

# ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Weekly Bulletin for Week of December 4-10, 2017

## TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

**EPISTLE:** Brethren: (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret.

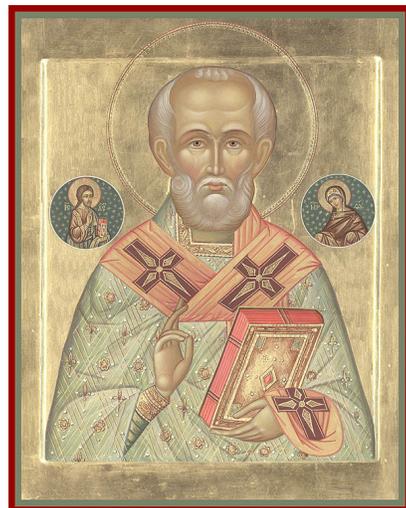
But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore He says: "Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light." See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, (*Ephesians 5:9-19*)

**GOSPEL:** At that time: Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not bear false witness,' 'Honor your father and your mother.'" And he said, "All these things I have kept from my youth."

So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich. And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

And those who heard it said, "Who then can be saved?" But He said, "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God." (*Luke 18:18-27*)



**St. Nicholas of Myra in Lycia  
December 6**

## THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

**TODAY: 26<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 1.** Prophet Zephaniah. Ven. Savva (Sabbas), Abbot of Zvenigorod, disciple of Ven. Sergius of Rádonezh. St. Theodulus, Eparch of Constantinople. Ven. John the Silent of St. Sabbas' Monastery. Hieromartyr Theodore, Archbishop of Alexandria. Monk Martyr Cosmas of St. Anne's Skete (Mt. Athos).

*Hours:* Youth

*Epistle:* Youth

*Post-Communion:* Youth

*Greeters:* Chong/Campbell

*Coffee:* Aster

**NO CHURCH SCHOOL — ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, December 6:** Divine Liturgy, 8:00 AM; ST. NICHOLAS, ARCHBISHOP OF MYRA IN LYCIA  
Daily Vespers, 6:30 PM, ADULT FAITH FORUM

**THURSDAY, December 7:** Coffee Chat, 10:00 AM

**SATURDAY, December 9: YOUTH RETREAT/SNOW DAY, 9:00 AM**

Russian Confessions, 9:00 AM; Slavonic Liturgy, 10:00 AM; Great Vespers, 5:00 PM; CONFESSIONS

**SUNDAY, December 10: Divine Liturgy, 9:00 AM; 27<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 2.** Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes, and Eugephus, of Alexandria. St. Joasaph, Bishop of Belgorod. Martyr Gemellus of Paphlagonia. Ven. Thomas of Bithynia. Bl. Jovan (John), King of Serbia, and his parents, Stephen and Angelina Brancovich.

*Hours:* Hood

*Epistle:* Bitsko

*Post-Communion:* Jarlson

*Greeters:* Murphy/Geralt

*Coffee:* Makunen

**CHURCH SCHOOL**

**PARISH CLERGY**

**Very Rev. John J. Dresko, Rector**  
**860.833.4921 mobile**  
**fatherjohn (at) lasvegasorthodox (dot) com**  
**Rev. Stephen Osburn, Jr., Associate Priest**  
**702.521.6988 mobile**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ANNUAL MEETING**

This is the **third and final announcement** of our annual parish meeting today, following the liturgy and a brief coffee hour. In addition to normal business, an amendment to the Parish By-laws will be voted on to bring us into compliance with the Statute of the OCA. All voting members should be present.

**YOUTH RETREAT/SNOW DAY**

Parish youth, ages 5-17, are invited next Saturday, December 9, to a joint Nativity Retreat/Snow Day with the youth of St. John's. Everyone will meet at St. Paul's at 9:00 AM for a prayer service, followed by an outing to Mount Charleston for a day in the snow. If you plan on attending or can help with transportation, please see Father Stephen.

**2018 WALL CALENDARS**

The 2018 Wall Calendars are now available in the bookstore area in the vestibule. The cost this year is \$10.00 per calendar. A basket is available for you to "self-serve" pay.

