

St. Panteleimon Orthodox Church

OCA - Diocese of the Midwest

Fr. Andrew Bartek, Rector
 Protodeacon Robert Northrup
 V. Rev. Anthony Spengler, Attached
 Reader James Tilghman
 Parish Council President: John Grabavoy



Sunday, December 18, 2016

Tone 1

Gospel: St. Matthew 1:1-25

Epistle: Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40

26th Sunday After Pentecost
Sunday before the Nativity of Our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ
Martyr Sebastian & His Companions at Rome

DECEMBER Bulletin Sponsor

By Andrei & Linda Davik, in Memory of & for Health of their Families

Liturgical & Events Schedule

Sunday, December 18

9:40 am: Hours
 10:00 am: D.L. / Memorial Panachida /
 Church School / Social

Monday, December 19

7:00 pm: Village Meeting

Wednesday, December 21

6:30 pm: Boy Scouts

Saturday, December 24- STRICT FAST DAY

6:00 pm: Christmas Eve Vigil

Sunday, December 25

9:40 am: Hours
 10:00 am: Liturgy of St Basil
 11:45 am: Social
 12:30 pm: Christmas Dinner for Summit
 Community



SCRIP FUNDRAISING PROGRAM UP & RUNNING

Who to see: Matushka Susan
 When: 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month

- In order for the program to be cost effective for us, a minimum \$300 order must be placed.
- A list of participating businesses is available for your review.

This is a great way for you to do your regular shopping and it benefit your church! Try it out!

40 DAYS MEMORIAL

- December 18: Police officer killed in PA
- December 25: Dianne / Jovan
- January 1: Officer killed in TX. / Children killed in school bus crash in TN
- January 8: Turkish girls who died to school fire / Those who died in TN fires & tornadoes / The entire Brazilian National soccer team who died in plane crash / John Hartel
- January 22: Diane Northrup / Roger Seglem

IMPORTANT CHANGE

- Christmas Eve Service:
 6:00 pm, Saturday, December 24
- Christmas Day Saint Basil's Liturgy:
 10:00 am: followed by Christmas Carols
- Feeding of the Homeless
 12:30 pm

We are collecting adult and children sized clothes for the homeless. What is not given away will be taken to the Nuns at St Blasé Catholic Church to distribute during weekly Soup Kitchen!

Thank You & God Bless!



FIND us on Facebook! @summitstpanteleimon
Invite your friends to LIKE the page!



Martyr Sebastian at Rome, and his companions

Commemorated on [December 18](#)

The Holy Martyr Sebastian was born in the city of Narbonum in Gaul (modern France), and he received his education at Mediolanum (now Milan). Under the co-reigning emperors Diocletian and Maximian (284-305) he occupied the position of head of the imperial guards. Saint Sebastian was respected for his authority, and was loved by the soldiers and those at court. He was a brave man filled with wisdom, his word was honest, his judgment just, insightful in advice, faithful in his service and in everything entrusted to him. He was a secret Christian, not out of fear, but so that he could provide help to the brethren in a time of persecution.

The noble Christian brothers Marcellinus and Mark had been locked up in prison, and at first they firmly confessed the true Faith. But under the influence of the tearful entreaties of their pagan parents (Tranquillinus and Marcia), and also their own wives and children, they began to waver in their intent to suffer for Christ. Saint Sebastian went to the imperial treasurer, at whose house Marcellinus and Mark were held in confinement, and addressed the brothers who were on the verge of yielding to the entreaties of their family.

“O valiant warriors of Christ! Do not cast away your everlasting crowns of victory because of the tears of your relatives. Do not remove your feet from the necks of your enemies who lie prostrate before you, lest they regain their strength and attack you more fiercely than before. Raise your banner high over every earthly attachment. If those whom you see weeping knew that there is another life where there is neither sickness nor death, where there is unceasing gladness and everything is beautiful, then assuredly they would wish to enter it with you. Anyone who fears to exchange this brief earthly life for the unending joys of the heavenly Kingdom is foolish indeed. For he who rejects eternity wastes the brief time of his existence, and will be delivered to everlasting torment in Hades.”

