





# SAINT NICHOLAS RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Reverend Matthew Joyner, Rector

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Very Reverend James Mason, Attached

Deacon Geoffrey LoBalbo

Mr. Bryan Distefano, Parish Council President

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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# **Schedule for the Week of March 22, 2020**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 7. Veneration of the Cross.** Hieromartyr Basil of Ancyra (362-363). Martyr Drosida, daughter of Emperor Trajan (1st-2nd c.). Ven. Isaac, Founder of the Dalmatian Monastery at Constantinople (4th c.). Monastic Martyr Euthymius of Prodromou (Mt. Athos–1814)

**There will be no coffee hour until further notice**

## **Father Matthew’s Office Hours This Week**

**Wednesday** 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm

**Friday** 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

## **Weekly Calendar**

**Pierogi:** CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

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Due to present circumstances, all Liturgical Services will be live streamed from the church but will be closed to the public. For more information about live streaming, please see our website.

Non-liturgical events may be conducted remotely during this time. Please contact the organizer of each event for more information.

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## **Candle Offerings for Sunday, March 22, 2020**

Candle offerings will be listed in the bulletin at a future date.

## Upcoming Events and Services

- Tuesday, March 24, 2020**----- 7:00 pm Active Service Meeting
- Wednesday, March 25, 2020**---6:00 pm Vespersal Divine Liturgy Annunciation
- Friday, March 27, 2020**----- 7:00 pm Akathist
- Saturday, March 28, 2020**----- 9:00 am Memorial Saturday Divine Liturgy  
5:00 pm - Confessions  
6:00 pm - Vespers
- Sunday, March 29, 2020**----- Deadline - Paska Bread & Pierogi Sale orders  
9:30 am Divine Liturgy St. John Climacus
- 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  
11:30 am Baptism of Remington Rose  
Hashinger (Maxine Marsh's granddaughter)  
5:15 pm - Monthly Panikhida  
6:00 pm - Vespers (Confessions to follow)
- Sunday, April 5, 2020**----- 9:30 am Divine Liturgy St. Mary of Egypt
- 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  
5:00 pm - Confessions  
6:00 pm - Vespers
- 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 Vespersal 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
- Saturday, May 9, 2020**-----9:00 am to noon Volunteer Event: Feed the  
Children (See Mike Metz for info)
- Monday, May 18, 2020**----- Pennsylvania March For Life (Harrisburg, PA)

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# **Sunday Hymns from the Octoechos, Tone 6**

## **Tone 7      Troparion      (Resurrection)**

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen, granting the world great mercy.

## **Tone 1      Troparion      (for the Cross)**

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 7      Kontakion      (for the Cross)**

Now the flaming sword no longer guards the gates of Eden; it has been mysteriously quenched by the wood of the Cross. The sting of death and the victory of hell have been vanquished; for Thou, O my Savior, hast come and cried to those in hell: "Enter again into Paradise!"

## **In place of the Trisagion, we sing:**

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

## **Tone 6      Prokeimenon      (for the Cross)**

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance! (Ps 27/28:9)

To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me! (Ps 27/28:1)

## **Epistle Lesson for Today: Hebrews 4:14-5:6**

Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest taken from among men is appointed for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness. Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer sacrifices for sins. And no man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: "You are My Son, today I have begotten You." As He also says in another place: "You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek";

### **Alleluia Verses - Tone 8**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

~~Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast purchased of old! (Ps 73/74:2)

~~God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth! (Ps 73/74:12)

## **Gospel Lesson for Today: Mark 8:34-9:1**

When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power."

### **Hymn to the Theotokos**

All of creation rejoices in thee, O Full of Grace: the assembly of Angels and the race of men. O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, the glory of virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a Child: our God before the ages. He made thy body into a throne, and thy womb He made more spacious than the heavens. All of creation rejoices in thee, O Full of Grace. Glory to thee!

### **Communion Hymn**

The light of Thy countenance has shone on us, O Lord. (Ps 4:6/7)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



# Announcements

## Volunteer Event

Active Service Committee is teaming up with Feed the Children, a nationwide, non-profit organization that distributes food and other essentials to families in need. **We are looking for 6-10 volunteers** to help package food on **Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> from 9am to noon.** Volunteers will be organizing food into boxes on a conveyor belt. It's easy work, and in one morning you will help to provide meals for hundreds of families! Please see the sign-up sheet at the candle desk for details.

## Pussy Willow Branches



Reminder: It will soon be time for pussy willows to start blooming. Please cut the branches of willows and bring them to the church as soon as they bloom. Since Pascha is April 19<sup>th</sup> we will need to store the willows until Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> for Palm Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. Please wrap the willows loosely in newspaper so we can save them for Palm Sunday. Thank you for your help in gathering the willows.



## 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.

## Choir CDs for Sale

Enhance your Lenten journey by listening to sacred music at home! See Nick Lezinsky if you are interested in purchasing a CD recording of the St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Choir performing Now the Powers: A Journey Through Great Lent.

# 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

## 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!

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:** Jamee Bresee-Slivka, Leona Roberts & their unborn children

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

## OUR LENTEN JOURNEY REACHES ITS MIDWAY POINT

**T**hose involved with athletics are fully aware of the importance of "halftime" in any sporting event. It is an opportunity to pause before continuing with the vigor of the game. More importantly, it is a time to correct any mistakes or deficiencies in one's "game plan" and to become recommitted to the ultimate goal of victory.

This morning, our Holy Church has reached the midway point of Great Lent. For three weeks, the spiritual disciplines of prayer and fasting have been emphasized. The theme of repentance has been placed before us repeatedly. Those who are "weak in spirit" may be faltering on this 40-day journey to Pascha.

In her wisdom, the Church places before us the greatest of symbols today: The precious and life-giving Cross. We are encouraged to focus our attention on this instrument of Christ's passion. At the same time, we are reminded of the necessity of being willing to deny ourselves, take up our own cross, and follow Christ. These thoughts should serve to strengthen us as we continue along the road that will take us to Golgotha and, ultimately, to the empty tomb!

On the third Sunday of Lent, the following hymn from Matins clearly expresses the essence of today's spiritual message: "On this day, when we look at the precious Cross of Christ, let us adore it in faith, let us embrace it, fervently asking our Lord, Who of His own choice, gave Himself to be crucified upon it, to make us worthy of adoring His most precious Cross, so that, free from all defilement, we may attain the day of Resurrection."

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

## **Daily Scripture Readings**

### **Week of March 23, 2020**

Monday	Isaiah 14:24-32, Genesis 8:21-9:7	Proverbs 11:19-12:6
Tuesday	Isaiah 25:1-9, Genesis 9:8-17	Proverbs 12:8-22
Wednesday	Isaiah 26:21-27:9, Genesis 9:18-10:1	Proverbs 12:23-13:9
Thursday	Isaiah 28:14-22, Genesis 10:32-11:9	Proverbs 13:19-14:6
Friday	Isaiah 29:13-23, Genesis 12:1-7	Proverbs 14:15-26
Saturday	Hebrews 6:9-12	Mark 7:31-37
Sunday	Hebrews 6:13-20	Mark 9:17-31