

# ICHC NTKA SAINTS PETER AND PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America  
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## GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST! GLORY TO GOD FOR ALL THINGS!

November 20, 2011	23 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am
November 21	Monday	Entry of the Mother of God into the Temple	Divine Liturgy 9:30 am
November 24	Thursday	Thanksgiving Day	Divine Liturgy 9:30 am
November 26	Saturday	Great Vespers	4:00 pm
November 27	24 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am

**Saints of the Day:** Venerable Gregory Decapolites (816). Saint Proclus, Archbishop of Constantinople (447). New Hieromartyrs Bishop Macarius of Ekaterinoslav, Priests Alexis, Alexander, Vladimir, John, Alexis, Basil, Nicholas, John, Emilian, Nocolos and Hieromartyrs Arsenius, Eutihus and Hillarion, Hieromartyr Igumen Ioanicus (1937). New Hieromartyr Tatiana (after 1937). Venerable Diodorus of George Hill (Solovki) (1633). Martyr Dasius of Dorostolum (303). Martyrs Eustace, Thespesius, and Anatolius of Nicaea (312). Hieromartyrs Nerses and Joseph; and John, Saverius, Isaac, and Hypatius, Bishops of Persia; Martyrs Azades, Sasonius, Thecla, and Anna (343). Martyrs Bautha and Denachis, who suffered with Hieromartyr Nerses of Persia (343). Saint Isaac, Bishop of Armenia (440). Venerable Theoctistus the Confessor (855). Saint Edmund, King of England and Martyr (869). Saint Sozomen of Cyprus (12 c). Saint Humbert of the East Angles, Bishop and Martyr (855). Saint Colman. Saint Maxentia of Beauvais, Virgin Martyr. Saint Eval of Cornwall, Bishop (6 c.).

**Please remember in your prayers:** Michael, Mother Raphaela, John, Hilda, James, JoAnne, Ada, Priest Sergius, Louellen, Nancy, Rea, Archpriest Jason, Susan, Daniel, Aaron, Mark, Jennifer, Nina, Nadine, Michael, Anna, Gregory, Jim, Marianna, Mykola, Helen, Isaiah, Archpriest Vincent, Albert, Kevin, Robert, Robert, Andrew, David, Warren, Archimandrites Alexander, Athanasy, Isidore, Nectarios, Pachomy.

**God Grant Many Years!** Prayers for the health of newly baptized Lydia Dudek, her parents Drew and Nina and all her family were offered today at Liturgy and Moleben at the request of Father John Udics.

**Memory Eternal.** Fortieth Day prayers for the repose of the soul of Ann Bayzon were offered today at Liturgy and Litiya, requested anonymously.

**Saint Edmund the Martyr, King.** Born 841; died at Hoxne, Suffolk, England, in 869 or 870.

On Christmas Day 855, 14-year-old Edmund was acclaimed king of Norfolk by the ruling men and clergy of that county. The following year the leaders of Suffolk also made him their king.

For 15 years Edmund ruled over the East Angles with what all acknowledged as Christian dignity and justice. He himself seems to have modeled his piety on that of King David in the Old Testament, becoming especially proficient in reciting the Psalms in public worship.

From the year 866 his kingdom was increasingly threatened by Danish invasions. For four years the East Angles managed to keep a shaky, often broken peace with them. Then the invaders burned Thetford. King Edmund's army attacked the Danes but could not defeat the marauders. Edmund was taken prisoner and became the target for Danish bowmen.

In a later account in the "The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle," reputedly derived second-hand from an eyewitness, Abbo compared Saint Edmund to Saint Sebastian, and so he also became a saint invoked against the plague. Edmund was captured at Hoxne. He refused to share his Christian kingdom with the heathen invaders, whereupon he was tied to a tree and shot with arrows, till his body was 'like a thistle covered with prickles'; then his head was struck off. He died with the name of Jesus on his lips.

The record continues that the Danes "killed the king and overcame all the land . . . they destroyed all the churches that they came to, and at the same time reaching Peterborough, killed the abbot and monks and burned and broke everything they found there."

Saint Edmund thus remains the only English sovereign until the time of King Charles I to die for religious beliefs as well as the defense of his throne. Edmund was quickly revered as a martyr and his veneration spread widely during the middle ages.

King Saint Edmund is generally depicted as a bearded king holding his emblem – an arrow. Sometimes he is shown suspended from a tree and shot, or his head between the paws of a wolf. He is venerated at Bury Saint Edmunds (Saint Edmund's borough), where his body was enshrined and a great abbey arose in 1020. There are only three teeth there now. His body is in Arundel Castle and his head in Toulouse.

**Saint Isaac, Archbishop of Armenia** was born in Constantinople when his father was an envoy of the Armenian king to the Byzantine court. Isaac was the tenth Archbishop of Armenia, and in that calling, governed the Church for fifty years. His episcopacy was distinguished, among other things, by the translation of the Holy Scriptures into the Armenian language. He was told in a vision that the Armenians would eventually fall away from the pure Faith of Orthodoxy. This eminent hierarch entered peacefully into rest in the year 440 and reposed in the Lord.

