

# SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS



**Welcome** to St. Nicholas of Myra Byzantine Catholic Church. We invite you to join us for coffee hour, which is held in the fellowship hall, immediately after the Divine Liturgy. We ask that you introduce yourself to our Pastor or Deacon, who would be happy to answer your questions.

Please visit our Mission in Wasilla. Blessed Theodore Romzha (Bishop and Martyr—murdered by Communists in 1947, whose feast day is October 31st). We meet on Sunday afternoons at 4 p.m. Blessed Romzha mission is an outreach to the Mat-Su Valley and we are delighted to welcome all who choose to attend our Divine Liturgy at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church. Please see the address on back of this bulletin.

## Divine Liturgy Schedule

**Dec 17.— Dec 24, 2017**

### SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS

<b>Sat</b>	<b>12/16</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Vesper/Liturgy : +Anna Koleha (Samorajski family)</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>12/17</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Liturgy: Hippler family (Fr. M )</b>
		<b>4:00 pm</b>	<b>Living and Deceased Members of Parish Mission in Wasilla-Hippler family</b>

<b>Mon</b>	<b>12/18</b>		<b>No Service</b>
<b>Tues</b>	<b>12/19</b>		<b>No Service</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>12/20</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>+Magaret Kunak ( Linkowsky family)</b>
<b>Thur</b>	<b>12/21</b>		<b>No Service</b>
<b>Fri</b>	<b>12/22</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>+Patricia Fredsti ( Hanna Lotton)</b>

### SUNDAY BEFOR CHRISTMAS OF THE ANCESTORS

<b>Sat</b>	<b>12/23</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Vesper/Liturgy : +Jeffrey Bich ( Joseph Bich)</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>12/24</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Liturgy: Landry Family ( Theresa Landry)</b>
		<b>10:30pm</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Liturgy (Anchorage only)</b>
<b>Mon.</b>	<b>12/25</b>	<b>4:00 pm</b>	<b>Christmas Liturgy (in Wasilla)</b>

#### tone 3

Readings: Lk. 14:16-24, Col 3:4-11,  
*Metropolitan Cantor Institute* <http://www.metropolitancantorinstitute.org>

#### 7 DAY CANDLE INTENTIONS (The Lambertsen family)

**EUCARIST: +Frederick Lyon**

**THEOTOKOS: Webb Family**

**CZESTOCHOWA: Special Intention**

\*7 DAY Candle intentions may be requested by filling out an envelope at the entrance. Donation is \$10.00

#### Prayer Requests

**Rosemary Carter, Mary Pat Heller, Mary Bramer, Natalie Riendl,  
Mary Lincoln, Rosemarie Henn & families of St. Nicholas, our friends, our city**

**Happy Birthdays in DECEMBER!** 12/1/ Sophia Lambertsen;1/12Emerich Urbanski, 12/3/ Judith Bich; 12/5/ Andrew Kaiser; 12/7/ Anna Marie Niglio; 12/8/ Natalie Riendl; 12/8/ Caleb Jones; 12/10 Annamaria Pustina12/16/ Joseph Dixon; 12/20/ Elijah Lotton; 12/24/ Sean Dixon; 12/25/ Christine Dixon; 12/26/ Joel Davidson; 12/27/ Matthew Dixon; 12/27/ Stephen Kichura; 12/27 Bryan Trombley; 12/30 Bennett Lyon ,12/30Olga Pustina

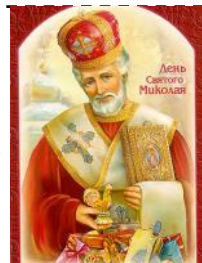
**God grant them many blessed years!**



**CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIAL** Now is the time to donate to our Christmas flowers and decorations for the church in the remembrance of your deceased loved ones. You may also use it to honor special people in your life. Please print out the names on our specially labeled envelopes located at the desk for Christmas flowers.



**RETIREMENT FUND HELPS SENIOR RELIGIOUS.** "As expenses continue to increase and economic difficulties tighten our income, we appreciate more and more the help of the Retirement Fund," notes a woman religious. Your donation for the retirement fund supports the day-to-day care of thousands of elder sisters, brothers and religious order priests. Please share and Care and give what you can to help our religious. We take up a special for the Retirement Fund for Senior Religious.



