



December 6, 2009

**TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—Tone 1  
ST. NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER, ARCHBISHOP OF MYRA IN LYCIA**

Epistles: Ephesians 5:9-19  
Hebrews 13:17-21 (St. Nicholas)

Gospels: Luke 17:12-19  
Luke 6:17-23 (St. Nicholas)

**The Church in Worship & Study**

TODAY 11:00 a.m. *Annual St. Nicholas Day Pageant/Yolka* in the church hall

Tues, Dec 8 7:00 a.m. Daily Matins

Sat, Dec 12 5:00 p.m. Confessions  
6:30 p.m. Panihida for **Mary Hartman Iwanow** (Annual) & **Leonard Hartman** (Annual) offered by the **family**  
7:00 p.m. Great Vespers with Litiya followed by Confessions

Sun, Dec 13 **27<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—Tone 2**  
9:00 a.m. **Sunday of the Forefathers; THE REPOSE OF VEN. HERMAN OF ALASKA, WONDERWORKER OF ALL AMERICA;** Martyrs Eustratius, Eugene, Mardarius and Orestes at Sebaste  
Divine Liturgy Epistles: Col 3:4-11 Gospels: Luke 14:16-24  
Gal 5:22-6:2 (St. Herman) Luke 6:17-23 (St. Herman)

3:00 p.m. *8<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Concert* presented by the Church Choir

**The Church in Fellowship**

Because of the *St. Nicholas Day Pageant (Yolka)*, there will be **NO Church School** today. Classes will resume **next Sunday**.

The **Saint Nicholas Day Pageant (Yolka)** will be presented by the Church School **TODAY** after Liturgy. Please plan to stay and enjoy this annual performance by our children.

**Christmas Candy Orders** are available for pickup in the church hall **TODAY**; see Susan Witkowski.

**Choir Rehearsal** will be held in the church on **Tuesday, December 8**, at 7 p.m. With the *Annual Choir Christmas Concert* next Sunday, all members are requested to attend.

The **Senior R Club** will meet at the Deerson home **next Sunday, December 13**, after Liturgy.

Here it comes again...one of the best tasting events of the season...the **St. Anne's Guild Annual Christmas Cookie Sale!** Come and buy a holiday tin filled with homemade goodies **next Sunday, December 13**, during the Coffee Hour. The money raised will support our Church School programs and related youth/family events. You don't want to miss this! [**NOTE:** Donations of eight dozen of one type of cookie will be gladly accepted; approximately 24 different varieties—simple or fancy—are needed for this fundraiser to be successful. For more info, contact Karen Berezniak by phone (732-754-0033) or E-mail ([kberez@comcast.net](mailto:kberez@comcast.net)). All contributions can be dropped off in the hall on **Saturday, December 12**, between noon and 2 p.m. Thank you.]

An **Altar Society Raffle** is now underway through **next Sunday, December 13**. Two prizes are up for grabs: a crocheted afghan and a Russian fairy tale book. Tickets are \$1 apiece and available from any member. The winning numbers will be drawn during Coffee Hour on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Good luck!

Our **Church Choir** will present its **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Concert next Sunday, December 13**, at 3 p.m., in the church. Both liturgical compositions and carols will be sung to delight the audience in preparation for the holiday. Please attend and encourage others to hear the beautiful music of our Orthodox faith. Admission is FREE, although a canned good or non-perishable offering for the *South River Food Bank* would be appreciated. Refreshments will be served in the hall following the concert.

**Parish Council** will meet on **Monday, December 21**, at 7 p.m., in the church hall.

**Prospora (Holy Bread) Baking** will be held in the church hall on **Saturday, January 9**, at 9 a.m. Everyone with a heart and passion to serve God and others is welcome to participate, for this activity is a way to be mindful of all that we really are called to offer Him. As Saint Paul says: *"There are different gifts, but the same Spirit; there are different ministries, but the same Lord; there are different works, but the same God Who accomplishes all of them in everyone. To each person the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good."* (1 Cor 12:4-7) Come!

