

St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church

a parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America
His Eminence Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of New York &
Metropolitan of all North America

His Grace Bishop THOMAS, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Oakland & MidAtlantic
The Very Reverend Father Samuel Haddad, Pastor

211 South Heber Street & POB 5026 & Beckley, WV 25801
Parish (304) 252-5821 - Cell (304) 541-8550 (use this to contact Fr. Samuel)

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www.orthodoxbeckley.org



Tone 1 **December 7, 2025** Eothinon 4

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & TENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

AMBROSE, BISHOP OF MILAN; MARTYR ATHENODOROS OF MESOPOTAMIA;
VENERABLE GREGORY, FOUNDER OF GREGORIOU MONASTERY ON ATHOS

Today's Reader: Sdn Matthew

Next Sunday– December 14, 2025

Reader: Bruce Hamilton

Commemorations/Bread Offering for the Holy Oblation: *The Zaferatos Family*

Coffee Hour Luncheon to be Prepared by: *The Cantley and Hamilton Families*

Bread for the Holy Oblation is Offered by the Thomas Family for the health and salvation of Amy, Will, Ben, Josie, Christian, Kristen, Marley, Judah, Dale, Linda, Jenny, Corey, Zavery, Zoe, Izaiah, Kezlin and Ezekiel

It is also offered in lovin memory of Izzy, Hazel, Lawrence, Helen, Hugart, Josephine and Stafford.

"the Disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11:26)

Please note that **Holy Communion is reserved for members of the Holy Orthodox Church** who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting and confession. However, all are welcome to partake of the blessed bread at the dismissal.

Please join us during our fellowship at the Coffee Hour immediately after the Divine Liturgy.



Next Sunday (at 10:am)

The Servants of God

Christopher Moore

&

Jason Thompson

Will be Received into the Holy Orthodox Faith
By the Sacrament of Chrismation

We Also Congratulate the Newly Illumined

Nathaniel Keith, Grace Sparks
& Tillie Lively

May God Grant them Many, Many Years !



"Blessings Box" Collection Update

Beloved in Christ,

This year, we are collecting non-perishable food for our new **BLESSING BOX!** PLEASE KEEP BRINGING FOOD so that we may continue to stock our shelves and have food to stock adequately. We need to continue our efforts in providing food for those who are truly Hungry. God bless everyone for your holy efforts!

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Troparion of the Resurrection, in the First Tone

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 Savior, 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.

Troparion of St. Nicholas, in the Fourth Tone

Thy righteous acts have manifested thee to thy flock as a model of faith, a reflection of humility, and a teacher of abstinence, O Father Bishop Nicholas. Therefore, through humility thou hast achieved exaltation, and through poverty riches. Intercede thou with Christ to save our souls.

Kontakion for the Preparation of the Nativity of Christ, in the Third Tone

The Virgin cometh today to the cave to give birth, ineffably to bring forth the Word eternal. Therefore, rejoice O earth at the message. With the angels and shepherds give glory to him who shall appear by his own will as a young child, he who is from eternity God.



Epistle

Ephesians. (5:8-19)

Prokeimenon: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

Brethren, walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

Gospel

Luke 13:10-17

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, He called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrite! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" As Jesus said this, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by Him.





Calendar: November - December 2025

Nativity Fast - 11/15/2025 - 12/24/2025		
12/9/2025		Conception of St. Anna, Mother of the Theotokos
12/12/2025		St. Spiridon the Wonderworker
12/14/2025 (Sun)	10:00 am	Chrismation of Catechumens
12/21/2025 (Sun)	1:30 pm	Parish Council Meeting (for Year End)
12/24/2025 (Wed)	9:00 am 11:00 am	Royal Hours of the Nativity Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great
12/25/2025 (Thur)	9:20 am 10:30 am	Festal Orthros for The Feast of the Nativity Festal Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord in the Flesh Banquet for the Feast After the Divine Liturgy
<p><i>The Nativity Fast begins on Saturday, November 15th, and continues through December 24th. This Fast is divided into two periods. The first period is November 15th through December 19th when the traditional fasting discipline (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine and oil) is observed on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, but with katalysis for wine and oil on Tuesday and Thursday (some also permit fish on Tuesday and Thursday during this first period), and for fish, wine and oil on Saturday and Sunday. The second period is December 20th through 24th when the traditional fasting discipline (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine and oil) is observed Monday through Friday, but with katalysis for wine and oil on Saturday and Sunday.</i></p>		

2026 Pledge Cards

As you prayerfully consider your pledge for 2026, please bring your card to church by Sunday December 21st. You may put it in the collection box, send it by mail, or give it to Fr. Samuel. May God bless your generosity to His Holy Church! (*There are blank cards for your use on the usher stand*).

