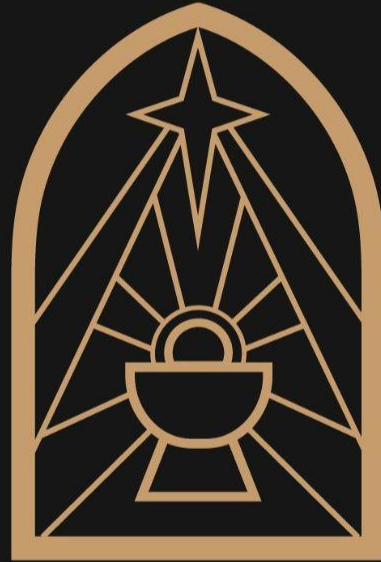


SYMBOLS OF CHRISTMAS



AN ADVENT SERIES

White Christmas



Polina

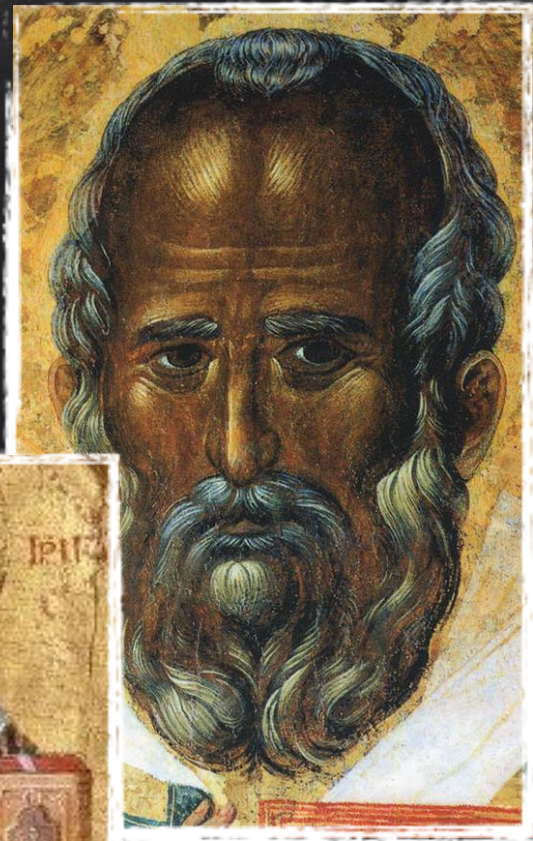
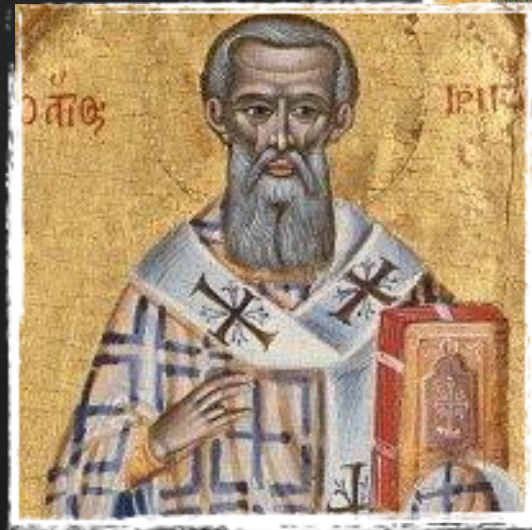
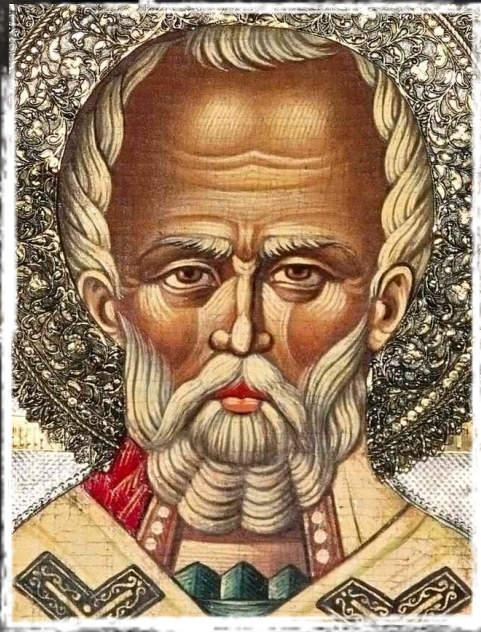
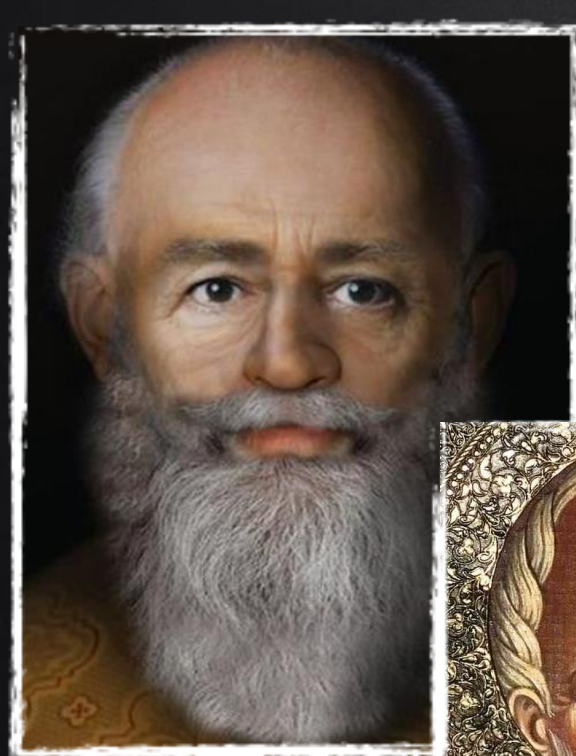
SILENT NIGHT • ADESTE FIDELES • WHITE CHRISTMAS • GOD REST YE MERRY GENTLEMEN •
FAITH OF OUR FATHERS • I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS • JINGLE BELLS (With The Andrews Sisters) •
SANTA CLAUS IS COMIN' TO TOWN (With The Andrews Sisters) • SILVER BELLS
(With Carole Richards) • IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK LIKE CHRISTMAS • CHRISTMAS IN KILLARNEY •
MELE KALIKIMAKA (MERRY CHRISTMAS) (With The Andrews Sisters)



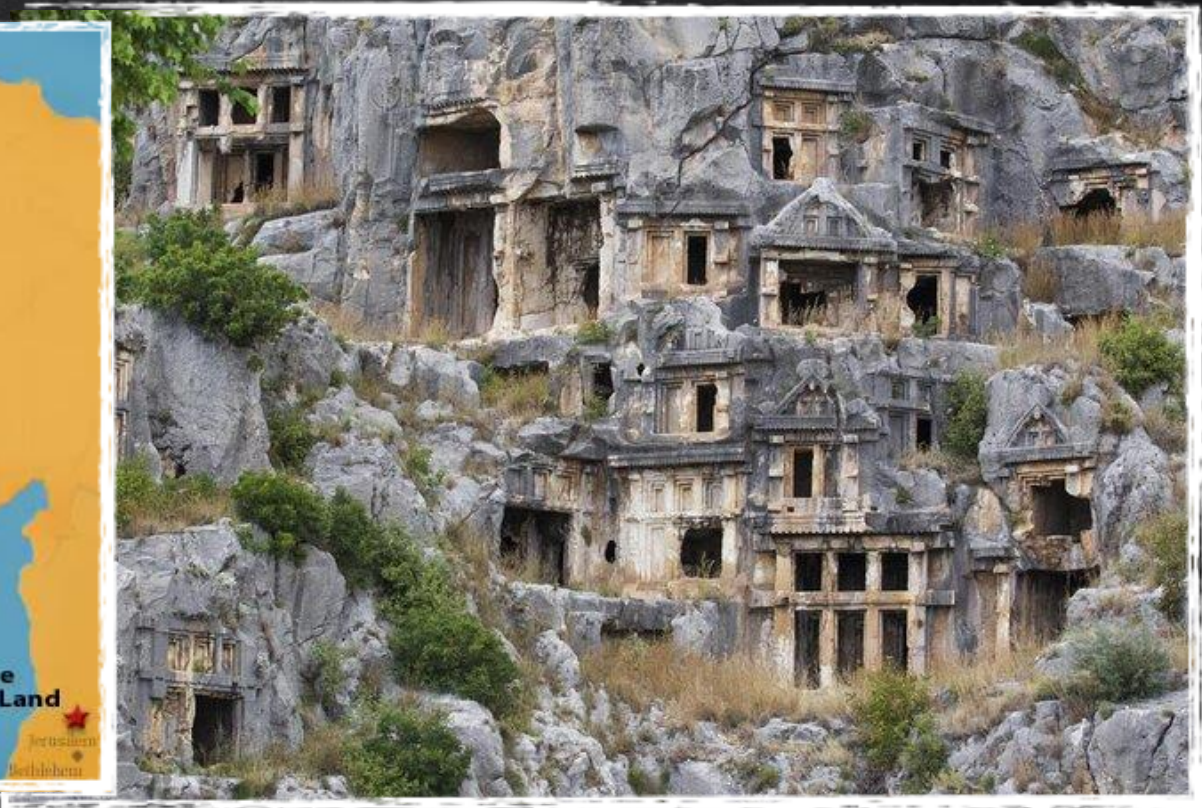
SYMBOL # 2: St. Nicholas?!