**L’Affaire Extraordinaire**, an evening of culinary instruction, dining and wine pairing, will be held in the hall on **Saturday, January 16**, at 7 p.m. (*Great Vespers will be served at 6 p.m.*) This fundraising event to benefit *St. Andrew’s Camp* in Jewell, NY will feature a five-course French filet mignon dinner prepared by three professional chefs; one was trained in France and the other two graduated from the *Culinary Institute of America*. This dining experience will be accompanied by entertainment and raffle drawings, including a 50/50, kitchen appliances & tools, entertaining ware, restaurant gift certificates, wines and chocolates. Tickets are \$50 each; please contact Kathy Cooper (732-986-5914) or Natasha Rogozenski (908-420-3210) to purchase yours. Seating is limited to only 150, so make your reservation early! (*For more info or to contribute via Paypal/credit card, visit [www.standrewscamp.org](http://www.standrewscamp.org) on the Web.*)

As part of a *"Get to Know Us Tour"* around the diocese before his consecration in May, our bishop-elect, **Fr. Michael Dahulich**, will be visiting our parish on **Saturday-Sunday, January 30-31**. Other than an expanded Coffee Hour after Liturgy, this will be a very low-key event. Fr. Michael is coming to meet with us and to listen to what our desires and concerns are regarding the present and future of this God-protected community as a parish within the *Diocese of New York & New Jersey*. Please mark your calendars for this special weekend.

The **Annual Parish Meeting** will be held in the church hall on **Sunday, February 7**, following Coffee Hour. (*In the event of inclement weather, the meeting will be rescheduled for Sunday, February 28.*)



## The Church in Information



**OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S GRACE** Attendance at Liturgy last Sunday was **157**.

**MINISTRY DUTIES** The Epistle will be read next week by **John Kozak**. Coffee Hour will be hosted by the **Altar Society**.

**CONFESSION DURING ADVENT** Everyone is encouraged to go to confession during this Advent season in preparation for the great holiday of the Nativity of Christ. For those who are regular communicants, it is a requirement. Note the available days and times in the bulletin under *The Church in Worship & Study*.

**THE RUSSIAN ECCLESIASTICAL MISSION IN JERUSALEM (REM)** is the guardian of our Orthodox monasteries in the Holy Land: the *Convent of the Ascension* on the Mount of Olives, *Gethsemane Convent* and the *Skete of Saint Chariton*. Thanks to your generosity over the last 12 years, the monastics have received close to \$950,000 to maintain these splendid sites of Holy Russia; they are, however, still in need of financial aid. Show your gratitude to them and to God by sending a donation to *R.E.M., P.O. Box 286884, New York, NY 10128*. Your gift, in any amount, will be much appreciated.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY** for the following parishioners, family members and friends this week, as well as for those murdered and wounded in the recent military massacre at Fort Hood:

<u>Departed</u>	<u>Sick</u>	<u>Servicemen</u>
Stephen Koy	Elaine Ashton	Ivan Shidlovsky
Robert Schiebel	Irene Boule	Lisa Beard
Radcliffe Calilap	Mary Lementowicz	Gregory Nosol

Sophie Husaim  
Patriarch PAVLE (Stojcevic)  
Michael Domanow  
Mary Shwahla  
Teddy Bentancort  
Cynthia Leggon

Joseph Casall  
Victor Mueller  
Brahm Dubin  
William Dilubert  
Nadja Lewis  
Thomas Fackovic  
David Ogan  
Edward Romanofsky  
Harold Symanski  
Edwin Paz  
Walentyna Posluszny  
Morgan Prittchit  
Alan Zenkert  
Christopher Collins  
Myron Stepas  
Michael Dargento

Virginia Moran  
Daryl Deissinger  
Cynthia Denlinger  
Walter Ferguson  
Constantine Romanofsky  
Linda Martinovich  
Josephine Tillison  
Mary Lou Goldy  
Julia Glazer  
Sonia Fineberg  
William Dworetzky  
Joseph Casale  
Donna Casale  
Dr. Joseph Pastore  
Melinda Reed  
Karen Kennedy  
Randall Cline

Lasha Giorgi Pozidis  
Aiden Gowarty  
Dorothy Swenticky  
Sara Cseh  
Marie Olsen  
Olga Smith  
Reginald Thomas  
Anthony Garito  
Ermelinda Faziola  
Kirsten Hyland  
John Cameron  
Vivian Hunkele  
Janet Firestone  
Adam Krosnowski  
Ellie Shipman  
Archpriest Sergei  
Glagolev  
Vera Rosenthal  
Edna Maletz  
Savanna Dore  
Dorothy Dabkowski  
Joan Roshak  
Patricia Campbell  
Sarah Hall  
Dotsy Hartman  
Katherine Tarzewski  
Paula Hila  
Joseph Posluszny  
Nancy Filak  
Stefan Wilczynski  
Anna Durovich  
Kira Gregor  
Linda Marsh  
Tonya Soto

June Buyofsky-Rittman  
David T. Floyd  
Archpriest Peter Baktis  
Patrick Lohr  
Keith Sudder  
Priest Paul Rivers  
Andrew Kubik  
Jason Vaughn  
Patrick Baldwin  
Timothy Stepan  
Michael Gregus  
Peter Shaw  
Jacqueline Martinez  
Robert Mahrer  
Karen Bonet

If you have a name you would like included in the bulletin, contact Fr. David or Starosta.

