great Vespers – 6:00pm

June 2nd – Divine Liturgy – 9:30am

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

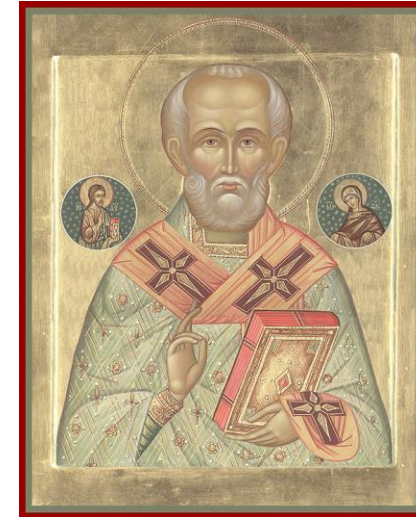
Website
Stnicholasolyphant.org

Phone number:
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Frnathan.clausson@gmail.com

4th Sunday of Pascha: Healing of the Paralytic

May 26th, 2024



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
Thomas LaTournous – Parish President