

# St. Alban's Episcopal Church

Oakland & Franklin Lakes

Second Sunday of Advent

Advent Wreath Lighting

Feast of St. Nicholas

December 4, 2022

## SECOND SUNDAY – PEACE

*Responsive Litany*

*Wreath lighting by Rich Chimento & Don La Cass*

Celebrant: Light and peace in Christ our Lord.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

Celebrant: O come, O come, Emmanuel.

**Response: Shine your light into the world.**

*Luke 2:13-14*

**Reader:** “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger. Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom God’s favor rests.

The angels spoke a message of peace. In this season of Advent, we wait for the coming of Peace into our world. We await the birth of Emmanuel, God with us, who comes into our lives in a new way.

Celebrant: Lord God, we light this candle to thank you for shining your light into the world.

**Response: We who sit in darkness have seen a great light.**

*We will recite together the words of the wreath lighting song that we have used in the past.*

**WREATH LIGHTING SONG** “Love’s Pure Light” by Joel Raney (printed with permission)

Celebrant: Creator of the stars of night, thy people’s everlasting light,  
Jesus, Redeemer, Savior of all, hear thy servants when they call.

Congregation: **O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And end this gloom of night.  
Bring hope to the world, bring peace to the earth,  
And fill us with love’s pure light.**



WEEK 2 - PEACE

## ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING OF THE SECOND CANDLE ~ THE CANDLE OF PEACE

**Reader:** Gracious God, come into our lives each day, and help us prepare our lives for the coming of Your Messiah, our Savior, Emmanuel. Thank you for the growing and glowing light of our wreath and for the growing and glowing light in our lives. May that light stir up hope, peace, joy, and love in our hearts so that we may be the light to the world.

**Response:** O come, O come Emmanuel, Shine your light into the world. Amen.

### Closing Prayer

Almighty God, you offer rest for our hearts, and peace for our souls. Give us grace to seek peace in our lives, peace in this community, and peace in the world. Through Jesus Christ, the prince of peace. Amen.

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II  
Sunday, DECEMBER 4, 2022 at 10:00 AM

Please join in singing our opening hymn, # 83 vs. 1 – 3 “O come all ye faithful”

### OPENING HYMN # 83 vs. 1-3

“O come all ye faithful”

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
\*4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,  
\*5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;  
3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;  
4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;  
3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;  
4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;  
5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

*Refrain*  
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -



## WORDS OF WELCOME

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
 People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.  
 All: **And also with you.**  
 Celebrant: Let us pray together.

## THE COLLECT

**Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

## COLLECT FOR ST. NICHOLAS

**Almighty God, in your love you gave your servant Nicholas of Myra a perpetual name for deeds of kindness both on land and sea: Grant, we pray, that your Church may never cease to work for the happiness of children, the safety of sailors, the relief of the poor, and the help of those tossed by tempests of doubt or grief; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**



## FIRST READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

### The First Reading is from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 72:1-7, 18019**

**The Psalm appointed for today is a portion of Psalm 72. We will read it responsively by half verse.**

Give the King your justice, O God,  
**and your righteousness to the King's Son;**

That he may rule your people righteously  
**and the poor with justice;**

That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,  
**and the little hills bring righteousness.**

He shall defend the needy among the people;  
**he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**

He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure,  
**from one generation to another.**

He shall come down like rain upon the mown field,  
**like showers that water the earth.**

In his time shall the righteous flourish;  
**there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.**

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel,  
**who alone does wondrous deeds!**

And blessed be his glorious Name for ever!  
**and may all the earth be filled with his glory.**  
**Amen. Amen.**

## **SECOND READING**

**Romans 15:4-13**

**The Second Reading today is taken from Paul's letter to the Romans**

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,  
and sing praises to your name";  
and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again,  
"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him";  
and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL HYMN # 59**

**"Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding"**

*vs. 1 before and v. 2 following the gospel*

**Please join in singing our gradual hymn # 59 "Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding"**

*Descant*

2 Wak-ened by the sol-lemn warn-ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;  
5 Hon-or, glo-ry, might, and bless-ing to the Fa-ther and the Son,  
1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;  
2 Wak-ened by the sol-lemn warn-ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;  
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex-pect-ed, comes with par-don down from heaven;  
4 so when next he comes with glo-ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,  
5 Hon-or, glo-ry, might, and bless-ing to the Fa-ther and the Son,

2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis-pel-ling, shines up-on the morn-ing skies.  
5 with the ev-er-last-ing Spi-rit while un-end-ing a-ges run.  
1 "Cast a-way the works of dark-ness, O ye child-ren of the day."  
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis-pel-ling, shines up-on the morn-ing skies.  
3 let us haste, with tears of sor-row, one and all to be for-given;  
4 may he with his mer-cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.  
5 with the ev-er-last-ing Spi-rit while un-end-ing a-ges run.

