

# ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of The New England Diocese ✦ Orthodox Church In America

## December 2, 2018

**26th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 1. Leavetaking of the Entry Into the Temple. Holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Clement, Bishop of Ochrid and Enlightener of the Bulgarians (916). Hieromartyr Clement, Pope of Rome (101). Hieromartyr Peter, Archbishop of Alexandria (311). St. Peter Galata of Syria (ca. 429).**

### Services This Week

Tuesday	Dec. 04	<i>No Vespers</i>	
Wednesday	Dec. 05	Great Vespers + Litya and Study Group.....	6:00 p.m.
Thursday	Dec. 06	Divine Liturgy ( <b>St Nicholas the Wonderworker</b> ) .....	9:30 a.m.
Saturday	Dec. 08	Great Vespers and Confessions .....	5:00 p.m.
Sunday	Dec. 09	Divine Liturgy ( <b>Conception of the Theotokos</b> ) .....	9:30 a.m.

#### Today's Readings

Epistle: Ephesians 6:10-17

Gospel: Luke 18:18-27

#### Next Week's Readings

Colossians 1:12-18

Luke 17:12-19

#### Dec. 9 Readers/Assistants

Hours and Thanksgiving Prayers.....Barbara

Epistle.....Tanya

Coffee Hour.....Diane D

Sunday School Assistant.....Emilie

**For the health and well-being of:** Archpriest Joseph and Matushka Julia, Abdullah, David, Stanislav, Leonard, Timothy, Helen, Fenaeda, Raya, Dennis, Svetlana, Konstantin, Vladislav, Nancy, Maria, Al, Michael, Alexandra, Gregory, Helen, Edie, Lou, Irene M, Saoirse Rose, the newly illumined Ezekiel and his sponsor, Lucian

## Announcements

**Blessings to the Newly Illumined Ezekiel Swift**, and his sponsor, Lucian. Zeke was baptized yesterday followed by a joyful celebration. Congratulations to Zeek, his parents Henry and Sophie, his brother Theo, and to Lucian (and Fr. John) who ended up covered in the baptismal waters!

**Today St. Nicholas Day Feast:** a visit from St. Nicholas and children bringing him food to distribute to the needy. Potluck lunch afterwards. Thank you to Barbara, St. Nicholas' special assistant!

**Barton's Crossing Today:** Team A. Thank you to those who continue to provide this charity and outreach ministry.

**December Charity:** The charity for December is Barton's Crossing. Funds collected will be use to purchase personal items such as towels, toothbrushes, shampoo, soap, etc.

**Christmas Caroling** will take place next Sunday (Dec. 9) right after Liturgy. Parish Council meeting following caroling and coffee hour.

**Church Cleaning for the Nativity is Saturday, Dec. 15 at 9:00 a.m.** Please come and help so we can prepare our temple for the beauty of the Advent/Nativity feast. We welcome poinsettia plants for the front of the iconostasis.



**Thank you** to Len and David for putting up our annual Nativity Tree! We will be adding red ornaments, which Fr. John has said are symbols of the apples on the tree that tempted Adam and Eve. December 24 is their feast date.

**Cookie Exchange: (Dec. 16)** Men, women and children—please sign up and bring 1 to 2 dozen homemade cookies to share. Games, prizes, snacks and fellowship!

**Food Basket:** We have asked children to bring canned goods to give to St. Nicholas today. Paula has made a special appeal for us to remember our food collection efforts. She notes that food shelves in Berkshire County are in dire straits. This has been a difficult year, with many folks food insecure and food banks almost empty. Please remember to donate non-perishable, up-to-date food items, including baby food and personal care items for the St. Nicholas food basket.. Even pet food is needed. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and for remembering that the Nativity season calls us to special charity as well as prayer and celebration.

### December Birthdays

Olga A. \_\_\_\_\_ 12/06  
Lisa \_\_\_\_\_ 12/11  
Danton \_\_\_\_\_ 12/13

### Collections

Last Week's Collection .....\$1,365  
2018 Budget.....\$100,100  
**Progress towards Budget .....\$73,355 .... 73.2%**  
2018 Pledges .....\$57,402  
**Progress towards Pledges .....\$58,81 .. 102.5%**