

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ELIZABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Volume XVI

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1 / 14 December 2014

THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (Tone 2)
The Holy Prophet Nahum

THIS WEEK AT ST ELIZABETH'S

27th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (Tone 2)

Holy Prophet Nahum

Saturday, 13 December (30 November o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 14 December (1 December o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Trapeza (coffee hour)

12:30 Parish Council Meeting

ST NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER

Thursday, 18 December (5 December o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Friday, 19 December (6 December o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

28th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (Tone 2)

St Patapius of Thebes

Saturday, 20 December (7 December o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 21 December (8 December o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Trapeza (coffee hour)

THE REST OF DECEMBER

Namedays – 22nd (Conception of St Anna): Anna Straut; 22nd (Righteous Hannah): Mat. Nancy Hannah Barker; 24th-30th (Holy Forefathers): Sarah Brangwynne; 30th (Prophet Daniel): Reader Daniel Lieuwen, Daniel Palko.

Birthdays – 22nd: Anna Straut; 29th: Elizabeth Lieuwen, Paul Schidlovsky; 30th: Rdr Philip Hotz.

Fallen Asleep in the Lord – 22nd: Thomas Hancorn (+2013)

FASTING DAYS THIS WEEK

Day of Week	Date	Commemoration and Type of Fast
<i>Sunday</i>	14 December (1 Dec. o.s.)	Prophet Nahum Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted
<i>Monday</i>	15 December (2 Dec. o.s.)	Prophet Habakkuk Normal Fast Day (<i>No Oil</i>)
<i>Tuesday</i>	16 December (3 Dec. o.s.)	Prophet Zephaniah Fast: wine, & oil permitted
<i>Wednesday</i>	17 December (4 Dec. o.s.)	GM Barbara; St John of Damascus Fast: wine, & oil permitted
<i>Thursday</i>	18 December (5 Dec. o.s.)	St Sabbas the Sanctified Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted
<i>Friday</i>	19 December (6 Dec. o.s.)	ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted
<i>Saturday</i>	20 December (7 Dec. o.s.)	St Ambrose of Milan Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted
<i>Sunday</i>	21 December (8 Dec. o.s.)	St Patapius of Thebes Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted

NAMEDAYS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

LAST WEEK

Namedays – 7th (Great-Martyr Katherine): Katharine Bibas, Katya Darenkov, Katharine Markevich; 13th (Apostle Andrew): Andrew O'Brien, Andrew Kostadis, Reader Andrew Welsh.

THIS WEEK

Namedays – 19th (St Nicholas): Nikolai Darenkov, Reader Nicolas Schidlovsky, Nicolas Straut.

Birthdays – 15th: Xenia Whitacre.

Fallen Asleep in the Lord – 18th: Archimandrite Joasaph (McLellan) (+2009); 20th: Serge Kropov (+2009)

SCRIPTURE READINGS THIS WEEK

<i>Su</i>	27th Sunday after Pentecost	
	5th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Luke §113 (24:12-35)	
	Eph. §233 (6:10-17)	Luke §91 (18:18-27)
28TH WEEK after PENTECOST		
<i>M</i>	2 Tim. §294 (2:20-26)	Luke §102 (20:27-44)
<i>Tu</i>	2 Tim. §297 (3:16-4:4)	Luke §106 (21:12-19)
<i>W</i>	2 Tim. §299 (4:9-22)	Luke §104 (21:5-7, 10-11, 20-24)
<i>Th</i>	Titus §300a (1:5-2:1)	Luke §107 (21:28-33)
<i>F</i>	ST NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER	
	<i>Vespers Paramia:</i> (1) Proverbs 10:7, 6; 3:13-16; 8:6, 32, 34, 4, 12, 14 17, 5-9; 1:23 • (2) Proverbs 10:31-11:12 • (3) Wisdom 4: 7-15	
	<i>Matins Gospel:</i> John §36 (10:9-16)	
	Heb. §335 (13:17-21)	Luke §24 (6:17-23a)
<i>F</i>	Titus §301 (1:15-2:10)	Luke §108 (21:37-22:8)

