



St. Nicholas

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JACOBS CREEK, PA.

Orthodox Church

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December 20, 2020

28th Sunday after Pentecost

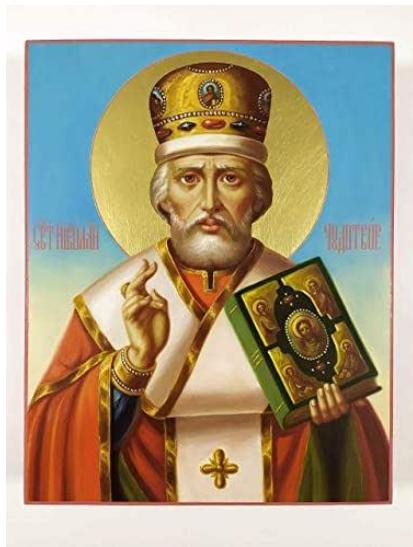
Commemoration of St. Ambrose, bishop of Milan (397 AD)

This week Vespers Divine Liturgy on Thursday at 9:00 p.m. in Jacobs Creek for the Nativity of the Lord.

To prepare for Holy Communion, we observe a complete fast from all food and water from 6:00 p.m.

Strict fast Thursday is a day of strict fasting for those celebrating Christmas. We abstain from all meat and dairy products.

Remember in prayer Becky Bobich, a patient at Westmoreland Hospital and John Volk, undergoing outpatient treatment



St. Nicholas was born around AD 270 in Patara, Lycia, (present day Turkey) to

Christian parents. As he grew, he flourished physically, mentally and spiritually.

About 300 AD, St. Nicholas was elected Bishop of Myra, the city now known as Demre, Turkey. Living his whole life centered on Jesus Christ, Nicholas worked for justice and cared for those in need.

Bishop Nicholas, defender of the faith, forcefully argued for the doctrine of the Holy Trinity at the 1st Ecumenical Council of Nicaea held in the year 325. The council's statement forms part of the Nicene Creed which we recite at each Divine Liturgy

Bishop Nicholas died on December 19, 343 and was buried in the cathedral in Myra. Many pilgrims began coming to his tomb.

Since the fifth century the Church has revered him as *St. Nicholas the Wonderworker* for the many miracles attributed to him and for his inspiring witness as a follower of Jesus Christ.

In 1087 Italian sailors took the bones of St. Nicholas to Bari, Italy. This event is remembered each May 9 (May 22 Julian calendar) as the *"Feast of the Translation of the relics of St. Nicholas."*

His relics continue to seep an oily fluid called "myrrh" which is collected each year on May 9 and used to anoint the sick.



Sunday School classes will be on break after today. They will resume on January 10.

Confessions

Sunday, Dec. 27
following the Divine Liturgy

Friday, Jan. 1
6:00 – 7:00

Sunday, Jan. 3
following the Divine Liturgy

Thank you to James Tirpak for the donation for the icon of *Our Lady of the Sign* in honor and for the health of his grandchildren.