





SAINT NICHOLAS RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Reverend Matthew Joyner, Rector

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Very Reverend James Mason, Attached

Deacon Geoffrey LoBalbo

Ms. Patty Felix, Council Chair

Reader Nicholas Lezinsky, Choir Director

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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)

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stnicholasoca.org

Schedule for the Week of February 16, 2020

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON – Tone 2. St. Nicholas, Equal-to-the-Apostles, Archbishop of Japan (1912). Martyrs Pamphilius–Presbyter, Valens–Deacon, Paul, Seleucus, Porphyrius, Julian, Theodulus, Elias, Jeremiah, Isaiah, Samuel, and Daniel, at Cæsarea in Palestine (307-309). St. Maruthas, Bishop of Martyropolis in Mesopotamia (422). Persian Martyrs in Martyropolis in Mesopotamia (4th c.).

Coffee Hour Hosted By: Church Council - Annual Parish Meeting

*****Please stay for the Annual Parish Meeting Today!*****

Father Matthew's Office Hours This Week

Wednesday 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Friday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Weekly Calendar

Pierogi:

Monday 6:30 am – 11:00 am

Tuesday 6:30 am – 9:00 am

Wednesday 6:30 am – 11:30 am

Wednesday, February 19, 2020 - 7:00 pm Active Service Meeting

Friday, February 21, 2020 - 9:00 am to 3:00 pm Paska Bread Baking

Saturday, February 22, 2020 - 9:00 am – Memorial Saturday Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm – Confessions

6:00 pm – Vespers

Sunday, February 23, 2020 - Sunday of Meatfare

9:10 am – Hours

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

Sunday Hymns from the Octoechos, Tone 2

Tone 2 Troparion (Resurrection)

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead. And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: "O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!"

Tone 3 Kontakion (from the Lenten Triodion)

I have recklessly forgotten Thy glory, O Father; and among sinners I have scattered the riches which Thou gavest me. And now I cry to Thee as the Prodigal: "I have sinned before Thee, O merciful Father; receive me as a penitent, and make me as one of Thy hired servants!"

Tone 2 Prokeimenon

~~The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation.

~~The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.

Epistle Lesson for Today: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Read by: David Metz

All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! Or do you not know that he

who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.” But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.

Alleluia Verses - Tone 2

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

~~May the Lord hear thee in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect thee! (Ps 119/20:1)

~~Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call! (Ps 119/20:9)

Gospel Lesson for Today: Luke 15:11-32

Then He said: “A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.’ So he divided to them his livelihood. And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s

hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants." And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry. Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.' But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. So he answered and said to his father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.'"

Communion Hymn

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

Hymn to the Theotokos

It is truly meet to bless you, O Theotokos, ever-blessed and most pure, and the Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim; without defilement you gave birth to God the Word; true Theotokos, we magnify you.

Kathisma Hymn of the Canon

(to be sung before communion)

"Thy Fatherly Embrace"

Make haste to open to me, O Lord, Thine arms in Fatherly embrace: for I have wasted all my life in sin, like the Prodigal Son: as I now behold, o my Savior, thee unfailing riches of Thy great loving kindness. despise not my feeble heart, for unto thee, O Lord, I cry with tears of repentance: O Father forgive me, I have sinned against heaven and before Thee, and before Thee.