**PARISH LIBRARY** Are you making use of our excellent parish library? Check the collection of books that are available—now is a good time to do some spiritual reading!

**FALL FESTIVAL FINAL REPORT** Through the tremendous support of everyone involved, our parish realized an **\$11,000+** net profit from this year's *Fall Festival*. It was a great success and a true sign of stewardship with time, talent and treasures—one that will hopefully be repeated next year. Thanks and God bless!

**ANNUAL PARISH ASSESSMENT** Have you taken care of this financial obligation for 2009? There are only 25 days left to submit the required **\$144** per individual for the support of the Diocese and National Church. (*Please note that NONE of this money stays in our treasury; your weekly tithes and offerings are very much needed to sustain this church and its institutions.*)

**OUR THANKS** to **Dorothy Sopchak** for her donation towards the *Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund* in memory of our newly departed brother in Christ, **Michael Domanow**. May God bless her for her financial support.

**WARM THE CHILDREN (WTC) UPDATE** Even though the economy is taking its toll on this ministry, wonderful handmade and store-bought items continue to be donated by parishes and parishioners throughout the United States, including our own **Carol Deerson**. Many *Thank You* letters from the children in orphanages throughout Russia and Belarus have been received expressing their heartfelt gratitude for everyone's warmth and kindness. Would you like to assist in doing God's work by offering some of your time or talent? Please call (908-232-2632), E-mail ([bnafranowicz@verizon.net](mailto:bnafranowicz@verizon.net)) or write (167 North Cottage Place, Westfield, NJ 07090) WTC Coordinator, Barbara Nafranowicz. Besides socks, slippers, mittens and other practical clothing, this charitable organization is asking for solid-colored, long-sleeved shirts for both girls and boys. Polo shirts, fleece or sweats would be fine, not anything stamped with designs or words. Whatever you can give will be gladly accepted. Remember that the ability to help others you don't know is indicative of God's goodness working within you.

**BELATED PRAYERFUL CONGRATULATIONS** to **Archpriest Leonid Kishkovsky**, Pastor of *Our Lady of Kazan Church* in Sea Cliff, NY, on marking his 40<sup>th</sup> year in the Holy Priesthood in October. May God continue to sustain Fr. Leonid in celebrating the Sacraments and in consecrating his life to Him for the salvation of all people. Many Years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

**FOR YOUR INFO** A moving and inspirational video showing the beauty of Orthodoxy can be seen on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com). It is called *The Orthodox Church – A Visual Journey*. Take a peek!

**IOCC MOBILIZES AID FOR ASIA PACIFIC DISASTERS** As part of a coordinated effort to bring relief to the thousands of persons who have been displaced by Typhoon Ketsana in the Philippines and the 7.6 magnitude earthquake that devastated western Sumatra in Indonesia in late September, **International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC)** is offering tangible support by providing medical units, high protein food kits and hygiene supplies. Unfortunately, there are still many survivors who need life-saving medicine, food and water. You can help these victims by making a financial gift to the *IOCC Emergency Response Fund*, which will provide immediate relief, as well as long-term support, through the provision of emergency aid and recovery assistance. To make a contribution, please visit [www.iocc.org](http://www.iocc.org), call toll-free at 1-877-803-4622 or mail a check/money order payable to *IOCC, P.O. Box 630255, Baltimore, MD 21263-0225*. May God grant you much joy, peace, health and salvation for your unselfish giving to this worthy cause.

