



St. Nicholas

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June 17, 2018

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Commemoration of All New Martyrs who suffered under the Turkish Yoke



Table of Oblation

Altar Covers New altar covers were blessed during the Divine Liturgy today. They are the generous gift of Mary Ann Kelch in loving memory of her husband, George. *Vicnaja jemu pamjat! Eternal memory!*

The Royal Doors

The icon screen represents the Christian continuity from the veil of the Temple in Jerusalem which separated the people from the Holy of Holies that housed the Ark of the Covenant. Normally, the iconostasis has three doors in it. The two single doors to the right and left are called “deacons’ doors” and they usually have on them icons of either sainted deacons (Saint Stephen, Saint Lawrence, etc.) or the Archangels Michael and Gabriel. These are the doors that the clergy will normally use when entering the altar.

The central double doors are the “*Royal Doors*”, which are considered to be most sacred, and may only be entered at certain sacred moments during the services, and only by ordained clergy (deacons, priests, bishops). They are called “*Royal Doors*” because Christ Himself comes to us through the bread and wine of the Holy Eucharist.

The doors usually have painted on them an icon of the Annunciation in the form of a diptych (the Theotokos on the right door, and the Archangel Gabriel on the left), either alone or with the four Evangelists.

Theologically the Holy Doors represent the gates of Jerusalem, through which Christ entered on Palm Sunday. They also represent the entrance to the Heavenly Jerusalem. Only those ordained are permitted to go through the Royal Doors, and even they may only pass through them when it is prescribed by the liturgical rubrics.

During Bright Week (the week following Pascha), the Royal Doors remain open the entire week. During this time, the open doors symbolize the open Tomb of Christ. The Holy Shroud (icon representing the burial shroud of Christ) is visible on top of the Holy Table (altar table) through the open Holy Doors as a witness of the Resurrection.

Camp Essay Contest

Each year, the National Jr. ACRY holds a Camp Essay Contest that anyone across the diocese can enter. If your essay is chosen as the winner, the National Jr. ACRY will pay for one full Diocesan week of camp if you are a National Jr. ACRY member. If you are not a member of the National Jr. ACRY, half of your camping week will be paid.

What is the topic? - Write about/reflect on last year’s camp theme:

Psalm 86:12 “I give thanks to You... with my whole heart, and I will glorify Your Name forever.”

How long? - The essay must be 200 words or less.

When is it due? - By 12:00 Midnight on Wednesday, June 20, 2018.

Where do I send it? - E-mail your submissions as either a Word attachment or a GoogleDoc to Jr. Advisor, Rachel Pribish at **rachelprib@gmail.com** (Be sure to put “*Camp Essay Contest*” in the subject line!) Please include your name, address, telephone number, and chapter number or home parish at the conclusion of your essay. This information will be removed by Rachel before the essays are judged anonymously by the board. A decision about the essay contest will be announced on Sunday, June 24th.

