

Bulletin for Sunday, December 25, 2022

St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral

Santa Claus
(Igor Yavorsky)
made a surprise visit
to the Cathedral Hall
on Sunday,
December 18, 2022,
the day the Parish
celebrated the
Feast Day of its
patron
St. Nicholas.

Santa's bag was full
of gifts for the
children. Thank you
to Alex Janoczkin for
donating all the
presents!



Stavropigia of the
Ukrainian Orthodox Church Kyivan Patriarchate

817 North 7th Street, Philadelphia - stnicholaseoc.org

THANK YOU to the Borriello Family and friends for donating and preparing the delicious, lenten St. Nicholas Patron Saint Lunch for 60 people on Sunday, December 18, 2022.





Guests who attended the St. Nicholas Patron Saint Lunch received a parting gift bag – with thanks for their support of the Cathedral Building Fund. All ticket sales benefited the Building Fund, and we raised \$1,175.00 Thank You!



60 pairs of holiday slipper socks were donated by Susan Guz.



On Sunday, December 18, 2022, we sang HAPPY BIRTHDAY to:



- ❖ *Marianna Kikelia*
- ❖ *Ray McNulty*
- ❖ *Renee Murphy*
- ❖ *Rev. Hieromonk Father Dionysius, who celebrated his 70th Birthday!*

BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

*God Grant You Many More Healthy
and Happy Years!*

A special message received from Fr. Dionysius:
"Your Grace, Luke. I wish you, the wartime refugees for whom you provide safe harbor, and all the Cathedral parishioners a Happy and Blessed Saint Nicholas Day! God bless all of you!
Fr. Dionysius (Chicago)"



Bishop Luke Is On The Radio

“The Bishop Luke Radio Hour”

EVERY WEDNESDAY, 3:00-4:00 PM LIVE

- Listen LIVE or ANY TIME at your convenience
- wwdbam.com/shows/bishop-luke-radio-hour/
- Click **On Air**
- Scroll down to **BISHOP LUKE RADIO HOUR**
- Click **PODCASTS**

**WWDB-AM
TALK 860**



Christmas Greetings from Kyiv, Ukraine!
from our good friend and favorite lawyer, Yaroslav Shevchenko, pictured here with his beloved pet, Siri.



Following Divine Liturgy, Bishop Luke prayed a Moleben to St. Nicholas on Sunday, December 18, 2022.

LIVING ORTHODOX TRADITIONS



*You are Invited to Holy Supper
Christmas Eve, Friday, January 6, 2023,
5:00 PM in the Cathedral Hall*

*Donation: **\$10** to benefit the Cathedral Building Fund*



Following the 40 days of Nativity Lent, the birth of Jesus Christ is commemorated with a final Lenten feast on Christmas Eve, this year on Friday, January 6, 2023.

The Holy Supper table is replete with symbolism: from placing hay under the table and tablecloth in memory of the manger in which the Holy Child was placed by His Mother at His birth, to the white linen tablecloth which represents Jesus' swaddling birth clothes.

Holy Supper consists of 12 courses, symbolic of the 12 Apostles. The foods range from bitter to sweet to remind us of the bitterness of life before Christ was born and the sweetness of life which comes after His birth.

Holy Supper begins with the singing of the Christmas Troparion and the lighting of a candle placed in the center of the table. The candle symbolizes the star of Bethlehem.

Bishop Luke will then lead us in prayer which includes reading the Nativity account from the Gospel of St. Matthew 2:1-12. He will ask God in the opening prayer to bless the bread, wine, and food. He then breaks the bread and passes it out to all present. This symbolizes Christ at the Last Supper. At the conclusion of the meal, it is traditional for all to attend Vespers, following which the Patriarchal Choir sings Christmas Carols.

Are you coming to
Holy Supper?

Please prepare and
bring your favorite
traditional dish (and
let Susan Guz know

-- guzsc@yahoo.com
-- what you plan to
bring.) Thank you!



The Scripture Reading for
 Sunday, December 25, 2022
 Luke 6:17-23



The Scripture reading for Sunday is Apostle Luke’s account of Jesus sitting among a very diverse group of people, teaching them the essence of Christian life, his sermon about the Beatitudes. The Beatitudes can be likened to proverbs. The verses tell us how to emulate Jesus and follow the way of life He modeled for us. If we live those words, we can be caring and charitable people. Listen to the verses: “Blessed are the poor; blessed are the hungry; blessed are those who weep; blessed are those who are hated.....” Jesus teaches that when we endure hardship, we are blessed.

