

All Saints Orthodox Christian Church
210 Susquehanna Ave. PO Box 207 Olyphant, PA. 18447

Fr. Paul Schellbach, Rector

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Office Hours: 9 AM-4 PM, Monday thru Friday

www.allsaintsolyphant.org

December 21, 2014

Sunday Before Nativity

Today. The final drawing for Church School raffle baskets located on the table in the Hall. A huge thank you to all who donated a basket and to all those who are buying tickets. They are all very pretty. It is a special fund raiser to offset the cost for children to attend the St. Tikhon's summer camp. We want to pay for as many children as possible to attend.

Wednesday, December 24th. Vigil for the Nativity of Christ. 7:30PM.

Thursday, December 25th. Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of Christ. 9:30AM.

Friday, December 26th. Divine Liturgy, 2nd day of the Nativity. 9:30AM.

Saturday, November 15th. Nativity Fast begins through December 24th.

On the Nativity of Jesus Christ-These Truths We Hold.

In the earliest days of Christianity, the Feast of the Nativity of Christ was not generally celebrated in the Church. First mention of the Feast is made by St. Clement of Alexandria, who mentions that certain Egyptians commemorated the birth of Christ on May 20. The *Apostolic Constitutions* of the first half of the 4th century set forth that January 6 should be celebrated as both the feast of the Nativity and Epiphany. St. Gregory of Nyssa in 380 wrote that the faithful of Cappadocia celebrated the Nativity on December 25. The Feast was not celebrated in Jerusalem until the 6th Century, while St. John Chrysostom introduced it at Antioch in 386 and at Constantinople between 398-402. In Rome the feast of the Nativity of Christ had been celebrated on December 25 since 354.

December 25 was ultimately chosen by the Church as the date of the Nativity in order to *Christianize* the pagan Feast of Natalis Invicti or *Invincible Sun*, which was celebrated on that day. St. Cyprian of Carthage noted that this “anniversary of the invincible” was made actual only in the birth of Jesus-the only *invincible* One.

Please bring a friend, relative or someone new to Church. Invite them to coffee hour as well. It is always good to see new people in Church!

Flowers for our special feast days and any Sundays can decorate the Church. They beautify the Church. Please donate to flowers by remembering anyone departed or in honor of a person, event, or accomplishment. See Fr. Paul.

Please bring in canned goods and non-perishables. We currently have some community families who are in need. Food collection is located near entrance to the Social Hall. We will also try to provide food for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

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Month of December Education Prayer Corner: *Troparion to the Nativity of Christ*.

Saturday Vespers 4PM; Sunday Divine Liturgy 9:30AM. Confessions available upon request.

Peroghis available Friday 9-11:30 & Sunday 11-12.

Donations for 12/7 & 12/14. Weekly: \$669.85. Loose: \$53. Tithe: \$1575. 2nd collection, Perogi: \$61. 2d collection, Church supply: \$44. Donation from Knights of Columbus: \$100. Donation IMO William Maday from Mr. & Mrs. Michael Sheruba: \$10. Donation to All Saints Camp Fund IMO William Maday by Pete & Joni Rezanka, Tanya Carrelle and the boys: \$25. Rectory renovation donations IMO William Maday from Michael & Amelia Kuzmiak: \$200. Anastasia Mazur: \$100. Mike & Sonia Prestys: \$10. Rectory renovation donations IMO Robert Zarnosky by Jacob & Sonia Lopatofsky: \$25. Joan Gima: \$25. Gregory Kuchwara: \$20. Olga Ross: \$10. Ed & Kathleen Brogenski: \$50. Shirley Romanovitch: \$25.

Prayers: Please inform Fr. Paul if you want someone remembered throughout the month. Please pray for Ann Schlasta after recovery from surgery. Please keep the Maday family members in your prayers.

Memory Eternal for the newly departed William Maday.

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If anyone would like to sponsor a bulletin in memory of someone please let Fr. Paul know.

Bulletin for December in memory of John Naughton.