

GIFT GIVING

Feast Day of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker

The feast day of St. Nicholas falls on December 6, during the time of Pylypivka when we are preparing our hearts to celebrate the birth of our Lord. St. Nicholas shows us the ideal of love, charity, and generosity. He was ready to help anyone in any situation, regardless of the cost to himself.

Often on this feast day children put on pageants or Christmas concerts at the end of which St. Nicholas himself makes an appearance. He always has a treat for every child.

In our Ukrainian tradition, we celebrate St. Nicholas, **not** Santa Claus. Gifts are given only on December 6, not at Christmas, and they are given only to the children. Regardless of when we exchange gifts, and with whom, let us celebrate St. Nicholas' memory by imitating his goodness, generosity and selfless giving.

