
Commemorations of the Day:

The holy Martyr Nestor was very young in age, handsome in appearance, and he was known to the holy Great Martyr Demetrios, for he had instructed Nestor in the faith.

The Emperor was visiting Thessaloniki, and he built a high platform in the midst of the city so that a gigantic barbarian named Lyaios could wrestle there and be seen by everyone. Beneath the platform many spears and other sharp weapons were placed pointing upward. When Lyaios defeated his opponents, he threw them down onto the spears and they died. Many Christians were forced to fight Lyaios, and were killed. When Nestor saw how Emperor Maximian rejoiced over the victories of his champion, he disdained his pride. Seeing the miracles of Saint Demetrios, however, he took courage and went to the prison where the holy Martyr was confined, and fell at his feet.

“Pray for me, O Servant of God Demetrios,” he said, “that by your prayers, God may help me to beat Lyaios, and put an end to him who brings reproach upon the Christians.”

The Saint, after sealing Nestor with the Sign of the Cross, told him that he would prevail over Lyaios, and then suffer for Christ. Nestor mounted the platform without fear and exclaimed: “Help me, O God of Demetrios.” After he defeated Lyaios, he hurled him down onto the spears, where he gave up his wretched soul.

Maximian became enraged and ordered that both Nestor and Demetrios should be put to death. Saint Demetrios was stabbed with spears, and Saint Nestor was beheaded. Thus, by his example Saint Nestor teaches us that in every human challenge we must say with confidence, “The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do to me.”

Saint Matthew is the only Evangelist to mention Pilate’s wife, who told him “Have nothing to do with that just man, because I have suffered many things in a dream today because of him” (Matthew 27:19). She is not identified by name, but the author of the apocryphal Acts of Paul says that she received Baptism from the Apostle of the Gentiles. In the apocryphal Gospel of Nikódēmos she is called Procla, or Procula. Beginning in the late fourth, or early fifth century, she is known as Claudia Procula.

Pontius Pilate would not free Christ, because he was afraid of the Jews, After her husband’s death, Claudia Procula is said to have embraced Christianity. After living her life in the utmost goodness and piety, she surrendered her soul in peace. There are other accounts, however, which say that she was a martyr.

(Adapted from OCA website)

Announcements

The October charity collection will be dedicated toward the Olyphant Police K-9 Unit. November and December charity will be directed to the IOCC relief effort for those suffering from hurricanes Helene and Milton that recently struck the United States.

November Parish Council Meeting is to be held on the second Sunday, November the 10th.

Remember that next weekend, Sunday November the 3rd is daylight savings time. Clocks are to be set back one hour before we go to bed so that we are not late to Divine Liturgy tomorrow. (If you end up running late, Fr. Nathan won’t call you out, he will likely be a little behind schedule himself.)

Please note that Great Vespers will be returning to 5pm on Saturdays starting November the 9th. Thank you to all the parishioners who were patient with the adjustment to the later time for most of the previous year.

Panikhida is offered this morning in remembrance of members of the Thomashefsky family.

Spiritual Food for Thought:

“When the mind is moved to remember God, the heart is directly moved in love and the eyes produce many tears. It is the habit of love to shed tears when remembering the beloved person.”

-St. Issac the Syrian
Homily 85

Prayers for the Sick:

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

Thom
Nancy
Joan
James
Thomas
Diane
Cathy
William
Oliver
Timothy

Upcoming Services:

November 2nd – Great Vespers – 6:00pm

November 3rd – Divine Liturgy – 9:30am

November 9th – Great Vespers – 5:00pm

November 10th – 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:
570-489-3891

Email:
Frnathan.clausson@gmail.com

18th Sunday after Pentecost: Martyr Nestor of Thessalonica

October 27th, 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