



## NEWSLETTER & DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

**26th Week after Pentecost**

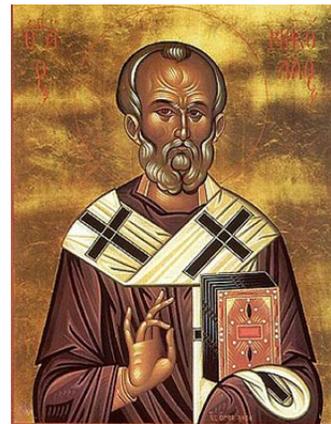
Monday, December 13 — Sunday, December 19, 2021



**Holy and All-praised Apostle  
Andrew the First-called**



**Venerable Sabbas the  
Sanctified**



**St. Nicholas the  
Wonderworker**

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## ~ CONTENTS ~

A Note from Fr. John

Ponder This

Twitter Summary

Look It Up!

Thoughts for Every Day

Prayer Corner

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## ~ A NOTE FROM FATHER JOHN ~

The giver of every good and perfect gift has called upon us to mimic His giving, by grace, through faith, and this is not of ourselves. We are called as Christians to Love our Neighbor. Let our hearts minds and souls focus on doing for those less fortunate. Let our prayer like St Nicholas arise to God that we may love and serve all He brings before us.

Glory to Jesus Christ!

— Fr. John

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## ~ TWITTER SUMMARY ~

***The main points from Sunday's sermon, in 280 characters or less!***

God is able to cure us of any sickness of body or soul. He may also allow us to experience suffering in this life that we may be restored in the next life. May God give us the strength to repent and struggle in faith.

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**~ THOUGHTS FOR EVERY DAY ~**

*Scripture and liturgical readings to enrich your prayer life every day of the week*

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>~ MONDAY ~</b> <b>(12/13)</b></p> <p><b>Commemoration of the Day:</b> Holy and All-praised Apostle Andrew the First-called (62)</p> <p><b>Excerpt from the Menaion:</b> <b>Holy Apostle Andrew, the First-Called, Troparion, Tone IV —</b> As thou art the first-called of the apostles/ and the brother of the pre-eminent one,/ entreat thou the Master of all, O Andrew,/ that He grant peace to the world// and great mercy to our souls.</p> <p><b>Holy Scripture:</b> 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 Apostle John 1:35-51 Apostle</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>~ TUESDAY~</b> <b>(12/14)</b></p> <p><b>Commemoration of the Day:</b> Prophet Nahum (7th c. B.C.)</p> <p><b>Excerpt from the Menaion:</b> <b>Holy Prophet Nahum, Troparion, Tone II —</b> Celebrating the memory/ of Thy prophet Nahum O Lord,// through him do we entreat Thee, save Thou our souls.</p> <p><b>Holy Scripture:</b> 1 Timothy 1:8-14 Luke 19:45-48</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>~ WEDNESDAY~</b> <b>(12/15)</b></p> <p><b>Commemoration of the Day:</b> Prophet Habakkuk (Abbacum) (7th c. B.C.)</p> <p><b>Excerpt from the Menaion:</b> <b>Holy Prophet Habbakuk, Troparion, Tone II —</b> Celebrating the memory/ of Thy prophet Habbakuk O Lord,// through him do we entreat Thee, save Thou our souls.</p> <p><b>Holy Scripture:</b> 1 Timothy 1:18-20; 2:8-15 Luke 20:1-8</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>~ THURSDAY~</b> <b>(12/16)</b></p> <p><b>Commemoration of the Day:</b> Prophet Zephaniah (Sophonias) (635 B.C.)</p> <p><b>Excerpt from the Menaion:</b> <b>Holy Prophet Zephaniah, Troparion, Tone II —</b> Celebrating the memory/ of Thy prophet Zephaniah O Lord,// through him do we entreat Thee, save Thou our souls.</p> <p><b>Holy Scripture:</b> 1 Timothy 3:1-13 Luke 20:9-18</p>

~ FRIDAY ~  
(12/17)

