



December 4, 2022

*TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST*

- Dec. 3 (Sat) **Divine Liturgy** **5:00pm**  
*+In memory of Debra Sever req by Marian Barry*
- Dec. 4 (Sun) **TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**Divine Liturgy** **10:30am**  
*+Susan Marie Sabol req by Jack Sabol*
- Dec. 6 (Tue) **NICHOLAS OF MYRA ARCHBISHOP**  
**Divine Liturgy** **6:30pm**  
*+Nicholas Soltis req by Ann Dole*
- Dec. 8 (Thu) **MATERNITY OF THE HOLY ANNA**  
**Divine Liturgy** **6:30pm**  
*For our Parish Family*
- Dec. 10 (Sat) **Divine Liturgy** **5:00pm**  
*+In memory of Debra Sever req by Novotnak Family*
- Dec. 11 (Sun) **SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS**  
**Divine Liturgy** **10:30pm**  
*+Maria Rusinko req by Norman & Eileen*

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**Our Tithe to our Parish - Nov. 27, 2022 - \$1,538.00**  
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The Sanctuary Lamp continues to burn before the presence of Our Risen Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ in our church during the week of Dec. 4 thru Dec. 10, for +Fr. John Petro *Eternal Memory!*



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*Let us remember in our prayers all of our friends and parish family members who are sick at home or in a nursing facility and for all who are in need of our prayers.*



*Ron Bishop, George Bodnar, Pamela Seech Dawson,  
Steve Fekete, Margaret Gegick, John Hresko, Kevin Ianni,  
Jeff Kaloski, Helen Magdic, Ted Race, Helen Rizzi,  
Joseph Rusinko Sr., Mark Sethman*

***Upcoming Events***

December 17, 2022 - Confession -- 10:00 am - Noon

December 18, 2022 - St. Nicholas / St. Anna Feast Day Social

It will be held on Sunday, December 18 after the Sunday Divine Liturgy. Since both Feast Days fall on weekdays, by celebrating both after Liturgy, it will enable more parishioners to attend. It will be a nice time for holiday fellowship and a return to gathering as a parish. Watch for sign-up sheets in the back of the church.

**Christmas Mission**

As we approach the celebration of Christmas, it is good to also look out for others who may be in need this holiday season. Father Vasyl is in touch with a priest friend in Ukraine who is trying to help children orphaned because of the ongoing war. Monetary donations will be collected for this effort and the plan is to combine them with the proceeds of the next pirohi project. You can help in many ways. Please see Fr. Vasyl if you would like to support this effort.

**Christmas Eve - Divine Liturgy - Dec. 24 - 8:00 pm**

**Christmas Day - Divine Liturgy - Dec. 25 - 10:30am**

## SAINT NICHOLAS - December 6th

Saint Nicholas is one of the most popular saints commemorated in the Eastern and Western churches, and he is now traditionally associated with the festival of Christmas. Nothing certain is known of his life, but he was probably bishop of Myra in the 4th century. He is also known as Nicholas of Myra.

Dutch families took the tradition of celebrating the feast day of Saint Nicholas with them to New Amsterdam in the American colonies, beginning as early as the 17th century. They referred to him as Sinterklaas. That name became Santa Claus to the early United States' English-speaking majority. The legend of a kindly old man was united with old Nordic folktales of a magician who punished naughty children and rewarded good children with presents to form the pop-cultural figure of Santa



Nicholas's reputation for generosity and kindness gave rise to legends of miracles he performed for the poor and unhappy. He was reputed to have given marriage dowries of gold to three girls whom poverty would otherwise have forced into lives of prostitution and to have restored to life three children who had been chopped up by a butcher and put in a tub of brine. In the Middle Ages, devotion to Nicholas extended to all parts of Europe. He became the patron saint of Russia and Greece; of charitable fraternities and guilds; of children, sailors, unmarried girls, merchants, and pawnbrokers; and of such cities as Fribourg, in Switzerland, and Moscow. Thousands of European churches were dedicated to him—one, built by the Roman emperor Justinian I at Constantinople (now Istanbul), as early as the 6th century. Nicholas's miracles were a favorite subject for medieval artists and liturgical plays.

The St. Nicholas Day traditions center around on children leaving their shoes or stockings out on the night before (December 5th).

In the morning children can wake to find some simple gifts waiting for them such as fruits, candies or treats in their shoes. This day is also celebrated in many places in America near the beginning of the season of Advent and preludes what we now refer to as Santa Claus.

## KIELBASA SALE

Again the Men's Club of Saint Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church , Duquesne is selling their delicious kielbasa. - Price: \$7.00

Last day to order: December 11, 2022

Date to pick up here at St. Stephen: December 18, 2022

Place orders on sheet at entrance to church.

## SAINT ANNA - December 8th



St. Anna was the mother of Virgin Mary and grandmother of Jesus Christ. She is considered a saint because of her role as grandmother as well as for being a pious and devout servant of the Almighty. Born in c 50 BC. She is believed to have birthed Mother Mary from Immaculate Conception. She was born from the House of David, which predicted the birth of Jesus. Ann and her husband Joachim wanted a child and tried to conceive for 20 years.



The parish family offers condolences to the family of Michael and Jodi Polczynski on the passing of Michael's mother, Louise Polczynski. May the Lord God give peace and consolation to the bereaved family, and may He grant to his departed servant +Louise a peaceful repose and eternal memory. *Vicnaja Jej Pamjat.*