He teaches that we are blessed for good behavior. And Jesus teaches that we are blessed for having honorable qualities, such as being meek, righteous, merciful, pure and peacemakers. As Luke says: “And He – Jesus -- came down....and stood on a level place...with His disciples and a great multitude of people” who were healed as they listened to Jesus. Why did Luke think it important to tell us this? Because the Beatitudes speak to all of us, to you, to me, to everyone. We are equal, all on the same level. We are all promised spiritual blessings. The final verse tells us so: “Rejoice and be exceedingly glad for great is your reward in Heaven.”

Schedule of Services

Saturday, December 24	5:00 pm: Vespers
Sunday, December 25	9:00 am: Reading of the Third Hour 9:15 am: Vesting 9:30 am: Hierarchal Divine Liturgy
Saturday, December 31	5:00 pm: Vespers
Sunday, January 1	9:00 am: Reading of the Third Hour 9:15 am: Vesting 9:30 am: Hierarchal Divine Liturgy
Friday, January 6 CHRISTMAS EVE	5:00 pm: Holy Supper in the Cathedral Hall 6:30 pm: Vespers; Confession; followed by the Patriarchal Choir singing Christmas Carols
Saturday, January 7 CHRISTMAS DAY	9:00 am: Reading of the Third Hour 9:15 am: Vesting 9:30 am: Hierarchal Divine Liturgy, followed by the Patriarchal Choir singing Christmas Carols 11:00 am: Christmas Lunch in the Cathedral Hall 5:00 pm: Vespers
Sunday, January 8	9:00 am: Reading of the Third Hour 9:15 am: Vesting 9:30 am: Hierarchal Divine Liturgy, followed by monthly Panikhida
Saturday, January 14 MOLEBEN for the New Year	5:00 pm: Vespers, followed by Moleben for the New Year
Sunday, January 15	9:00 am: Reading of the Third Hour 9:15 am: Vesting 9:30 am: Hierarchal Divine Liturgy

On Thursday, December 15, 2022, Philadelphia Councilman David Oh hosted a fundraiser – “Dinner for Donors” – in Conversation Hall, City Hall, to benefit the Ukrainian refugees in Philadelphia.



Organized by Bishop Luke and sponsored by Councilman Oh, the event was the perfect opportunity to recognize many honored guests who received gold medals from His Holiness Patriarch Philaret for their support of Ukraine. Medals were awarded to:

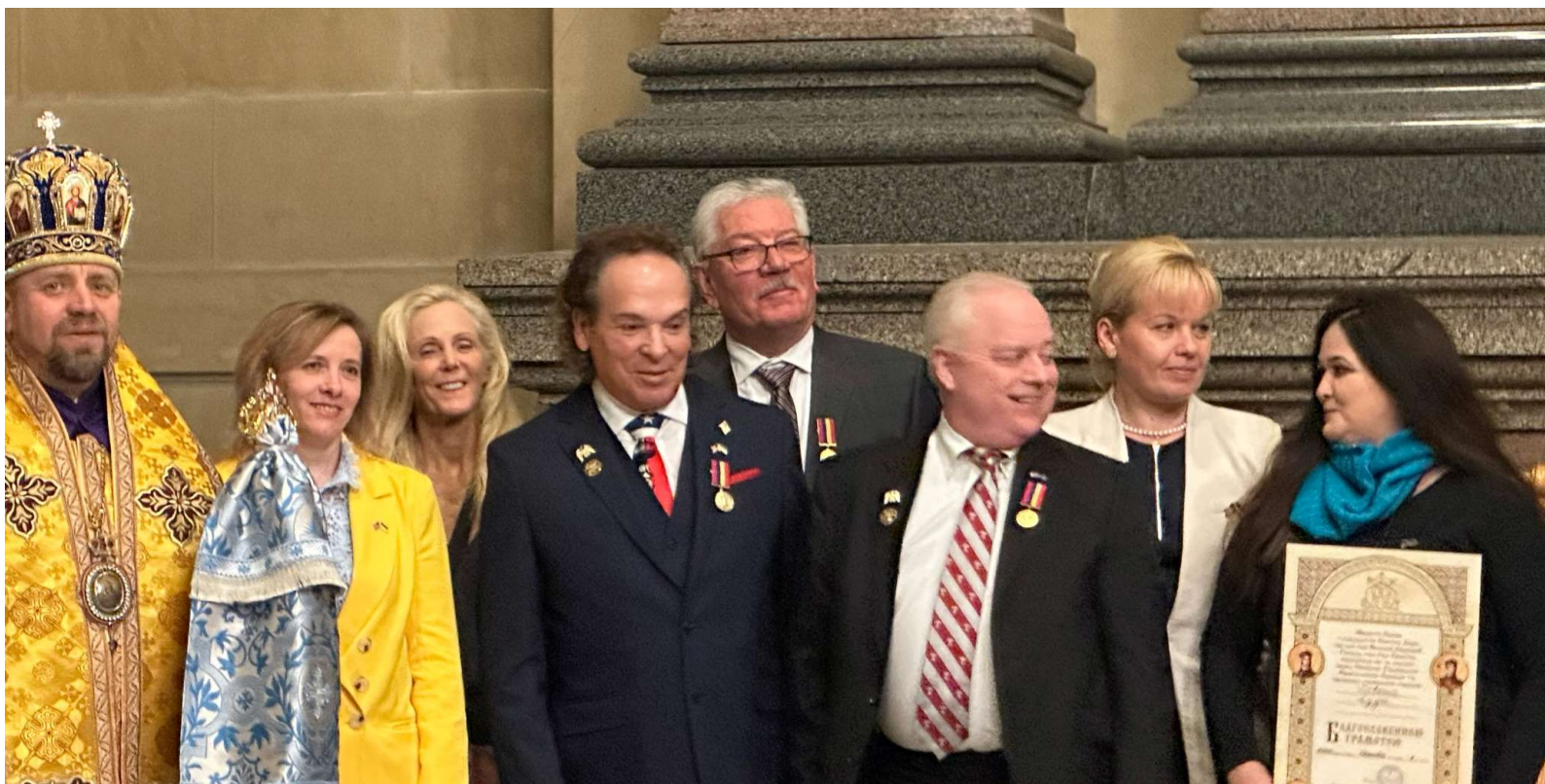
- ❖ Councilmember At-Large, David Oh, City Council, Philadelphia
- ❖ Thomas Hanney, President, St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral
- ❖ Susan Guz, Vice-President & Patriarchal Choir Director, St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral
 - ❖ Ellen Hanavin, Treasurer, St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral
 - ❖ Frank Borriello, Secretary, St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral
- ❖ Barbara Latsios, President, Sisterhood, St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral
 - ❖ Judy Hanney, Festival Director, St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral
- ❖ Very Reverend Oleksii Kacharai, Pastor, St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral
- ❖ Oksana Kikelia Voloshnovskyy, parishioner-member, St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral
 - ❖ Michael Danilov, Founder & General Manager, Mercy Fleet
 - ❖ Anastasia Andries, President, Mercy Fleet
 - ❖ Samuel Speiser, General Manager, WWDB-AM 860
 - ❖ Stan Casacio, Talk Show Host, WWDB-AM 860
 - ❖ Leo Iwaskiw, Host, Ukrainian Hour, WWDB-AM-860
 - ❖ John Yaworsky, Ukrainian Hour, WWDB-AM 860
 - ❖ Diane Cardano-Casacio, Real Estate Consultant, Cardano Realtors
 - ❖ Marta Pilip, Realtor
 - ❖ Roman Zhukov, President, NE Phila Connected
- ❖ Ulana Mazurkevich, President, Ukrainian Human Rights Committee, Philadelphia
 - ❖ Angela Corosanite, CEO & Founder, String Theory Schools
 - ❖ Yelena Marmur, Director, Versailles Cultural Center
 - ❖ Lilia Yaremchuk, Teacher, St. Luke Orthodox Church
 - ❖ Reverend Hieromonk Father Dionysius, Chicago

The following people received a Gramota:

- ❖ Yaroslav Kacharai, Altar Server, St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral
- ❖ Victoria Lyga, Constituent Services Representative, Office of Councilman David Oh
 - ❖ Roman Mykijewycz, Ukrainian American Citizens’ Association
 - ❖ Vincent Schiavone, CEO, Caring for Friends
- ❖ Rebecca Golembeski, Director of Communications, String Theory Schools
- ❖ Motrja Bojko Watters, Executive Director, United Ukrainian American Relief Committee







THANK YOU, Bishop Luke, for your efforts to help Ukraine and its displaced citizens. CONGRATULATIONS to all the Award Recipients for their volunteerism, compassion and generosity.