**Commemoration of the Day:**

Great-martyr Barbara and Martyr Juliana at Heliapolis in Syria (306)

**Excerpt from the Menaion:**

**Greatmartyr Barbara, Troparion, Tone VIII —**

*Let us honor the holy Barbara; for the most honored one broke the snares of the enemy// and was delivered from them like a bird, with the help and aid of the Cross.*

**Holy Scripture:**

Galatians 3:23-29 Great-martyr Barbara  
Mark 5:24-34 Great-martyr Barbara

~ SATURDAY ~  
(12/18)

**Commemoration of the Day:**

Venerable Sabbas the Sanctified (532)

**Excerpt from the Menaion:**

**St. Sabbas the Sanctified, Tone VIII —**

*With the streams of thy tears thou didst irrigate the barren desert,/ and with sighs from the depths of thy soul thou didst render thy labors fruitful an hundredfold./ Thou wast a beacon for the whole world, radiating miracles.// O our father Sabbas, entreat Christ God that our souls be saved.*

**Holy Scripture:**

Galatians 5:22-6:2 Epistle, Saint  
Matthew 11:27-30 Gospel, Saint

~ SUNDAY ~  
(12/19)

**Commemoration of the Day:**

St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, archbishop of Myra in Lycia (345)

**Excerpt from the Menaion:**

**St. Nicholas, Archbp. of Myra in Lycia, Tone IV —**

*The truth of things revealed thee to thy flock as a rule of faith,/ a model of meekness and a teacher of abstinence/ wherefore thou hast attained the heights through humility/ and riches through poverty.// O hierarch Nicholas our father, entreat Christ God that our souls be saved.*

**Holy Scripture:**

Hebrews 13:17-21 St. Nicholas  
Luke 6:17-23 St. Nicholas

**“Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth, their words unto the ends of the world.”**

**[Prokeimenon of Pentecost, Tone 8, Liturgy]**

**To read more:**

<https://www.holytrinityorthodox.com/calendar/>

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## ~ PONDER THIS ~

*A few thoughts to ponder in light of this week's lessons and sermons.*

### **Saint Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia**

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2019/12/06/103484-saint-nicholas-the-wonderworker-archbishop-of-myra-in-lycia>

In the year 325 Saint Nicholas was a participant in the First Ecumenical Council. This Council proclaimed the Nicene Symbol of Faith, and he stood up against the heretic Arius with the likes of Saints Sylvester the Bishop of Rome (January 2), Alexander of Alexandria (May 29), Spyridon of Trimythontos (December 12) and other Fathers of the Council.

Saint Nicholas, fired with zeal for the Lord, assailed the heretic Arius with his words, and also struck him upon the face. For this reason, he was deprived of the emblems of his episcopal rank and placed under guard. But several of the holy Fathers had the same vision, seeing the Lord Himself and the Mother of God returning to him the Gospel and omophorion. The Fathers of the Council agreed that the audacity of the saint was pleasing to God, and restored the saint to the office of bishop.

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## ~LOOK IT UP~

**Did you know:** Guided by a pillar of fire which appeared before him as he was walking, Saint Savva found a spacious cave in the form of a church. There he founded a Lavra.

**Read more:**

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2021/12/05/103477-venerable-savva-the-sanctified>

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**~ PRAYER CORNER ~**

- Fr Moses
- Alexander Dubravka
- Oleg
- Sr Verena
- Vaughn
- Corbet
- Archbishop Benjamin
- Archpriest Anthony
- Archpriest Michael
- Fr John & Mat Deborah
- John Westley

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To submit **commemorations for the next Divine Liturgy**, to make an appointment with Fr. John to give **confession by telephone**, to alert us to any pastoral needs, to submit an item for the **Prayer Corner**, or just to chat, please contact Fr. John or Mat. Deborah using the following contact information:

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Matushka Deborah Tomasi \* (310) 849-9451 \* [deborahTomasi@yahoo.com](mailto:deborahTomasi@yahoo.com)

**Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!**