

The Fourteenth Sunday of Luke
Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
December 3, 2023

The Holy Prophet Zephaniah; Martyrs Agapios, Seleukos and Mamas; Venerable Theodoulos, Eparch of Constantinople; Hieromartyr Gabriel, bishop of Ganos and Prusa; New-martyr Angelis of Chios; Venerable Cosmas of St. Anne Skete on Athos

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 1)

Byzantine Tone 1

Basil Kazan
(1915 - 2001)

Ison

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the sol - diers were
 guard - ing thy most pure bod - y, thou didst a - rise on the
 third day, O Sav - iour, grant - ing life to the
 world; for which cause the heav - en - ly pow'rs cried a -
 loud un - to thee, O Giv - er of life:
 Glo - ry to thy res - ur - rec - tion, O Christ! Glo - ry to thy
 king - dom! Glo - ry to thy prov - i - dence,
 O thou who a - lone art the Lov - er of man - kind.

Troparion for St. Raphael of Brooklyn (Tone 3)

Rejoice, O Father Raphael, Adornment of the holy Church! Thou art Champion of the True Faith, Seeker of the lost, Consolation of the oppressed, Father to orphans and Friend of the poor, Peacemaker and good Shepherd, Joy of all the Orthodox, Son of Antioch, Boast of America. Intercede with Christ God for us and for all who honor thee.

Kontakion for the Preparation of the Nativity of Christ (Tone 3)

The Virgin cometh today to the cave to give birth, ineffably to bring forth the Word eternal. Therefore, rejoice, O earth at the message; with the angels and shepherds give glory to Him who shall appear by his own will as a young child, He who is from eternity God.

Prokeimenon

*Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us.
 Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.*

Epistle

Ephesians 5:8-19

Brethren, walk as children of light—for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true—and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it is said, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light.” Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

Holy Gospel

Luke 18:35-43

At that time, when Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” And he cried, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, Jesus asked him, “What do you want me to do for you?” He said, “Lord, let me receive my sight.” And Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has made you well.” And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

Commemorations(Living): Fr Michael, Pr Vicki, John, Corgie, Karen, Maher, Fabiola, Christopher, Steven, Jonathan, Jaime, Justin, George, Joan, Fr Tom, Kh Meleah, Stephen, Sagi, Sky, Carol, Jim, Laura, Michael, Joel, Lisa, Danny, Asa, Cody, Max, Levi, Courtney, Nina, Kenneth, Alex, Christina, Beth, Janni, Dominick, Yina, Lauren, Rashid, Hala, Irina, the Lepro family, Fr. Vladimir Paul, all Orthodox missionaries, the suffering believers everywhere.

Departed: Fr Michael Oleksa, Bishop Antoun, Fr George Rados, Nicholas Rapavi

Holy Bread: Kh Meleah Palke

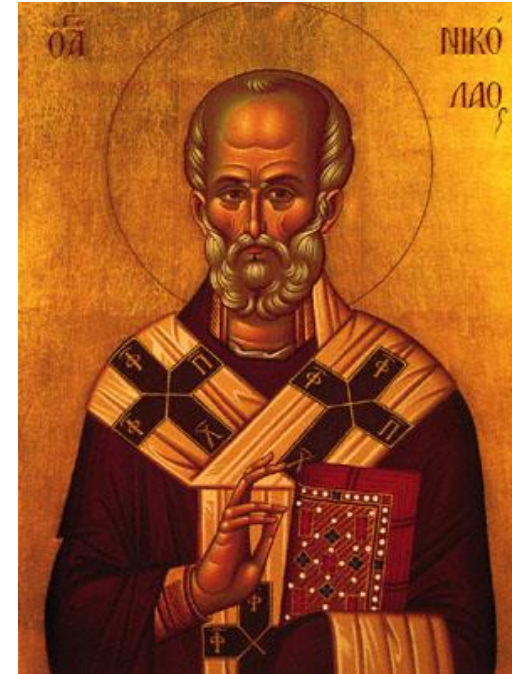
December 24—Nativity Orthros and Liturgy (7:00 PM). Confession: by appointment.

Today is choir/chanter appreciation Sunday. We are blessed to have Jim Briggs as our chanter to lead us in worship. We are also grateful to John Frantz for his service. He will be worshipping near his residence in Charlottesville.

Today, during social hour, we will be cleaning and preparing our liturgical vessels for our Nativity services.

Today is the third Sunday in the Advent fast. There are six Sundays during the fast. Advent is a time to reflect, pray, fast, and read the Bible, in order to prepare our hearts for a meaningful Nativity celebration.

Know your faith (from last week). “So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone.” (Ephesians 2). The prophet Obadiah was a servant of the prophet Elijah, nearly 900 years before Christ. (T/F) Obadiah wrote one book in the Old Testament. He also hid and fed 100 prophets in two caves during the persecution of the wicked Queen Jezebel. In Luke 12, Jesus said to the rich man, “today your soul is required of you.” The same will happen to those who lay up treasures for themselves and are not rich toward God. The prophet Micah revealed the birth of our Savior in Bethlehem. John’s Gospel begins with “in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” Jesus’ lineage can be traced to the tribe of Judah. (T/F) The Gospel of Mark gives details of the birth of Jesus. (T/F) Isaac was an ancestor of Jesus. Jesus said, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.” “One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all.” (Ephesians 2).



St. Raphael of Brooklyn Orthodox Church Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese

Metropolitan Saba, Primate
Bishop Thomas, Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic

Divine Liturgy 10:30 AM

Meeting at Compton Village
14401 Compton Village Dr.
Centreville, Virginia 20121
Fr. Thomas L. Palke, Pastor
3041 Donnington Court
Jeffersonton, VA 22724
(703)303-3047/(540)937-2609
email: pastortlp@aol.com
website: www.straphaelva.org

On Wednesday, December 6, in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate our Father among the Saints Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia. His eminent and wealthy parents, Theophanes and Nona, returned their gift of an only child to God by dedicating Nicholas to Him. Following the death of his parents, Nicholas distributed all his inherited goods to the poor. As a priest in Patara, he was known for his charity, even though he carefully concealed his charitable works. He fulfilled the words of the Lord: *Let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth* (Matthew 6:3). When he gave himself over to solitude and silence, a voice from on high came to him: "Nicholas, for your ascetic labor, work among the people if thou desirest to be crowned by Me." By God's providence, he was chosen archbishop of Myra in Lycia. Merciful, wise and fearless, Nicholas was a true shepherd to his flock. He was cast in and out of prison. He defended the true nature of Christ in the First Ecumenical Council. He even saved men from unjust death sentences. Nicholas entered into eternal rest on December 6, 343.

The Kontakion for the Preparation of the Nativity

The *Zone* Vir - gin com-eth to - day to the
cave to give birth, in - ef - fa - bly to bring forth
the Word e - ter - nal. There - fore, re -
joice, O earth at the mes - sage
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