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR ST. NICHOLAS**

1. CHRISTMAS EVE DECEMBER 24 th Sunday LITURGY:  
CHRISTMAS CAROLS: 10:00 P.M.  
LITURGY: 10:30 P.M  
Please bring Food, Cookies, Cakes, Ice Cream to share after Liturgies
2. Dec 25 th. MONDAY CHRISTMAS DAY LITURGY in ANCHORAGE: 10:00 A.M.  
Please bring Food, Cookies, Cakes, Ice Cream to share after Liturgies
- Dec 25 th. MONDAY CHRISTMAS DAY LITURGY in Wasilla: 4:00 pm  
Please bring Food, Cookies, Cakes, Ice Cream to share after Liturgies

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS for Blessed Theodore :**

- Dec 25 th. MONDAY CHRISTMAS DAY LITURGY: 4:00PM  
Please bring Food, Cookies, Cakes, Ice Cream to share after Liturgies

**Thank you:** to all who participating in the St. Nicholas Pot Luck last week's coffee social .Thank you to Sierra & Isabella Mills for hosting this week.. We appreciate everyone's hospitality.

**Jesus Prayer:**  
Jesus Christ, Son of God,  
Have mercy on me, a sin-

**Christ is born! Glorify Him!**  
**Christos Razdajetsja! Slavite Jeho!**

***Please feel free to talk with Fr. Michael about parish needs***

# **St. Nicholas of Myra Byzantine Catholic Church**

*2200 Arctic Blvd., Anchorage AK, 99503-1909      Tel: 907-277-6731*

**Email:** [pastorstnicholas@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorstnicholas@yahoo.com)      **Webpage:** [www.ak-byz-cath.org](http://www.ak-byz-cath.org)

**Pastor:** *Rev. Father Michael Sidun*

## **Divine Liturgy Schedule**

**Weekday Divine Liturgy: 6:00pm**

*Saturday Divine Liturgy: 5:00 pm      Sunday Divine Praises: 9:40 am*

**Divine Liturgy: 10:00 am**

*Holy Mystery of Confession: 20 minutes before every Divine Liturgy and upon request*

## **Blessed Theodore Romzha Byzantine Catholic Mission**

*Sacred Heart Church, 1201 Bogard Road in Wasilla*

**Holy Mystery of Confession: Sundays—After Liturgies**

**Divine Liturgy: 4:00 pm**

**Our Parish and Mission are in Communion with the Pope of Rome and the Holy Protection of Mary Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix**

**Christ is born! Glorify Him!**  
**Christos Razdajetsja! Slavite Jeho!**

- **CHRISTMAS EVE DECEMBER 24 th SUNDAY LITURGY:**  
**CHRISTMAS CAROLS: 10:00 P.M.**  
**LITURGY:10:30 P.M.**

*Please bring Food, Cookies, Cakes, Ice Cream to share after Liturgies*

- **Dec 25 th. MONDAY CHRISTMAS DAY LITURGY: 10:00 A.M.**

*Please bring Food, Cookies, Cakes, Ice Cream to share after Liturgies*

**Dec 25th. Monday –4:00 pm . Blessed Theodore Romzha Byzantine**  
**Catholic Mission– Wasilla**

*Please bring Food, Cookies, Cakes, Ice Cream to share after Liturgies*

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIAL** Now is the time to donate to our Christmas flowers and decorations for the church in the remembrance of your deceased loved ones. You may also use it to honor special people in your life.

Father Michael and Family wish everyone a blessed, safe, and joyous Christmas and will offer prayers for your continued happiness and spiritual growth here at **St Nicholas of Myra Byzantine Catholic Church.**

**Christ is born! Glorify Him!**  
**Christos Razdajetsja! Slavite Jeho!**



## The Nativity of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ DECEMBER 25

Reading: The incomprehensible and inexplicable Nativity of Christ came to pass when Herod the Great was reigning in Judea; the latter was an Ascalonite on his father's side and an Idumean on his mother's. He was in every way foreign to the royal line of David; rather, he had received his authority from the Roman emperors, and had ruled tyrannically over the Jewish people for some thirty-three years. The tribe of Judah, which had reigned of old, was deprived of its rights and stripped of all rule and authority. Such was the condition of the Jews when the awaited Messiah was born, and truly thus was fulfilled the prophecy which the Patriarch Jacob had spoken 1,807 years before: "A ruler shall not fail from Judah, nor a prince from his loins, until there come the things stored up for him; and he is the expect-

ation of the nations" (Gen.49:10).