Then Saint Sebastian said that if necessary, he would be willing to endure torment and death in order to show them how to give their lives for Christ.

So Saint Sebastian persuaded the brothers to go through with their act of martyrdom, and his speech stirred everyone present. They saw how his face shone like that of an angel, and they saw how seven angels clothed him in a radiant garment, and heard a fair Youth say, “You shall be with Me always.”

Zoe, the wife of the jailer Nicostratus, had lost her ability

to speak six years previously, and she fell down at the feet of Saint Sebastian, by her gestures imploring him to heal her. The saint made the Sign of the Cross over the woman, and she immediately began to speak and she glorified the Lord Jesus Christ. She said that she had seen an angel holding an open book in which everything Saint Sebastian said was written. Then all who saw the miracle also came to believe in the Savior of the world. Nicostratus removed the chains from Marcellinus and Mark and offered to hide them, but the brothers refused.

Mark said, “Let them tear the flesh from our bodies with cruel torments. They can kill the body, but they cannot conquer the soul which contends for the Faith.” Nicostratus and his wife asked for Baptism, and Saint Sebastian advised Nicostratus to serve Christ rather than the Eparch. He also told him to assemble the prisoners so that those who believed in Christ could be baptized. Nicostratus then requested his clerk Claudius to send all the prisoners to his house. Sebastian spoke to them of Christ, and became convinced that they were all inclined to be baptized. He summoned the priest Polycarp, who prepared them for the Mystery, instructing them to fast in preparation for Baptism that evening.

Then Claudius informed Nicostratus that the Roman eparch Arestius Chromatus wanted to know why the prisoners were gathered at his house. Nicostratus told Claudius about the healing of his wife, and Claudius brought his own sick sons, Symphorian and Felix to Saint Sebastian. In the evening the priest Polycarp baptized Tranquillinus with his relatives and friends, and Nicostratus and all his family, Claudius and his sons, and also sixteen condemned prisoners. The newly-baptized numbered 64 in all.

Appearing before the eparch Chromatus, Nicostratus told him how Saint Sebastian had converted them to Christianity and healed many from sickness. The words of Nicostratus persuaded the eparch. He summoned Saint Sebastian and the presbyter Polycarp, and was enlightened by them, and became a believer in Christ. Nicostratus and Chromatus, his son Tiburtius and all his household accepted holy Baptism. The number of the newly-enlightened increased to 1400. Upon becoming a Christian, Chromatus resigned his office of eparch.

During this time the Bishop of Rome was Saint Gaius (August 11). He blessed Chromatus to go to his estates in southern Italy with the priest Polycarp. Christians unable to endure martyrdom also went with them. Father Polycarp went to strengthen the newly-converted in the Faith.

Tiburtius, the son of Chromatus, desired to accept martyrdom and he remained in Rome with Saint Sebastian. Of those remaining, Saint Gaius ordained **Con't Page 3**

Martyr Con't

Tranquillinus as a presbyter, and his sons Marcellinus and Mark were ordained deacons.

Nicostratus, his wife Zoe and brother Castorius, and Claudius, his son Symphorian and brother Victorinus also remained in Rome. They gathered for divine services at the court of the emperor together with a secret Christian named Castulus, but soon the time came for them to suffer for the Faith.

The pagans arrested Saint Zoe first, praying at the grave of the Apostle Peter. At the trial she bravely confessed her faith in Christ. She died, hung by her hair over the foul smoke from a great fire of dung. Her body then was thrown into the River Tiber. Appearing in a vision to Saint Sebastian, she told him about her death.

The priest Tranquillinus was the next to suffer: pagans pelted him with stones at the grave of the holy Apostle Peter, and his body was also thrown into the Tiber.

Sts Nicostratus, Castorius, Claudius, Victorinus, and Symphorian were seized at the riverbank, when they were searching for the bodies of the martyrs. They were led to the eparch, and the saints refused his command to offer sacrifice to idols. They tied stones to the necks of the martyrs and then drowned them in the sea.

