

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Nov 27, 2011

25th Sunday after Pentecost - Tone 8

(11th of Luke). Greatmartyr Barbara and Martyr Juliana, at Heliopolis in Syria (ca. 306). Glorification of Hieromartyr Protopresbyter Alexander (Hotovitzky) (1994). Ven. John of Damascus (776). St. John, Bishop of Polybotum (8th c.).

St. Nicholas Website: stnicholaspittsfield.org



Great Martyr Barbara

Hymns and Prayers

1. TROPARION (RESURRECTION) TONE 8 (continue with Tone)

Thou didst de - scend from on high, O Mer - ci - ful One! Thou didst

Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our suf-fer-ing
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, Glo-ry to Thee!

2. TROPARION (GREAT MARTYR BARBARA) TONE 8 (continue with Tone)

Let us honor the ho - ly mar - tyr Bar - bara,

for, as a bird, she escaped the snares of the Enemy,//
and destroyed them through the help and defense of the Cross!

Glory to the Father and to the Son.....

3. KONTAKION: (GREAT MARTYR BARBARA) TONE 4

Singing the praises of the Trinity,
you followed God by enduring suffering;
you renounced the multitude of idols,
O holy martyr Barbara.

In your struggles, you were not frightened by the threats of your
torturers,

but cried out in a loud voice://

“I worship the Trinity in one Godhead.”

PROKEIMENON (TONE 8)

Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God!

v: In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.

EPISTLE: EPHESIANS 4:1-6

Brethren, I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

ALLELUIA (TONE 8)

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!

v: Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

GOSPEL: LUKE 17:12-19

Then as He entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off. And they lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" So when He saw them, He said to them, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan.

So Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner? And He said to him, "Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well."

COMMUNION HYMN:

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

THE COMMUNION PRAYER

I believe, O Lord, and I confess that Thou are truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am first. I believe also that this is truly Thine own most pure Body,

and that this is truly Thine own precious Blood. Therefore, I pray Thee, have mercy upon me, and forgive my transgressions, both voluntary and involuntary, of word and of deed, committed in knowledge or in ignorance. And make me worthy to partake without condemnation of Thine most pure Mysteries, for the remission of my sins, and unto life everlasting. Amen.

Of thy mystical supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant; for I will not speak of Thy Mystery to Thine enemies, neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss; but like the thief will I confess Thee; Remember me, O Lord, in Thy Kingdom. May the communion of Thy holy Mysteries be neither to my judgment, nor to my condemnation, O Lord, but to the healing of soul and body. Amen.

ST. NICHOLAS BULLETIN

Schedule of Events

Mon., Dec. 5, 6:30 p.m.Vespers and Divine Liturgy for St. Nicholas

Tues., Dec. 6, 6:30 p.m.Parish Council Meeting

Wed., Dec. 7, 6:30 p.m.Daily Vespers followed by Study Group

Sat., Dec. 10, 6:00 p.m.Great Vespers followed by Confessions

Sun. Dec. 11, 9:40 a.m.**Reading of Hours:** Pat Davis

10:00 a.m.Divine Liturgy

Epistle: Tanya Bogaevskaia

Annual St. Nicholas Day Celebration with Visit from St. Nicholas



St. Nicholas Day Celebration and Dinner!

Don't forget our Patronal Feast day of St. Nicholas, our church's patron saint. On Monday, December 5 (the eve of St. Nicholas) we will have Vespers with Divine Liturgy for the feast at 6:30 p.m. Then on Sunday December 11th following Divine Liturgy we will celebrate with an "extended" coffee hour and have our annual visit from St. Nick himself. So please make plans to join us on December 5th and then on Sunday December 11th for our annual St. Nicholas celebration! Don't miss it!

Parish Council Meeting This Week

Just a reminder that we will have our December parish council meeting this Tuesday Dec. 6th at 6:30 p.m.

Weekly Study Group

Our weekly study group resumed this week. Five of us continued with our study of chapter one of Genesis. We talked about the abilities given to Man in creation in terms of choosing "The Good." We also discussed the words of our Lord in creating Man, "Be fruitful and multiply," and the church father's understanding that this means our (Man's) increase, or growth in the image and likeness of God and not necessarily reproduction. Study Group is an excellent opportunity to learn the teachings of our Orthodox church. Please join us as we start at the "beginning" of the scriptures and make our way into the start of God and man.

Nativity Fast

We are in the midst of the Nativity fast in preparation for the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord (Christmas). Please be sure to give the fast your attention and remember the benefits of fasting. Even if we can improve ourselves in a small way through abstaining from meat and dairy products, the celebration of the Nativity of our Lord will not only bring about new life for us as individuals but also for our entire parish community as we struggle together for the Kingdom.