**THE GOSPEL** *(Please stand)*

**Matthew 3:1-12**

**Celebrant:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

**People:** **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance.

Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

The Gospel of the Lord

**People: Praise to you Lord Christ.**

**SERMON**

**The Reverend Fr. David B. Rude**

**THE NICENE CREED** *(in unison)*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**THE PRAYERS**

*The prophet John the Baptist preached a repentance which would bear fruit in the lives of those who heard him. In penitence and faith, let us offer to God our prayer for all people, saying: In the name of Christ, hear our prayer.*

We pray for the church throughout the world, our Presiding Bishop Michael, our bishop Carlye, for all those ordained to particular ministries and for the building up for the body of Christ, that in our diverse vocations we may serve to the glory of God. In the name of Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this nation and for all the nations of the world, remembering especially those who are victims of political or social injustice. We pray for those whom we have elected to public office, especially Joe our President, Kamala our Vice President, Phil our Governor, and for all political leaders everywhere, that they may administer the tasks of government with courage and equity. In the name of Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the sick, the elderly, and those who live alone especially *Lauren, Carolyn, Pat, Jim, John, Melissa, a lot of people that live in the world* and family and friends we name now. We pray for those who are overworked and for those who cannot find work. We remember in our Parish Cycle of Prayer George and Carolyn O'Neill. Send upon them the power of the Holy Spirit, that they may abound in hope. In the name of Christ, **hear our prayer.**

**We offer these prayers to you, our God, in penitence for what is past and in faith that your work in us will bear fruit as we seek to do your will, for you alone are the Holy One. May our lives give honor to you, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

If you would like to add a name to the prayer list,  
please email the parish office.

  
*Prayer  
Requests*



**THE PEACE** *(Please stand as you are able)*

People: The peace of the Lord be always with you!  
And also with you!

## THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

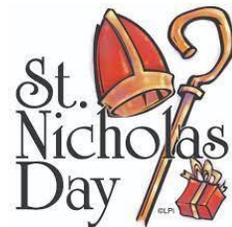
**We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## ST. NICHOLAS DAY BLESSING OF THE CANDY CANES

Gracious God, In the spirit of St. Nicholas we turn to you and ask for your blessing on these candy canes.

May their flavor sweeten our hearts with compassion and kindness.  
May their shape remind us to be shepherds of grace and generosity.  
May their bright colors attune us to the delightful sights and sounds of this sacred season. Inspire us to be like St. Nicholas, who brought comfort and joy to children and their families. We ask this in the name of the Holy Child, Jesus, whose coming we await with anticipation and love. **AMEN.**



## BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, MILESTONES



Please come forward during the singing if you have a milestone to mark.  
Please allow us the privilege of sharing your celebrations in this family of faith.

### DECEMBER MILESTONES

7<sup>th</sup> Shirley Allen



#### ANNIVERSARY PRAYER

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Happy  
Birthday

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray on your servant *N.* as *she* begins another year. Grant that *she* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *her* trust in your goodness all the days of *her* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

#### OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Celebrant My sisters and brothers in faith, do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

#### OFFERTORY HYMN # 75

“There’s a voice in the wilderness crying ”

**Please join us in singing our offertory hymn # 75, “There’s a voice in the wilderness crying”**



1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a\_\_\_\_  
2 O\_\_\_\_\_ Zi - on, that bring - est good tid - ings, get thee  
3 but the word of our God\_\_\_\_\_ en - du - reth, the\_\_\_\_\_



call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a  
up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late  
arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst\_\_\_\_\_ of

high - way, a high - way for our God! The  
 peo - ple of the com - ing of their King. Like the  
 na - tions, and he will right the wrong. He shall

val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the  
 flowers of the field they per - ish, like  
 feed his flock like a shep - herd, the

lof - ty hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed  
 grass our works de - cay, the power and pomp of  
 lambs he'll gent - ly hold; to pas - tures of peace he'll

pla - ces where the Lord our God may go!  
 na - tions shall pass like a dream a - way;  
 lead them, and bring them safe to his fold.

*Please remain faithful in your giving either through online giving or by mailing your pledge and offerings to the parish office.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

**Celebrant** The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

**Celebrant** Lift up your hearts.

**People** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**Celebrant** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

And now we give you thanks because in his coming as man the day of our deliverance has dawned; and through him you will make all things new, as he comes in power to judge the world.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
 God of power and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
 Hosanna in the highest.  
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
 Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

**On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." +**

**After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." +**

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. +Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. +Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **THE BREAKING OF BREAD**

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**People** **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

### **The Communion of the People**

*Celebrant* These are the gifts of God and we are the people of God. Take them in Remembrance that Christ died and rose again for you. And feed on him in your hearts, by faith, with thanksgiving.