WELL DONE!



On Sunday, December 18, 2022, Bishop Luke presented awards to those who were unable to attend the event at City Hall on Thursday, Dec. 15.



**6
years**

**On Sunday, December 18, 2022, the
Cathedral Leadership and
congregation congratulated
Bishop Luke on his 6th Anniversary
as Rector of St. Nicholas Orthodox
Cathedral and his 1st Anniversary as
Vicar Bishop.
MANY MORE YEARS!**

**1
year**



105 YEARS!

**Also noted was the
105th Anniversary of the
Cathedral!**



ANNUAL VIGIL CANDLES LIT AT EVERY SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Sunday Vigil:	\$2
Analoi Candles:	\$25
Altar Candles:	\$35
Annual Vigil:	\$100
Bulletin Sponsor:	\$25

1. +The Repose of the soul of Carol Dantine, offered by David Dantine, Jr. and Family. exp. 11/1/23
2. +The Repose of the souls of George and Barbara Wohar, offered by Barbara McMonigle and Family. exp. 11/1/23
3. +The Repose of the souls of John and Helen Guz; John and Mary Dzwonczyk; Paul and Anna Guz, offered by daughters/granddaughters Patricia Walker and Susan Guz. exp. 12/31/23
4. +The Repose of the souls of Helen and Michael Zaruba, and Christina and Christopher Natale. May Their Memory Be Eternal. Offered with love by Daughter/Sister/Aunt, Marcia O'Connor. exp. 10/1/26
5. +The Repose of the souls of All Members of the Sisterhood Fallen Asleep in the Lord, offered by the Sisterhood of the Pokrova. exp. 10/13/23
6. +The Repose of the souls of the Boljarevich Family, Anastasia (Nancy) Yarosh, Helen Kon, Helen and John "Whitey" Horbacz, Harry Mason, Sophie Gamble, Michael Zaruba and John Martin. PERPETUAL
7. +The Repose of the soul of my beloved husband, our devoted father and grandfather, Jack Kavchok. May his memory be eternal! Offered with love, Diane, John, Michael, Melissa, Makenzie, Riley and Kylie. exp. 8/1/23
8. +The Repose of the souls of Emil and Helen Levchenko offered by daughter, Ellen Hanavin. exp. 12/31/23
9. +The Repose of the souls of Irina and Michael Sierp, Konstantin, Olga, Lydia and Juris Teterski, Richard Boswell, and the health of all living members of the Teterski, Sierp, Boswell and Lis Families, offered by Susan Lis. exp. 9/18/23
10. +The Repose of the soul of our mother and grandmother, Helen Marx, offered by Victoria, Frank, Christopher, Stephanie, Julia, Nicholas, Krissy, Nathan and Morgan Borriello. exp. 4/19/23
11. +In memory of John and Susan Stetsuk, offered by Susan Isaac. exp. 12/31/23
12. +In memory of Paul Stetsuk, offered by Susan Isaac. Exp. 12/31/23
13. +In memory of Vera, Richard and Paul Wienckowski, offered by Susan Isaac. exp. 12/31/23
14. +In memory of Evelyn Atlee, offered by the Borriello Family. exp. 12/31/23
15. +In memory of Nadia Borriello, offered by the Borriello Family. exp. 5/31/23
16. +In loving memory of our mother, Lillian Fox, and our sister, Karen Niehoff, offered by Renee Murphy and Gail Osborn & Families. exp. 9/1/23
17. +The Repose of the souls of the Kowal Family: Andrew, Paraskeva, Andrew, Catherine, Susan, John, Nionila, Anna, David, Franklin Shultz and Edward Barrett, offered by Drew Kowal. exp. 11/1/30
18. For the health of Mykhailo, Tetiana, David, Svitlana, Vitaliy, Marina, Viktor, Ilona, Bogdan, Oleksandra, Maksym, Volodymyr, Halyna, Victoria, Mykola, Bishop Luke and his family, Veronika, Tetiana, Oleksander, Diana-Olga, Hrystyna, Dimitriy, Diana; and +In memory of Mykhailo, Yaroslav, Anna, Petro, Bohdan and Hanna, offered by Michael, Tetiana and David Kuchmiak. exp. 12/31/23
19. For the health of Viktor, Oksana, Volodymyr, Anna-Diana, Olga, Vasyl, Maria, Mykhailyna, Anna, Olga, Mykola, Marianna, Oksana, Olga, Roman, Bogdan, Iryna-Olesia. +In memory of Anna, Sophia, Petro, Volodymyr, Joseph, Petrunelia, Vasyl, Maria, Stepan, Anna, Volodymyr, Stepania, Maryna, Vasyl, offered by Oksana and Viktor Voloshnovskyy. exp. 9/1/23
20. +The Repose of the souls of Stephen and Helen V. Sameruck, offered by Barbara Latsios, Judy Hanney and families. exp. 10/25/23
21. +The Repose of the souls of Mary and Gregory Buckley. Memory Eternal. Offered by the children and grandchildren of the Buckley, Janoczkin and Wojnarowicz Families. exp. 12/20/24
22. +In memory of Joseph and Mary Ann Visman, offered by Debbie and Michael. exp. 5/2/23
23. +In memory of Tatiana, Alexander, Sergey, Nadezhda, Alexander and Anna, offered by Anton Spassky. exp. 6/12/23
24. For the health of soldier Olexiy, Loubov, Vadym, Olexander, Iryna, George, Svilana and Maria. exp. 6/19/23