Thus, our Saviour was born in Bethlehem, a city of Judea, whither Joseph had come from Nazareth of Galilee, taking Mary his betrothed, who was great with child, that, according to the decree issued in those days by the Emperor Augustus, they might be registered in the census of those subject to Rome. Therefore, when the time came for the Virgin to give birth, and since because of the great multitude there was no place in the inn, the Virgin's circumstance constrained them to enter a cave which was near Bethlehem. Having as shelter a stable of irrational beasts, she gave birth there, and swaddled the Infant and laid Him in the manger (Luke 2:1-7). From this, the tradition has come down to us that when Christ was born He lay between two animals, an ox and an ass, that the words of the Prophets might be fulfilled: "Between two living creatures shalt Thou be known" (Abbacum 3:2), and "The ox knoweth his owner and the ass his master's crib" (Esaïas 1: 3).

But while the earth gave the new-born Saviour such a humble reception, Heaven on high celebrated majestically His world-saving coming. A wondrous star, shining with uncommon brightness and following a strange course, led Magi from the East to Bethlehem to worship the new-born King. Certain shepherds who were in the area of Bethlehem, who kept watch while tending their sheep, were suddenly surrounded by an extraordinary light, and they saw before them an Angel who proclaimed to them the good tidings of the Lord's joyous Nativity. And straightway, together with this Angel, they beheld and heard a whole host of the Heavenly Powers praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will towards men" (Luke 2:8-14).

**Thank You :** to all who made our 10 December 2017 Saint Nicholas of Myra Byzantine Catholic parish 60th Anniversary events with Most Reverend Bishop John Pazak and honored guests including our patron, Saint Nicholas, such a great success, especially:

**Thank You :** Most Reverend Bishop Pazak, for accepting Reverend Mykhaylo Sidun's gracious invitation, travelling far to offer beautiful Vespers/Divine Liturgy Saturday evening and Third Hour/Divine Liturgy Sunday morning, blessing us and our gifts to Claire House, and for giving gifts and posing for pictures with all children with their families, Reverend Mykhaylo and Saint Nicholas in front of our Christmas tree—a shower of blessing flowed throughout!

**Thank You :** Reverend Father Mykhaylo Sidun for having the vision to propose, plan, organize and direct our parish 60th Anniversary events despite opposition and non-participation of key 'pillars'/ board members—his loving, kind, forgiving, positive and optimistic shepherding with trust in God and joyfully patient endurance paid off!

**Thank you :** to children of all ages with families/sponsors who attended—you are our most-honored guests!

**Thank You :** David Bich, for responding to Reverend Father Mykhaylo Sidun's gracious invitation to present our church's 60-year history to our Most Reverend John Pazak and honored guests at our historic celebration December 10th—your 25 minute verbal sharing of emotions and your opinions of prior pastors from your unique perspective was quite a surprise to all—May God grant you and your family many and blessed years in health and happiness!

**Thank You :** Dr. Ron Kichura for your many pivotal contributions—for being lead cantor and reader at Third Hour/Divine Liturgy, practicing "O-Kto-Kto" with our children in preparatory weeks, conducting Saturday practice with Reverend Father Mykhaylo, Matthew Pustina and "Saint Nicholas Players" Lisette Savok, Sofia Sidun and Yordana Sidun and Saint Nicholas, revising/updating the script with new queues, transitions and props, seamlessly adapting to unexpected, on-the-fly schedule crunch as Master of ceremonies while providing dramatic narration and beautiful musical score for the dramatic presentation, being the parish "maestro" with carols and musical entertainment through entire event, inviting children with families forward to meet Most Reverend John Pazak, Rev Father Mykhaylo Sidun and Saint Nicholas for gifts and photos artfully taken by Sierra Mills, thanking everyone who attended, participated and helped along with some who did not to transition from the formal part of the event to the informal fellowship/cleanup phase—you are a precious example to all!

**Thank You :** Theresa Landry and Lubov Sidun for decorating our holy church and Artim Hall for our Divine Liturgies and historic celebrations—what love, care and beauty are present due to their painstaking labors and sense of style!

**Thank You :** Scott Auton for helping Family Sidun and Theresa decorate Artim Hall—tallness in church 'pillars' is handy when hanging garlands and other décor up high—his willing, timely sacrifices joyfully boost every effort!

**Thank You :** Katrina Auton for providing a trove of gold chocolate dollars for gift bags and for Saint Nicholas to distribute—thoughtful, tasteful support is her hallmark!

