

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ELIZABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

Volume XX

Number 13

26 November / 9 December 2018

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (*Tone 3*)

Our Venerable Father Alypius the Stylite of Adrianopolis

SERVICES THIS WEEK

28TH SUNDAY after PENTECOST (*Tone 3*)

Ven. Alypius the Stylite; St Innocent of Irkutsk

Saturday, 8 December (25 November, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 9 December (26 November, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Coffee Hour

12:30 PM Parish Council Meeting

29TH SUNDAY after PENTECOST (*Tone 4*)

Holy Prophet Zephaniah

Saturday, 15 December (2 December, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 16 December (3 December, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Coffee Hour

12:30 PM Holy Trinity Seminary Presentation

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Week of 9 December

Su	28th Sunday after Pentecost	
	<i>6th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Luke §114 (24:36-53)</i>	
	Col. §250 (1:12-18)	Luke §71 (13:10-17)
29TH WEEK after PENTECOST		
	Heb. §308 (3:5-11, 17-19)	Luke §97 (19:37-44)
	Heb. §310 (4:1-13)	Luke §98 (19:45-48)
	Heb. §312 (5:11-6:8)	Luke §99 (20:1-8)
	Heb. §315 (7:1-6)	Luke §100 (20:9-18)
	Heb. §317 (7:18-25)	Luke §101 (20:19-26)
	Eph. §220a (2:11-13)	Luke §67 (12:32-40)
29th Sunday after Pentecost		
	<i>7th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: John §63 (20:1-10)</i>	
	1 Tim. §280a (1:15-17)	Luke §91 (18:18-27)

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.

Two Professors and three Seminarians from Holy Trinity Seminary in Jordanville, New York, on Sunday, 16 December 2018, at St Elizabeth's for the Divine

FASTING DAYS Week of 9 December

Day of Week	Date	Commemoration and Type of Fast
<i>Sunday</i>	9 December (26 Nov, o.s.)	St Innocent of Irkutsk Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted
<i>Monday</i>	10 December (27 Nov, o.s.)	Kursk Root Icon of the Theotokos Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted
<i>Tuesday</i>	11 December (28 Nov, o.s.)	Ven. Martyr Stephen the New Fast: wine & oil permitted
<i>Wednesday</i>	12 December (29 Nov, o.s.)	Martyr Paramon & Companions Normal Fast Day (<i>No oil</i>)
<i>Thursday</i>	13 December (30 Nov, o.s.)	Holy Apostle Andrew Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted
<i>Friday</i>	14 December (1 Dec. o.s.)	Prophet Nahum Normal Fast Day (<i>No oil</i>)
<i>Saturday</i>	15 December (2 Dec, o.s.)	Prophet Habakkuk Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted
<i>Sunday</i>	16 December (3 Dec, o.s.)	Prophet Zephaniah Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted

Liturgy and trapeza. During the meal, the Seminarians and Professors will speak about the current state of Holt Trinity Seminary and one of the professors, Fr Deacon Andrei Psarev will offer a presentation on: 'the Inter-Council Presence of the Russian Church as a Phenomenon of Conciliarity'.

LOOKING AHEAD

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 the three of these men just prior to the Vigil Service for St Nicholas at about 5:45 pm on 18 December.

Saint Nicholas the Wonderworker of Myra in Lycia is among the most beloved of Saints by Orthodox Christians, regardless of their nationality. St Nicholas is always one of the most popular Patron Saints for both Orthodox churches and boys. St Nicholas has two feast days: his main feast day on 6 / 19 December, universally observed by Orthodox Christians, and the Translation of the Relics of St Nicholas from Myra to Bari on 9 / 22 May, particularly beloved by Russian Orthodox Christians. (There is also a Feast of the Nativity of St Nicholas on 29 July / 11 August, but this is little known.) St Nicholas is known for his love and care for the poor. He defended the oppressed and those wrongly accused before the rich and powerful. St Nicholas was a champion of the Orthodox Faith against the heresy of Arius at and after the First Ecumenical Council. Because of his love for children, St Nicholas is considered the Patron Saint of the young. Because of his manifest intercessors for those in danger at sea, he is the Patron Saint of sailors and fishermen. He is venerated as the Patron Saint of many lands, including Greece, Russia, Italy, Germany Austria, Switzerland, and Belgium, and hundreds of cities and towns the world over.

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.

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.'

A Sister from St Elizabeth's Convent in Minsk, Belarus will be visiting us for the Feast of St Nicholas the Wonderworker on 18 and 19 December 2018. We have had Sisters visit us a few times in the past and it is always edifying. We hope that Sister will speak to the assembled children at the end of the Liturgy and give a little talk to all at trapeza following the Liturgy. The Sisters bring devotional items and handicrafts with them on their parish visits, so there will be an opportunity to buy some Christmas gifts as well.

We need a volunteer to pick up the Sister from Belarus at the train station in Princeton Junction on December 18th and bring her to St Elizabeth's for the Vigil Service, If you can pick up Sister, please let Fr David know.

Many thanks to the Darenkov for providing a bed for the night of 18 December 2018 for the Sister from Belarus. Many thanks to the Darenkovs!

Ignatius Fiocca will be baptised, Lord willing, on Saturday, 22 December 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at St Elizabeth's. All our parishioners are invited to witness the Baptism

The annual St Herman of Alaska Youth Conference will take place in Albany, New York at *the Nativity of the Mother of God Church*, from Sunday, 23 December through Thursday, 27 December 2018, with the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Hilarion, First Hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia and of His Grace, Archbishop Gabriel of Montreal and All Canada. The program includes spiritual lectures and discussion groups, church services, the chance to meet other Orthodox youth, and social outings. Youth from age 16 through young adult are invited. The Registration fee includes all lectures, activities, meals and lodging (quad occupancy). Transportation will be provided from the hotel to all activities and services. The cost for the conference will be a discounted rate of \$300 prior to the November 30th deadline and includes lodging, meals, and local transportation. Limited scholarships are available. After 10 December, the price will increase to \$350. Please register early, as space is limited. For further information and registration, please visit the website at www.StHermanConference.com This is a wonderful opportunity to meet and socialize with other Orthodox Christian youth and clergy from the United States, Canada, Russia, and elsewhere. We would love to see all our youth from St Elizabeth's in Rocky Hill participate in this event.