

Parish Calendar & Upcoming Events

TODAY DEADLINE FOR St. Nicholas Dinner Benefit Reservations.

TOMORROW--SOLEMN FEAST OF SAINT NICHOLAS

Dec 5 Monday 7:00 GREAT VESPERS
Dec 6 Tuesday 9:00 DIVINE LITURGY

SOLEMN FEAST OF THE MATERNITY OF SAINT ANNA

Dec 7 Wednesday 7:00 pm Vesper/Liturgy
Dec 8 Thursday 9:00 Divine Liturgy

Dec 10 Saturday ST NICHOLAS DINNER BENEFIT BUILDING FUND.

5:00 pm Vesper/Liturgy with Bishop
Gerald followed with the Dinner
and Program in the Parish Hall.
RSVP needed. Sponsored by the
Greek Catholic Union Lodge 999.
See Joanie Mahar for tickets.

Dec 12, 13 & 14 CHRISTMAS BAKING DAYS. 9:00 am till 5:00 pm. Contact Joanie Mahar.

Dec 14 Wednesday EASTERN CATHOLIC CLERGY 11:30 am Luncheon prayer meeting at Saint Helen's Church in Peoria.

THE BIRTH OF OUR LORD AND GOD, JESUS CHRIST-Holy Day of Obligation

Dec 24 Saturday 5:00 pm Vesper/Liturgy
Dec 25 Sunday 8:00 am Liturgy

& 10:00 am Hierarchical Liturgy

ALTAR SOCIETY SCHEDULE cleaning the
Temple of the Lord: Joan Wolfe & Gilda
Dougherty.

WANT TO BE ON OUR E-MAIL LIST just
send to the parish office an e-mail to
sstparish@qwestoffice.net. And will will make
sure you are on the list to get our bulletin and any
special announcements from the parish.

TITHING AND ATTENDANCE REPORT

November 27 Saturday 5 pm 34 souls
Sunday 8 am--40 souls & 10 am-91 Souls.

Tithing : \$1,824.00

Candles: \$34.70

Religious Retirement: \$25.00

Building Fund: \$100.00

Thank you for your support and generosity.

WISH LIST Make our Cathedral Great...

- 1) We are looking for a committee of faithful who
would be responsible to decorate the Cathedral
for Christmas.
- 2) "Christmas Memorial flower collection" will
help cover the expense of the Christmas flowers
and decoration.
- 3) We need to ushers and people to welcome
guests to our Cathedral for all the Sunday
services.
- 4) FOOD COLLECTION as part of our
preparation for Thanksgiving and Christmas,
we are collecting non-perishable foods for the
Food Bank. Just leave your bags of food under
the icon of Saint Nicholas.

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

8141 N. 16th Street, Frnt, Phoenix, AZ 85020
Office: 602-943-5379 Fax: 602-997-4093

Web Page

www.ststephenbyzantine.org

E-mail: sstparish@qwestoffice.net

Catering: 602-997-4563

www.ststephencatering.com

Served by:

Mitered Archpriest Stephen G. Washko, rector
Deacon John Montalvo III, Deacon James Danovich,
Deacon Michael Hanafin

Saint Stephen Cathedral Byzantine Catholic

BUILDING FOR
THE FUTURE!



December 4, 2011

25th Sunday After Pentecost

Reflection on the Icon of Saint Nicholas from *The Prologue from Ohrid*

In icons of St. Nicholas, the Lord Savior is usually depicted on one side with a Gospel in His hands, and the Most-holy Virgin Theotokos is depicted on the other side with an episcopal omophorion in her hands. This has a two-fold historical significance: first, it signifies the calling of Nicholas to the hierarchical office, and second, it signifies his exoneration from the condemnation that followed his confrontation with Arianism was declared heresy at the Council of Nicaea', 'St. Methodius, Patriarch of Constantinople, writes: "One night St. Nicholas saw our Savior in glory, standing by him and extending to him the Gospel, adorned with gold and pearls. On his other side, he saw the Theotokos, who was placing the episcopal pallium on his shoulders." Shortly after this vision, John the Archbishop of Myra died and St. Nicholas was appointed archbishop of that city. That was the first incident. The second incident occurred at the time of the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea. Unable to stop Arius through reason from espousing the irrational blasphemy against the Son of God and His Most-holy Mother, St. Nicholas struck Arius on the face with his hand. The Holy Fathers at the Council, protesting such an action, banned Nicholas from the Council and deprived him of all emblems of the episcopal rank. That same night, several of the Holy Fathers saw an identical vision: how the Lord Savior and the Most-holy Theotokos were standing around St. Nicholas—on one side the Lord Savior with the Gospel, and on the other side the Most-holy Theotokos with a pallium, presenting the saint with the episcopal emblems that had been removed from him. Seeing this, the fathers were awe struck and quickly returned to Nicholas that which had been removed. They began to respect him as a great chosen one of God, and they interpreted his actions against Arius not as an act of unreasonable anger, but rather an expression of great zeal for God's truth.

