



Weekly Bulletin

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

A Community of the Orthodox Church in America

Witnessing to the Apostolic Faith in Lake County for over 44 Years

Father Andrew Clements, Pastor

Volume 33

2019

Number 6

Sunday	Feb 3	<i>36th Sunday after Pentecost / Tone 3 / Afterfeast of the Meeting</i>	
		9:00 am	Church School
		10:00 am	Divine Liturgy Coffee Hour
Saturday	Feb 9	<i>Martyr Nicephorus</i>	
		5:30 pm	Great Vespers
Sunday	Feb 10	<i>37th Sunday after Pentecost / Tone 4 / Zacchaeus</i>	
		Readings:	1 Tim 4:9-15 Lk 19:1-10
		9:00 am	Church School
		10:00 am	Divine Liturgy Coffee Hour

ATTENDANCE / STEWARDSHIP / Jan 27

Attendance: (Adults 90, Children 40)	130
Operating	\$3,782.00
OCA Assessments	448.00
Uganda Children	140.00
Charities	20.00
Icons	35.00
IOCC	25.00
Maintenance	47.00
Food Sale	16.00

MEMORY ETERNAL

For those of us who remember him, Fr John Mason fell asleep in the Lord on Friday. Fr John was the Dean when our parish began and was involved with its establishment. Funeral Services are Monday at 7:00 pm and Tuesday at 10:00 am at St Nick's in Mogadore. Please keep him in your prayers.

2018 TAX STATEMENTS

Available in the hall. Questions to Nick or Larry.

PRAYER CORNER + + + + +

Eleanor Alexander (Tom's mom), Perry (Capitan), Sbdcn Leonard, John (Adam's nephew), Ted Geletka, Nina Stehnach (Fr's frnds), Julian, John Clements, Sarah Crivella, Nancy, (Ruth B's frnd), Joella (Lu D's daughter) Lillian (Lu D's mom), Bradley (Tina C's son), suffering Christians in Ukraine and the Middle East.

Anniversaries: Fr Andrew & Debbie (2/7).

Birthdays: Jack LeMaster, Maya Alexander (2/3), Cari Furman (2/4), Emily Horabik (2/5), Amanda

Wachenschwantz, Anna Chongris (2/6).

Newborns: Mira (David & Maria), Maxime (Colin & Tamuna), Amalie & Augustine (Daniel & Danielle), Nicholas (Vyta & Inga), Emmett (Tom & Laura).

Expecting: Tom & Stephanie, Bobby & Juliana.

Departed: Edward Gertz (2/1. Scott Carlson's uncle), Mary Georges (12/31, Peter's mom), Olivia Hall (12/29, Dan R's niece).

Newly Illumined: Matthew, Melania, Mary, Naomi & Michael, Matthew.

Our Seminarian: Deacon Brian Crivella & Family.

Our Missionaries: Peter & Sharon.

He Who is borne on high by the cherubim and praised in hymns by the seraphim is brought today according to the Law into the holy Temple and rests in the arms of the Elder as on a throne. From Joseph He receives gifts fitting for God: a pair of doves, a symbol of the spotless Church and of the newly chosen people of the Gentiles, and two young pigeons, for He is the originator of the two Covenants, both Old and New. Simeon, now granted the fulfillment of the prophesies concerning himself, blesses the Virgin and Theotokos Mary. He foretells in figures the Passion of her Son. From Him he begs release, crying aloud: "Now, Master, let me depart as You have promised me, for I have seen the pre-eternal Light the Lord and Savior of the people who bear the name of Christ!"

— Vesperal Hymn of the Meeting Of the Lord —

Holy, Righteous Simeon the God-Receiver

Righteous Simeon the God-Receiver was, according to the testimony of the holy Evangelist Luke, a just and devout man waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him (Luke 2:25). God promised him that he would not die until the promised Messiah, Christ the Lord, came into the world.

Ancient historians tell us that the Egyptian pharaoh Ptolemy II Philadelphus (285-247 B.C.) wished to include texts of Holy Scripture in the famous Library at Alexandria. He invited scholars from Jerusalem, and the Sanhedrin sent their wise men. The Righteous Simeon was one of the seventy scholars who came to Alexandria to translate the Holy Scriptures into Greek. The completed work was called "The Septuagint," and is the version of the Old Testament used by the Orthodox Church.

Saint Simeon was translating a book of the Prophet Isaiah, and read the words: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive in the womb, and shall bring forth a Son" (Is 7:14). He thought that "virgin" was inaccurate, and he wanted to correct the text to read "woman." At that moment an angel appeared to him and held back his hand saying, "You shall see these words fulfilled. You shall not die until you behold Christ the Lord born of a pure and spotless Virgin."

From this day, Saint Simeon lived in expectation of the Promised Messiah. One day, the righteous Elder received a revelation from the Holy Spirit, and came to the Temple. It was on the very day (the fortieth after the Birth of Christ) when the All-Pure Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph had come to the Temple in order to perform the ritual prescribed by Jewish Law.

When Saint Simeon beheld their arrival, the Holy Spirit revealed to him that the divine

Child held by the All-Pure Virgin Mary was the Promised Messiah, the Savior of the world. The Elder took the Child in his arms and said, "Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel" (Luke 2:29-32).

There is a Christian epigram (Number 46) in "The Greek Anthology" which is addressed to Saint Simeon. It tells the righteous Elder to receive the Child Who was born before Adam, and Who will deliver Simeon from this life and bring him to eternal life. A similar idea is expressed in the Aposticha (Slavic use) for the Forefeast of the Nativity of the Lord (December 24). There the Mother of God refers to her Son as "older than ancient Adam."

Simeon blessed the All-Pure Virgin and Saint Joseph, and turning to the Mother of God he said, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel, and for a sign which shall be spoken against. Yea, a sword shall pierce through your own soul also, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed" (Luke 2:34-35).

The holy righteous Simeon the God-Receiver died at a great age (Tradition says he was 360). His holy relics were transferred to Constantinople in the sixth century. His grave was seen by the Russian pilgrim Saint Anthony, the future Archbishop of Novgorod (October 8) in 1200.