



SAINT NICHOLAS

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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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 week's bulletin must be submitted by noon on Thursday. Thank you! ~ Jennifer N. Bzik)

Schedule for the Week of January 12, 2020

30th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 5. Afterfeast of the Theophany. Sunday after Theophany. Martyr Tatiana of Rome and those who suffered with her (226-235). Ven. Martinian, Abbot of Belozersk (1483). Martyr Mertius of Mauretania (284-305). Martyr Peter Apselamus of Palestine (309-310). Ven. Eupraxia of Tabenna, in Egypt (393). The “AKATHIST” and “THE MILKGIVER” Icons of the Most-holy Theotokos. Icon of the Mother of God, the “Priestly”.

Coffee Hour Hosted By: The Lungu Family In Honor of Mom & Dad

Father Matthew’s Office Hours This Week

Office Hours during house blessing season will be irregular. Please call if you would like to schedule an appointment to see Fr. Matthew.

Weekly Calendar

Pierogi: No Pierogi Making This Week! Happy New Year

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Church Organization Reports Due to Administrative Assistant!

7:00 pm - Christian Education meeting

Thursday, January 16, 2020

12:00 pm - Pierogi Workers Luncheon at Prime

Friday, January 17, 2020

7:00 pm - Young Women’s Group Game Night at the Rectory

Saturday, January 18, 2020

5:00 pm - Confessions

6:00 pm - Vespers

Sunday, January 19, 2020 – 31st Sunday after Pentecost

9:10 am - Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy (Church School after Communion)

Bright Hope Luncheon during Coffee Hour

Sunday Hymns from the Octoechos, Tone 5

Tone 5 Troparion (Resurrection)

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

Tone 1 Troparion (Feast)

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest. For the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee, and called Thee His beloved Son; and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ our God, Who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

Tone 5 Kontakion (Resurrection)

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior, shattering its gates as Almighty, resurrecting the dead as Creator, and destroying the sting of death. Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man, and we cry to Thee: O Lord, save us!

Tone 4 Kontakion (Feast)

Today Thou hast shone forth to the world, O Lord, and the light of Thy countenance has been marked on us. Knowing Thee, we sing Thy praises. Thou hast come and revealed Thyself, O unapproachable Light.

Tone 1 Prokeimenon (Sunday after the Theophany)

~~~Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee!

~~~Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the just!

Hymn to the Theotokos

Magnify, O my soul, the most pure Virgin Theotokos, more honorable than the heavenly hosts. No tongue knows how to praise thee worthily, O Theotokos; even Angels are overcome with awe praising thee. But since thou art good, accept our faith; for thou knowest our love inspired by God. Thou art the defender of Christians, and we magnify thee.

Magification

We magnify, we magnify You O Christ, the Giver of life: for our sake You are now baptized in the flesh by John in the river Jordan.

Epistle Lesson for Today: Ephesians 4:7-13

Read by: David Metz

But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men." (Now this, "He ascended" - what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

Alleluia Verses

Tone 5

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

~~~I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation. (Ps 88/89:1)

~~~For Thou hast said: "Mercy will be established forever; My truth will be prepared in the heavens." (Ps 88/89:2)

Gospel Lesson for Today: Matthew 4:12-17

Now when Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, He departed to Galilee. And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles: The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death Light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Communion Hymn

The grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men. (Titus 2:11)

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! (Ps 148:1)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Candle Offerings for Sunday, January 12, 2020

Votives in Altar

Safe Travel Edith, Crystal, Alethea, Offered by John

Votives in Iconostas

For Health Of Gordon Roberts, Offered by Wife Valerie

Crosses

For Health of Gordon Roberts Offered by Children & Grandchildren

Vigils on North Wall Window Sills

In Memory Of Chas. H. Peodle RIP 15 Dec 19, Offered by Paddy & Mike

Announcements

Request for Annual Church Organization Reports

Please note that all Church Organization Reports **must be submitted to the Administrative Assistant by January 15, 2020** in order to prepare the packets for the Annual Parish Assembly. Packets will be distributed to parishioners from the candle desk beginning on January 26, 2020 for their review prior to the meeting on February 16, 2020.

2019 Donation Receipts Available

The 2019 donation receipt letters are available at the candle desk. Please be sure to stop by and pick yours up so that we can minimize the cost of mailing. Any letters not picked up by Sunday, January 26, 2020 will be mailed on Monday, January 27, 2020. Thank you!

House Blessing Schedule

The House Blessing Schedule is posted on the bulletin board. If you are not listed but would like to have your house blessed, please contact Fr. Matthew.

