

**Venerable Anthony,
Abbot of Siya, Novgorod
(December 7)**

Saint Anthony of Siya, in the world Andrew, was born into a family of rich farmers in the village of Kekhta near the North Dvina river. In childhood he received a fine education, read much and learned iconography. After the death of his parents, Andrew went to Novgorod, and for five years worked for a boyar [nobleman] there. He later married, but his wife died after a year.

Then Andrew decided to devote himself to monasticism. He distributed his goods to the poor and as a wanderer came to the Pachomiev wilderness monastery at the River Kena. Saint Pachomius tonsured him with the name Anthony. Soon he was ordained a hieromonk, and Anthony, with the blessing of the igumen, celebrated the divine services by himself.

He went out with the other monks of the monastery to work for the monastery's needs. Out of love for solitude Saint Anthony eventually left the Pachomiev wilderness, after choosing two companions from the monastic brethren, and he settled upon Mikhailov Island, on the one side washed by the River Sii, and on the other, by encircling lakes.

In this harsh frontier within the dense thickets Anthony built a chapel in 1520. But to clear the forest required difficult work, and Anthony's companions began to grumble against him. Then quite unexpectedly an unknown man furnished them with the means of subsistence, offering money for good measure. The Siya monastery became famous, and inhabitants of surrounding villages often visited it. And again Saint Anthony, taking one disciple, withdrew to a still more remote place on Lake Palun. There, in a solitary cell, he dwelt for three years. When the igumen Theoctistus refused to guide the Siya monastery any longer, the brethren tried to persuade Saint Anthony to return to them. He finally acceded to the request of the monks, again became igumen and piously guided the monastery until his death in the year 1556, when he was seventy-nine years old.

(Taken from <https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2020/12/07/103486-venerable-anthony-abbot-of-siya-novgorod>)



**ST. PHILIP
ORTHODOX
CHURCH**

A Parish of the
Antiochian Archdiocese

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH



His Grace Bishop THOMAS



Father Noah Bushelli, Pastor

215-954-9286



Father James Thayer

215-692-0890

December 6, 2020

**NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER,
ARCHBISHOP OF MYRA IN LYCIA**

COMMEMORATIONS:

**NICHOLAS, BISHOP OF PATARA
MAXIMUS, METROPOLITAN OF KIEV
NEW-MARTYR NICHOLAS OF KARAMANIA IN
ASIA MINOR**

Tone 1 - Eothion 4

Orthros Gospel: St. Luke 24:1-12

Epistle: Hebrews 13:17-21

Liturgy Gospel: St. Luke 13:10-17

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 1 - While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding thy most pure Body, thou didst arise on the third day, O Saviour, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto thee, O Giver of life: Glory to thy resurrection, O Christ! Glory to thy kingdom! Glory to thy providence, O thou who alone art the Lover of mankind!

APOLYTIKION OF ST. NICHOLAS - Tone 4 - Thy works of justice did reveal thee to thy community as a canon of faith, the likeness of humility and the teacher of abstinence, O thou Father and great Bishop Nicholas. Wherefore, by humility thou didst achieve exaltation, and by thy meekness wealth. Intercede, therefore, intercede with Christ that He will save our souls.

TODAY: ORTHROS & Confession 8:45 a.m.

Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.

No Sunday School & Catechism

**Glory to God for a strong 40 Days of Growth in Stewardship!
Thanks for returning your pledges promptly.**

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Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 10:00 - 3:00

Fr Noah & Fr James are available for hospital visits. If you or anyone you know is in the hospital or homebound and would like a visit, please call the church office.

Weekly Ministries & Stewards:

	This Week:	Next Week (Dec 13):
PROSPHORA BREAD:	Kristi Moore	Carolyn Kaminsky
USHERS:	Steve K. & Rdr. Nick Mor.	Dan M. & Rdr. Nick Muz.
ALTAR CANDLES:	----	----
ALTAR BOYS:	“Archangel Michael”	“Archangel Gabriel”
CLEANING TEAM:	Sdn John & Maxine; Tatiana Y.	Rdr. Jordan & Natalie Gamble

Mark Your Calendar:

Nativity Fast

November 15-December 24

Daily Services during the Nativity Fast:

- ✦ *Liturgies – Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday (Mask Required), Sunday @ 10 a.m.*
- ✦ *Advent Services – Monday, Wednesday, Friday @ 6:30 p.m.*
- ✦ *Great Vespers, Resurrectional Orthros, and Feasts as usual.*
- ✦ *6th Hour suspended till after Theophany*

Feast of the Nativity of Christ

Thursday, December 24

Royal Hours, 8 am

Vespers Liturgy of St. Basil, 9 am

Festal Orthros, 9:30 pm

Divine Liturgy, 11 pm

Friday, December 25

Vespers for the Synaxis of the Theotokos, 12 pm

Saturday, December 26

Orthros 9 am; Liturgy 10 am

Circumcision of Christ & St. Basil

Thursday, December 31

Vespers 6:30 pm & Orthros 7:30 pm

Friday, January 1

Liturgy of St. Basil, 10 am

Pray For:

Living	Departed
Doris & John Apr. Gregory & Family Aristidis James Lasha B Otari B Daniel H John Peter Stavroula Anesia Svetlana & Family	+Archbishop David +Nun Bridget +Margaret +Mat. Linda (D) +Vadim
Dn. Thomas, Elizabeth, Elaine & all Missionaries New & Expectant Mothers & their children	<u>Catechumens</u> Matthew, Michael, Shaun, Tina, Asena, Sarah, Jonathan, Barry

For the people of our land and their repentance, healing & unity

All who are suffering, serving and rebuilding from the pandemic

OFFERINGS: Candles, \$264.28. Collections, \$148.32. Youth, \$16. Book Shelf Ministry, \$71. Christmas Card Fund, \$40. Pastoral Discretion, \$76.96. 12 Baskets, \$200. Stewardship, \$3,668. Total received: \$4,484.56.

GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS & GENEROSITY!

YOUR FLOWER OFFERINGS support the beautification of our church during this holy season. Flower offering envelopes are available on the literature rack. Thank you!

YOUR CHRISTMAS CARD OFFERINGS benefit Ministries, Monasteries, & Mission Situations.

This Week:

NATIVITY FAST continues!

- Monday, Dec 7:** Advent Paraklesis, 6:30 p.m.
 One-Year Memorial for Elder Ephrem, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Dec 8:** Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.
 Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 11 a.m.
- Wednesday, Dec 9:** Little Compline 6:30 p.m.
 Patristic Reading Group 7 p.m.
- Thursday, Dec 10:** Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.
- Friday, Dec 11:** Advent Paraklesis, 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Dec 12:** Divine Liturgy (Mask Required) 10 a.m.
 Altar-Boy Training 3:30 p.m.
 Vespers 6:30 p.m.
 Confession 7:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Dec 13:** ORTHROS 8:45 a.m.
 Divine LITURGY, 10 a.m.



REVERENCE IN GOD'S HOUSE

Venerating Icons



When you enter the church, it is traditional to venerate the icons. Usually there are icons at the entrance to the church and many churches have icon stands in the front as well. When venerating (kissing) an icon, pay attention to where you kiss. It is not proper to kiss an icon in the face. You wouldn't go up and kiss the Lord or His mother on the lips, would you? You would kiss their hand, and only if they invited you would you even dare to kiss them on the cheek. Pay attention to what you are doing. We cross ourselves and bow, usually three times, before venerating. We never kiss an icon without a prayer.