

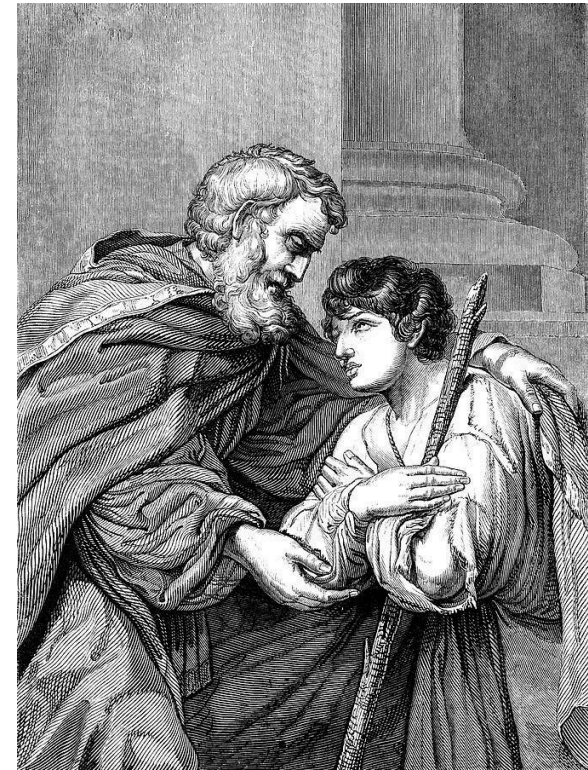
## Life of St. Nicholas of Japan

Saint Nicholas, Enlightener of Japan, was born Ivan Dimitrievich Kasatkin on August 1, 1836. In late 1860 St. Nicholas stepped foot on the Island of Japan as its Enlightener. At first, the preaching of the Gospel in Japan seemed completely impossible. In Father Nicholas's own words: "the Japanese of the time looked upon foreigners as beasts, and on Christianity as a villainous sect, to which only villains and sorcerers could belong." He spent eight years in studying the country, the language, manners and customs of the people among whom he would preach.

A decision was made, on January 14, 1870, to form a special Russian Spiritual Mission for preaching the Word of God among the Japanese. Father Nicholas was elevated to the rank of archimandrite and appointed as head of this Mission. The early years of the Mission were filled with harsh abuse of the native people of Japan towards Orthodoxy. In 1873 Archimandrite Nicholas began the construction of a stone building in Tokyo which housed a church, a school for fifty men, and later a religious school, which became a seminary in 1878. St. Nicholas went on to build missions in other cities and provinces. His works include the translation of services and the publishing of a journal. The Church herald. In 1880 the Cathedral of the Resurrection was constructed in Tokyo. At the

time of his repose in 1912, there were 33,017 Christians in 266 communities of the Japanese Orthodox Church, 40 Clergy, 14 singing instructors, and 116 catechists.

*"Let us Attend!"*



*"Father forgive me..."*

A PARISH BULLETIN OF  
ALL SAINTS ORTHODOX CHURCH  
Olyphant, Pennsylvania

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9 February 2025

**Sunday of the Prodigal Son**

**Bulletin, Sunday, 16 February 2025**

**SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON — Tone 1. St. Nicholas, Equal-to-the-Apostles, Archbishop of Japan** (1912). Martyrs Pamphilius—Presbyter, Valens—Deacon, Paul, Seleucus, Porphyrius, Julian, Theodulus, Elias, Jeremiah, Isaiah, Samuel, and Daniel, at Cæsarea in Palestine (307-309). St. Maruthas, Bishop of Martyropolis in Mesopotamia (422). Persian Martyrs in Martyropolis in Mesopotamia (4th c.).

**Epistle:** 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

**Gospel:** Luke 15:11-32

*Our souls and minds are strengthened and fortified by the regular reading of the Holy Scriptures. Daily readings can be found on the parish's wall calendar, or online by visiting the OCA's daily reading page <https://www.oca.org/readings>.*

**Weekly Schedule:**

- **Wednesday, 19 February 2025 9AM. Akathist to the Theotokos “Softener of Hearts”**  
- **Saturday, 15 February 2025: 5:00-5:45PM Fr. Paul available for Confession; 6:00PM Great Vespers**  
- **Sunday, 16 February 2025. Sunday of the Last Judgment. 9:30AM Divine Liturgy, followed by Coffee Hour Agape Fellowship.**

~ A warm welcome to all those who are visiting with us today. Please join us downstairs and join us for Agape Coffee Hour fellowship. All are welcome.

~ The parish will hold a Lenten food sale on Friday, March 14 from 11am-4pm. Please tell your family and friends. For information about food sale preparation, please see Ann Schlasta.

~ The Diocesan Summer Camp will take place this Summer from 30 June to 5 July 2025. Camp Registration is presently open and with that a need for Camp Counselors and volunteers. If you have interest in helping out a camp in any capacity from all week to serving in the kitchen for a day or two, please see Fr. Paul for details.

~ The faithful of All Saints have been invited to share in a Maslenitsa community meal at St. Nicholas Church Hall following Forgiveness Sunday Vespers on Sunday, 2 March 2024 at 12:30pm. Please join us following services at All Saints for this celebration hosted by our sister parish.

~ We offer up our prayers this week for our homebound faithful. Please give a call or a visit this week to someone you know who can know who has difficulty coming to Church. By so doing we extend the Church to them by our outreach.