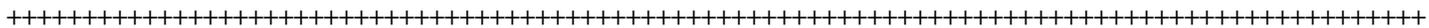


In case of emergency: Call Father Harry Lisinbigler, (813) 406 – 2620. If there is no answer, leave a message. Then call Pani Carrie at (813) 451-9829. (813) 451-9829.



3820 Moores Lake Rd.
Dover, FL 35527

“Christ is Born; Glorify Him!”



Schedule

Sunday December 6:

10:00 am Divine Liturgy
St. Nicholas the Wonderworker
of Myra.

Sunday December 13:

10:00 am Divine Liturgy
St Lucy (Lucia)

Sunday December 20:

10:00 am Divine Liturgy
St. Ignatius the God-bearer of Antioch;
Sunday before Nativity

Thursday December 24:

Day of strict fast, no full meals until
the evening meal
6:00 pm Christmas Eve Vigil

Friday December 25:

10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Nativity of our Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ

Sunday December 27:

10:00 am Third Day of Nativity,
Feast of Stephen

Sunday January 3:

10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Circumcision of Christ
(observed)

Counters:

December 6 – Nancy, Tom
December 13 – Harry, Tom
December 20 – Svetlana, Tom
December 27 – Ellen, Tom

Pastoral Message

The right of the free exercise of religion is a fundamental right given not by the government but by God himself. With concerns growing over further religious freedom restrictions, and especially in the midst of this holy season, I was glad to see that the Supreme Court upheld the religious rights of New Yorkers. I was also glad to see this from Joe Biden:

“Biden — the second Catholic elected U.S. president — made the statement in response to a reporter’s shouted question as he walked out of church Saturday evening. Biden was asked whether all Americans should be able to attend religious services during the pandemic and responded: ‘Yes, safely.’”

COVID-19 deaths of Serbian clerics highlight virus worries | KWKT - FOX 44 (fox44news.com)

Thank God, proceed with care but proceed nonetheless.

The question “are churches doing enough to prevent the spread of the coronavirus” is a very clever way to get religious leaders scared and to shut down. “Sure, you are doing what we said, but are you doing enough (move the goalposts)?” Then do more, and nothing will ever be enough. This very question and its unspoken but assumed premises contain several fallacies, including the moving the goalpost fallacy, the slippery slope fallacy (emotionally loaded and fear-evoking), and the strawman fallacy. We must not fall into this. We must continue to be careful but not be

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neglectful of the fundamental things with which we have been entrusted as Christians. (As a side note, I wish we taught logic in middle and high schools, because then people would be able to better spot bad arguments and bad policies).

I reflect on the words of Scripture, which tell us to not neglect gathering together, and all the more careful as we see the day of judgment approaching:

“Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which he has consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; and having a High Priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering for He who promised is faithful; And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as you see the Day approaching” (Hebrews 10.19ff).

The Lord Bless and Keep You,

Fr. Harry

Prayer Corner:

Contact Cynthia Brown to add or delete names from the Prayer Corner lists. Cynthiaann36@live.com or (863) 223-6775.

Living: Please pray for the ailing: Pearl, (grandmother) Mike, Stella, Egerton, Amanda, Mike, Michael, Samuel, Vilma, Stacy, Arlene, Bruce, Laura, Christopher and Dan.

Reposed : Please pray for the departed: Virginia, Harry, Millie, Harry, Richard, Albert, Mary, John, Doris, Mary, Subdeacon John, Vera Beverly James Dessie, Ernest, Elbert, Bill, Viva, Ina, Cynthia, Bernard, Finn, Marie, Kathy, Cassia, Ashton, Camillo, Lexi, Francesca, Tina, Joan, Lennie, Walter, Wally, and Bertha.

Church Council:

President: Brian Delp, (813) 763-5226
Vice President: Paula Karagounis, (813) 838-4554
Secretary: Rebecca Delp, (813) 7635225
Treasurer: Tom Moore, (813) 244-7670
Financial Secretary: Natalie Brennan (508) 272-0395
Member, Ellen Flynn, (863) 242-4865

Volunteers Needed:

Volunteers are needed to read the epistle and/or to be chanters.
Contact Pani Carrie.

Church School

Every month we will be highlighting a different Saint. Father Harry has mentioned how important the saint are to us. We will learn about who they are and when we observe their special day. Our Saint for December is St. Nicholas, his day is December 6. You will find on the his icon below. There will also be a search puzzle on the last page for you to solve.

St. Nicholas the Wonderworker Bishop Of Myra of Lycia December 6

St. Nicholas lived during the reign of St. Constantine and reposed in 330. He had desired to live a solitary life, so he went to Jerusalem to devote himself to prayer. However, God willed that he should return to his home land to be a cause of salvation to many. He returned to Myra and was ordained a bishop. He became known for his mercy, providing for the poor and delivering those unjustly accused, also for his zeal for the truth. He was present at the first Council at Nicaea in 325. While listening to Arius’ blasphemies against the Son of God he slapped Arius in the face. Since the canons forbid clergy to strike any man the fathers were perplexed as to what to do about this. One tradition says that his Gospel book and his stole were taken from him and he was put in a cell. That night the Savior and the Theotokas appeared to him and the gospel and stole were restored to him. Another traditions says that the Savior and Theotokas appeared to some of the bishops and defended Nicholas, saying that he acted not out of passion but out of piety and love, In some icons of St. Nicholas you will see the Savior returning the gospel and the Theotokas returning the stole. He is known to have secretly given doweries to three maidens to save them from a life of disgrace. He is the patron saint of travelers and of seafarers in particular, of children and merchants and is the patron saint of Russia. He is one of the best known and best loved saints of all time.

Contact Tracy Galla for church school information:
Tracygalla12@gmail.com

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Prayer:

Prayer is communication with God and the language of our faith. Praying is not an easy task, but the more you pray the closer you become with God. If we pray on a regular basis, it will become a habit and will connect you more and more with God. Prayer does not have to be complicated and can be as simple as saying "Lord have mercy". In order to be better at praying, we need to read and listen to what we are reading. Prayer needs to come naturally and this will take time. As we enter the Nativity fast, add an extra time to pray, start and end your day with prayer and if you don't pray before and after meals, now would be a great time to start.

There are prayers for all occasions and tasks in our lives. Start by saying, "Lord's prayer" every morning and night and then add a new prayer each month. I will add a new prayer every month to the bulletin. One prayer I say everyday and all day is the Jesus prayer, "O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on me a sinner"! We need to let God know that we are thankful for everything, good and bad. Once you start a habit of praying, it will be part of your everyday life and become very easy to do and you will feel closer to God.

If you don't already have a special place to say your morning or evening prayers, here is a suggestion to get that special place started! Prepare an icon corner in your room using 4 simple items, table, battery operated candle, icon and cross. Every morning and evening, head to your icon corner to communicate with God. As you pray on a regular basis, you will be building a stronger bond with God. As you become more comfortable with praying, you will see how powerful prayer really is. Remember God is always listening, he might not answer you right away, He is always there. Let Him know how much you love Him by talking to Him! He always has time for you, let's make time for Him by praying without ceasing!!

Out Reach:

Food items and grocery gift cards will continue to be collected for a Someone in need for Christmas. If you know of someone, contact Pani Carrie, Tracy, or Arlene.

Last February we collected items for the pregnancy center in Plant City. Due to the Covid-19 delivery of the items was delayed. Tracy Galla recently delivered the items to the pregnancy center. She said the Director, Sandi Nelson, was very appreciative to be our out reach project. Our parish will be part of their next newsletter as a Thank You for supporting them. During the month of February there is a march for life in Washington, D.C. To coincide with that; we can collect items for the unborn at the pregnancy center. The women who go there choose to deliver their children rather than abort them. The items should be new and if you are interested in donating to this organization they have a wishlist on Amazon Smile. A collection box will be provided in January.

What to do during the Pandemic...

If you wonder how to survive the pandemic and not be bored staying home, visit Father Harry's Facebook video. He gives us some great ideas through the example that he and Pani exhibit. First, go to church and be inspired to live a better life. Next, visit nature, it is refreshing. Florida has many remote beaches and parks to visit. Spend time with family doing something fun, and build a better relationship with each other. Spend time with youth, they make us feel young again. Take a child to visit and elderly person who may be lonely for company, they will feel younger for the visit. And don't forget to "Thank God for All Things!"