

Word for the Day

The Prophet Obadiah

The Holy Prophet Obadiah [or Abdia] is the fourth of the Twelve Minor Prophets, and he lived during the ninth century B.C. He was from the village of Betharam, near Sicheim, and he served as steward of the impious Israelite King Ahab. In those days the whole of Israel had turned away from the true God and had begun to offer sacrifice to Baal, but Obadiah faithfully served the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in secret.

When Ahab's wife, the impious and dissolute Jezebel, hunted down all the prophets of the Lord (because of her quarrel with the Prophet Elias), Obadiah gave them shelter and food (3/1 Kgs 18:3 ff). Ahab's successor King Okhoziah [Ahaziah] sent three detachments of soldiers to arrest the holy Prophet Elias (July 20). One of these detachments was headed by Saint Obadiah. Through the prayer of Saint Elias, two of the detachments were consumed by heavenly fire, but Saint Obadiah and his detachment were spared by the Lord (4/2 Kgs 1).

From that moment Saint Obadiah resigned from military service and became a follower of the Prophet Elias. Afterwards, he himself received the gift of prophecy. The God-inspired work of Saint Obadiah is the fourth of the Books of the Twelve Minor Prophets in the Bible, and contains predictions about the New Testament Church. The holy Prophet Obadiah was buried in Samaria.

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Standing with the Saints

Christ has given us the opportunity to be fellow citizens with the saints. In the Orthodox Church, when we gather to worship, we literally stand with the saints and the angels, as their likenesses adorn the walls of the church. At the moment we receive Holy Communion, we stand in the presence of Christ Himself. We are not treated as strangers or sojourners, but as fellow citizens. Does this impact our behavior when we are not in church? It certainly should. It should also affect our behavior IN church as well. We should be on time and attentive. We should come with a soft heart. And when we leave, we should feel a sense of gratitude and purpose. If we've stood with the saints, will we be quick to get involved in sinful activity? Certainly standing with the saints on Sunday morning should give us something to think about the rest of the week.

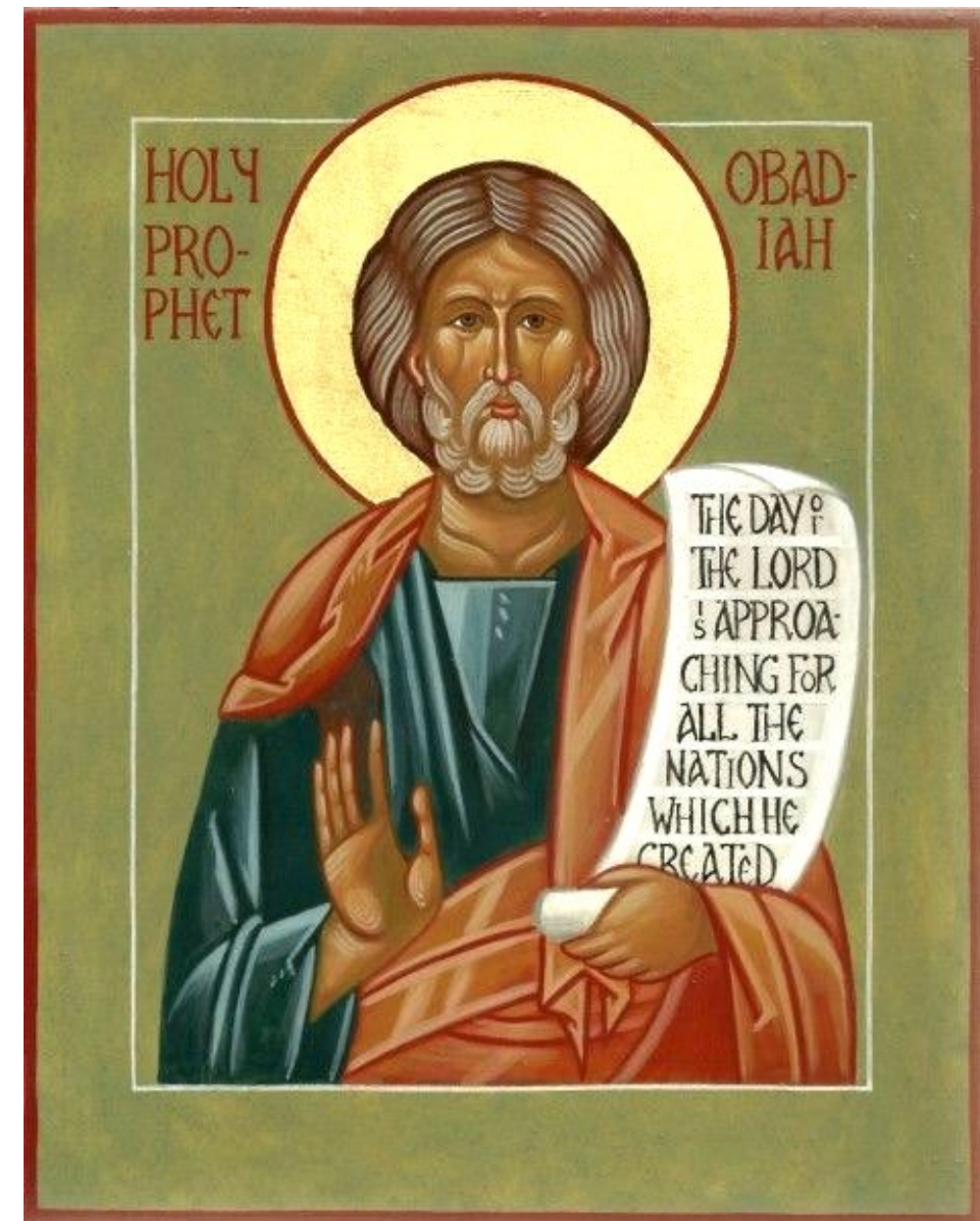
Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis, Nov. 18, 2017, from his daily Prayer Team writing

ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish Of The New England Diocese ✝ Orthodox Church In America

November 19, 2017

24th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 7. Prophet Obadiah (Abdia—9th c. B.C.). Martyr Barlaam of Caesarea in Cappadocia (ca. 304). Ven. Varlaam, Abbot of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves—1065). Finding of the relics of Monk Martyr Adrian of Poshekhónsk (Yaroslavl—1625). Martyr Azes of Isauria and with him 150 soldiers (3rd c.). Martyr Heliodorus in Pamphylia (ca. 273). Ven. Hilarion, Monk and Wonderworker of Thessalonica (Georgian—875). Repose of St. Philaret (Drozdov), Metropolitan of Moscow (1867).



Divine Services

Wed., Nov. 22.....**No Reader's Vespers or Study Group**
 Sat., Nov. 25 Reader's Vespers.....**5:00 p.m.**
 Sat. Nov. 26Divine Liturgy**9:30 a.m.**
 Hours Begin at 9:00 a.m.

Today's Readings

Epistle: Ephesians 2:14-22
Gospel: Luke 12:16-21

Next Week's Readings

Ephesians 4:1-6
 Luke 13:10-17

For Next Week, Nov. 26

Hours and Thanksgiving Prayers.....Steven Nikitas
 Epistle:.....Yani Tafet
 Coffee Hour:Ruthann Eagen

In Memory of: Matushka Marie Kreta, mother of Fr. John Kreta, our Chancellor and Diocesan Administrator. Her funeral was Oct, 31 at St. Tikhon's Monastery. Mat. Marie reposed on Monday, Oct.. 23.

In Memory of: Archpriest Wsewolod Drobot (father of Sophia Michaels). He reposed in Jordanville on Wednesday, Nov. 8. Fr. Wsewolod was the retired rector of the Nativity of the Mother of God parish in Colonie, NY for over 50 years.

For the health and well-being of Archpriest Joseph and Matushka Julia, Abdullah, David, Tony, Stanislav, Leonard, Timothy, Helen, Fenaeda, Raya, Dennis, Svetlana, Konstantin, Vladislav, Nancy, Maria, Al, Michael, Ludmila, Nick, Koren, Katya, Alexandra, Irina, Gregory, Theodore, and Helen.

November Birthdays and Anniversaries

Mat. Mary Gall (11/06), Yanet Tafet (11/09), Patricia Davis (11/21), Helen Makdisi (11/23), Joyce Makdisi (11/23), Ana Radulescu (11/29), **Anniversaries:** Danton and Elena Papurkov (11/14); Nick and Marina (11/30)

Announcements

Update on Nick Bobrovsky: Nick continues to heal from his surgery. He and Marina may be staying with their daughter Kathy for a the remainder of this coming week until his doctors clear him to travel home.

November Charity is Barton's Crossing, a homeless shelter across the street. The funds we collect this month will be use to purchase toiletries and other items needed for residents of the shelter.

Upcoming Events

Thanksgiving Meal Nov. 23 at 1:00 p.m. Tanya is organizing a Thanksgiving meal for this coming Thursday in the rectory for those who would like to gather on Thanksgiving Day. A roasted turkey will be provided. Please let Tanya know if you will attend and the side-dish you can bring from this pot-luck event.

Snow Phone Tree: We have created a Telephone Tree for alerting members of the Parish to weather conditions that would result in our need to cancel Sunday church services. We will pass around the phone tree at coffee hour to insure we have correct phone numbers. Everyone on the list will also get a copy. If your name is not on the tree please let Irene know. We don't want to miss anyone.

Confessions December 2: Fr. Igor will come on Saturday, December 2 at 2;00 p.m. to hear confessions for the Nativity Feast. We will post a sign up list in the church if you intend to come for confession. Then around 5:00 p.m. Fr. Igor and Deacon Michael will server Great Vespers with us and stay over for Liturgy on Sunday.

St Nicholas Celebration: Sunday Dec. 3. Our St. Nicholas celebration is just around the corner. We will have our annual St. Nicholas Celebration on Sun., Dec. 3 after Divine Liturgy. **Attention Children:** there will be the annual visit from St. Nicholas! The Coffee Hour that Sunday is a Pot Luck Lunch. There is a signup sheet in the Coffee Room for people to let everyone know what they can bring. Children: please bring a food pantry item for St. Nicholas to distribute.



St. Nicholas Food Basket: Remember to donate to the local food pantry by bringing canned and nonperishable donations for the basket in the back.

Barton's Crossing Meal Schedule

(a charity ministry of St. Nicholas)

Dec 3: Team A: Chicken-Macaroni Casserole
 (Tanya, Irina T, Alla Y, Paula, Galina)

Collections

Last Week's Collection.....\$905
 2017 Budget\$96,142
 Progress Towards Budget...\$72,686