The false Christian Torquatus betrayed Saint Tiburtius. When the saint refused to sacrifice to the idols, the judge ordered Tiburtius to walk barefoot on red-hot coals, but the Lord preserved him. Tiburtius walked through the burning coals without feeling the heat. The torturers then beheaded Saint Tiburtius, and his body was buried by unknown Christians.

Torquatus also betrayed the holy Deacons Marcellinus and Mark, and Saint Castulus (March 26). After torture, they threw Castulus into a pit and buried him alive, but Marcellinus and Mark had their feet nailed to the same tree stump. They stood all night in prayer, and in the morning they were stabbed with spears.

Saint Sebastian was the last one to be tortured. The emperor Diocletian personally interrogated him, and seeing the determination of the holy martyr, he ordered him taken out of the city, tied to a tree and shot with arrows. Irene, the wife of Saint Castulus, went at night in order to bury Saint Sebastian, but found him alive and took him to her home.

Saint Sebastian soon recovered from his wounds. Christians urged him to leave Rome, but he refused. Coming near a pagan temple, the saint saw the emperors approaching and he publicly denounced them for their impiety. Diocletian ordered the holy martyr to be taken to the Circus Maximus to be executed. They clubbed Saint Sebastian to death, and cast

his body into the sewer. The holy martyr appeared to a pious woman named Lucina in a vision, and told her to take his body and bury it in the catacombs. This she did with the help of her slaves. Today his basilica stands on the site of his tomb.

Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40 *(Epistle, Sunday Before)*

By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, "In Isaac your seed shall be called," concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense. By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come. By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff. By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the departure of the children of Israel, and gave instructions concerning his bones. By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented – of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

Matthew 1:1-25 (Gospel, Sunday Before)

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah. Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah. Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon. And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel. Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud. Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins. So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which is translated, "God with us." Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.

The True Story of Rudolph

A man named Bob May, depressed and brokenhearted, stared out his drafty apartment window into the chilling December night. His 4-year-old daughter, Barbara, sat on his lap quietly sobbing. Bob's wife, Evelyn, was dying of cancer.

Little Barbara couldn't understand why her mommy could never come home. Barbara looked up into her dad's eyes and asked, "Why isn't Mommy just like everybody else's Mommy?" Bob's jaw tightened and his eyes welled with tears. Her question brought waves of grief, but also of anger. It had been the story of Bob's life. Life always had to be different for Bob.

Small when he was a kid, Bob was often bullied by other boys. He was too little at the time to compete in sports. He was often called names he'd rather not remember. From childhood, Bob was different and never seemed to fit in. Bob did complete college, married his loving wife and was grateful to get his job as a copywriter at Montgomery Ward during the Great Depression. Then he was blessed with his little girl. But it was all short-lived. Evelyn's bout with cancer stripped them of all their savings and now Bob and his daughter were forced to live in a two-room apartment in the Chicago slums. Evelyn died just days before Christmas in 1938.

Bob struggled to give hope to his child, for whom he couldn't even afford to buy a Christmas gift. But if he couldn't buy a gift, he was determined to make one — a storybook! Bob had created an animal character in his own mind and told the animal's story to little Barbara to give her comfort and hope. Again and again Bob told the story, embellishing it more with each telling. Who was the character? What was the story all about? The story Bob May created was his own autobiography in fable form. The character he created was a misfit outcast like he was. The name of the character? A little reindeer named Rudolph, with a big shiny nose. Bob finished the book just in time to give it to his little girl on Christmas Day. But the story doesn't end there.

The general manager of Montgomery Ward caught wind of the little storybook and offered Bob May a nominal fee to purchase the rights to print the book. Wards went on to print, "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer" and distribute it to children visiting Santa Claus in their stores. By 1946 Wards had printed and distributed more than six million copies of Rudolph. That same year, a major publisher wanted to purchase the rights from Wards to print an updated version of the book.