**THANK YOU** to the **Senior R Club** for financing the purchase and installation of a new chain-link fence around the perimeter of the church grounds. It looks awesome and enhances the beauty of the property. We truly appreciate this donation and extend to all the members of this organization our best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season. Many Years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

**BLESSING OF HOMES** It is traditional to have our homes blessed during the season of Theophany, which starts on **January 6**. This is a great celebration that should include the entire family, if at all possible. If your home was not blessed this year and you would like it to be this coming year, contact Father David to have your name added to his list. Your assistance in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

**2010 CHURCH CALENDARS** for your home or workplace are now available FREE at the Candle Desk. Pick up yours today!

**SHARE IN A JOURNEY OF FAITH** The **Orthodox Christian Missions Center (OCMC)** is inviting interested Orthodox Christians to participate in one of its *2010 Mission Teams*. For over 20 years, thousands of men and women from across North America have brought the saving message of the Gospel to the ends of the earth. You, too, can be a living witness of your faith by teaching, providing labor, working with youth or taking part in a healing mission. Develop deep relationships with others, have a cultural learning experience and live in response to the Lord's command to "*make disciples of all nations.*" There will be at least 14 opportunities to participate in a 2010 team, including Alaska (teaching & outreach), Albania (youth camp), Guatemala (youth camp), India (teaching), Kenya (teaching), Korea (youth camp), Madagascar (teaching), Romania (youth camp), South Africa (teaching), Tanzania (construction & teaching), Uganda (health care) and Zimbabwe (teaching). Team applications and detailed information are available on-line at [www.teams.ocmc.org](http://www.teams.ocmc.org) or by phone (877-463-6787, Ext. 142).

**THE GIFT OF THE GOSPEL** This Nativity season, **OCMC** is offering a wonderful way for you to honor someone you love while also supporting the training and care of long-term missionaries: **gift cards**. These cards can be purchased in \$10, \$25, and \$50 amounts; each one features a beautiful icon of the Great Commission and a Nativity greeting. For more information or to place an order, visit [www.ocmc.org](http://www.ocmc.org) or send an E-mail to [phyllis@ocmc.org](mailto:phyllis@ocmc.org).

**HOLIDAY GIFT CARD PROGRAM** If you haven't already started, it's time to seriously think about holiday shopping, because Christmas will be here before you know it! Don't struggle with trying to find the perfect present for everyone on your wish list. Purchase a gift card at face value from over 200 participating department and mall stores, pharmacies and major fast food and casual dining restaurants nationwide and our parish will get a certain rebate percentage (anywhere from 2-25%) back, similar to the food card program we offer each week during the Coffee Hour. Handouts and order forms are available from Sandy Romanofsky or Matushka Shari. Once an order is placed, the gift card(s) will be available the following Sunday. Avoid the crowds and shop from the comfort of your church!

**INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES (IOCC)** is asking for monetary donations during this holiday season for needy families and children throughout the world. These *Gifts of Love* will help provide medical supplies, health kits, shelter, wheelchairs for the disabled, life-sustaining loans, disaster assistance, food, education and job training. Any amount will make a world of difference to the tens of thousands of people who are suffering and in want. Please send your donation to *IOCC, P.O. Box 630225, Baltimore, MD 21263-0225*. This is a time for giving, so be generous with what you have with those who have not.

**THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAKE SALE** of *Annunciation Church* is Brick has been extended through **Sunday, December 20**. An array of scrumptious dessert rolls is still being offered for \$12 each: apricot, apricot nut, chocolate chip nut, poppy and walnut. Delivery is usually within a week. To place an order, please see James Kornafel or phone him at (732) 462-3388. Let our sister parish help take away the hassle of having to bake for Christmas!

**BULLETIN DEADLINE** Any announcements for next week's bulletin must be submitted to Father David or our Starosta/Bulletin Editor, James Kornafel, by **Thursday evening**. You can reach Father at the rectory or contact Jim by telephone (732-462-3388), fax (732-845-3515) or E-mail ([jimmyk@optonline.net](mailto:jimmyk@optonline.net)).



*We have now past the mid-point of **Advent**, the period of prayer, fasting, repentance and charitable works in preparation for the great feast of the Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas). Are you ready to receive the Savior into your hearts and homes? Remember that this is a time of meditation and introspection, not partying. As St. Theophan the Recluse says: “**These forty sacred days are intended to prepare us to meet Christ in the manger worthily, to help us understand that purpose and live accordingly. If, after you have made the effort to ‘go and meet Christ,’ God grants you the ability to experience the joy and power of His coming in the flesh, then when Christmas comes, you will celebrate it not as a habit or custom, but because it is the center of your life, hope and expectation—something not a part of this world, but something that is entirely you and your own.**”*

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Glory Forever!