**Thank You :** Lubov, Sofia and Yordona Sidun for making and presenting the beautiful bread given to Most Reverend Bishop John Pazak before Sunday Divine Liturgy; What a beautiful, edible tradition!

**Thank You :** Sherry Whah for purchasing gift bags and contents, turkey and ham main dishes with numerous side dishes, salads, meat and cheese trays, relishes, rolls, beverages and desserts, for cooking turkey with stuffing and gravy, slicing, dicing and assembling salads and side dishes, and for baking two cherry pies with Byzantine crosses—we truly couldn't have succeeded without her efforts from initial planning to last-minute filling in the menu to compensate for non-RSVP's of planned dishes, through final clean-up—she is simply amazing!

**Thank You :** Joseph Pearson for cooking the ham main dish, twice-baked potatoes and turkey soup, for being St. Nicholas to and for this parish and for your selfless, patient endurance under serve trials—thank him by praying for Blessed Repose and Eternal Memory of the soul of his dearly-departed older brother William David Pearson who died suddenly 3 days before our 60th Anniversary celebrations on 7 December 2017.

**Thank You :** Sofia, Yordonna and Tereza Sidun for helping Sherry Whah to cook and bake all day, and for their crucial contributions to the Ham main dish—Sofia and Yordonna tearfully-peeled-onions for caramelization while Tereza passed scrubbed potatoes for dicing—they make every effort a joyful experience!

**Thank You :** Family Sidun and Joseph Pearson for assembling 160 gift bags for our honored guests—our children of all ages who attended our historic, blessed event!

**Thank You :** Victor Flaquer for expertly cantoring the Vespers/ Divine Liturgy with basso-profundo skill—second cantor/reader Joseph Pearson was grateful to learn the complicated Vespers service under your joyful guidance!

**Thank You :** “Saint Nicholas Players” director Ron Kichura and actors Matthew Pustina as father to daughters Lisette Savok, Sofia Sidun and Yordona Sidun and Saint Nicholas as himself—their captivating dramatic presentation of Saint Nicholas saving the Three Poor Daughters was such fun entertainment for our historic event—Baby Tereza Sidun’s cameo as a sleeping baby was just one of many hilarious highlights! Again, **Thank You** Matthew with Family Pustina for your sacrifice by expertly pinch-hitting your crucial role under pressure of getting to your daughter Anna Maria’s 7th birthday celebration!

**Thank You :** Sierra Mills for beautifully capturing our 60th Anniversary events in the Church and Artim hall with photographic artistry!

**Thank You :** to all who brought delicious dishes to share at our pot-luck banquet—our astonishingly bountiful spread was joyfully savored by all!

**Thank You :** to all who stayed to clean-up afterwards—even to the point of enjoying a relaxed and convivial “second table”—most notably: Victor Flaquer, Hannah and Elijah Lotton, Dr. Ron and Denise Kichura, Theresa Landry, Lubov Sidun with daughters Sofia & Yordona, Sherry Whah and Joseph Pearson.

**Thank You :** to all who made our 6 December 2017 Saint Nicholas parish patronal feast Divine Liturgy and celebration with Holy Rosary Academy possible—especially Principal Katherine Neumeyer for accepting Reverend Father Mykhaylo’s gracious invitation, Holy Rosary Academy teachers, staff, parents, sponsors and students for participating, cantors at Divine Liturgy Sherry Whah and Joseph Pearson, Scott Auton and Theresa Landry for setting up, cleaning up and all-around support and Joseph Pearson as Saint Nicholas—what a memorable, joyful event!

**Thank You :** to all who made our 3 December 2017 Blessed Theodore Romzha Mission Saint Nicholas Feast possible—especially children of all ages who are our most-honored guests, Lubov Sidun for making a beautiful Mirovanije table and floral icon frame, all who brought savory dishes to share at our pot-luck banquet, Family Urbanski, Family Beer, Sofia and Yordona Sidun with helpers for cleaning up after the event, and cantor/Saint Nicholas Joseph Pearson

**Thank You :** anonymous donor of new, beautiful, hand-painted nativity set to our parish!

Lastly, **Thank You** Joseph Pearson for painstakingly writing “thank you-s” for our church bulletin.

**Thank you to all who help us by understanding when we make mistakes, and respond with prayer, love, kindness, forgiveness & patience. When we respond in this way, it helps us grow as individuals, and as a parish family.**

**May God grant us all many blessed years!**

**—Your pastor Fr. Michael Sidun**