
Commemoration of the Day:

Saint Cyril, Archbishop of Alexandria, a distinguished champion of Orthodoxy and a great teacher of the Church, came from an illustrious and pious Christian family. He studied the secular sciences, including philosophy, but most of all he strove to acquire knowledge of the Holy Scriptures and the truths of the Christian Faith.

Cyril was unanimously chosen to the patriarchal throne of the Alexandrian Church. He led the struggle against the spread of the Novatian heresy in Alexandria, which taught that any Christian who had fallen away from the Church during a time of persecution, could not be received back into it. Cyril, seeing the futility of admonishing the heretics, sought their expulsion from Alexandria. In order to wipe out the remnants of paganism, the saint cast out devils from an ancient pagan temple and built a church on the spot, and the relics of the Holy Unmercenaries Cyrus and John were transferred into it.

A more difficult struggle awaited the saint with the emergence of the Nestorian heresy. Nestorius, a presbyter of the Antiochian Church, was chosen in 428 to the see of Constantinople and there he was able to spread his heretical teaching. Nestorius called the Mother of God not the Theotokos, but rather Christotokos or “Birth-giver of Christ,” implying that she gave birth not to God, but only to the man Christ. The holy Patriarch Cyril repeatedly wrote to Nestorius and pointed out his error, but Nestorius continued to persevere in it. Then the saint sent out epistles against Nestorianism to the clergy of Constantinople and to the holy emperor Theodosius the Younger, denouncing the heresy. Cyril wrote also to other Churches, to Pope Celestine and to the other Patriarchs, and even to monks of several monasteries, warning of the emergence of a dangerous heresy. The situation became so aggravated, that it became necessary to call an Ecumenical Council, which convened in the city of Ephesus in the year 431.

Cyril guided the Alexandrian Church for 32 years, and towards the end of his life the flock was cleansed of heretics. Gently and cautiously Cyril approached anyone, who by their own simpleness and lack of knowledge, fell into false wisdom. Cyril learned to overcome his prejudice against the memory of the great John Chrysostom, as the Alexandrian Church had not yet recognized him as a saint. Once in a dream he saw the great saint in the temple with the Theotokos and a host of other saints and angels. St. John forgave and embraced Cyril in love. Cyril repented that he had maintained anger against the great saint of God. Having convened all the Egyptian bishops, he celebrated a solemn feast in honor of John Chrysostom.

Cyril died in the year 444, leaving behind many written works. He is also commemorated on January 18th, and among the Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils.

(Adapted from OCA.org)

Announcements

Parish Council Meeting after/at the end of coffee hour today.

June Charity is being directed towards an equipment purchase for St. Tikhon’s Summer Camp. We have been asked to sponsor the Camp Water Balloon Fight.

Plans are being made for a another Friday night BBQ on June 28th after Vespers for the Feast of St. Peter and Paul. Sign up sheet is at the candle desk.

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

The diocese is starting a men’s fellowship and support group called the St. Alexis Toth Brotherhood of DoEPA. Sign up sheet for those interested is on the candle desk.

James Donovan reposed this past week (6/4), please remember him in your prayers and offer his wife Debbie and daughter Becky love and support during this difficult time.

Today we recognize our two parish Graduates: Michaela Henderson, Bachelor of Social Work, Magna Cum Laude, Marywood University; and Evangeline Clausson, Honors Graduate, North Pocono High School.

Spiritual Food for Thought:

“We used to hate and destroy one another and refused to associate with people of another race or country. Now, because of Christ, we live together with such people and pray for our enemies.”

-St. Justin Martyr

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
Thomas
Diane
Cathy
Dimitrios

Upcoming Services:

June 12th – Great Vespers with Lity: Eve of the Ascension – 6:00pm

June 15th – Great Vespers – 6:00pm

June 16th – Divine Liturgy – 9:30am

June 22nd – Great Vespers – 6:00pm

June 23rd – Divine Liturgy & Vespers of Pentecost – 9:30am

June 24th – Divine Liturgy: Nativity of St. John the Baptist – 9:30am

Contact Information:

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Olyphant PA 18447

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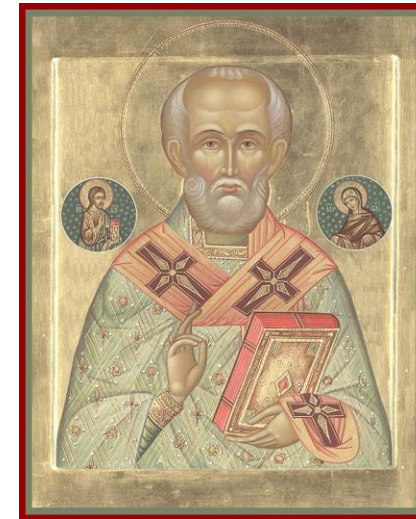
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6th Sunday of Pascha: Sunday of the Man Born Blind

June 9th, 2024



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