THE SCRIPTURE READING FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2022

28TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



PRIEST: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

READER: And to thy spirit.

PRIEST: Wisdom!

READER: The Prokeimenon in the 3rd Tone: Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!.

CHOIR: Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

READER: Clap your hands, all ye people! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! Sing praises to our God, sing praises!

CHOIR: Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

PRIEST: Wisdom!

READER: The reading is from the Hebrews.

PRIEST: Let us attend!

READER: Brothers...Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you. Pray for us; for we are confident that we have a good conscience, in all things desiring to live honorably. But I especially urge you to do this, that I may be restored to you the sooner. Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. **(Hebrews 13:17-21)**

PRIEST: Peace be unto thee, Reader.

READER: And to thy spirit.

PRIEST: Wisdom!

READER: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! **CHOIR:** Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

READER: In Thee, O Lord, have I placed my hope; let me not be put to shame!
Be Thou a God of protection for me, a house of refuge, in order to save me!

CHOIR: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRIEST: Wisdom! Let us attend! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel. Peace be unto all.

CHOIR: And to thy spirit.

PRIEST: The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

CHOIR: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

PRIEST: Let us attend. And He came down with them and stood on a level place with a crowd of His disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem, and from the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear Him and be healed of their diseases, as well as those who were tormented with unclean spirits. And they were healed. And the whole multitude sought to touch Him, for power went out from Him and healed them all. Then He lifted up His eyes toward His disciples, and said: Blessed are you poor, For yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who hunger now, For you shall be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, For you shall laugh. Blessed are you when men hate you, And when they exclude you, And revile you, and cast out your name as evil, For the Son of Man's sake. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy! For indeed your reward is great in heaven, For in like manner their fathers did to the prophets. **(Luke 6:17-23)**

CHOIR: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Christmas Vigils



**Last year 200
vigils were lit on
Christmas Day!**

- Christmas Vigils will be published in the Sunday, January 8th edition of the Bulletin and lit in the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve, Friday, January 6; Christmas Day, Saturday, January 7; and Sunday, January 8.
- For those of you who arranged for Christmas vigils in past years, please look for an email soon from Diane Kavchok confirming your information. For our newcomers: please contact Diane – kavchokd@aol.com – to give her the names for your vigils.