Announcements

Annual Church Office Elections

What you need to know to vote in the Annual Parish Meeting being held on February 16, 2020 and to run for Church Office: According to our By-Laws in order to vote and participate in the discussions you must be a member at least 18 years of age and in good standing (both financially and sacramentally) for one (1) year. In order to run for Church Office you must be a member in good standing for two (2) years, same as above.

If you are interested in running for Church Office please contact Father Matthew Joyner or any one of the Nominating Committee members who are Bryan Distefano, Moses Hodson and Guliana Holobenly.

Please note the Parish Council Vice President and Secretary are chosen by and from the newly elected Parish Council to serve for one (1) year terms.

Parish Council Officer Positions:

Parish Council President (one year)
Treasurer (one year)
Financial Secretary (one year)

Parish Council Positions:

Three (3) three year terms
One (1) one year term

Auditor Positions:

Four (4) one year terms

New St. Nicholas Ministry!

We are seeking volunteers to develop a Property Care Ministry for the parish. In general, volunteers will routinely check the property and grounds 1x a month and identify areas that require attention or repair. Volunteers will report monthly findings to the parish administrative assistant so it can be determined if repairs will be contracted "out" or if they can be done by "in-house" volunteers with handy abilities. If you are interested in leading the monthly property checks and/or would like to be called upon for your handy services, please sign-up at the candle desk. If you have any questions, please contact Denise Distefano or Jennifer Bzik.

Announcements

St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church hosting Bright Hope Pregnancy Support Centers

Sunday, January 19, 2020

Sunday, January 19, 2020 is Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. Our Parish Council and the Revitalization Committee are pleased to co-host a presentation to our parish by Bright Hope Pregnancy Support Centers' Community Relations Director, Jennifer Davies. We have invited her to join us for Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour and then to present a summary of the wonderful work they do in the Lehigh Valley and across our nation.

Bright Hope honors life and offers hope by providing pregnancy support services, resources and life skills education to women, men and youth. It is more than pro-life. It is pro-ABUNDANT-life, striving to save the lives of the unborn and to care for the men and women facing unplanned pregnancy. Bright Hope provides resources for their needs, not only to choose life but to begin a life that is self-sufficient.

We hope you will welcome them. All proceeds given during Coffee Hour will be donated to Bright Hope and it is our wish that after Bright Hope's presentation, St. Nicholas will become an on-going benefactor.

Please Help Me Be Accurate!

When you're signing up for things at the candle desk, please print clearly so that I can use accurate information with correct spellings. I am human, so mistakes will happen, but your neatness is a big help in getting things right as much as possible. Thank you!!! ~~~ Jennifer Bzik

IMO Donations Received

In Memory Of Mark Davidian, Offered by Helen Acopian

Announcements

Benefit for St. Michael's Cathedral in Sitka, AK

Sunday, January 26, 2020 the coffee hour will be in honor of Paul and Dorothy Havrilko's 90th birthdays. All proceeds will be donated to St. Michael's Cathedral in Sitka, Alaska. This Cathedral was established in 1844 and is an active parish. They have major renovations that need to be fixed and they are in need of monetary donations. Many of our parishioners had the opportunity to visit the Cathedral a year ago in August. This Cathedral houses the Wonder Working Icon of Our Lady of Sitka. Please open your hearts and give generously to this cause.

Orthodoxy on Tap February 11, 2020

Come join us at Orthodoxy on Tap for an evening of fellowship and discussion. Guest speaker Zach Sokol will present on the topic "The Intersection between Faith and Science." Fegley's Brew Works in Bethlehem, Feb. 11th at 7:00pm. Email metz.mike747@gmail.com for questions.

Upcoming Events Information Request

If your church ministry or group will be having any event or using the church facilities in any way, please notify Jennifer Bzik so that she may reflect the information on our internal calendar. You may also indicate if the event should be posted on the church website for the public. Thank you!

New Prayer Book Sign Up Sheet

New prayer books that were available at the candle desk for \$20 have sold out. We will be ordering additional prayer books. Please sign up at the candle desk if you are interesting in purchasing a new prayer book.

Announcements

A Note of Thanks

I would like to thank my St. Nicholas family for all of their prayers, cards and phone calls. I am overwhelmed by the love and support that I have felt during my recovery. It has been truly appreciated!

~Ola Tatusko

In the Beginning: A Study of the Book of Genesis

Presented by Father Matthew

Sundays after Coffee Hour

All parishioners are welcome and encouraged to attend!



Looking for a gift for someone?

We've got a perfect way to say "Thanks!"
or "I'm Thinking of You".