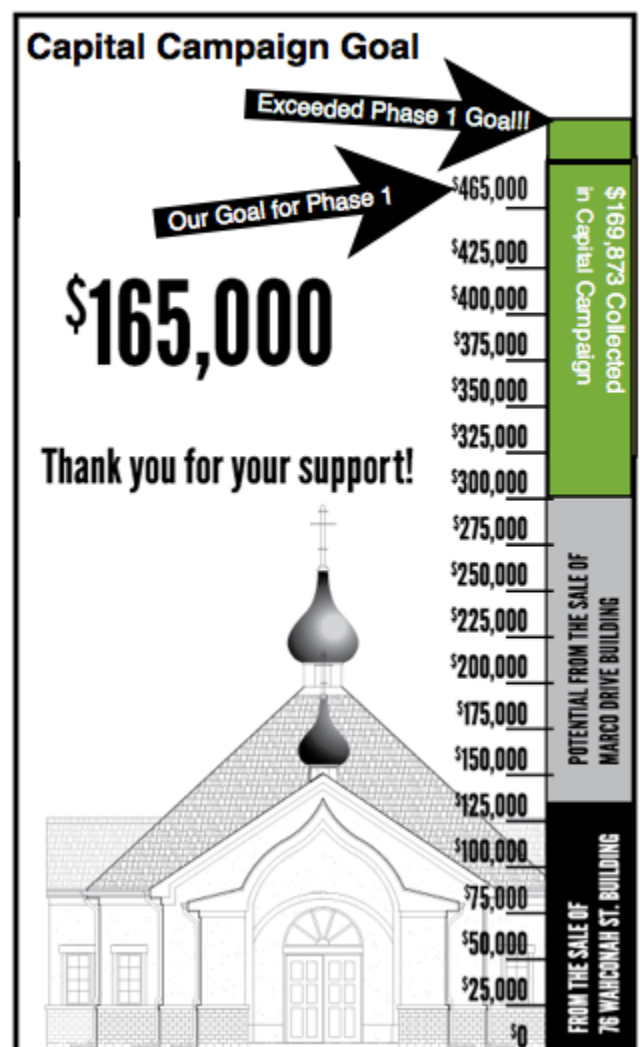
New Church Building Update

This week the insulation completed, the drywall is being hung, and the exterior finish is in full motion. This past week Northern Foundations also began paving the parking lot. Please continue to pray for the work being done. Thanks to your continued donations however, the work continues without delay! A lot is happening! Don't miss it!

We continue to count on financial support from many of you to make sure that the progress. We ask all to please keep up to date with our building progress as well as our financial progress in seeing it through to its completion! All of your help will be eternally remembered as "founders and benefactors" of our new holy house. We need your help!

Marco Drive Property Sold!!

The parish council accepted an offer for the old rectory on Marco Dr. The property is now under contract to be sold



with a closing date set, barring any complications for the buyer, for Dec. 29th. With the sale of the property, and your continued donations we hope to be able to complete "phase one" of the new church! Please continue to pray that the sale goes through without any difficulty!

Saints Cosmas and Damian Collection

Thank you to all who gave to Saints Cosmas and Damian Adult Home for small Christmas presents. Ss Cosmos and Damien is an Orthodox adult care facility for the elderly in Staten Island, NY.