In an unprecedented gesture of kindness, the CEO of Wards returned all rights back to Bob May. The book became a best seller. Many toy and marketing deals followed and Bob May, now remarried with a growing family, became wealthy from the story he created to comfort his grieving daughter. But the story doesn't end there either.

Bob's brother in law, Johnny Marks,

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Prayer List

Prigists: His Beatitude Metropolitan Theodosius, His Beatitude Metropolitan Herman, His Eminence Archbishop Iagovos His Grace Bishop Matthias, Anthony Spenglar, John Kuchta, James Gleason (*Fr.'s spiritual father*), John Duranko, ***Ted Bobosh**, Archimandrite Vladimir, ***Joseph Kopka**, ***Joseph Gibson**, * **Philip Lashbrook**, ***John Reeves**, **Fr. Emilian Hutnyan**

Matushkii: ***Carol Janacek**, **Mary Perez**, **Snezana Ruzic**, **Laryssa Hutnyan**, Pani Patricia Duranko

Parishioners: Karen Muzyka, Ronald Stachowiak, Rebecca Eggers, Sonja Harris, Pauline Michals, Marilyn, Michals, Jason Kirnbauer, Andrei Davik, Roger Seglem

Parishioner's Family: Donna Parhas (*Nick's Cousin*), Stephen Holly & Walter Litzie (*Fr.'s cousin*), George Cavaligos (*Nick's brother*), Christos Parhas (*Nick's cousin*), Constantine Cavaligos (*Nick's dad*), Sandra (*Karen's sister*), Erika Northrup, Mark Svara, Mary Northrup, Dianne Northrup, Raymond Northrup, Joey Krush, Jan Kost (*Linda's sister*), Bruce (*Fr. Kurt's brother*), June, James (*Hruban Family*), Tommy, Jimmy, Linda Davik, (*Spengler Family*), Jacob, Emilian, Joyce, John, Robert, William & Dana, Mark, Eve, Lauren, Tanya Wolfe.

Other Requests: Lucille (*Duke*), Elizabeth Lilos, Jemsey Pradun, Hermenegil (*Neighbor*), Lidiya (*Neighbor*), Cathleen Rebolgar, Gloria Salgado (*Lynn's Friend*), Eva Quagon (*Andy friend*), Mary Ann Magerko, John Magerko, Carol Bregin (*Friend of Lynn*), Ann Lazo (*Friend of Lynn*), George Lazo (*Friend of Lynn*), Vivian (*friend of Becky Eggers*), Carol Marino (*Fr cousin's friend*), Deputy Chief Frank Batura, Royal (*Mark's friend*), ***John Sedor**, * **Daria Petrykowski**, ***Cynthia Koranda**, Michelle & her unborn baby,

Military: Fr. Herman, Fr. Gregory, Amber, Caleb, Nicholas, David, Timothy, Robert, Kristen, Matthew, Brian, Daniel, Joseph

Captives: Metropolitan Paul (*Orthodox Archdiocese of Aleppo*), Archbishop John (*Syriac Archdiocese of Aleppo*), for the UN & IOCC humanitarian aid workers in & around Syria / Those suffering persecution in Iraq, Syria, Israel, Egypt, Ukraine and throughout the world / Those held captive throughout the world.

Additions or removals from the list? Please notify Fr. Andrew.



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AS OF 12-4

MUZYKA FAMILY: (4 Flowers)

- *In Memory of deceased members of the Muzyka family
- *In Memory of deceased members of the Leonchik Family
- *For the Health of Sister, Sandra Alex
- *For the Health of the Muzyka & Leonchik Families

HRUBAN FAMILY: (1 Flower)

- *For the Health of the Hruban Family

EGGERS FAMILY: (1 Flower)

- *For the Health of the Eggers & Northrup Families

NEMIC & BOSWELL FAMILIES: (2 Flowers)

- *In Memory of deceased family members
- *For the Health of their families

SVARA FAMILY: (2 Flowers)

- *In memory of Lillian & Frank Novak
- *For the Health of the Svara Family

JOVANOVICH FAMILY: (2 FLOWERS)

- *For the Health of the Jovanovich Family
- *In Memory of the Jovanovich & Cerra Families

