
Commemoration of the Day:

Saint Nikon, Abbot of Radonezh, a disciple and successor of Saint Sergius of Radonezh, was born at Yuriev-Polsk. Having heard of the angelic life of the Radonezh Wonderworker, the young man came to Saint Sergius and requested to be tonsured into the angelic schema. Saint Sergius did not accept Nikon. Instead, he sent him to his disciple Saint Athanasius at Serpukhov. After seeing the young man's persistence he tonsured him into the monastic schema. Saint Nikon struggled in prayer, studied Holy Scripture and persevered in virtue and purity. Because of his humility and the way he fulfilled each task assigned him without argument, Saint Nikon was called a "zealot of obedience." When he reached the age of thirty, he was ordained to the priesthood. After a certain while, Saint Athanasius blessed him to go see Saint Sergius. Saint Sergius, catching sight of him, said, "It is good that you have come, my child Nikon," and happily received him.

At first, he gave orders for Saint Nikon to serve the brethren. The disciple passed whole days in monastic matters, and his nights in prayerful conversation with God. Saint Sergius was comforted by his virtuous life. Having received a special insight concerning him, Saint Sergius instructed him in every monastic virtue, and explained much about the essence of spiritual life. Six months before his repose Saint Sergius appointed his disciple as his successor. After the death of Saint Sergius, Nikon carried out his duties exactly as he was instructed by the founder of the monastery. He had the habit of attending all the monastic services, and never did he forsake common tasks, working on an equal footing with all the brethren. The burden of being the igumen of the monastery weighed upon Saint Nikon, and he gave up his position and retired to his own cell. After six years the brethren entreated Saint Nikon to again take over its direction. He consented, but allotted himself a certain time each day for silence, so as to stand alone before God.

When reports began to spread about an invasion of the Russian land by Khan Edigei. The monks left the monastery, taking with them relics, books, and consecrated vessels. When they returned, they saw that their beloved place had been reduced to ashes. But Saint Nikon did not despair, and the brethren began to restore the monastery. The monastery was restored, and Saint Nikon began construction of a stone church over the grave of his spiritual Father, Saint Sergius. Saint Nikon brought in the finest iconographers, Saints Andrew Rublev and Daniel Cherny for the adornment of the temple. Then Saint Andrew painted the Icon of the Most Holy Trinity, embodying what was revealed to Saint Sergius. Saint Nikon was occupied with the construction of the Trinity church until the end of his life.

(Adapted from OCA website)

Announcements

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.

Thank you, to everyone who came out to help with the perogi-making the last two months. Our live perogi sale in October was a significant success, generating a profit of \$4507 for the parish, on the sale of over 450 dozen perogi. This week we made another 400 dozen perogi for our in house sale. May God grant you all many blessed years!

RSVP for the 120th anniversary banquet were due today, if you have not turned yours in please do so as soon as possible so that we can get an accurate head count for the hall.

Please remember that the Advent fast has begun. Fish, wine and oil are officially permitted on the weekends. This time is meant for our benefit, not punishment.

Spiritual Food for Thought:

"The love of husband and wife is the force that welds society together...St. Paul would not speak so earnestly about this subject without serious reason; why else would he say, 'Wives, be subject to your husbands, as to the Lord?' Because when harmony prevails, the children are raised well, the household is kept in order, and neighbors, friends, and relatives praise the result."

-St. John Chrysostom
On Marriage and Family Life

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
Brittany
Stephanie

Upcoming Services:

November 20th – 9th Hour, Vespers and Litya; Eve of the Feast – 6:00pm

November 23rd – Great Vespers – 5:00pm

November 24th – Divine Liturgy – 9:30am

November 30th – Great Vespers – 5:00pm

December 1st – Divine Liturgy – 9:30am

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21st Sunday after Pentecost: St. Gregory the Wonderworker of Neo-Caesarea November 17th, 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