**NATIVITY FAST**

The annual Nativity Fast continues, of course, until the celebration of the Nativity of our Lord on December 25. **Every** regular communicant makes the time during the Fast to journey to the Sacrament of Confession. **Confessions are heard during and after Vespers on Saturdays and by appointment.**

**CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE**

Our Annual Christmas Cookie Sale will be held after liturgy on Sunday, December 17. A sign-up list for various baked goods is available in the church hall. If you have a flour-covered thumb and can offer something, please sign up.

**HOUSE BLESSINGS**

A sign-up list is now available in the vestibule for 2018 house blessings. If you wish Father John to come and bless your house after Theophany (January 6), please sign and check the time of day that is most convenient. Please note that Great Lent is early this year, and other Church commitments have limited the time available for house blessings, so **most dinner requests will not be able to be accomodated** as the schedule has to be condensed. Father John will do his best, but please do not be offended if a leisurely visit and meal is not part of his visit this year.

**HELP STILL NEEDED**

We continue our effort to assist the Hoods with their medical expenses. In addition to making a gift by check or card, we have setup a YouCaring Page to allow online donations:

<https://www.youcaring.com/viginiaginnyhood-899443>

**REMEMBER, O LORD...those in need of prayer**

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|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Archpriest Paul (Lazor)    | Adrian (Geralt)      |
| Archpriest John (Bruchok)  | Michael (Geralt)     |
| Matushka Mary (Perez)      | Victoria (Potter)    |
| Veronica (Hood)            | Vladimir (Serzhanin) |
| Michelle (Chong)           | Stacy (Kim)          |
| Laura (Draskovic)          | Kathryn (Kessler)    |
| Anita (Maresca)            | Micah (Demko)        |
| Sophie & Natasha (Zonitch) | Ann (Prochko)        |
| Marteen (Moore)            | Monique (Miller)     |
| Christine (Sechrist)       | Alla (Jascolt)       |
| Peter (Jolevski)           | Robert (Kuhn)        |
| David (Poe)                | Kimberly (Wolfgang)  |

**Newly departed Mitred Archpriest Michael**

**55 MAXIMS • FATHER THOMAS HOPKO**

As we continue the Nativity Fast, we conclude these maxims which Fr. Thomas Hopko taught as essential to Christian life:

46. Accept criticism gratefully but test it critically.
47. Give advice to others only when asked or obligated to do so.
48. Do nothing for anyone that they can and should do for themselves.
49. Have a daily schedule of activities, avoiding whim and caprice.
50. Be merciful with yourself and with others.
51. Have no expectations except to be fiercely tempted to your last breath.
52. Focus exclusively on God and light, not on sin and darkness.
53. Endure the trial of yourself and your own faults and sins peacefully, serenely, because you know that God's mercy is greater than your wretchedness.
54. When we fall, get up immediately and start over.
55. Get help when you need it, without fear and without shame.

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**DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

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|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Dec 4: 1 Timothy 5:1-10</b>      | <b>Luke 20:27-44</b>   |
| <b>Dec 5: 1 Timothy 5:11-21</b>     | <b>Luke 21:12-19</b>   |
| <b>Dec 6: 1 Timothy 5:22-6:11</b>   | <b>Luke 21:5-24</b>    |
| <b>Dec 7: 1 Timothy 6:17-21</b>     | <b>Luke 21:28-33</b>   |
| <b>Dec 8: 2 Timothy 1:1-2, 8-18</b> | <b>Luke 21:37-22:8</b> |
| <b>Dec 9: Galatians 5:22-6:2</b>    | <b>Luke 13:18-29</b>   |

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**STEWARDSHIP 2017**

<b>Stewardship 11/26:</b>	<b>\$ 2,286.00</b>
<b>Total Income 11/26:</b>	<b>\$ 2,408.00</b>
<b>Weekly income needed:</b>	<b>\$ 4,995.27</b>
<b>2017 INC GOAL (49 wks):</b>	<b>\$ 244,768.23</b>
<b>2017 INC ACTUAL:</b>	<b>\$ 226,821.51</b>
<b>Percentage of Budgeted Income:</b>	<b>92.7%</b>