



CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF DECEMBER 2, 2012

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2ND 26th Sunday of Pentecost

8:40a.m. Hours
 9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy
 Coffee Hour

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4TH St. Alexander of New York

9:00a.m. Molieben

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5TH St. Sabbas the Sanctified

7:00p.m. Great Vespers

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6TH St. Nicholas the Wonderworker

8:40a.m. Hours
 9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8TH No Class

6:00p.m. Reader's Vespers

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9TH 27th Sunday of Pentecost

8:40a.m. Hours
 9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy
 Coffee Hour

Welcome Visitors

It is great to have you with us today! We hope you all consider staying after Liturgy for coffee hour and fellowship!

The Feast of St. Nicholas

is held annually on December 6th. We will have Great Vespers Wednesday at 7:00pm and the Divine Liturgy Thursday at 9:00am. More information on St. Nicholas (the real Santa Claus) can be found on page 3. At the end of Thursday's Liturgy we will have a special prayer to St. Nicholas, and the children of the parish will be given gold (chocolate) coins in honor of the Saint's great charity.



A Donor is Sought

For the new altar cross and set of processional fans, to be installed behind the altar table. The cost is \$1000. If you would like to sponsor this project or have any questions, please see Fr. John ASAP. This project, which is to be completed this month, would make a wonderful Christmas gift to your church.

Choir Practice

will be held on Sunday, December 2nd. All members of the choir are asked to please stay for these rehearsals. Thank you!

2013 Calendars & Pocket Planners- Last Call!

They can be ordered via the sheet in the back of the church. The calendars are \$5.00 a piece and the pocket planners \$4.00. The order sheet will be in the back of the church for the next month or so. There is a sample calendar at the candle stand in the back of the church.



About Scheduling Confession Before Christmas

With all the hustle and bustle that revolves around Christmas preparations, let's not forget to make room for Christ.

Important Work Project Coming Up - Dec. 10-15th

We will be fixing the leak into the church from the wall next to the courtyard. Please consider offering your labor and/or making a donation to cover the expense of this very necessary project. Please earmark your donation for "Renovation" or "Building Fund". Thank you very much for your help!



READER SCHEDULE

Sunday, Dec. 2nd

Jodi McElwee

Sunday, Dec. 9th

Bruce Eckerd



Prayer List: Fr. Michael Mihalick, Fr. Alexander Atty, Fr. Christian, Mat. Dunia, Hayley, Tyler Pelesh, Wallace & Michelle, John Trax, Maleah Morse, Victoria Kokkinos, Karen Nichols, Denise Royal, Jane Koshutko, Nina Gordon, Mirela & Chris, Bruce Eckerd, Stella, Ari, Nedelina, Liliana, Nada and child, Jess and child, Irene Clenney, Kathryn (newly departed), Avramia (newly-departed).

CASH FLOWS									FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT		
OPERATING THRU 11/30			RENOVATION THRU 11/30			NOVEMBER OPERATING			ASSETS & LIABILITIES - 12/02/12		
Income	Expense	Net	Income	Expense	Net	Income	Expense	Difference	Checking	Overdue	Due 2/2014
59,001	51,422	+7,579	68,496	89,502	-21,006	4,211	3,785	+426	+36	-1,756	-29,900



ONE YEAR AGO TODAY:

MISSION CLOSES ON NEW PARISH CENTER - 12/02/11

From OrthodoxDelmarva.org

On Friday, December 2nd, Christ the Savior Mission closed on its new property, located at 10315 Carey Road, Berlin, MD 21811. This 15.1 acre property has a 4300 square-foot home which will serve as the new parish center, housing a chapel, fellowship hall, and rectory. We give thanks to Almighty God who has guided and blessed this endeavor! We also extend sincere and heartfelt appreciation to those who, inspired by divine grace, selflessly sacrificed to make this happen!

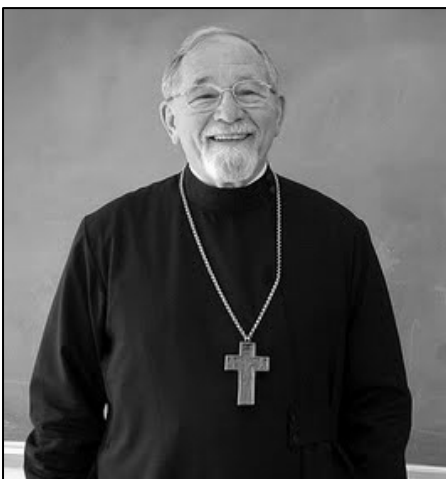
ASK FATHER: 1 QUESTION / 1 ANSWER

Question: In the Gospel the Lord said that it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. What does this mean? And do I have to literally give up all my possessions to enter Heaven?

Answer: While some say that the Lord is speaking here about the physical impossibility of a camel passing through the eye of a sowing needle, the 11th century saint, Theophylact of Bulgaria, says that the Lord here was referring to a certain gate in Jerusalem called the Needle's Eye, that was built so low that a camel could only pass if it entered kneeling and unencumbered with baggage. The lesson would then be that an eternal inheritance awaits those who unburden themselves of sin, and in particular, the things of this world.



