

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
TENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE



*Icon of Saint John of Damascus and Saint Barbara -- December 4th*

## December 4, 2016: 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Epistle: Col. 3:12-16

Gospel: Lk. 17: 12-19

**Mon., Dec. 5** 8:00 + Margaret & Robert Arscott (Frank & Susan Lesnefsky)

**For St. Nicholas:**

7:00 pm + Anna Stracka (M/M Myron Krenitsky)

**Tues., Dec. 6** **Feast of St. Nicholas (Solemn Holy Day)**

9:00 + Nicholas Zinsky (Wife Dorothy)

**Wed., Dec. 7** 8:00 + George Stevensky (Msgr. John Stevensky)

**Thurs. Dec. 8** 8:00 + Juel Dudrich (Jim & Zoe Loftus)

**For Maternity of the Holy Anna:**

7:00 pm + Frank Turko (Elizabeth Dubowchik)

**Fri. Dec. 9** **Maternity of the Holy Anna (Solemn Holy Day)**

9:00 + Patrick Marcinko Jr. (Mara Beckage & Dad Matthew)

**Sat., Dec. 10** **No Morning Divine Liturgy**

10:30 Confessions

2:00 pm Confessions

4:00 pm + Anna Chaykosky (Anne Louise Ganiban)

**Sun., Dec. 11** 9:00 For Our Parishioners

11:30 + Gene Turko Jr. (Parents & Siblings)

### On the Feast of the Maternity of the Holy Anna

*The U. S. Ukrainian Catholic Hierarchy issued the following letter dated November 30, 2006:*

To the Clergy, Sisters, and the Faithful of the Metropolitan Province of Philadelphia for Ukrainians:

As long as anyone can remem-

ber, we have celebrated the Feast of the Immaculate Conception in the United States on December 8<sup>th</sup> as a Holy Day of Obligation. This was done so we may be in solidarity with our brothers and sisters of the Latin Church as this title of the Mother of

God is the patron of our great country. In accordance with the decree (1.4) of the Synod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Catholic Church during the Synod of 1997 (September 14<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>), the holy days of obligation were promulgated and the Feast of the Immaculate Conception was not included as a day of obligation.

As the feast of the Conception of St. Anne is celebrated on December 9<sup>th</sup> in ALL of the Eastern Churches

(Gregorian Calendar) and specifically in the Ukrainian Church, we, the undersigned, promulgate that the Feast of the Conception of St. Anne is to be celebrated on December 9<sup>th</sup> in the United States of America. This will enable our Church *sui iuris* to be of one accord in its celebration of the Liturgical life of our Church. This is to take effect immediately. Given on the Feast of St. Andrew (November 30) 2006.

+Stefan Soroka

+Robert M. Moskal +Richard S. Seminack +Paul Chomnycky, O.S.B.M.

## November 2016 Church Attendance Numbers

The Archbishop had requested that a count of all those attending the weekend Divine Liturgies be taken during the previous month. These are the numbers which were submitted.

	4:00 PM	9:00 AM	11:30 AM	Total
Nov. 5 & 6	93	36	51	180
Nov. 12 & 13	87	48	61	196
Nov. 19 & 20	113	41	54	208
Nov. 26 & 27	94	43	79	216
<b>Total</b>	387	168	245	800

## Why Do We Light Candles Before Icons?

*by Nicholas Velimirovich*

1. Because our faith is light. Christ said: I am the light of the world. The light of a candle or vigil lamp reminds us of that light by which Christ illumines our souls.
2. In order to remind us of the radiant character of the saint before whose icon we light the candle, for saints are

called sons of light. (John 12:36, Luke 16:8).

3. In order to serve as a reproach to us for our deeds of darkness, for our evil thoughts and desires, and in order to call us to the path of evangelical light; and so that we would more zealously try to fulfill the commandments of the Savior:” Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works”( Math. 5:16).

4. So that the candle would be our small sacrifice for us, and as a small sign of our great gratitude and radiant love for Him from whom we ask in prayer for life, health, salvation, peace and everything that only boundless heavenly love can bestow.