Candle Offerings for Sunday, February 16, 2020

Vigils in Altar

Happy Anniversary Dan & Jean Jubinski, Offered by Peter & Sarah Jubinski

Vigils in Altar

Happy 90th Birthday GG Ma, Offered by Sophia & Jacob

Votives in Altar

Happy Birthday Deacon Geoffrey, Offered by Barb, Kyra & Gregory Monarek

Vigils on Icon Table

Happy Birthday Jamee Bresee Slivka, Offered by Mike & Fran Slivka

Upcoming Events and Services

- Sunday, March 1, 2020**----- Forgiveness Sunday - Forgiveness Vespers
after Coffee Hour
- Monday, March 2, 2020**----- 7:00 pm Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
- Tuesday, March 3, 2020**----- 7:00 pm Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
- Wednesday, March 4, 2020**----- 6:00 pm Presanctified Liturgy
- Thursday, March 5, 2020**----- 7:00 pm Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
- Friday, March 6, 2020**----- 9:00 am to 3:00 pm Paska Bread Baking
7:00 pm Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
- Saturday, March 7, 2020**----- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy St. Theodore the
Recruit
- Sunday, March 8, 2020**----- 9:30 am Divine Liturgy The Sunday of
Orthodoxy, with procession around the
Church with the Icons
4:00 pm Sunday of Orthodoxy Service at
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral
- Wednesday, March 11, 2020**--- 6:00 pm Presanctified Liturgy
- Friday, March 13, 2020**----- 7:00 pm Akathist
- Saturday, March 14, 2020**----- 9:00 am Memorial Saturday Divine Liturgy
- Sunday, March 15, 2020**----- 4:00 pm St. Gregory Palamas Lenten Mission
Services (Location to be announced)
- Wednesday, March 18, 2020**--- 6:00 pm Presanctified Liturgy
- Friday, March 20, 2020**----- 7:00 pm Akathist
- Saturday, March 21, 2020**----- 9:00 am Memorial Saturday Divine Liturgy
- Sunday, March 22, 2020**----- 4:00 pm Veneration of Precious Cross Lenten
Mission Services (Location to be announced)
- Wednesday, March 25, 2020**--- 6:00 pm Vespereal Divine Liturgy Annunciation
- Friday, March 27, 2020**----- 7:00 pm Akathist
- Saturday, March 28, 2020**----- 9:00 am Memorial Saturday Divine Liturgy
- Sunday, March 29, 2020**----- Deadline for Paska Bread & Pierogi Sale
orders
4:00 pm St. John Climacus Lenten Mission
Services (Location to be announced)
- Wednesday, April 1, 2020**----- 6:00 pm Presanctified Liturgy
- Thursday, April 2, 2020**----- 7:00 pm Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
with the Life of St. Mary of Egypt

Friday, April 3, 2020----- 7:00 pm Akathist
Saturday, April 4, 2020----- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy Most Holy Theotokos
Sunday, April 5, 2020----- 4:00 pm St. Mary of Egypt Lenten Mission
 Services (Location to be announced)
Wednesday, April 8, 2020----- 6:00 pm Presanctified Liturgy
Friday, April 10, 2020----- 7:00 pm Matins for Lazarus Saturday
Saturday, April 11, 2020----- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy Lazarus Saturday
 11:00 am to 2:00 pm Paska Bread & Pierogi
 Sale Pick Up Day
Sunday, April 12, 2020----- 9:30 am Divine Liturgy Palm Sunday
 4:00 pm Bridegroom Matins
Monday, April 13, 2020----- 9:00 am Presanctified Liturgy Holy Monday
 7:00 pm Bridegroom Matins
Tuesday, April 14, 2020----- 9:00 am Presanctified Liturgy Holy Tuesday
 7:00 pm Bridegroom Matins
Wednesday, April 15, 2020----- 9:00 am Presanctified Liturgy Holy
 Wednesday
 7:00 Holy Unction
Thursday, April 16, 2020----- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy of St. Basil Holy
 Thursday
 7:00 pm The 12 Passion Gospels
Friday, April 17, 2020----- 9:00 am Royal Hours Holy Friday
 4:00 pm Burial Vespers
 6:30 pm Matins - Lamentations
 All Night Watch
Saturday, April 18, 2020----- 9:00 am Vesperal Divine Liturgy Holy
 Saturday
 11:30 pm Paschal Vigil and Divine Liturgy
 Followed by the blessing of baskets and the
 Agape meal
Sunday, April 19, 2020----- 11:00 am Agape Vespers PASCHA
Monday, April 20, 2020----- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy Bright Monday
Saturday, April 25, 2020----- 5:45 pm Ninth Hour
 6:00 pm Great Vespers
Sunday, April 26, 2020----- 9:30 am Divine Liturgy St. Thomas Sunday
 2:00 pm Blessing of the Graves
Monday, May 18, 2020----- Pennsylvania March For Life (Harrisburg, PA)

Announcements

Annual Parish Meeting Today!

Please plan to stay to enjoy a luncheon prepared by the Church Council and participate in the meeting. If you have not yet picked up your copy of the agenda and reports, they are available at the candle desk and when you sign in for the meeting.

Contact Information Update

Over the next few weeks, we will be working to update the contact information that we have on file for each person, in the hopes that we can soon print an updated directory. Please see Jennifer Bzik during coffee hour to verify your information. Even if your information is correct in the most recent directory, please take a moment to confirm everything, as all information has been entered into a new system. There is a printed sheet for each individual (including children) that should be reviewed and returned to Jennifer Bzik. We are also collecting information about the ministries and church groups that you currently participate in or may be interested in learning about. Your help is greatly appreciated as we move towards modernizing our methods of communication!

4th Quarter Treasurer's Report Summary

October 2019	Income:	\$37,698.25	
	Expenses:	\$30,723.36	
	<u>Net Revenue:</u>	<u>\$6,974.89</u>	
November 2019	Income:	\$33,678.42	
	Expenses	\$24,934.99	
	<u>Net Revenue:</u>	<u>\$8,743.43</u>	
December 2019	Income:	\$73,024.80	(includes Russian Days)
	Expenses:	\$31,912.61	
	<u>Net Revenue:</u>	<u>\$41,112.19</u>	



Diocese of Eastern PA

“Preparing Our Hearts
for Great Lent”

**Mother Gabriella (Ursache)
Dormition of the Mother of God Monastery**



St. Tikhon's Monastery, Trapeza
Saturday, February 22, 2020 9:30-3:00

Cost: \$10/person

(includes continental breakfast and lunch)

Deadline to mail in registration: February 17, 2020

For more information, please contact
Matushka Emilia Shepherd at (910)
988-3462 or officermillie79@gmail.com

Announcements

IMO Donations Received

In Memory Of Ted Fedora, Offered by Theresa Butler, Olga Frimenko

Paska Bread & Pierogi Sale

Please contact Maxine Marsh to place orders for the Paska Bread & Pierogi Sale. Orders must be placed by noon on Sunday, March 29, 2020 and picked up on Saturday, April 11, 2020 between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm.

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.

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!

Announcements



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.)

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

Announcements

**Throughout the year, please remember those
in our parish family who are homebound.**

Mrs. Jean Butrymowicz

Mr. Walter Grigoruk

Mr. Andrew Hasenecz

Mrs. Doris Johnson

Mrs. Helen Karel

Mrs. Pauline Kasick

Miss Mary K. Koretski

Mrs. Antoinette Lebeduik

Mrs. Theresa Nalepa

Mat. Irene Rachko

Ms. Nancy Sabol

Mrs. Julia Smolenski

Mrs. Ola Tatusko

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, Cate Shea, Julia Smith, Julia G. Smolenski, Mary Strohecker, Ola Tatusko, John Uzick, Irene Witanek

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.

"OUR HEART IS RESTLESS UNTIL IT RESTS IN THE LORD"

As we continue to prepare for the beginning of Great Lent, our Holy Church places before us today the Parable of the PRODIGAL SON. It is a story that graphically points out the impetuosity of youth through the character of the youngest son, who impatiently demanded his inheritance and consequently lost everything. It is a tale of unconditional mercy, as the father in the parable - symbolizing God Himself - lovingly welcomes home his humbled, repentant offspring.

More importantly, however, the Parable of the Prodigal Son can be likened to each of us looking in a mirror. In effect, this is a story about ALL OF US. At one time or another, everyone of us has given in to the same temptations that clouded the thinking of the Prodigal Son. We have abandoned our Father's house and have strayed from the path that has been set for us. We have all foolishly felt that we can make it through life doing things "our way."

Inevitably, we must all realize that seeking a life of PLEASURE cannot bring us true HAPPINESS, for this can only be found when we are in communion with God. As St. Augustine tells us: "Our heart is restless until it rests in the Lord."

It is never too late to "rise and go to our Father." He waits for all of us to return to Him! He offers us something far more valuable than a robe, ring and sandals when we repent - He promises us a place in His Heavenly Kingdom.

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

Daily Scripture Readings

Week of February 17, 2020

Monday	1 John 2:18-3:10	Mark 11:1-11
Tuesday	1 John 3:11-20	Mark 14:10-42
Wednesday	1 John 3:21-4:6	Mark 14:43-15:1
Thursday	1 John 4:20-5:21	Mark 15:1-15
Friday	2 John 1:1-13	Mark 15:22-25, 33-41
Saturday	1 Corinthians 10:23-28	Luke 21:8-9, 25-27, 33-36
Sunday	1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2	Matthew 25:31-46