

The Forerunner

Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church

Edwardsville, PA 18704

Orthodox Church in America

Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania

www.oca.org/www.doepa.org/www.sjboca.com

December 03 – 09, 2017

26th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — **Tone 1.** Prophet

Zephaniah (Sophonias—635-605 B.C.).

Priest George Volkovinsky, Rector

Rectory Phone 570-287-7186 Cell Phone 1-440-319-5519

Email: george.volkovinsky@gmail.com

Schedule of Services

Confessions: Before and after all Vespers Services

Vespers: Saturday at 4:00 PM

Liturgy: Sunday at 10:00 AM

Baptism and Chrismation: Contact Father George

Marriages: Please contact Father George BEFORE making any other arrangements.

A Warm Welcome to all who celebrate the Lord's resurrection this morning with us. If you have a question, a prayer request, or any need, please speak with the priest, the attendant at the candle desk, or with any parish member. If you are a first time visitor to our parish, we invite you to sign our guest book, and partake of our hospitality in the coffee hour after the conclusion of the service. If you have questions about our practices or beliefs, please ask any parishioner or the priest.

A brief word about communion: For our friends present with us who are not Orthodox, please note that we have specific disciplines regarding receiving Communion, including fasting from midnight and having recently received confession and absolution. We ask that you refrain from going to Communion until you have spoken with the priest and understand our discipline and piety regarding this sacrament and its implication for responsibility towards and membership in the Orthodox Church.

Readings

Ephesians 5:9-19 (*Epistle*)

- ⁹ (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth),
¹⁰ finding out what is acceptable to the Lord.
¹¹ And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.
¹² For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret.
¹³ But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light.
¹⁴ Therefore He says: "Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light."
¹⁵ See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,
¹⁶ redeeming the time, because the days are evil.
¹⁷ Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.
¹⁸ And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,
¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

Luke 18:18-27 (*Gospel*)

- ¹⁸ Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"
¹⁹ So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God.
²⁰ You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not steal,' 'Do not bear false witness,' 'Honor your father and your mother.'" ²¹ And he said, "All these things I have kept from my youth."
²² So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."
²³ But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich.
²⁴ And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!
²⁵ For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."
²⁶ And those who heard it said, "Who then can be saved?"

²⁷ But He said, “The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.”

Spiritual Donations

Wine (December): In loving memory of our grandson Brandyn Thomas Robbins as he celebrates his 27th birthday with the Lord from Gram & Pop. Memory Eternal!

Prospora (December): In loving memory of our son & brother Brandyn Thomas Robbins as he celebrates his 27th birthday with the Lord from Mom, Dad & Madison. Memory Eternal!

Incense (December): In loving memory of Brandyn Thomas Robbins as he celebrates his 27th birthday with the Lord from BaBa, Godmother Janet, Aunts, Uncles & Cousins. Memory Eternal!

Cross Candles Christ: In memory of our parents Andrew & Catherine Lukachick, John & Margaret Amos from Doris & Bill Amos. Memory Eternal!

Cross Candles Theotokos: In memory of Xenia Keblish from Elizabeth Dutko. Memory Eternal!

Altar Candles (1): Many Years for Zachery Hashey! Happy Birthday! from Auntie Lizzie

Altar Candles (2): Many Years to the dedicated FOCA members and the supporters of Chapter 50 FOCA from Elizabeth Dutko

Royal Doors (1): Happy Birthday & Many Years to our daughter Ann Ruth Waters from Rev. Wesley & Anna H. Crompton

Royal Doors, (2): In memory of Mary & Ray Pisaneschi, Helen & Vincent Olejnick and Helen Spinicci. Love, JoAnne. Memory Eternal!

Eternal Candle: In loving memory of Nicholas Kastelan from daughter Kathryn Graham, granddaughter Christine Adamski & family. Memory Eternal!

Tomb candle: In loving memory of Anna Brennan from Elizabeth & Joseph Wozniak. Memory Eternal!

Bulletin Sponsor: In honor of & for God's many blessings for Natalie DePasquale on her birthday from Mom & Dad

Our Family Prayer Needs

Those Ill and afflicted: Todd Collura, Fr. Emilian Hutnyan, Matushka Laryssa Hutnyan, Carolyn, Patrick, Helen Grumblis, Jeanne Heusel, Mary Rilko, Helen Borden, Katherine Graham, Tatiana Radsavitch, Cheryl Rosencrans, Tom Podolak, Mary Cunius, Brian Lechak, Anna Antall, Edward Morgans, Sean Wolfe, Margiee, Evelyn Swetts, Anna Souchik

Those in Nursing Homes, and those homebound: Mary Kosciuszko, Helen Bray, Betty Ervin, Mary Nickett, Kathryn Prokopchak, David Price, Julia Sitar, Julia Capp, Julia Talpash, Rudolph Bullard

Those serving in the Armed Forces: John Swetts, Alexander Baney, Elliot Hurchalla

Announcements

Sunday, December 17, 2017: Community Christmas Concert at St. John's Church at 3 p.m., including St. John's Church, St. Vladimir's, Resurrection PNC, and Emmanuel Baptist Church, all of Edwardsville. Covered Dish items are requested for the reception afterwards.

Thank you to all who helped with the **Veterans Thanksgiving dinner** by donating baked goods, the food for their bags, money and those who gave of their time. The residents always appreciate the home cooked meal and fellowship. Our next project is their Christmas meal. We ask for homemade cookies and loose candy to fill small bags. The Sunday school buys them each a \$20 supermarket gift card. As always any extra canned goods will be accepted for their food pantry. The men were already asking if we would be back for this.

The holiday season is right around the corner and our annual **Christmas basket raffle** will be held on **December 10, 2017**. Anyone wishing to make a food or monetary donation may see Karen Rushton or call her at 570-294-1157. Thank you in advance.

Christmas cards available in candle room \$2.00 each

Frozen Pierogies for sale - \$8.00 a dozen

Spiritual Donations 2018: Prospora available- January, March, July & August, everything else is taken.

Financial Report for October 2017:

Receipts (money taken in) - \$9,919.00

Disbursements (money paid out) - \$8,903.79

Balance - \$1,015.21