Please join in singing the Communion Hymn # 112 "In the bleak mid-winter" vs. 1 - 2

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,  
 2 Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;  
 3 An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there,  
 4 What can I give him, poor as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;  
 heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign:  
 cher - u - bim and se - ra - phim thron - ed the air;  
 If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fal - len, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble - place suf - ficed  
 but his mo - ther on - ly, in her maid - en bliss,  
 if I were a wise man, I would do my part;

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.  
 the Lord God in - car - nate, Je - sus Christ.  
 wor - shiped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.  
 yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

*When you return to your seat, we invite you to hold the following people in prayer;  
 especially Lauren, Carolyn, Pat, Jim, John, Melissa, a lot of people that live in the world.*

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray together.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

Go now and prepare the way for our God.  
Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you,  
and give and receive like Nicholas of Myra.

And may God grant you harmony with one another;  
May Christ Jesus fill you with joy and peace in believing;  
And may the Holy Spirit empower you and fill you with hope. **Amen.**

## BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS

### DISMISSAL

**All** Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

### CLOSING HYMN

**“Good Saint Nicholas of Myra”**

*Please join us in singing our closing hymn, “Good Saint Nicholas of Myra”*  
(sung to the tune of Hymn # 93, “Angels from the realms of glory”)

### CLOSING HYMN “GOOD SAINT NICHOLAS OF MYRA”

Good Saint Nicholas of Myra, deeds and legends tell his fame. Sainly  
bishop, friend of children, faithful pilgrims chant the name:

**Bless'd Nicholas, Bless'd Nicholas  
He loved all in Jesus' name**

Miracles and signs and wonders, He performed to praise the Lord.  
For a poor and weary people, source of care and joy outpoured:

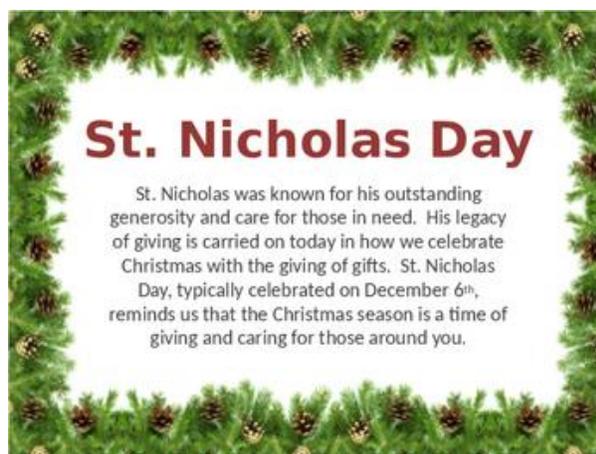
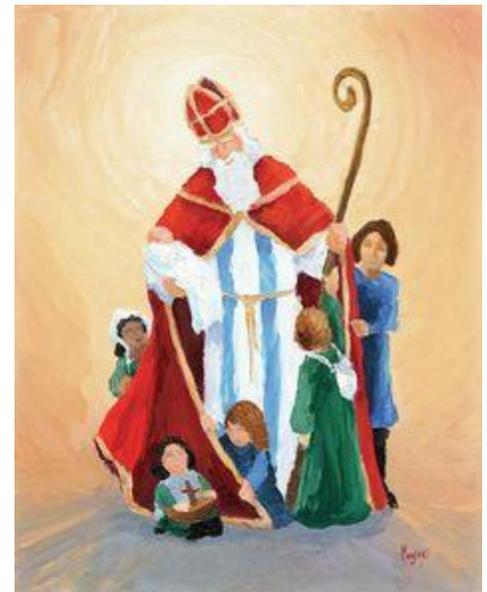
#### REFRAIN

Sailors, nations, people thank him for the message that he brought.  
Young and old now hail the memory of the lessons that he taught:

#### REFRAIN

May his ways of true devotion guide us on our earthly way. Challenge  
us to be more like him as Christ's gospel we obey: **REFRAIN**

Text: J M Rosenthal, 1999 Tune: WESTMINSTER ABBEY 87 8



## St. Nicholas Day

St. Nicholas was known for his outstanding generosity and care for those in need. His legacy of giving is carried on today in how we celebrate Christmas with the giving of gifts. St. Nicholas Day, typically celebrated on December 6<sup>th</sup>, reminds us that the Christmas season is a time of giving and caring for those around you.