JOHN GRABAVOY FAMILY: (2 Flowers)

- *For the Health & Memory of the Grabavoy Family
- *In Memory of Thelma & Merele Gazelle & Dana Gazelle & Dave Carlson

FR. ANDREW BARTEK: (5 Flowers)

- *For the Health of the parishioners & their Families
- *For the Health & safety of the Fire & Police of Summit
- *For the Health of his entire Family
- *For the less fortunate & lonely
- *In Memory of deceased family especially George & Dorothy & for His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas

STEVE GRABAVOY FAMILY: (2 Flowers)

- *In memory of Grandma, Nancy McGurk
- *For the Health of the Grabavoy Family

D E C E M B E R

BIRTHDAY	NAMES DAY	ANNIVERSARY
***No date (Mark Ho) 1-Ileana Bruner 3- Mary Ann Seglem 4- Steven Calzone 6- Matushka Susan Northrup 8- Nicholas Cavaligos 8- Carol Jovanovich 9- Anastasia Ho 9- Irina Cline 9-Pauline Meath 9-Angie Dardovsky 15-Catherine Boswell 15- Gregory Boswell 22- Shaun Grabavoy 27- Gabriel Eggers	6- Nick Cavaligos 6-Edward Northrup 6- Nicholas Northrup 19-Duke Jovanovich (“Slava”) 19-Carol Jovanovich (“Slava”) 25- Brianna Christine 27- Steve Grabavoy Sunday After Nativity- Protodeacon Robert	12-5-04 Archbishop Mark of Eastern Pa 12-27-14 His Grace Bishop Paul 12-31-08- Scott & Becky Eggers

If there are those names to be added or removed, please contact Fr. Andrew. He would like to list all members of your family Orthodox and non-Orthodox.

D E C E M B E R - R E P O S E D

2- Danica Grabavoy (12) 3- Thomas Batura (02) 10- Julius J. Polchowski (83) 13- Sophia Rittenberry (90) 18- Archbishop Job (09) 21- Adam Samuta (94) 23- Richard Struckman (61) 26- Peter Yarmoluk (90) 27- Michael Zamkovitz (96)	28- John Batura (14) 30- Bishop Boris (00) 1960: Efimia (Anna) Munday Thomas Kondorf Avksentiy Kozril (Kozien) Zachariy Dreychan Pavel Swiston	1960: Joseph Dieneika Platon Novosad Jacob Saoulchik Peter Homko Maria Rozenbergas Gregory Primachuk
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Remember those who have gone before us in prayer. If there is a name missing from the above list, please speak to Fr. Andrew to have them added.

Sunday before the Nativity

Commemorated on [December 18](#)

The Sunday before the Nativity of the Lord (December 18-24) is known as the Sunday of the Holy Fathers. On this day the Church commemorates all those who were well-pleasing to God from all ages, from Adam to Saint Joseph the Betrothed of the Most Holy Theotokos, those who are mentioned in the genealogy of Luke 3:23-38. The holy prophets and prophetesses are also remembered today, especially the Prophet Daniel and the three holy youths (December 17).

The Troparion to the Prophet Daniel and the three holy youths (“Great are the accomplishments of faith...”) is quite similar to the Troparion for Saint Theodore the Recruit (February 17, and the first Saturday of Great Lent). The Kontakion to Saint Theodore, who suffered martyrdom by fire, reminds us that he also had faith as his breastplate (see I Thessalonians 5:8).

Troparion — Tone 2

Great are the accomplishments of faith, / for the Three Holy Youths rejoiced in the flames as though at the waters of rest, / and the prophet Daniel appeared, / a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. / So by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls!

Kontakion — Tone 6

(For when the Sunday before the Nativity falls on December 18-19) / You did not worship the graven image, / O thrice-blessed ones, / but armed with the immaterial Essence of God, / you were glorified glorified in a trial by fire. / From the midst of unbearable flames you called on God, crying: / Hasten, O compassionate One! / Speedily come to our aid, / for You are merciful and able to do as You will.

