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## **Commemorations of the Day:**

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The Martyr Archdeacon Euplus suffered in the year 304 under the emperor Diocletian. He served in the Sicilian city of Catania. Diocletian sent a military commander, Pentagurus to exterminate the growing community of Christians in Sicily. The Christians hid themselves away safely. Saint Euplus always carried the Gospel with him, and preached constantly to the pagans about Christ. Once, while he read and explained the Gospel to the gathered crowd, they turned him into the governor of the city, Calvisianus. It is also sometimes reported that he was turned in for taking the Gospel to the secret gatherings of Christians.

Saint Euplus confessed himself as a Christian and denounced the impiety of idol-worship. For this, they sentenced him to torture, after which they threw the injured saint into prison, where he remained in prayer for seven days. They intended to starve the Saint, and thus break his will so that he would disclose the whereabouts of other Christians in Catania. The Lord made a spring of water flow into the prison for the martyr to quench his thirst. Brought to trial a second time, strengthened and rejoicing, he again confessed his faith in Christ and denounced the torturer for spilling the blood of innocent Christians. He is said to have even mocked his torturers asking them to find harsher methods because their efforts felt so gentle to the Saint. He steadfastly refused to give any information about any other believers in the community. When they led the saint to execution, they hung the Gospel around his neck.

Having asked time for prayer, the archdeacon began to read and explain the Gospel to the people, and many of the pagans gathered to watch the spectacle believed in Christ. The judge commanded that the saint's ears be torn off, and that he be beheaded. The soldiers beheaded the saint with a sword, and he went to the heavenly Kingdom. His wonder-working holy relics are in the village of Vico della Batonia, near Naples.

(Adapted from OCA website and the Prologue of Ochrid)

## **Announcements**

July and August Charity is dedicated to the Diocese of Alaska. The Diocese and many of its parishes are very poor, and have made a general appeal to the OCA for assistance.

St. John's Russian Orthodox in Mayfield is doing a used shoe drive for sending overseas. If you have worn but not abused shoes, boots, sandals etc that are taking up space and collecting dust please consider donating them. A collection receptacle will be set up next week in the parish hall. (Please keep pairs together by tying laces or using string to tie them together.) Next Saturday at Vespers will be the last day to donate.

His Eminence Archbishop Mark will be visiting our sister parish of All Saints next Sunday, August the 18<sup>th</sup>, and has asked that we join him in the celebration of the Divine Liturgy.

Blessing of fruit will take place after Divine Liturgy for the Afterfeast of the Transfiguration.

Panikhida for Stephen and Ann Koziar is offered on behalf of the Sakson and Donovan families.

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### Spiritual Food for Thought:

“This is how we pray continually, not by offering prayer in words, but by joining yourself to God through your whole way of life, so you're life becomes a continuous and uninterrupted prayer.”

-St. Basil the Great

## Prayers for the Sick:

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

Thom  
Nancy  
Joan  
James  
Thomas  
Diane  
Cathy  
William  
Oliver

## 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost: Afterfeast of the Transfiguration; Holy Martyr Euplus of Cantania

August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## Upcoming Services:

August 10<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers – 6:00pm

August 11<sup>th</sup> – Divine Liturgy – 9:30am

August 17<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers – 6:00pm

August 14<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> Hour, Vespers and Lity for Eve of Dormition

August 15<sup>th</sup> – Divine Liturgy – 9:30am Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos



## Contact Information:

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

Website  
Stnicholasolyphant.org

Phone number:  
570-489-3891

Driving Address  
600 E. Lackawanna St  
Olyphant PA 18447

Email:  
Frnathan.clausson@gmail.com

## 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