Grocery Gift Cards are the ideal gift that everyone can use. When you purchase a gift card from our parish, you are helping our parish earn 5% income every time on each card. Last year alone, your card purchases helped raise \$2,000 for our church.

Participating stores are: Giant, Valley Farm, and Weis Markets. Card denominations are \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, and \$100. Special value cards for \$200 and \$300 may be ordered upon request with advance notice. Cards do not expire, so please consider purchasing a Grocery Gift Card the next time you need to buy a gift for someone. Better yet, why not get yourself a grocery gift card to use for your weekly shopping purchases and help earn some money for our parish!

See Stephanie Pasquel for Grocery Gift Cards. (Cash or checks please.)

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 at the Divine Liturgy for the Health of the Servants of God:

Igumen David Lewis

Archbishop David Mahaffey

Archpriests: Thomas Edwards, John Perich, Rodion Pfeifer, James Mason, Claude Vinyard, Dimitri Oselinsky, David Shewczyk, Dennis Swenki, James Weremedic

Priests: Matthew Joyner, Ian Shipley, John Nightingale

Matushki: Ashley Joyner, Marie Mason, Johanna Bohush, Evelyn Edwards, Paraskeva Vansuch, Myra Kovalak, Gloria Martin, Irene Rachko, Maryann Oselinsky, Priscilla Shipley, Katia Vansuch, Lisa Weremedic

Servants: Bethany Bruder, Mary Brzuchalski, Jean Butrymowicz, Helen & George Cotirgasanu, Roberta Cusick, Val Danchenko, Christopher Felix, Olga Frimenko, Patricia G. Fu, Barbara Horsky, David Gowarty, Walter Grigoruk, Rachel Hardesty, Nicholas Hazzard, Jonathan Hontz, Michael H. Isbansky, Doris Johnson, Sarah Jubinski, Pauline Kasick, Greg Konsevitch, Mary K. Koretski, Stephanie Koretski, David Lezinsky, Judy Lezinsky, Olga Maksimova, Peter Marsh, Lanelle Mikolaitis, Catherine Miller, Mary Orzolek, Ryan Pinkowicz, Kiera Pheiffer, Gordon Roberts, Clara Roman, Victoria Ross, Mary Ruzila, Nancy A. Sabol, Robert Schainfeld, Pauline Senick, Cate Shea, Julia Smith, Julia G. Smolenski, Mary Strohecker, Ola Tatusko, John Uzick, Irene Witaneck

Child of God: Emily Estrin

Handmaidens of God: Mat. Ashley Joyner, Jamee Bresee-Slivka, Emily Guiducci, Leona Roberts & their unborn children

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

ST. NINA THE EVANGELIZER

When we think of areas that might be considered “cradles of Christianity,” it is unlikely that the province of Georgia (in Asia) comes to mind! It may surprise you, then, to learn that the Christian Church there can trace her roots back to the 4th century. Even more amazing is the fact that our Saviour’s Gospel was brought to this remote region by a slave girl, who we reverently refer to now as **ST. NINA, EQUAL-TO-THE APOSTLES!**

Nina’s early life is a mystery to us. We do know, however, that at a young age, she was captured in battle and bound over to slavery in Georgia. It was difficult being a Christian among pagans who paid homage to the god Amazi. Still, Nina prayed constantly for the conversion of her captors.

It is said that the Lord blessed Nina with healing powers, and word of this spread to the Queen, who had been crippled for years. The royal servants sought out Nina and brought the Queen to her. Incredibly, Nina was able to make her whole again! Returning to King Mirian, the Queen embraced Christianity and sought to convince her husband to do the same. Although skeptical of this “new religion” at first, King Mirian, after miraculously being delivered from being lost in a fog-shrouded forest, became a follower of Christ also.

King Mirian immediately embarked on a mission to build churches throughout his kingdom. Nina, in turn, tirelessly travelled to all parts of this rugged land, carrying Christ’s message to all who would listen.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.

Daily Scripture Readings

Week of January 13, 2020

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| Monday | Hebrews 11:17-23, 27-31 | Mark 8:11-21 |
| Tuesday | Hebrews 12:-26, 13:22-25 | Mark 8:22-26 |
| Wednesday | James 1:1-18 | Mark 8:30-34 |
| Thursday | James 1:19-27 | Mark 9:10-16 |
| Friday | Jamse 2:1-13 | Mark 9:33-41 |
| Saturday | Colossians 1:3-6 | Luke 14:1-11 |
| Sunday | 1 Timothy 1:15-17 | Luke 18:35-43 |