St Barbara the Great Martyr

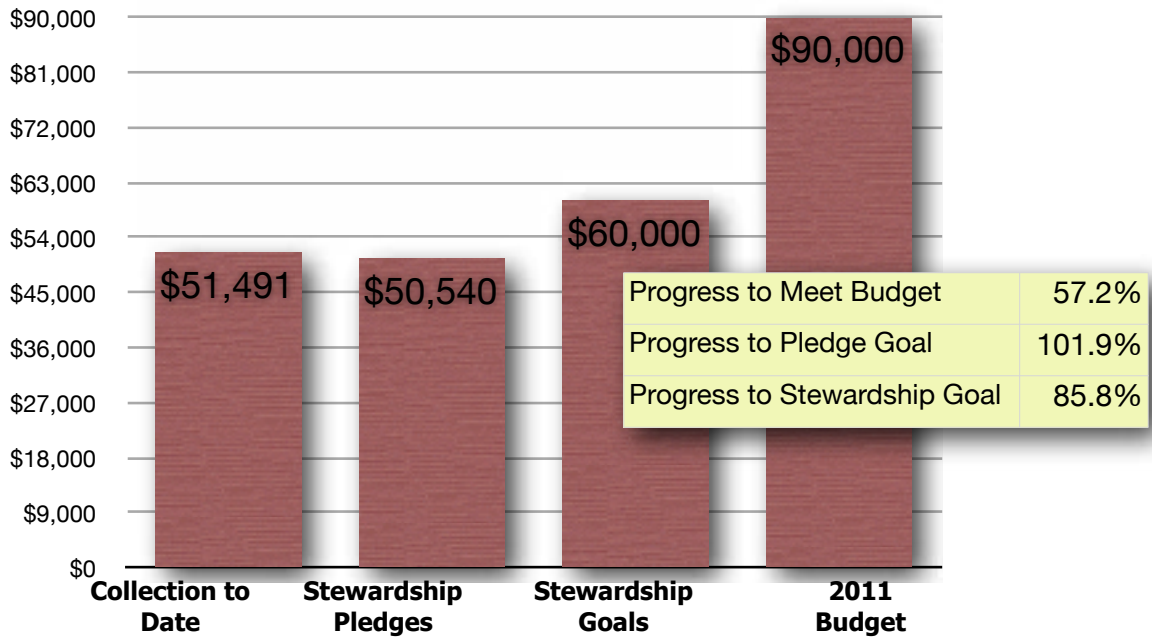
Saint Barbara was from Heliopolis of Phoenicia and lived during the reign of Maximian. She was the daughter of a certain idolater named Dioscorus. When Barbara came of age, she was enlightened in her pure heart and secretly believed in the Holy Trinity. About this time Dioscorus began building a bath-house; before it was finished he was required to go away to attend to certain matters, and in his absence Barbara directed the workmen to build a third window in addition to the two her father had commanded. She also inscribed the sign of the Cross with her finger upon the marble of the bath-house, leaving the saving sign cut as deeply into the marble as if it had been done with an iron tool. When the Synaxarion of Saint Barbara was written, the marble of the bath-house and the cross inscribed by Saint Barbara were still preserved, and many healings were worked there. When Dioscorus returned, he asked why the third window had been added; Barbara began to declare to him the mystery of the Trinity. Because she refused to renounce her faith, Dioscorus tortured Barbara inhumanly, and after subjecting her to many sufferings he beheaded her with his own hands, in the year 290 A.D.

In the reign of Maximianus, the idolatrous pagans persecuted the Christians with a cruel vengeance. This sweet girl could have saved herself and appeased her wrathful father with a disavowal of Christ, with her lips alone if not with her heart, but she chose to die rather than deny the Savior. All



accounts agree that on his way back from the execution of his daughter, Dioscorus was killed by a bolt of lightning, the thunder of which rumbled from heaven in God's answer to the perpetrator of such a vile deed. A virgin martyr of early Christianity, Barbara's brutal end, as well as her pure life, resulted in the subsequent outpouring of tributes which generations passed on to generations in ever-expanding glorification until she became one of the most popular of all saints in the Middle Ages. Countless Christians down through the centuries have found inspiration in hearing her story told and retold in the after-dinner conversations that have become a lost art in the welter of technological substitutes.

A saint in the highest tradition of purity and piety, Barbara is listed in some church branches as one of the fourteen auxiliary saints who are sometimes referred to as holy "Helpers," but she held out so much hope for so many of the faithful in all walks of life that she was adopted by various segments of society as their artillerymen and firemen and just about everyone engaged in hazardous occupations. She is regarded by some as the safeguard against sudden death.



STEWARDSHIP 2011

Attendance 11/20/2011.....27
 Collection 11/20/2011.....\$652
 Goals per week.....\$1,731
 Weekly Average 2011\$1,082
 Weekly Shortfall.....\$658

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Donations received.....\$169,873
 Amount of pledges received.....\$221,113
 Pledges to collect.....\$51,340

STEWARDS OF ST NICHOLAS 2011

Fr. Barnabas and Mat. Daria	Jane Maxouris
Nicholas and Marina Bobrovsky	Danton and Elena Papurkov
Tanya Bogaevskaya	Barbara Parhizgar
Hailey Chamberlain	Peter Pshenishny
Pat Davis	Priscilla Rogow
Harold Fait	Mary Romanchak
Soren and Diana Fiscu	Irene Vassos
Alla Gadoury	Olga Zaiken
Rick and Emilie Goudey	Galina Zeygerman
Marjorie Grinko	
Paul Koronchik	



Become a Steward of St. Nicholas
Your gifts of grain ensure our health!