



St. Nicholas

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Orthodox Church

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November 4, 2018

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

*Commemoration of the Holy Equal-to-the Apostles Abercius,
bishop and wonderworker of Hierapolis (167 AD) and
St. George the New Confessor of Drama, Greece (1959)*

Our righteous father **George (Karslidis) the New Confessor of Drama** was born in Greece in 1901 of pious parents. At baptism he received the name Athanasius. While still being an infant, he was left orphaned and his grandparents looked after him and his two siblings; a brother and a sister. His brother did not treat him very well. Noticing that this was a problem his grandparents gave him to a Turkish family to look after him at an early age. When he was seven years old, his grandmother, being a devout Christian, took him on a pilgrimage to an ancient and famous monastery: Panagia Soumela.

In 1930, he permanently settled in the village of Sipsa in Drama, where he had

quite a few acquaintances such as his first cousin, Elder Gregory Kiourtsides. He did not have much of an estate bringing only a few previous items; a few ecclesiastical books, priestly vestments, icons.

In 1936, the Elder went on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. He visited many monasteries and also visited the Jordan River. At one of the hermitages near the Monastery of St. Savva he met in a wondrous way an ascetic who was his uncle. God enlightened the ascetic and revealed to him that the young clergyman passing by was his nephew.

In 1938, the Ministry of Agriculture granted a plot of land to the Elder. With the assistance of the villagers he built a little church, dedicated to the Nativity of the

Theotokos. With the ever present help of the inhabitants, the construction of the monastery took place in the following year until eventually the consecration of the monastery church took place September 14, 1939.



In 1941, the Bulgarians captured the elder and led him to be butchered. He followed without protest and when they arrived at the place, he prayed and with calmness asked them to proceed with their work. They abandoned him out of fear and ran away. He fell asleep in the Lord on November 4, 1959. He was glorified as a saint by the Patriarchate of Constantinople on November 2, 2008 at the Monastery of the Ascension. The elder was well known for his miracles and prophecies. The church commemorates his memory November 4.

Jr. ACRY will meet on Sunday, Nov. 18 to elect officers and plan activities for the coming year. This youth organization of our Diocese is open to all students up to 18.

Christmas candy order forms are now available in the vestibule. Please support this fundraiser for our youth.

ACRY Booster and memorial listings are now being accepted for the 2019 ACRY Annual Yearbook. See the sign-up list on the bulletin board in each church. 2019-2020 ACRY calendar ticket money is due. *Deadline: Nov. 18*

Our Ladies Guild is undertaking a project to provide needed items for patients at the Mon Valley Hospital. Today they are making fleece blankets and scarves with a goal to craft 25 blankets.

Also, the hospital staff listed items especially needed by the poor patients they serve:

- Bibles* *books* *reading glasses*
- magazines* *shawls*
- bed jackets* *warm socks*
- crayons* *coloring books*
- sweaters* *hats* *gloves*
- jogging pants* (all sizes) *shirts*

They prefer items that are clean and in good condition with no advertisements for beer or other alcoholic drinks. There will be a collection box in the vestibule for your donation.