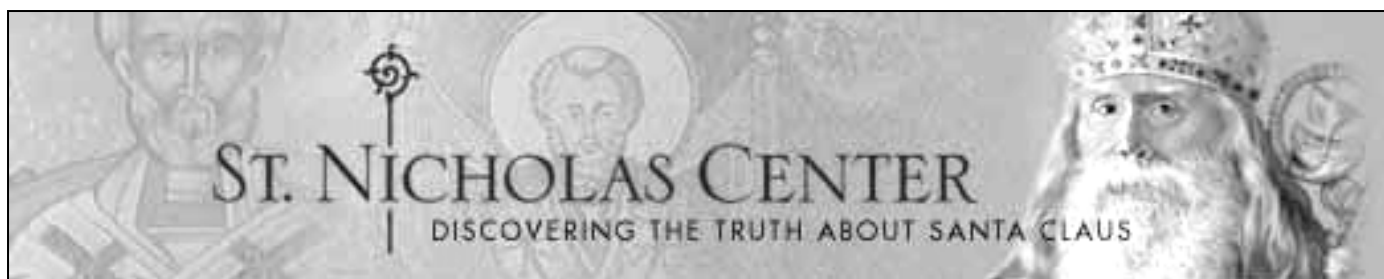
In the Old and New Testaments there have been many who had riches, yet attained the highest levels of sanctity. Their wealth was not an obstacle to their entrance into Heaven for five reasons: 1) they did not consider their possessions to be their own, instead they saw themselves simply as stewards of the Lord's goods, living only on what was necessary and using the rest to help those in need; 2) while they had wealth and possessions, they were able to use them dispassionately since they had given their heart entirely to the Lord and cared nothing for the world's deceits; 3) they, while grateful for the Lord's blessings, saw themselves unworthy due to their sins, and this allowed them to become "poor in spirit" even though they were given great wealth; 4) they trusted in the Lord alone, not their temporal riches or prosperity; 5) they were ever mindful of their death as the day in which they would have to give an account for what they had received.



THE STANDARD OF CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

By VRev. Thomas Hopko

The norm for nonmonastic Christians is to be moderate in our possessions, to have only what is absolutely necessary, to give away more than we need in concrete acts of mercy, and thereby to be godly and spiritually free. The question, of course, is about what and how much are truly necessary. What do we really need? How much is enough? Each of us will have to decide for ourselves and our families, as well as our churches and nations. We can do this only by the Holy Spirit's power, with the guidance of Scripture, participation in the Church's liturgical and sacramental life, the reading of the lives of the saints, and the counsel of wise and loving pastors and elders in the faith.



WHO IS ST. NICHOLAS?

From The St. Nicholas Center, stnicholascenter.org

The true story of Santa Claus begins with Nicholas, who was born during the third century in the village of Patara. At the time the area was Greek and is now on the southern coast of Turkey. His wealthy parents, who raised him to be a devout Christian, died in an epidemic while Nicholas was still young. Obeying Jesus' words to "sell what you own and give the money to the poor," Nicholas used his whole inheritance to assist the needy, the sick, and the suffering. He dedicated his life to serving God and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. Bishop Nicholas became known throughout the land for his generosity to those in need, his love for children, and his concern for sailors and ships.

Under the Roman Emperor Diocletian, who ruthlessly persecuted Christians, Bishop Nicholas suffered for his faith, was exiled and imprisoned. The prisons were so full of bishops, priests, and deacons, there was no room for the real criminals—murderers, thieves and robbers. After his release, Nicholas attended the Council of Nicaea in AD 325. He died December 6, AD 343 in Myra and was buried in his cathedral church, where a unique relic, called manna, formed in his grave. This liquid substance, said to have healing powers, fostered the growth of devotion to Nicholas. The anniversary of his death became a day of celebration, St. Nicholas Day, December 6th (December 19 on the Julian Calendar).

Through the centuries many stories and legends have been told of St. Nicholas' life and deeds. These accounts help us understand his extraordinary character and why he is so beloved and revered as protector and helper of those in need.

One story tells of a poor man with three daughters. In those days a young woman's father had to offer prospective husbands something of value—a dowry. The larger the dowry, the better the chance that a young woman would find a good husband. Without a dowry, a woman was unlikely to marry. This poor man's daughters, without dowries, were therefore destined to be sold into slavery. Mysteriously, on three different occasions, a bag of gold appeared in their home—providing the needed dowries. The bags of gold, tossed through an open window, are said to have landed in stockings or shoes left before the fire to dry. This led to the custom of children hanging stockings or putting out shoes, eagerly awaiting gifts from Saint Nicholas. Sometimes the story is told with gold balls instead of bags of gold. That is why three gold balls, sometimes represented as oranges, are one of the symbols for St. Nicholas. And so St. Nicholas is a gift-giver.

Through the centuries St. Nicholas has continued to be venerated by Catholics and Orthodox and honored by Protestants. By his example of generosity to those in need, especially children, St. Nicholas continues to be a model for the compassionate life.

DECEMBER CONGRATULATIONS!

Birthdays:

12/2	Isabella Georgiana Milite
12/3	Gregory Parsells
12/4	Karen Nichols
12/6	Camelia Milite
12/6	Gabriela Vlahovici-Jones
12/11	Darrell Wilson
12/12	Alexander Parsells
12/29	Fr. Daniel Hubiak

Namesdays:

12/4	<i>St. Alexander Hotovitsky</i> Alexander Parsells
12/5	<i>St. Sava the Sanctified</i> Sava Cook
12/6	<i>St. Nicholas</i> Nicholas Evanusa
12/17	<i>Prophet Daniel</i> Fr. Daniel Hubiak <i>St. Jacob the Patriarch</i> Jacob McFarland <i>St. Caleb</i> Caleb McFarland <i>St. Deborah</i> Deborah Royal
12/20	<i>St. Ignatius of Antioch</i> Oscar Hageman
12/24	<i>St. Eugenia</i> Jane Koshutko
12/27	<i>St. Stephen</i> Bill Parrish Steven Parrish