“O holy Saint Barbara, through your inspiration, intercession, and by your example of courage, keep me chaste, fervent and always ready to do God’s Will. Please help us by your prayers. Amen”

Feast Day: December 17

On Sunday, December 18, 2022, Bishop Luke remembered all those named Barbara on their Feast Day, including Barbara Latsios, Barbara McMonigle and Barbara Marozzi

Holy Great Martyr Barbara lived and suffered during the reign of the emperor Maximian (305-311). Her father, the pagan Dioscorus, was a rich and illustrious man in the Syrian city of Heliopolis. After the death of his wife, he devoted himself to his only daughter. Seeing Barbara’s extraordinary beauty, Dioscorus decided to hide her from the eyes of strangers. He built a tower for Barbara, where only her pagan teachers were allowed to see her. By day she was able to gaze upon the wooded hills, the swiftly flowing rivers, and the meadows covered with a mottled blanket of flowers; by night the harmonious and majestic vault of the heavens twinkled and provided a spectacle of inexpressible beauty. Soon the virgin began to ask herself questions about the Creator of so harmonious and splendid a world.



Gradually, she became convinced that the idols were merely the work of human hands. Although her father and teachers offered them worship, she realized that the idols could not have made the surrounding world. The desire to know the true God so consumed her soul that Barbara decided to devote all her life to this goal, and to spend her life in virginity. The fame of her beauty spread throughout the city, and many sought her hand in marriage. But despite the entreaties of her father, she refused all of them. Barbara warned her father that his persistence might end tragically and separate them forever. Dioscorus decided that the temperament of his daughter had been affected by her life of seclusion. He therefore permitted her to leave the tower and gave her full freedom in her choice of friends and acquaintances. Thus Barbara met young Christian maidens in the city, and they taught her about the Creator of the world, about the Trinity, and about the Divine Logos. Through the Providence of God, a priest arrived in Heliopolis from Alexandria disguised as a merchant. After instructing her in the mysteries of the Christian Faith, he baptized Barbara, then returned to his own country.

During this time a luxurious bathhouse was being built at the house of Dioscorus. By his orders the workers prepared to put two windows on the south side. But Barbara, taking advantage of her father’s absence, asked them to make a third window, thereby forming a Trinity of light. On one of the walls of the bath-house Barbara traced a cross with her finger. The cross was deeply etched into the marble, as if by an iron instrument. Later, her footprints were imprinted on the stone steps of the bathhouse. The water of the bathhouse had great healing power.

When Dioscorus returned and expressed dissatisfaction about the change in his building plans, his daughter told him how she had come to know the Triune God, about the saving power of the Son of God, and about the futility of worshipping idols. Dioscorus went into a rage, grabbed a sword and was on the point of striking her with it.

The holy virgin fled from her father. After a long and fruitless search for his daughter, Dioscorus saw two shepherds on the hill. One of them showed him the cave where the saint had hidden. Dioscorus beat his daughter terribly, and then placed her under guard and tried to wear her down with hunger. Finally he handed her over to the prefect of the city, named Martianus. They beat Saint Barbara fiercely. By night Saint Barbara prayed fervently to her Heavenly Bridegroom, and the Savior Himself appeared and healed her wounds. Then they subjected the saint to new, and even more frightful torments. In the end, Dioscorus himself executed Saint Barbara. The wrath of God was quick to punish both torturers, Martianus and Dioscorus. They were killed after being struck by lightning.

Source: oca.org

In the sixth century the relics of the Holy Great Martyr Barbara were transferred to Constantinople. Six hundred years later, they were transferred to Kyiv by Barbara, the daughter of the Byzantine Emperor Alexius Comnenos, who married the Ukrainian prince Michael Izyaslavich. They rest now in Kyiv in Saint Volodymyr Patriarchal Cathedral and in our own St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral. His Holiness Patriarch Philaret blessed the transfer of some of Saint Barbara’s relics to St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral, and they were hand-delivered from Kyiv to Philadelphia by Bishop Luke in June 2017.



Our Cathedral Hall (known to the public as Liberty North Banquet & Event Space) was the venue for an elegant anniversary dinner on Saturday, December 17, 2022. The decorator – “R and B Visuals, Event Planning & Decorating” – chose a dramatic black and gold color scheme for the celebration.



The Hall continues to be a popular party venue. Income from Hall rentals for the 1st Quarter of this fiscal year (Oct-Dec) reached \$32,000.00. You may recall that the Hall Manager set an ambitious goal of \$85,000.00 for the fiscal year 2022-2023. Only nine more months to reach that goal!



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IF INTERESTED, CONTACT BISHOP LUKE, 215-479-1010

Interview at the main base location:

3021 Franks Rd., Suite 8, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006



MERCY is benevolence, forgiveness, kindness, compassion

HOHOHO