**A word from the desert.** An old man and a brother lived their ascetic life together. Now the old man was charitable. It happened that there was a famine and people came to his door seeking alms, and in charity the old man gave to all who came. Seeing what was happening, the brother said to the old man, "Give me my share of the loaves, and do what you like with yours." The old man divided the loaves and gave alms from his share. Now many people hastened to the old man, learning that he supplied everyone, and God seeing that he supplied everyone blessed these loaves. But when the brother had consumed his own food he said to the old man, "Since I have only little food left, abba, take me back into the common life again." The old man said, "I will do as you wish." So they began again to live in common. When scarcity broke out again, the needy came back seeking alms. Now one day the brother came in and saw they were short of loaves. A poor man came, and the old man told the brother to give him alms. He said, "It is no longer possible, father." The old man said to him, "Go in and look." The brother went inside and found the bin full of loaves. When he saw it, he was filled with fear. Taking some he gave to the poor. In this way, he learned the faith and virtue of the old man, and he gave glory to God.

#### **FOR YOUR CALENDARS!**

**TODAY: Parish Council Meeting** (Third Sunday of the Month)

**TODAY: Sunday Breakfast** at Coffee Hour

December 11: Sunday: **CHRISTMAS PAGEANT AND DINNER**, after Divine Liturgy.

December 18: **Parish Council Meeting** (Third Sunday of the Month)

December 25 **Sunday Breakfast** at Coffee Hour will be held Sunday, January 1, 2012

**Questions for preparation for Confession:** [http://www.cnyorthodoxchurch.org/questions\\_and\\_answers.html](http://www.cnyorthodoxchurch.org/questions_and_answers.html)  
On our web pages, an important resource for you – Questions by Metropolitan Antony Khrapovitsky.

**Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery Update.** It is hard to believe the Nativity fast is almost here. In the midst of prayer, farm chores, and living the monastic life, we have had a lot of comings and goings at the monastery. Each of us takes a bit of time to rest each year to be with family in addition to the personal retreat days we take each month to renew our relationship with God.

The three sisters from Christ the Bridegroom Community in Ohio who were here for 3 months learning with us to live the eastern monastic life have returned to their convent, and a new intern, Mother Anna's niece Sarah, has arrived and is helping out with farm chores. Some of us went to help celebrate the 110th anniversary of Saint Basil's Church in Watervliet, NY, one of the parishes that have reached out to us in turn. Saint Basil's faithful first came to help with the building of our chapel and they continue each year with a generous Thanksgiving "grocery run." Truly, we are blessed through so many of you!

We ask your prayers for Susanna, an applicant from Great Britain who wants to test her vocation with us. We ask your prayers for us as well as we work to get her visa through U.S. Immigration and the Department of Homeland Security. God willing, she will be with us as we begin Great Lent in 2012. In addition, Pilgrims and guests continue to come and go, adding to the richness of our life and worship.

Plans continue for our 35th anniversary year and Mother Michaela's 50th year of profession and Mother Raphaela's 40th year of profession. If you would like to work with Tatiana Lapchuk-Hoff on the Monastery Anniversary Celebration Committee, please contact her at [TatianaLapchukHoff@gmail.com](mailto:TatianaLapchukHoff@gmail.com) or phone her at 857-540-2319.

We hope many of you will join us next year, first for our Patronal Anniversary Pilgrimage on the leavetaking of Myrrhbearers, Saturday, May 5, and then on August 25th in Binghamton and on August 26th here at the monastery when we will also celebrate the mothers' profession anniversaries. Whether or not you come either of those times, please do visit and help us celebrate whenever you are free during the year!

Thanks to your generous response to our last email, the chapel roof has been repaired. It is wonderful not to be placing buckets strategically whenever it rains, which this year has been most of the time. We have already had our first snowfalls, and the barn roof and fencing gates are next on the repair list so we can store hay for the winter and manage our livestock more easily. With your help we have the services of a self-employed contractor, a qualified roofer who is also taking on many handyman jobs for us.

Our Subaru came to an untimely early demise and with the advice of our trustees and an excellent "package" from the dealership, we have gotten another one. With all the snow we normally have, we appreciate knowing that we will be able to get out of our driveway each winter.

Again, thanks to your help, we were able to pay a good share up front to keep our monthly payments manageable. Now with the cold temperatures we have finally had to turn on the furnace, although we don't look forward to winter fuel bills!

#### **Nativity Gift Ideas**

As you think about Christmas shopping, we hope you will consider our large selection of Nativity cards, the beautiful Palestinian embroideries that make unique gifts and our "Prayer Manual" series now augmented by the growing list of liturgical texts used by our monastery, being published with the blessing of our bishop, Metropolitan Jonah. Currently available are "The Royal Hours of the Orthodox Church: Christmas, Theophany and Pascha," "The Kathisma Psalter and Old Testament Canticles Revised According to the Septuagint," and the newly available "Horologion" that we use daily, our Reader's Service Book of the Hours of the Orthodox Church.

If you want prayer ropes made from our own natural wool or illuminated prayers, please get in your orders now as they may take up to six weeks to deliver since they are prayerfully made by hand as the orders come in. To order these and other items, check out our online catalog at [www.holymyrrhbearers.com](http://www.holymyrrhbearers.com).

You and your loved ones continue to be in our prayers. Please pray for us, that we will grow only as the Lord wills!  
With love in Christ,  
The Mothers and Sisters