

## Word for the Day

### St. Alypius the Stylite\*

Born in Hadrianopolis, a city in Paphlagonia, he was from his youth dedicated to the service of God. As a deacon, he served in the church in that city with Bishop Theodore. But, desiring a solitary life of prayer and meditation, Alypius withdrew to a Greek cemetery outside the city, from which people fled as from a place of terror, as demonic visions had been seen there. Here he erected a Cross, and built a church in honor of St Euphemia, who had appeared to him in a dream. Near the church, he built a high pillar, climbed up onto it and spent fifty-three years there in fasting and prayer. Neither the mockery of men nor the evil demons could drive him away or shake his purpose. This saint endured endless assaults from the demons. They not only tried to terrify him with demonic apparitions, but also stoned him and gave him no peace day nor night for a long time.

But Alypius courageously defended himself against this diabolical power with the sign of the Cross and the name of Jesus. Finally, the vanquished demons left him and fled, and men began to revere him and to come to him for his prayers, comfort, teaching and healing. Two monasteries were built beside his pillar, on one side for men and on the other for women. His mother and sisters lived in the women's monastery. St Alypius guided the monks and nuns from his pillar by word and example, and shone like the sun in the sky for them all, showing them the way of salvation. This man of God had such grace that he was often bathed in heavenly light, and a pillar of this light stretched above him to heaven. Alypius was a great and mighty wonderworker, both in his lifetime and after his death. Living for a hundred years, he entered into rest in the year 640, in the time of Emperor Heraclius. Of his holy relics, the head is preserved in the monastery of Koutloumousiou on the Holy Mountain.

#### *from The Prologue of Ohrid*

\***Stylites** were also known as “pillar saints” because they chose to live parts of their lives on top of a pillar in prayer and self-sacrifice, deprived of daily comforts and devoted to strict fasts. Their choice to live as hermits in this manner is often seen as a form of self-crucifixion. The Eastern Christian practice began in the Syrian/Mesopotamian regions around the 4th c.



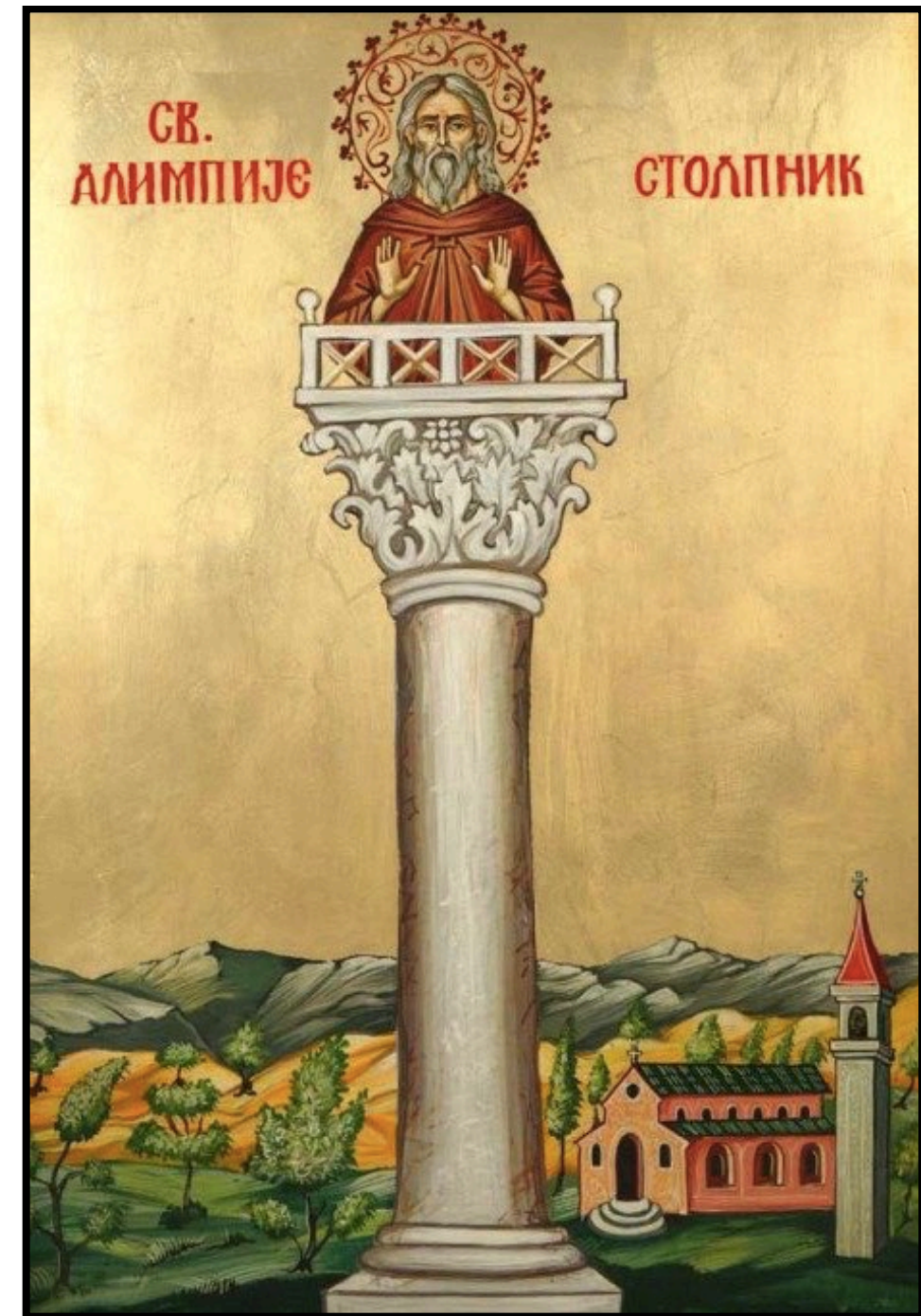
*Stylite Saints Daniel, Simeon the Elder and Alypius*

## ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

**November 26, 2017**

**25th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 8. Ven. Alypius the Stylite of Adrianopolis (7th c.). Dedication of the Church of the Greatmartyr George at Kiev (1051-54). Repose of St. Innocent, First Bishop of Irkutsk (1731). Ven. James the Solitary of Syria (457).**



## Divine Services

Wed., Nov. 29.....Reader's Vespers and Study Group .....6:30 p.m.  
 Sat., Dec 2.....Confession Saturday with Fr. Igor .....3:00 p.m.  
                                   Great Vespers.....5:00 p.m.  
 Sun. Dec. 3.....Akathist to Theotokos .....8:30 a.m.  
                                   Divine Liturgy.....9:30 a.m.  
                                   (*Hours Begin at 9:00 a.m.*)

Lenten Potluck (fish, wine and oil permitted) follows the St Nicholas Visit

### Today's Readings

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

### Next Week's Readings

Ephesians 5:9-19  
 Luke 18:18-27

### For Next Week, Dec. 10

Hours and Thanksgiving Prayers .....Barbara Parhizgar  
 Epistle:.....Irene Vassos  
 Coffee Hour: .....Irina Trioufanova

**In Memory of: Matushka Marie Kreta (Oct. 23), Archpriest Wsewolod Drobot (Nov. 8)**

**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, Helen, and Ismene.

## November Birthdays and Anniversaries

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

**Welcome Home Nick Bobrovsky**—We give thanks that Nick and Marina are now in Pittsfield after Nick's heart surgery at Mass General in Boston!

**November Charity is Barton's Crossing:** This is the last Sunday to collect donations for the homeless shelter across the street.

**Thank you to Dery Funeral Home:** Dery Funeral is the official sponsor of our 2018 St. Tikhon's Wall calendar. We appreciate their generosity. The calendars should be shipped before December 31.

## Upcoming Events

**Reminder: Team 3 Barton's Crossing Meals:** Next Sunday, Dec. 3, you are scheduled to bring the meal; drop off at church in the morning.

**Snow Phone Tree:** We have a Telephone Tree for alerting members of the Parish to weather conditions that would result in our need to cancel Sunday church services. The phone tree is in the back of the church. 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 3:00 p.m. (**Note time change**) to hear confessions for the Nativity Feast. There is 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 next week. Our annual St. Nicholas Celebration is on Sunday, Dec. 3 after Divine Liturgy. **Pot Luck Lenten Meal** (see signup list in the Coffee Room — please note, fish, wine and oil are permitted but no meat or dairy). **Children:** there will be the annual visit from St. Nicholas! Please bring a food pantry item for St. Nicholas to distribute.



**Pot Luck for St. Nicholas Celebration** The Coffee Hour for Dec. 3 is a Lenten Pot Luck. However, fish, wine and oil are permitted (just no meat, dairy or eggs). There is a signup sheet in the Coffee Room for people to sign up for a dish to bring.

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

**Upcoming Nativity Events** to remember: See Tanya

- **Sun. Dec 10: Christmas Caroling** for Sunday School and others.
- **Sun. Dec. 17: Cookie Swap**, after Coffee Hour

### 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.....\$2,182  
 2017 Budget .....\$96,142  
 Progress Towards Budget...\$74,868