01 DECEMBER 2024 Schedule of Divine Services

28TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 12/1/24

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) * Anna Marie Shufran (req. by Debra Shufran)

Sunday:8:30 AM (G) ★ Jean Simkovitch (req. by Andrew Simkovitch & Christine Skidmore)11:00 AM (E)For the Parish Family

NICHOLAS OF MYRA ARCHBISHOP 12/6/24

Thursday: 6:30 PM (G) For the Parish Family

Friday: 6:30 PM (E) * Fr. Richard Whetstone

29TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST / MATERNITY OF THE HOLY ANNA 12/8/24

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) For the Parish Family

Sunday:8:30 AM (G) ★ Carolyn Dubose (req. by Paul & Doris Pangratz)11:00 AM (E)Blessings for Mark & Andrea Cerula -16Th Wedding Anniversary
(req. by Don & Pauline Kowalski)

OUR RETURN TO THE LORD FOR ALL HE HAS GIVEN US: 11/24/24 \$848.00

$\label{eq:christian} \textbf{CHRISTIAN} \ \textbf{CUPBOARD} \ \textbf{DECEMBER} \ \textbf{COLLECTION} - \textbf{Boxed} \ \textbf{Cake} \ \textbf{Mix}$

Proverbs 14:31 – "Anyone who oppresses the poor is insulting God who made them. To help the poor is to honor God."

EASTERN CATHOLIC FORMATION

God with Us Eastern Catholic Formation is the official catechetical apostolate of the Eastern Catholic Bishops of the United States. The website address is: <u>www.godwithusonline.org</u> This website now makes available radio podcasts, online lectures, a monthly newsletter, books and other education materials which serve to promote a better understanding of Eastern Catholics and their expression of the Catholic faith in the United States. The resource material on this website is constantly updated or changed to better meet the needs of its users.

ATTENTION: Divine Liturgy on Sunday, December 15 will be at 11:00 AM followed by our Christmas Dinner. Please plan on attending.

ANGEL GIVING TREE

The Angel Tree will be in the church narthex with envelopes labeled with different monetary amounts. During the Christmas season, this is a good way to share with those less fortunate. The funds collected will be sent to Second Harvest Food Bank which supplies food to soup kitchens, shelters and food pantries throughout Erie County. The last day to donate will be Sunday, December 15.

FEAST OF ST. NICHOLAS – December 6

St. Nicholas was a fourth century archbishop of the city of Myra in the Roman province of Lycia (modern Turkey). He is well known for using his inherited wealth to help the poor in many different ways. He was truly a good shepherd to those entrusted to his care. He died around the year 343 and was entombed in a church in Myra. Hundreds of years later in 1087 some Italian sailors removed his bones from his tomb and took them to the city of Bari, Italy. His bones were placed in a church tomb in Bari where they remain to this day. His tomb is still a popular site for pilgrims from all over the world to visit. Many miracles have been recounted by those visiting his tomb in Bari. Because of these miracles, St. Nicholas is often referred to as a "wonderworker." He is the patron saint of Byzantine Rite Catholics throughout the world.

God's Symphony of Life

When one is playing with an orchestra, there are three vital things one needs to consider: the music, the other musicians, and the conductor. If any one of these is missing, the composition will fall short.

If we look at this through spiritual lenses, we can see how God is not only the Conductor, He is also the Composer!

Our Eternal God created the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry lands, all living creatures, as we are told in Psalm 8. He guides the world with His Word just as a conductor takes the notes on a page of music and guides the musicians through the notations.

We are the musicians in God's symphony of life! However, if certain musicians fail to follow the conductor, the work will not live up to its potential. If many musicians stray from the notes on the printed page, harsh noise abounds! So too, if we sin and fall short of what God expects of us, the world cannot live up to the potential for which God created it. We must look to the Lord to make sure we are playing our part correctly.

BE A WITNESS

We believe that we are members of the Church, the family of faith founded by Christ, Our Lord Himself. As the inheritors of the Good News, we are called to be witnesses and to announce the joy of the redemption by what we say and do in our daily lives. We are to share our faith, which is a unique treasure given to us by God. We are to share with others our experience of God and our beliefs. In addition, the sharing of this faith will enrich and strengthen our own faith.

As followers of Christ, we are called to witness; that means to live and speak like a person who believes in God and who takes seriously the truths that our Divine Savior taught us. Bearing witness means living every day in the light of faith and being touched by God's love. We share this love with others and for others through our concern, comfort and encouragement.

JESUS PRAYER – Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner