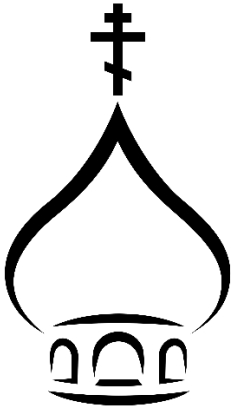


Divine Liturgy

Sunday, April 4, 2021

Third Sunday of Great Lent

Veneration of the Cross



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Due to corona virus precautions, please take this printed copy of the service book home with you. Please do not leave used printed materials in the church.



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Reverend Matthew Joyner, Rector
Cell: 570-468-2261
Email: nkyorthodox@gmail.com

Very Reverend James Mason, Attached

Reverend Timothy Hasenecz, Attached

Deacon Geoffrey LoBalbo

Mr. Bryan Distefano, Parish Council President

Reader Nicholas Lezinsky, Choir Director

Jennifer Bzik, Administrative Assistant
Email: assistant4stnicholas@outlook.com

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)

980 Bridle Path Road | Bethlehem, PA 18017-3120 | T: 610-867-0402
stnicholasoca.org

Schedule for the Week of April 4, 2021

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 2. Veneration of the Cross. Ven. Joseph the Hymnographer (883). Ven. George of Mt. Maleon in the Peloponnesus (6th c.). Ven. Joseph the Much-ailing, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves–14th c.). Ven. Zosimas, Abbot of Vorbozómek (ca. 1550). Ven. Zosimas, of Palestine (4th c.). Virgin Martyr Pherbutha of Persia, her sister, and servants (341-343). Martyr Nikita of Pojani (1808). St. Isidore, Bishop of Seville (636). Ven. Theonas, Archbishop of Thessalonica (1545).

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

Please note that due to Covid-19 precautions, all confessions will be heard by appointment only. Please contact Fr. Matthew by phone or text to schedule.

Invitations for services during the Lenten and Paschal season will be emailed twice a week. For services on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, please plan to RSVP by noon on the prior Thursday. For services on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, please plan to RSVP by noon on the prior Monday. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

(All Parishioners must review and follow the St. Nicholas Church Reopening Guidance when attending services in person.)

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

Monday, April 5, 2021	12:00 pm - Deadline to RSVP for services on the upcoming Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
Wednesday, April 7, 2021	6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy
Thursday, April 8, 2021	12:00 pm - Deadline to RSVP for services on the upcoming Saturday, Sunday & Monday
Friday, April 9, 2021	9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

Saturday, April 10, 2021

Memorial Saturday
8:50 am - Reading of the Hours
9:00 am - Divine Liturgy
10:00 am - Communion for Parish Children
(RSVP Required)
6:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, April 11, 2021

St. John Climacus
9:10 am - Reading of the Hours
9:30 am - Divine Liturgy
10:30 am - Communion for Parish Children
(RSVP Required)

Monday, April 12, 2021

12:00 pm - Deadline to RSVP for services on
the upcoming Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday & Friday

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

Thursday, April 15, 2021

12:00 pm - Deadline to RSVP for services on
the upcoming Saturday, Sunday & Monday
7:00 pm - Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
with the Life of St. Mary of Egypt

Friday, April 16, 2021

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

Saturday, April 17, 2021

Most Holy Theotokos
8:50 am - Reading of the Hours
9:00 am - Divine Liturgy
10:00 am - Communion for Parish Children
(RSVP Required)
6:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, April 18, 2021

St. Mary of Egypt
9:10 am - Reading of the Hours
9:30 am - Divine Liturgy
10:30 am - Communion for Parish Children
(RSVP Required)

Monday, April 19, 2021

12:00 pm - Deadline to RSVP for services on the upcoming Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

Wednesday, April 21, 2021

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

Thursday, April 22, 2021

12:00 pm - Deadline to RSVP for services on the upcoming Saturday, Sunday & Monday