Calendar for the Week of December 7, 2025	Saints of the Day
Sunday—December 7, 2025 Fast 9:25 - Orthros 9:30 am - High School 10:00 am – Youth Ministry 10:30 am - Divine Liturgy After Liturgy- Junior & Youngsters Church School 1:30 pm Choir Practice	Ambrose, Bishop of Milan
Monday— December 8, 2025 Fast	Datapius the Righteous
Tuesday—December 9, 2025 Fast	Conception of St. Anne, Mother of the Theotokos
Wednesday—November 10, 2025 Fast 5:00 pm Daily Vespers	Mena the Sweet-voiced, Hermogenes & Eucraphus
Thursday—December 11, 2025 Fast	Daniel the Righteous Stylite
Friday—December 12, 2025 Fast	St. Spiridon the Wonderworker
Saturday—December 13, 2025 Fast 5:00 pm Great Vespers Confessions after Vespers	Eustratius the Martyr and his Companions; Lucy the Martyr
Sunday—December 14, 2025 9:00 am - Orthros 10:00 am - Reception & Chrismation of Converts 10:30 am - Divine Liturgy 1:30 pm Youth Group Activity	Ambrose, Bishop of Milan
<p><i>Please note</i> that Confessions are heard at the time noted above in the coming week's schedule, or by appointment by calling Fr. Samuel at: (304) 541-8550.</p>	

Pledging to Give in Stewardship



Tithing is Our Tradition. Our understanding of giving comes from the first few pages of the Bible. Abraham, in thanksgiving for his victory in battle, offers a tithe to the priest, Melchizedek (Genesis 14:14-20). Giving is **tithing** and **offering**—accompanied by prayer, and fasting. **Tithing is sacrificial giving**, and requires trust, since we are to give a tithe *first*, from our paycheck. This is the Lord's portion from the instant we receive it--money *returned to the Lord* for the purposes of His kingdom--**offered with prayer and fasting.**

Your pledge letter and card for 2026 will be distributed this morning at the dismissal, and for those not present, mailed on Monday. Please give prayerful consideration to your financial commitment for the coming year. I know that many of you are considering making your giving a true tithe. If you wish to discuss this with me, please do not hesitate to make an appointment or call me at any time. May God bless you richly for your generosity.

- Fr. Samuel

2025 Schedule of Services for The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ



Wednesday, December 24th

9:00 AM - Royal Hours of the Nativity
11:00 AM - Vespers Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

Thursday, December 25th

9:15 AM - Festal Matins of the Nativity of Our Lord
10:30 AM - Festal Divine Liturgy for the Feast
for the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord

Followed by a Festal Pot Luck Luncheon
for the Feast of the Nativity

The Edna Nasby/Larry George Memorial Blanket and Coat Drive



Are you downsizing? Deep cleaning your closets? Found a great deal in the clearance aisle?

SNOC is collecting new and gently used blankets, winter coats and gloves, and warm socks (all sizes) for distribution by Helping Hands of Beckley.



The need is great and ever-present, especially as winter approaches. Please drop off your donations in the social hall throughout the winter.

Questions? Ask Christine.

Thank you for your support, and may God bless you!



OUR ANNUAL IOCC HYGIENE KITS CHURCH SCHOOL PROJECT HAS BEGUN!

This year we will first collect enough of the following to make as many Hygiene Kits for IOCC as possible! In their effort to assist the victims of natural disaster, war and other tragedies, these hygiene kits are vital.

PLEASE NOTE: Many of these items have already been purchased in bulk for a fraction of the price found in stores these days. Please consider making a cash donation to cover items already purchased, and those that are yet to be purchased. If you have any questions, see Liz Daigle.

Each Hygiene Kit will have:

- ♦ A one-gallon plastic bag
- ♦ One cotton hand towel measuring approximately 15" x 28" x 32" (no fingertip, bath, dish towel or microfiber)
- ♦ One cotton washcloth (no microfiber)
- ♦ One wide-tooth comb removed from the packaging
- ♦ One fingernail or toenail clipper removed from the package
- ♦ One bath-size bar of soap in the wrapper
- ♦ One toothbrush in the package
- ♦ Ten standard size Band-Aids

These are some items you may wish to purchase and place on the designated table in the church hall.