5. So terror would strike the evil pow-

ers who sometimes assail us even at the time of prayer and lead away our thoughts from the Creator. The evil powers love the darkness and tremble at every light, especially at that which belongs to God and to those who reflect Him.

6. In order to remind us that before anything else the Creator of the world created light, and after that everything else in order: And God said, let there be light; and there was light (Genesis 1:3). And it must be also at the beginning of our spiritual life, so that before anything else the light of Christ’s truth would shine within us. From this light of Christ’s truth subsequently every good is created, springs up and grows in us.

## **Other Ten Commandments**

1. Prayer is not a “spare wheel” that you pull out when in trouble, but it is a “steering wheel” that directs the right path throughout.
2. A Car’s WINDSHIELD is so large & the Rear view Mirror is so small? Because our PAST is not as important as our FUTURE. So, Look Ahead and Move on.
3. Friendship is like a BOOK. It takes few seconds to burn, but it takes years to write.
4. All things in life are temporary. If going well, enjoy it, they will not last forever. If going wrong, don’t worry, they can’t last long either.
5. Old Friends are Gold! New Friends are Diamond! If you get a Diamond, don’t forget the Gold! Because to hold a Diamond, you always need a Base of Gold!
6. Often when we lose hope and think this is the end, GOD smiles from above

and says, "Relax, sweetheart, it's just a bend, not the end!"

7. When GOD solves your problems, you have faith in HIS abilities; when GOD doesn't solve your problems HE has faith in your abilities.
8. A blind person asked St. Anthony: "Can there be anything worse than losing eye sight?" He replied: "Yes, losing your soul!"
9. When you pray for others, God listens to you and blesses them, and sometimes, when you are safe and happy, remember that someone has prayed for you.
10. WORRYING does not take away tomorrow's TROUBLES, it takes away today's PEACE.

## **St. Mary's International Dinner Club**

ST. MARY'S BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH INTERNATIONAL DINNER, 320 Mifflin Ave. Scranton is featuring "Christmas Cheer" for their menu on Thursday, December 8, 2016. The price is only \$20.00 per person and reservations for 5:30pm or 6:30pm can be made by Dec. 5th by calling 570-343-5151. The menu will start with Mrs. Claus

Garden Vegetable Salad. The Entrée will be St. Nicholas Roast Prime Rib and Stuffed Chicken Breast Florentine Combo with Baked Potato Rudolf and Frosti's Brussels Sprouts prepared with bacon and garlic. The Dessert will be a Sampler of Elfin Assorted Holiday Desserts. Coffee, Tea, Water or Soda is included and a Cash Bar is available.

## **Christmas Trees and Wreaths**

Seeking The Perfect Natural Christmas Tree? Please consider Ziesemer Christmas Trees of Montdale, PA. We specialize in pre-cut, premium fragrant fir trees, in four different varieties: Balsam, Blue Spruce, Concolor, and Frasier Firs ~ \$25 ANY SIZE!!! (nodrilling) Ziesemer's other Fresh Evergreen products include: Hand-Fashioned Fir Wreaths,\* made from

the same premium grade fir trees. These gorgeous natural fir wreaths measure a full 18", and are available in two price ranges: \$15 Plain Fir, including a Festive Holiday Bow. And, a \$20 Decorated Fir Wreath, with your choice of a Festive Holiday Theme and/or, a Veteran Themed decoration. In addition, we offer beautiful, fresh and lush: Hand-Fashioned Evergreen

Grave Blankets, and Wreaths,\* for the beautification of your departed loved one's grave for the Holiday Season. A portion of the sales generated by St. Cyril and Methodius parishioners, who patronize Zeisemer's Christmas Trees, will be donated directly back to the Parish, by Mr. & Mrs. Mark Ziesemer, (the former Miss Lynn Beckage,) in Beloved Memory of her parents and brother, + Mr. Gabriel & + Mrs. Johanna Beckage, and their son, + Gabriel Steven "Gabe" Beckage. Contact in-

formation: Ziesemer Christmas Trees, (located directly across the street from Corpus Christi Church - St. John Vianney Parish, Montdale Road, Montdale, PA.) Telephone number: 570-687-3612. Interested elderly parishioners, please contact Mara Beckage at 570-489-5717, in order to help assist you with your purchase and delivery. Thank you for your business! We look forward to serving you! Sincerely, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Ziesemer and Family.