Friday, April 23, 2021

7:00 pm - Matins for Lazarus Saturday

Saturday, April 24, 2021

Lazarus Saturday
8:50 am - Reading of the Hours
9:00 am - Divine Liturgy
10:00 am - Communion for Parish Children
(RSVP Required)
6:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, April 25, 2021

Palm Sunday
9:10 am - Reading of the Hours
9:30 am - Divine Liturgy
10:30 am - Communion for Parish Children
(RSVP Required)
4:00 pm - Bridegroom Matins

Monday, April 26, 2021

Holy Monday
9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy
12:00 pm - Deadline to RSVP for services on the upcoming Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
7:00 pm - Bridegroom Matins

Tuesday, April 27, 2021

Holy Tuesday
9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy
7:00 pm - Bridegroom Matins

Wednesday, April 28, 2021

Holy Wednesday
9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy
7:00 pm - Holy Unction

Thursday, April 29, 2021

Holy Thursday
8:50 am - Reading of the Hours
9:00 am - Divine Liturgy of St. Basil
10:00 am - Communion for Parish Children
(RSVP Required)
12:00 pm - Deadline to RSVP for services on
the upcoming Saturday, Sunday & Monday
7:00 pm - The 12 Passion Gospels

Friday, April 30, 2021

Holy Friday
9:00 am - Royal Hours
4:00 pm - Burial Vespers
6:30 pm - Matins Lamentations
All Night Watch

Saturday, May 1, 2021

Holy Saturday
9:00 am - Vesperal Divine Liturgy
11:30 pm - Paschal Vigil and Divine Liturgy
Followed by the blessing of baskets and the
Agape meal

Sunday, May 2, 2021

GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA
11:00 am - Agape Vespers

Monday, May 3, 2021

Bright Monday
8:50 am - Reading of the Hours
9:00 am - Divine Liturgy
10:00 am - Communion for Parish Children
(RSVP Required)

Thursday, May 6, 2021

12:00 pm - Deadline to RSVP for services on the upcoming Saturday, Sunday & Monday

Saturday, May 8, 2021

6:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, May 9, 2021

St. Thomas Sunday

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

10:00 am - Communion for Parish Children (RSVP Required)

Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt after Liturgy (rain date May 16)

2:00 pm - Blessing of the Graves

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 May 2nd, we will need to store the willows until they are prepared for Palm Sunday on April 25th. Please wrap the willows loosely in newspaper so we can save them for Palm Sunday. Thank you for your help in gathering the willows.



Divine Liturgy

Sunday, April 4, 2021

Third Sunday of Great Lent Veneration of the Cross

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 1 **Troparion of 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** *(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!"

Tone 6 **Prokeimenon** *(Cross)*

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance! *(Ps. 27:9a)*

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

Epistle

(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";

Tone 8

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast purchased 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

(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."

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

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. 4:7a)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



The Orthodox Church in America
DIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA AND EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA
The Most Rev. Mark, Archbishop of Philadelphia

March 26, 2021
Leave-taking of the Annunciation
Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel

**TO BE READ FROM THE PULPIT, PUBLISHED IN THE BULLETIN AND
POSTED ON PARISH WEBSITES**

Dear to God,

Christ is in our midst! Greetings as we begin the third week of Great Lent. I pray your Lenten Journey is proving fruitful.

The past year has truly been a rollercoaster ride for all of us and we need to be mindful and considerate of those suffering from isolation, fear, anxiety, depression, substance abuse and loneliness, as well as those who have lost loved ones. Additionally, divisions occurred as people lost the ability to discuss differing opinions on a variety of matters. Hopefully, we are encouraged by the drastic decrease in the number of hospitalizations and deaths attributed to COVID 19 since mid-January, even before significant numbers were administered the experimental COVID 19.