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE LITURGIES & INTENTIONS

3 Saturday Vigil for Sunday p. 104 & 159

(Numbers 12: 1-15 or 2 Kings 5: 1-19)

5:00 pm Vesper/Liturgy +*Sir Michael Bachovcin by George & Monta Tomley*

4 25th Sunday after Pentecost Tone 8 p. 161

8:00 am *Happy Birthday Julie Trutza by Diane Herring.*

9:45 am **THE THIRD HOUR**

10:00 am *For our parish members*

11:30 am E. C. F. Classes for the Youth of our Parish

5 Monday VIGIL FOR THE FEAST OF SAINT NICHOLAS

7:00 pm GREAT VESPER

6 Tuesday SOLEMN FEAST OF SAINT NICHOLAS, p. 274

9:00 am *Health of Sr. Barbara Stefaniak by the Stefaniak Family*

7 Wednesday VIGIL FOR THE FEAST OF THE MATERNITY OF SAINT ANN, p. 368 (Recommended Meatless Meals)

7:00 pm VESPER/LITURGY

Health of Frank Slonka by Michael & Gilda Dougherty

8 Thursday SOLEMN FEAST OF THE MATERNITY OF SAINT ANN, p. 277

9:00 am *God's blessing on Mike Ratliff by Karen Ratliff*

9 Friday Venerable Father Patapius, p. 376 (Meatless Meals)

8:00 am *God's blessing on the McCay Family by Karen Ratliff*

10 Sat Vigil for Sunday Tone 1, p. 104 (Judges 13: 1-5 24-25, 14: 1-20 or Isaiah 25: 1-9)

5:00 pm Vesper/Liturgy *Health of Mary Rabayda by the Kardos Family*

11 Sunday of the Forefathers second Sunday before Christmas, Tone 1, p. 125 & 281

8:00 am *For the Members of our Parish*

9:45 am **The Third Hour**

10:00 am +*Sammy Butty by Widad & Nancy Butty*

PRAYER REQUESTS Joel Weishiet, Sr. Barbara Stefaniak, Helen Duhancik, Mary Rabayda, Alex & Julie Vu Family, Marlene Leeds--Sr. Christopher's niece, Dorothy Bezeredi, Daniel Walsh, Robert King, Jon Hrovat, Fr James Lane, Dobric & Family, Larrie Ann Thets, Frank Slonka, Mary Lou Clark, Ricki Majklowjez, Kristy, & Carter Cihota, Henrietta Gazzano, Jo Ellen Duncan, Hazel Carfagma, mother of Marsha Dudik, Margaret Kunak, Vincent, James Hrovat, Ann Ryan, Martha Maleta. Julia Menlicavage, Nicholas Toth.

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Eternal Light:

+Frank S. Slonka by Kathy Slonka

Tetrapod:

+Helen Sissea by The Family

Tetrapod:

Joel Weishiet by Mary Washko

Christmas:

Sr. Melita Penchalk by Alice Garcia

Resurrection: Pentecost: Ascension: Encounter:

Theophany: Exaltation of the Cross:

Transfiguration: St. Anthony:

FROM THE PASTOR The Live Nativity Friday night was truly a wonderful success. Over 300 luminaries lined 16th Street from Northern Avenue to the Cathedral and a line of cars followed the line.

We had 4 choirs each singing for about 1/2 hour during the 2 hour period, the children's choir from Mar Abraham Chaldean Catholic Church, the choir from Most Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, (7th Street), the choir from St. Helen Roman Catholic Church in Peoria and finally in their traditional costumes from Our Lady of Chestowova Polish Roman Catholic Church. The front of the Cathedral was crowded with many of the people from our Fish & Pierogi Dinner as well as people from the neighborhood and from the other parishes. Thank you Sister Jean Marie! Needless to say our Fish and Pierogi Dinner was a super success. Special thank you for the people who stayed late to clean up the hall after the Dinner. It was a little bit overwhelming but we did it for the Lord and for the love of our Parish.

HALL UPDATES--DEMOLITION...

We passed the asbestos inspection in preparation for the demolition of the entrance into the Parish Hall. There was some asbestos in the roofing material on the roof but not of any major concern.

The fence was put up but it is open till the demolition of the hall entrance starts. It should not cause any problems with the use of the hall or for the Saint Nicholas Celebration next weekend.

TODAY IS THE DEADLINE FOR YOUR RESERVATION!

SAINT NICHOLAS FAMILY DINNER

BENEFIT by our friends the Greek Catholic Union Lodge 999. The benefit is for our Building Fund.

EVERYONE IS INVITED!

When: Saturday, Dec 10, 2011

Were: The Cathedral Parish Hall

Time: 5:00 pm Vesper/Liturgy followed by the dinner in the hall.

Serving: Roast Beef Dinner

Donation: Adults \$15, Ages 12 & Under \$10.00, Family Tickets: 2 adults & 3 or more Children--\$60.00

DEADLINE FOR THE CHRITSMAS

ORDERS the blue forms are located at the Greeting Table.

THE MATERNITY OF SAINT ANN Virginitiy and Immaculate Conception

Since the early church the theme of Mary's virginitiy has served as an important emblem of Christianity's ascetic ideal. The Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and some Protestant traditions teach the perpetual virginitiy of Mary, placing a nonliteral interpretation on New Testament references to Jesus' brothers. The Catholic Church additionally has proclaimed the dogma of the Immaculate Conception (declared in the bull *Ineffabilis Deus* of Pius IX, 1854), according to which Mary was conceived without original sin. The Roman Catholic Church further teaches that Mary was freed from actual sin by a special grace of God.