

# St. Nicholas Orthodox Christian Church

28 Cross Street - Auburn, New York 13021 ([www.stnicholasauburn.com](http://www.stnicholasauburn.com))

**Very Reverend Michael Speck – Pastor**

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Fr. Michael's Office Hours Monday and Thursday 2:30 PM to 4:30 PM in the Church Hall Office or by Appointment

Reverend Deacon David Donch   Sr. Warden Greg Michaels   Jr. Warden Rocco Lupo  
Subdeacon Michael W. Speck   Reader Nathaniel Donch   Reader Peter A. Speck

## Sunday, January 6, 2019 – Holy Theophany

Monday, January 7                    -9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy – Synaxis of St. John the Baptist  
Wednesday, January 9           -9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy  
Saturday, January 12            -5:00 PM – Vespers  
Sunday, January 13               -9:00 AM – Adult Education  
   -9:40 AM -3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Hours  
   -10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

Thank you to all who attended and participated in the Christmas Social last Sunday. Many people appreciated the fact that it was easier for them to prepare and attend this gathering on a day other than Christmas because of family commitments, so we will plan this event on the Sunday following Christmas in the future. However, it is also pleasant to have a time for our faithful and visitors to gather for fellowship following Divine Liturgy on Christmas Day itself. Therefore, we will plan to have a Christmas Day Coffee Hour sponsored by the clergy each year on December 25 following Liturgy.

**Blessing of homes during this Theophany Season will be by appointment. If you would like your home blessed please contact Fr. Michael by telephone or e-mail.**

Chris Mack is going to lead a community outreach program that will include a Game Night on Saturday evenings following Vespers in the Church Hall beginning Saturday, January 12. Please contact him for information and details about the plans for these evenings.

### Upcoming Events

January 13 – Sisterhood Meeting  
January 20 – Parish Council Meeting  
January 27 – Annual Parish Meeting following Liturgy  
January 30 - Feast of the Three Hierarchs  
February 2 – Meeting of the Lord in the Temple  
February 10 – Pork Chop Dinner following Liturgy  
March 10 – Cheesefare Sunday – Beginning of Great Lent

## **At the New Year - 1901**

**Usually, when an old year ends and a new one begins, we review all the time that has passed and recall what we have done during that time, and make plans for how to act in the future. This kind of "contemplation" and introspection does bring benefit to us, since it forces us to see how far we still are from being a model (ideal) person, and impels us to strive for self-perfection.**

**Unfortunately, this introspection is not practiced by us often; we are occupied by external life to a greater extent, all of which passes for us in vanity, in cares for the earthly, for pleasure, riches, power, glory. "We strive to live like everybody lives, as it is customary in the world"--in other words, we give our time to career, business matters, receptions, trips, entertainment, etc.**

**Let us review our lives according to our conscience, and fulfill what the holy Church commands us to do daily before going to bed:**

- 1. Give thanks to the Almighty God, since He has granted you to spend the time that has passed alive and in good health through His grace.**
- 2. Have a word with yourself and examine your conscience, going over and reviewing in detail and recalling to mind if you went to see someone, what you did, what you talked about and with whom; and all of your deeds and words and thoughts recall and examine with great care.**
- 3. If you did something good, think that it did not come from you, but from God Himself, Who gives us every blessing; attribute that to Him in your mind and thank Him, and pray that He may strengthen you in that good, and grant and help you do more.**
- 4. If you did something wicked, say that it arose from yourself, from your weakness, or from vile habit and will; and repent and beg the Lover of Mankind that He may grant you forgiveness in that matter, and make a firm promise that you will no longer do those kinds of things.**
- 5. With tears talk to your merciful Creator, that He may grant the upcoming time to be quiet, peaceful, and free from temptation and sin, for the glory of His holy name.**

**Saint Tikhon of Moscow- Instructions and Teachings for the American Orthodox Faithful**