### **Church Decorating Party**

Christmas is just around the corner and we need to get the Church decorated. This year, we are asking our faithful Parishioners to help us decorate the Church. We will be having a "Church

Decorating Party" on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> following the 11:30 Divine Liturgy. Let us gather as a Parish family and make sure that our Church is decorated for Christmas!

### **Christmas Carol Sing Along**

YOU ARE INVITED to join Saints Peter & Paul Ukrainian Greek Catholic Parish for their 23rd Annual Christmas Carol Sing Along in the church on North River Street in Wilkes-Barre, Sunday, December 11th, 2016 starting at 2 p.m. Join in the singing of some very sacred, joyful and inspiring

Christmas Carols. Afterwards, please join us in the lower church hall for a Christmas Fellowship Social. Please bring a friend or family member, and share the joy of Christmas with them, as we all prepare to welcome the New-born Son of God into our hearts and homes.

### **Emmanuel Moleben and Concert**

Emmanuel Moleben and Concert, Sunday December 11 at 3pm at Holy

Dormition Franciscan Friary, 712 State Rt 93, Sybertsville, PA. This moleben features Scripture and hymns to help us prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord. The concert, sung by Cantors of Northeast Pennsylvania, features seasonal hymns in English and Slavonic.

St Nicholas expects to join us. Both spiritually nourishing and fun for the whole family. Reception following the concert. To bring refreshments or for more information: [holydormition@gmail.com](mailto:holydormition@gmail.com) or 570-788-1212.

### **Give A Great Gift**

This Christmas consider giving the gift of life by donating blood at St. John Vi-  
anney's Blood Drive on Thursday, December 22, 1:00p.m. to 6:00p.m., 704 Montdale Road, Scott Twp., PA 18447 in the Parish Center (basement). All

donors will be entered for a drawing for a \$100 electronic gift card. Free long sleeve Red Cross t-shirt when you come to donate (while supplies last). This Christmas give something that means something.

### **Festival of Christmas Carols**

Annual Festival of Christmas Carols will be held on Sunday, January 15, 2017 at 3 p.m. at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Con-

ception in Philadelphia. Choirs from different parishes will participate. Everyone is welcome.

### **Collection Processing Team...**

The Collection Processing Team for the month of December 2016 is Team

#4: Tom Matkosky, Ed Stecco, and Joe Smagula.

### **Sunday Collection for November 26 & 27, 2016: \$**

#### **Altar Boy and Lector Schedule for December 10 & 11, 2016**

	<b>Altar Boys</b>	<b>Lectors</b>
4:00 pm	Nicholas Chludzinski -- Nicholas Borowski	Andrew Augustine
9:00 am	Patrick Marcinko -- Joseph Skirpan	Pat Marcinko
11:30 am	David Slachtish -- Thomas Radle	Frank Lesnefsky

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Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

### *When Christ Comes, God Will Be Seen by Men*

There is one God, who by His word and wisdom created all things and set them in order. His Word is our Lord Jesus Christ, who in this last age became man among men to unite end and beginning, that is, man and God.

The prophets, receiving the gift of prophecy from this same Word, foretold His coming in the flesh, which brought about the union and communion between God and man ordained by the Father. From the beginning the word of God prophesied that God would be seen by men and would live among them on earth; He would speak with His own creation and be present to it, bringing it salvation and being visible to it. He would free us from the hands of all who hate us, that is, from the universal spirit of sin, and enable us to serve Him in holiness and justice all our days. Man was to receive the

Spirit of God and so attain to the glory of the Father.

By his own powers man cannot see God, yet God will be seen by men because He wills it. He will be seen by those He chooses, at the time He chooses, and in the way He chooses, for God can do all things. He was seen of old through the Spirit in prophecy; He is seen through the Son by our adoption as His children, and He will be seen in the kingdom of heaven in His own being as the Father.

The Spirit prepares man to receive the Son of God, the Son leads him to the Father, and the Father, freeing him from change and decay, bestows the eternal life that comes to everyone from seeing God.

*St. Irenaeus of Lyons*

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