Sa	Eph. §218 (1:16-23)	Luke §72 (13:18-29)
Su	28th Sunday after Pentecost	
	<i>6th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Luke §114 (24:36-53)</i>	
	Col. §250 (1:12-18)	Luke §85 (17:12-19)

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are in the midst of the Nativity Fast, which began on 28 November (n.s.) and continues for forty days until the Feast of the Nativity of the Lord on 7 January (n.s.). We eat no animal products (meat, meat products, eggs, and dairy products) throughout the forty days. The general rules for this period are as follows: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays are normal fast days; on Tuesdays and Thursdays, wine and oil are permitted; and on Saturdays and Sundays we may eat fish, wine, and oil. But since greater Saints' Days frequently brings a further mitigation of the fast from the general rules, it is important to consult an annual Orthodox calendar to find the correct fasting regimen for a particular weekday.

All Parishes of the Eastern American Diocese have been directed by the Metropolitan to take a special collection to be given to the St Herman's Youth Conference Executive Committee. These donations help the Committee keep the fees for the attendees very low. This is important so that as many youth as possible can attend the Youth Conference in December. At St Elizabeth's, we will be asking for special donations for this worthy cause on the Sundays of December. Please give generously.

The Parish gives gift bags in the name of St Nicholas to the children who attend services for the Feast of St Nicholas (December 18th & 19th.). If you would like to participate in this worthy effort, we ask you to give a small monetary donation so that Lenten candy and snacks can be purchased to be put in these bags. Please mark your donation "St Nicholas Bags."

The Parish needs donations for flowers for the Feasts of the Nativity and the Theophany of the Lord. Please mark flower donations clearly. You may include a Commemoration List with your donation and the names will be commemorated at the Proskomedia on the Holy Days.

Because of the great number of communicants at our parish, especially during the Lenten Seasons, the number of parishioners needing to go to Confession at St Elizabeth's Church is usually quite high. Having only one priest, who must serve in the altar as well as hear all the Confessions, presents practical difficulties in applying the usual rule of the Russian Church insisting on Confession before every Communion. The only workable solution seems to be applying the

exceptional practice of Holy Week to the rest of the year. For those who desire it, or for those whom a Spiritual Father recommends or requires it, Confession before every Communion will certainly be provided. But for those who are able to lead a disciplined spiritual life, abstaining from serious sin, and fulfilling the other preparations for Holy Communion, a more relaxed rule is in order. Confession before the Liturgy of one weekend will suffice for all the Liturgies for the next two weeks, so that regular communicants will only have to go to Confession every other weekend. There may also be some cases when a Spiritual Father has allowed, in certain individual cases, for an even more relaxed rule on Confession before Holy Communion, so it is important for us to abstain from judging others regarding the frequency of their Confessions before Holy Communion.

Our former parishioner, Archimandrite Joasaph McLellan, the Head of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in the Holy Land, fell asleep in the Lord on the Feast of St Sava the Sanctified, 18 December 2009. Another former parishioner, Serge Kropov, who served our Country in the United States Marines, was killed in Afghanistan two days later on 20 December 2009. We also remember Thomas Hancorn who departed this life on 22 December 2013. We will have a Litya for the Departed to pray for the repose both these men just prior to the Vigil Service for St Nicholas at about 5:45 pm on 18 December.

We will have a full schedule of services for St Nicholas' Day. The Vigil Service will be served on the eve of the Feast (18 December) at 6 o'clock and the Divine Liturgy on the morning of the Feast (19 December) at 9:30. Please bring your children to the services for the Feast of St Nicholas. As we know, St Nicholas had a great fondness for children, and he is often thought of as the 'Patron Saint' of little ones.

Father will provide written excuses to students who are absent or late for school due to attendance at services for St Nicholas' Day. Please notify him in advance so that he can have it ready for your child.

LOOKING AHEAD

There will be services at St Elizabeth's Church for the last Sunday of December (29 & 30 December). Father David will be travelling back from the St Herman's Conference in Toronto all day on Saturday, so the Vigil on Saturday evening will probably be a Reader's Service (and so there will be no opportunity for Confession that Saturday evening). But the Hours and Divine Liturgy will be served on Sunday, as usual, with Father David serving.