

Divine Liturgy

Sunday, September 14, 2025

14th Sunday after Pentecost

The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-giving Cross



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



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Deacon Geoffrey LoBalbo

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Note to our Guests and Friends Visiting St. Nicholas:

We offer a most sincere and heart-felt welcome to St. Nicholas Church! Please be advised that according to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves to receive the Holy Sacrament.

(Please note - Information to be included in next Sunday's bulletin must be submitted by noon on Thursday. Thank you! ~ Jennifer N. Bzik)

***Please turn off or silence your electronic devices
before entering the church. Thank you.***

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Schedule for the Week of September 14, 2025

14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 5. The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Lifegiving Cross . Repose of St. John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople (407). Monastic Martyr Macarius of Dionysiou (Mt. Athos–1507). Monastic Martyr Joseph of Dionysiou (Mt. Athos–1819).

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Monday, September 15th - Fr. Nikolai's Day Off
Wednesday, September 17th - 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Friday, September 19th - 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Coffee Hour Today

Coffee Hour Today is hosted
In Honor Of Phoebe Bessman's Birthday

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

****Live Stream will also be available for all services.****

Saturday, September 20 5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, September 21 **15th Sunday After Pentecost**
9:10 am - Reading of the Hours
9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Saturday, September 27 5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, September 28 **16th Sunday After Pentecost**
9:10 am - Reading of the Hours
9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Divine Liturgy

Sunday, September 14, 2025

14th Sunday after Pentecost

The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-giving Cross

The First Antiphon

God, my God, attend to me! Why hast Thou forsaken me? *(Ps. 21:1a)*

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

Why art Thou so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning? *(Ps. 21:1b)*
(Refrain)

O my God, I cry by day, but Thou dost not answer; and by night, but find no rest.
(Ps. 21:2) (Refrain)

Thou dwellest in the sanctuary, the praise of Israel. *(Ps. 21:3) (Refrain)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and
unto ages of ages. Amen. *(Refrain)*

The Second Antiphon

O God, why dost Thou cast us off forever? *(Ps. 73:1a)*

Refrain: O Son of God, crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to Thee:
Alleluia!

Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast gotten of old! *(Ps. 73:2) (Refrain)*

Remember Mount Zion, where Thou hast dwelt! *(Ps. 73:3b) (Refrain)*

God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the
earth. *(Ps. 73:13) (Refrain)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and
unto ages of ages. Amen.

("Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God... ")

The Third Antiphon

The Lord reigns, let the people tremble! (*Ps. 98:1a*)

Tone 1 Troparion

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance! Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries; and by virtue of Thy Cross, preserve Thy habitation!

The Lord reigns, let the people tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake! (*Ps. 98:1*)

Troparion of the Feast

The Lord is great in Zion; He is exalted over all the people. (*Ps. 98:2*)

Troparion of the Feast

Bow down in worship to the Lord in His holy court! (*Ps. 98:10*)

Troparion of the Feast

Entrance Verse

Extol the Lord our God: worship at His footstool for He is holy! (*Ps. 98:5*)

Tone 1 Troparion

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance! Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries; and by virtue of Thy Cross, preserve Thy habitation!

Tone 4 Kontakion

As Thou wast voluntarily raised upon the Cross for our sake, grant mercy to those who are called by Thy Name, O Christ God; make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power, granting them victories over their adversaries by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace!

(Instead of the Trisagion, we sing:)

Before Thy Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master, and Thy holy Resurrection we glorify.

Tone 7 Prokeimenon

Extol the Lord our God: worship at His footstool for He is holy! *(Ps. 98:5)*

The Lord reigns, let the people tremble! (Ps. 98:1a)

Epistle

Read by Reader John Heitzenrater

(1 Corinthians 1:18-24) For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written: Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Tone 1

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast gotten of old! (Ps. 73:2)

God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth! (Ps. 73:13)

Gospel

(John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35) Therefore, when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "You take Him and crucify Him, for I find no fault in Him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God." Therefore, when Pilate heard that saying, he was the more afraid, and went again into the Praetorium, and said to Jesus, "Where are You from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. Then Pilate said to Him, "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?" Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin." When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called The Pavement, but in Hebrew, Gabbatha. Now it was the Preparation Day of the Passover, and about the sixth hour. And he said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" But they cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him! Crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar!" Then he delivered Him to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus and led Him away. And He, bearing His cross, went out to a place called the Place of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha, where they crucified Him, and two others with Him, one on either side, and Jesus in the center. Now Pilate wrote a title and put it on the cross. And the writing was: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Then many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin. Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then He said to the

disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home. After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!" So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit. Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe.

(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:)

Tone 8

Magnify, O my soul, the most precious Cross of the Lord!

Thou art a mystical Paradise, O Theotokos, who, though untitled, hast brought forth Christ; through Him the life-bearing wood of the Cross was planted on earth. Now at its Exaltation, as we bow in worship before it, we magnify thee.

Communion Hymn

The light of Thy countenance has been signed upon us, O Lord. *(Ps. 4:7)*
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Candle Offerings for Sunday, September 14, 2025

Vigils in Altar - Windowsill (2)

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov, Offered by Family

Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)

In Memory Of Mom, Dad & Joan, Offered by Pat & Tom

Vigils in Altar - Side Table (2)

Happy Birthday Phoebe Bessman, Offered by Godmother Guliana

Votives in Altar

In Memory Of Paul Hutz, Offered by Ann Marie & Barry

Votives in Iconostas

Safe Travels Jennifer Bzik, Offered by The Bzik Family

Crosses

Happy Anniversary Ann Marie & Barry Bretz

Vigils on Icon Table (2)

For Health Of Peter, Jamee & Riley Slivka, Offered by Fran & Mike Slivka

Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)

In Honor Of Kh. Sophia Shadid, Offered by Fr. Michael & Mat. Susan Kon

Vigils - Icon of St. John the Baptist (2)

For Health Of Eric & Lindsey Slivka & Family, Offered by Fran & Mike Slivka

Votives - Icon of St. John the Baptist

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov, Offered by Family

Vigil of St. Michael (1)

In Thanksgiving, Offered by Michele Guydan

Flowers to Adorn the Icon of the Universal Exaltation of the Cross

In Memory Of Michael Stetz, Offered by Pat & Tom

Halupki Dinner Proceeds

Many thanks to everyone who helped to make the Halupki Dinner a success. These events would not work without the help of many hands doing many types of jobs. The halupki dinner profit was \$5111, generously rounded up by a parishioner to \$5626.

Thank You!

Church Family,

We want to express our heartfelt thanks for your generosity of the many gifts, prayers and kind words shared with us this past Sunday. We continue to covet your prayers in this final stretch of pregnancy and thank you for all you've offered already. It's truly a blessing to be a part of such a connected and caring family in Christ!

In Christ,
The Stuckeys

Upcoming Baking Schedule

Many hands make light work, and we have lots to do to prepare for the upcoming Christmas Bazaar! Please consider helping out if you are able. Contact Pat Grammes if you have any questions.

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|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Thursday, September 18 | 9:00 am - Roll Baking |
| Thursday, September 25 | 9:00 am - Roll Baking |
| Thursday, October 2 | 9:00 am - Roll Baking |

Pierogi Project

The pierogi workers at St. Nicholas have been very generous in supporting the church, particularly when costly repair projects arise. The bells, doors, and HVAC are just a few examples of their support

The project is in need of a few new workers, those who can help every week and those who can help occasionally.

- Monday Needs:
- 7:00 am (1) Potato Machine Peeler
 - 8:00 am (6-8) Potato Cutters
 - 8:15 am (1) Potato Cooker
 - 8:30 am (1) Potato Mixer
- Prepare sauerkraut and plastic bags
Cleanup
- Tuesday Needs:
- 6:00 am (1) Potato in machine
 - (3) Place balls on trays
- Cleanup
- Wednesday Needs:
- 7:00 am (1) Dough Maker
 - (2) Cookers
 - (1) Cooler
 - (1) Counter
 - (1) Tie bags and keep track of production numbers
 - (1) Roller
 - (2) Cutters
 - (1) Person to delivery trays and pick up pierogi
- Pinchers (as many as we can get)
Cleanup

If you are interested, please contact Pat Grammes or Sandi Keysock.

Thank you!!!

Deadline Tomorrow!

Weekly Offering Envelopes for 2026

It's hard to believe, but it is already time for us to begin planning for 2026! In reviewing our records, we have noticed that a growing number of parishioners are using online banking to make their offering, and are not using the traditional weekly envelopes. Any method of making donations is always welcome! In the interests of saving some paper and a few dollars for the church, we would like to check in with you to see if you are still interested in receiving a box of weekly envelopes for 2026.

- If you received a personalized box of weekly envelopes in 2025, and you would like to receive the same style box of offering envelopes in 2026, you do not need to take any action. Your box will be available to pick up at the candle desk towards the end of the year.
- If you received a personalized box of weekly envelopes in 2025, and you would like to discontinue those envelopes, please notify Jennifer Bzik by September 15, 2025.
- If you did not receive a personalized box of weekly envelopes in 2025, and you would like to receive a box for 2026, please notify Jennifer Bzik, and confirm your mailing address by September 15, 2025.

If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Bzik

Administrative Assistant's Schedule

Please be advised that the St. Nicholas Church Administrative Assistant, Jennifer Bzik, will be traveling internationally from Thursday, September 10 through Sunday, September 21. During this time, please contact Fr. Nikolai regarding any urgent matters. Kindly refrain from calling or texting Jennifer during this time if at all possible. Feel free to email, but be aware that she will not be responding to emails until after her return.

In preparation for being out of the office, the Bulletins for Sunday, September 14 and Sunday, September 21 will be printed early. Please send any announcements for those dates no later than Sunday, September 7. If something else comes up that needs to be announced, please inform Fr. Nikolai so that he may make the announcement at the conclusion of the Liturgy.

Frozen Halupki 4 Packs

As a reminder, Frozen Halupki 4 packs are still available for \$15. Please see Val Roberts if you are interested.

Pierogi Making Schedule

RESUME Making our delicious pierogi Monday, September 15, Tuesday, September 16 and Wednesday, September 17.

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

There are several open coffee hour days in the upcoming months. Please consider signing up if you haven't hosted in the past! There are copies of the guidelines for hosting coffee hour available in the signup book at the candle desk if you are not familiar with what to do. Contact Jennifer Bzik if you need help or have questions. Thank you!

Heavenly Father...

Physician of our souls and bodies, Who has sent Your only-begotten Son to heal every sickness and infirmity, visit and heal us, Your Servants, from all physical and spiritual ailments, through the grace of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant to us patience in this sickness, strength of body, and recovery of health. Lord, You have taught us through Your Word to pray for each other that we may be healed. For You are the source of healing, and to You we give glory; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers for the Health of the Servants of God:

Archbishops: Melchisedek Pleska, Nathaniel Popp

Igumen: Patric Carpenter, David Lewis

Archpriests: Nikolai Breckenridge, Thomas Edwards, John Perich, James Mason, Claude Vinyard, David Shewczyk, Ian Shipley, James Weremedic, John Onofrey, George Hasenecz, Emilian Hutnyan, John Nightingale

Deacons: Geoffrey LoBalbo

Matushki: Liudmyla Breckenridge, Marie Mason, Johanna Bohush, Evelyn Edwards, Paraskeva Vansuch, Myra Kovalak, Gloria Martin, Katia Vansuch, Lisa Weremedic, Stephanie Onofrey, Julia Romanchak

Servants: Bethany Bruder, Theresa Butler, Helen Cotirgasanu, David G. Cudlic, Val Danchenko, Alexis Defoe, Maryann Dudash, Christopher Felix, Olga Frimenko, David Gowarty, Tom Grammes, Rachel Hardesty, Artemiy Hartman, Kalista Hartman, Nicholas Hazzard, Marina (Margaret) Heitzenrater, Don Holobeny, Jonathan Hontz, Sava Hrebinka, Sherry Hromiak, Krista Irwin, Michael H. Isbansky, Shirley Isbansky, Sarah Jubinski, Alexandra Keysock, William Keysock, Mary K. Koretski, Stephanie Koretski, Bernard Kusior, Jean Kusior, David Lezinsky, Judy Lezinsky, Radu Lungu, Mircea Lupo, Victoria Lustig, Olga Maksimova, Amber Metz, Michael Metz, Lanelle Mikolaitis, Nicolae & Doina Marian, Kylie Pinho, Joseph Pinkowicz, Kiera Pheiffer, William Potter, Rosalie Radio, Laurel Riley, Gordon Roberts, Leah Roberts, Barbara Roman, Victoria Ross, Mary Ruzila, Nancy A. Sabol, Connor Samuels, Robert Schainfeld, Catherine Shea, Janice Shumbata, Francine Slivka, Michael Slivka, Julia Smith, Dorothy Stafiniak, Maeve Stuckey, Patricia Telepchak, Irene Witanek, Sandra Wyslutsky

Catechumen: Elizabeth Glazman, Tonia Matyger, Alejandro Santiago

Handmaiden: Christina Mazur, Corinne Stuckey, and their unborn children; Christina Heitzenrater, Kerry Kurtz, Amanda Riley and their newborn children.

Please remember them and all our homebound and nursing home parishioners in your daily intercessory prayers.