More rapid than eagles God's bright angels came; 
Rejoicing and eager as each heard his name; 
Come Power, Come Cherubs, Come Virtues, 
Come Raphaeel, 
Come Thrones and Domininions, come Michael and Gabriel.

Now fly to the Earth, where My poor people live, 
Announce the glad tiding My Son comes to give; The Shepherds were watching their flocks on this night, 
And saw in the heavens and unearthly light.

The Holy Virgin Martyr Juliana, daughter of an illustrious pagan named Africanus, was born in the city of Nicomedia. As a child, she was betrothed to a certain Elusius, one of the emperor’s advisors. St Juliana was endowed with a profound intellect and goodness of soul. She saw through the delusion and deception of the pagan faith, and secretly accepted holy Baptism.

When the time of her wedding approached, Juliana refused to be married. Her father urged her not to break her engagement, but when she refused to obey him, he began to beat her viciously. Then Africanus handed his daughter over to the Eparch, who happened to be Elusius, Juliana's former fiancé. Elusius fervently asked Juliana to marry him, promising not to require her to abandon her faith. St Juliana refused and said that she’d rather be put to death.

They beat the saint both long and harshly, but after each beating she received healing and new strength from God. Her punishment took place before a large number of people. Of these, 500 men and 150 women came to confess Christ after witnessing the steadfastness and courage of the holy virgin miraculously healed from her wounds. They were all beheaded, and were baptized in their own blood.

Eleusius sentenced Juliana to death. She accepted the sentence with joy and glorified the Lord for permitting her to receive a martyr's crown. The holy Martyr Juliana was executed in the year 304.
Announcements

+ **Church School Nativity Charity Boxes:** We have been collecting money throughout this Nativity advent season for needy babies. Now it is time to give our gift! You may use your collected money to purchase diapers, baby wipes, formula, or baby food - OR- you may just bring in your money box and those necessities will be purchased with the money. Please bring your gift to Church on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day and place it under the tree in church. You can also donate additional baby items of any kind, new or gently used. All items will be donated to the Pennsylvanians for Human Life Pro-Life Center in Wilkes-Barre.

**You didn’t receive a collection box?** It’s not too late to participate just bring a gift of money or baby necessities to place under the tree.

+ **Parish Council Meeting:** The December meeting will be today after Fellowship Coffee Hour.

+ **Baptism of Gabriel Sexton:** On Sunday, December 28 Gabriel Sexton will be baptized. Baptism will begin before Liturgy at 8:30am. Please come and welcome Gabriel into the Body of Christ.

+ **A Missionary Among Us on December 28, 2008:** Christina Semon, OCMC Missionary Candidate to Romania, will visit our parish and talk to us after liturgy about her upcoming missionary journey to work with women and families in Romania. Christina is responsible for raising the funds necessary to send herself to do God’s work among some of His people who are most in need. Please prayerfully consider becoming a part of her success in bringing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to his people in Romania.

+ **Quilt Raffle:** Don’t forget to sell or purchase your raffle tickets. A red box is in the back of the church to place money and sold tickets into. Remember to offer tickets to friends and family near and far. We will gladly mail the quilt if we have a long distance winner. Additional tickets can be obtained from Father or Matushka.

+ **Rummage Sale Results:** Thanks to all the hard work of our faithful parish family, our Fall Rummage Sale netted a whopping $1021 for St. John’s. Food was prepared by Mary Paprota, Olga Sulewski, & MaryAnn Oram. Donations were also made during this event by Pete Wasenda, Marge Sokol, Stanley Glazonski, Betty Sarochinsky and Tina Chernikovich. A big thanks to all committee workers, clean up crew & MaryAnn Oram. Donations were also made during this event by Pete Wasenda, Marge Sokol, Stanley Glazonski, Betty Sarochinsky and Tina Chernikovich. A big thanks to all committee workers, clean up crew & MaryAnn Oram. Donations were also made during this event by Pete Wasenda, Marge Sokol, Stanley Glazonski, Betty Sarochinsky and Tina Chernikovich.

+ **For Our College Students**

  + Justin Cunard
  + Jessica Yackimowicz
  + Charlotte Ebert
  + Devon Wolfskel

+ **Intercessory Prayer**

**The Living**

+ All of our shut-ins and those in nursing homes:
  - Mary Staniorski
  - MaryAnn Kremenec
  - Mary Ruduski

+ Those who lie in sickness:
  - John Zelinski
  - Helen Dargiewicz
  - Pauline Karaska
  - Tina Chernikovich
  - Melanie Hoats Smith
  - Cheryl Conmaughan

+ Health of Mary Ruduski

**The Faithful Departed**

+ December 21
  - George Petro (1980)
  - Anna Kapral (1971)
  - Anna Pallo (1995)
  - Jacob Uhas (1970)
  - Michael Sokol (1979)

+ December 22
  - Clemency Siplak (1985)
  - Anna Ruduski

+ December 23
  - Sandy Stein (1951)

+ December 24
  - Anna Fedor

+ December 25
  - Evelyn Curry
  - Daria Yackimowicz
  - Matushka Olga
  - Michael Calabro
  - Karen Schinski

**The Newly Departed**

+ The Archpriest Stephen
  - Anthony Zelina
  - Anthony Zaleta
  - His Holiness, Alexey II, Pat. of Moscow & all Russia

**For Our College Students**

+ Justin Cunard
+ Jessica Yackimowicz
+ Charlotte Ebert
+ Devon Wolfskel

**Birthdays**

+ December 23
  - Sandra Klein (1943)

+ December 25
  - Christine Cieslak (1925)

**Nativity Service Schedule AMENDED**

**Dec. 24, Eve of the Nativity of Christ:** 9 am Divine Liturgy and 7:30 pm Lituya, Matins, Confessions, Singing of Carols

**Dec. 25, The Nativity of Christ:** 9 am Liturgy of St. Basil, Singing of Carols, Holiday Gathering at the Rectory

**Dec. 26, Feast of the Synaxis of the Most Holy Theotokos:** 9 am Divine Liturgy and 6 pm Great Vespers

**Dec. 27, Third Day of the Feast of the Nativity of Christ:** 9 am Divine Liturgy

Candle Offerings

**Eternal Light**

+ Health of Mary Staniorski

**Cross Vigil**

+ In Memory of John Staniorski

**Other Vigil Lights**

+ In Memory of Helen Ruduski
  + Hildebrand, offered by sister Pauline Ruduski
+ In Memory of Anna Fedok
+ In Memory of John Staniorski
+ Health of Mary Ruduski
+ Health of Mary Staniorski