Nicholas

"victory for the people"



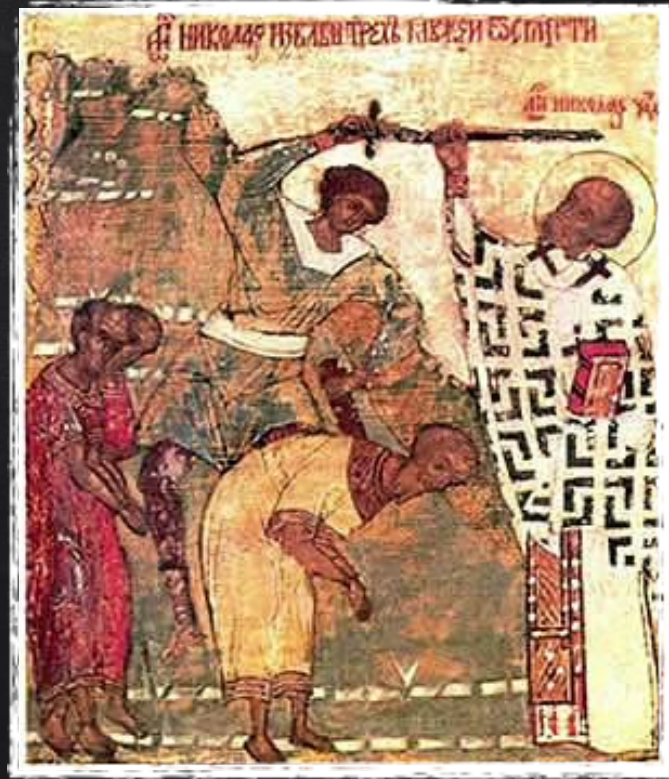
Myra in Lycia, Asia Minor



Nicholas at Nicea



Nicholas stopping executions



Nicholas, God's agent of generosity



"If our common Master, Christ, hadn't stirred your goodness, we would have long ago destroyed our own lives by a shameful and destructive livelihood. But as it is, the Lord has saved us through you, most blessed one, and rescued us from the filth of immorality. And so we ought, like a debt, to give thanks all of our days, because God stretched out a hand of help to us and caused the poor to rise from the ground and raised the destitute up from a dunghill through your generous and truly wonderful gift."

Luke 1:46-50

“And Mary said, ‘My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.’”

Luke 1:51-53

“He has shown strength with his arm. He has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.”

The Christmas story is a
revolutionary story, accomplished
by means of radical generosity.

Luke 4:17-21

“And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, ‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.’ And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, ‘Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’”

Philippians 2:3-8

“In humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”

