Venerable Philaret the Almsgiver of Amnia

Philaret was from the village of Amnia in Paphlagonia. Early in life, Philaret was a very wealthy man, but by distributing abundant alms to the poor he himself became extremely poor. However, he was not afraid of poverty, and, not heeding the complaints of his wife and children, he continued his charitable works with hope in God. Who said: Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy (Matthew 5:7). Once, while he was plowing in the field, a man came to him and complained that one of his oxen had died in the harness and that he was unable to plow with only one ox. Philaret then unharnessed one of his oxen and gave it to him. He even gave his remaining horse to a man who was summoned to go to war. He gave away the calf of his last cow, and when he saw how the cow pined for her missing calf, and the calf for the cow, he called the man and gave him the cow too. And thus the aged Philaret was left without food in an empty house. But he prayed to God and placed his hope in Him. And God did not abandon the righteous one to be put to shame in his hope. At that time the Empress Irene reigned with her young son, Constantine. According to the custom of that time, the empress sent men throughout the whole empire to seek the best and most distinguished maiden to whom she could wed her son, the emperor. By God’s providence, these men happened to stay overnight in Philaret’s house, and they saw his most beautiful and modest granddaughter Maria, the daughter of his daughter Hypatia, and took her to Constantinople. The emperor was well pleased with her, married her, and moved Philaret and all his family to the capital, giving him great honors and riches. Philaret did not become proud as a result of this unexpected good fortune, but, thankful to God, he continued to perform good works even more than he had before, and thus he continued until his death. At the age of ninety he summoned his children, blessed them, and instructed them to cleave to God and to God’s law, and with his clairvoyant spirit he prophesied to all of them how they would live out this life, as once had Jacob. After that he went to the Rodolfia Monastery and gave up his soul to God. At his death his face shone like the sun, and after his death an unusual, sweet fragrance came forth from his body and miracles took place at his relics. This righteous man entered into rest in the year 797 A.D. His wife, Theosevia, and all his children and grandchildren lived a God-pleasing life and reposed in the Lord.

Prologue from Ochrid

December 1, 2019 – Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

The Holy Prophet Nahum; Venerable Philaret the Almsgiver of Amnia; Martyr Ananias the Persian; Theoklitos, archbishop of Lakedaemonia

Matins Gospel Reading: Mark 16:1-8

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 7):
Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast Risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

Kontakion for the Nativity (Tone 3):
Today the Virgin cometh unto the cave to give birth to the Word Who was born before all ages, begotten in a manner that defies description. Rejoice therefore, O Universe, if thou should hear, and glorify with the angels and the shepherds, glorify Him Who by His Will shall become a newborn Babe and Who is our God before all ages.
Troparion of All Saints (Tone 4):
Adorned in the blood of Thy martyrs, throughout all the world as in purple and fine linen, Thy Church through them doth cry unto Thee, O Christ God: Send down Thy compassion upon Thy people; grant peace to Thy habitation and great mercy to our souls.

Prokeimenon Psalm:
The Lord will give strength to His people.
Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God, ascribe to the Lord honor and glory.

Epistle Reading: Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians 2:14-22

Gospel Reading: Luke 18:35-43

This Week at All Saints

Saturday, December 7: Vespers, 7:30 PM (Confession available before and after)

Volunteers

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reader</th>
<th>Proskynesis</th>
<th>Greeter</th>
<th>Flowers</th>
<th>Coffee</th>
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<td>Sunday Dec 1</td>
<td>Doug J.</td>
<td>Eva W.</td>
<td>Azizah C.</td>
<td>Kim A.</td>
<td>Paul &amp;</td>
<td>R - W</td>
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<td>Sunday Dec 8</td>
<td>Sd. Joseph</td>
<td>Dn. Walid</td>
<td>Jerry C.</td>
<td>Domitille N.</td>
<td>Chris &amp;</td>
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<td>Nancy L.</td>
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<td>Sunday Dec 15</td>
<td>Jim K.</td>
<td>Sandy A.</td>
<td>Ofelija I.</td>
<td>Melissa W.</td>
<td>Phil &amp;</td>
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<td>Rowena L.</td>
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<td>Sunday Dec 22</td>
<td>Polycarp</td>
<td>Carmen C.</td>
<td>Sarah K.</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>Robert H.</td>
<td>L - P</td>
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<td>Wednesday Dec 25</td>
<td>Joseph L.</td>
<td>Debbie K.</td>
<td>Nancy L.</td>
<td>Church</td>
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<td>Sunday Dec 29</td>
<td>Doug J.</td>
<td>Pat K.</td>
<td>Hal O.</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>Gabriel &amp;</td>
<td>R – W</td>
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<td>Domitille N.</td>
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<td>Sunday Jan 5</td>
<td>Jim K.</td>
<td>Domitille N.</td>
<td>Roberta P.</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>Eric &amp;</td>
<td>A – F</td>
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News and Announcements

St. Nicholas Stockings: Ladies, Please join us on Saturday, December 7th, at 10:30 a.m. for filling and hanging the children's St. Nicholas stockings. If anyone in the Women's Group has not received the e-mail for this annual event, please contact JoAnne. The stockings will be distributed to our children by St. Nicholas on December 8th.

St. Nicholas Visit: St. Nicholas will be visiting All Saints on Sunday, December 8th after Liturgy. All of the children of the parish are reminded to bring a non-perishable food item to give to him for the Advent Food drive.

Teen SOYO Events: Sunday December 15th, after Church School, the teens will meet from 1-4 PM at All Saints to make fleece blankets to bless the homeless at Northside Housing. Please RSVP to Melissa W. meljeff99@gmail.com

Advent Food Drive: Once again we are blessed to be able to participate in our Advent food drive for the poor in our city. Please bring your donations of non-perishable foods, in particular those that don't require cooking. These will be given to individuals living on the street who visit the drop in center (where a microwave is available for use) of Northside Housing. Please place your donations in the back of the church on or near the table. The deadline is Sunday, December 15th. If you have any questions, please call or email Sandy A. God blesses those who remember the poor!

- Granola/protein bars;
- Pop-top pasta (ravioli, etc) and soups;
- Microwaveable ramen cups;
- Instant mac and cheese;
- Trail mix;
- Vienna sausages;
- Oatmeal packets;
- Pop tarts;
- Fruit cups;
- Peanut butter or cheese cracker packets;
- Jerky;
- Tuna packets

We have recently established a charity account with Amazon. Follow the link below to designate All Saints as a recipient of your AmazonSmile account. There's no cost to you (other than paying for your products); for eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to us. The link is https://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-3936145. Contact Octavian for any questions

"Dost thou wish to receive mercy? Show mercy to thy neighbor."
~ Saint John Chrysostom