On January 22, 2021 the Assembly of Bishops issued a **Statement Regarding Developments in Medicine: COVID-19 Vaccines & Immunizations.*** The fourth paragraph explicitly states, *“We therefore encourage all of you – the clergy and the lay faithful of our Church – to consult your physicians in order to determine the appropriate course of action for you, just as you do for surgeries, medications, and vaccinations, in cancer treatments and other ailments.”*

Each person must prayerfully consider what the correct course of action is. As your Bishop, I insist each of you respect the **conscience** and privacy of your brothers and sisters in Christ. No one is to be asked if he or she has or has not received the injections. No one is to be denied full

participation in the Divine Services or parish life regardless of his or her decision. No one should be judged or criticized one way or the other.

Let us continue the Fast focusing on drawing nearer to Christ the Source of Life and to one another.

Your unworthy father in Christ,

+ Mark

+ MARK, Archbishop of Philadelphia and the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania

* The text of which may be found at the following link,
<https://www.assemblyofbishops.org/assets/files/messages/AoB%20Exec%20Co%20Medicine%20Statement.pdf>



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Telephone: 484.281.3406 * <http://www.doepa.org> * Email: dioceseopa@gmail.com
Chancellor: V. Rev. Raymond Martin Browne * Mobile: 570.906.1388
Diocesan Treasurer: Mark Linnehan* treasurer@doepa.org

“Thou hast made us for Thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in Thee.” Augustine

Candle Offerings for Sunday, March 28, 2021

Votives in Altar

In Memory of Matushka Mary Frimenko

Crosses

Happy Birthday Stephanie Pasquel, Offered by Ann Marie & Barry Bretz

Vigils - Icon of St. John the Baptist

Happy Birthday Jean, Offered by Peter & Sarah

Votives - Icon of St. John the Baptist

Happy Birthday Jean. Offered by Dan

Flowers to Adorn the Cross

In Memory Of Her Parents, Offered by Victoria Dimonie

Red Egg Donations

Please note that due to Covid precautions, we will not be accepting donations of red eggs to be handed out at Pascha. Instead, we are organizing a limited group of parishioners to cook and dye the eggs at the church using appropriate social distancing, etc. If you are interested in participating, please contact Lori Lezinsky. If you would like to make a monetary donation to offset the costs, you may do so by making a notation on your donation envelope.

Gardening Volunteers

If you like to garden, and want to help beautify the grounds of St. Nicholas Parish, please consider volunteering. We are looking to expand the number of volunteers for this service. Please contact Jennifer Bzik or Denise Distefano.

Pascha Flowers Update

Please be advised that our potted flower supplier has informed us that the flowers traditionally used to adorn the tomb of Our Lord will not be available due to the later date of Pascha. We are working to find alternatives and will update you as soon as we have more information. At this time you will not be able to sign up to sponsor the potted flowers for Pascha. The sign up sheets for cut flower arrangements are still available in the book at the candle desk. Cut flowers have not be impacted by this change. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Pascha Processions Sign Up Sheets

Sign up sheets for the processions and grave watch during Holy Week are available at the candle desk. Please see a staff member for assistance signing up to participate in the processions, etc. during Holy Week.

Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt

The Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt will be held immediately following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, May 9, 2021 (rain date May 16, 2021). All children are welcome. Please contact Karen Gowarty for more information.

Church Scholarship

Scholarships are available for the 2021-2022 academic year for church members entering their second, third, or fourth year of full-time study at an accredited college, university or Orthodox seminary. Please contact Nancy Kohudic at 610-391-1257 or ndk175@ptd.net. Thank you for your consideration.

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:

Metropolitan Herman

Igumen David Lewis

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

Deacons: Geoffrey LoBalbo

Subdeacons: Michael (Frank) Guydan

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

Servants: Bethany Bruder, Mary Brzuchalski, Helen Cotirgasanu, Roberta Cusick, Val Danchenko, Christopher Felix, Olga Frimenko, Patricia G. Fu, Walter Grigoruk, Rachel Hardesty, Nicholas Hazzard, Jonathan Hontz, Sherry Hromiak, Michael H. Isbansky, Sarah Jubinski, Pauline Kasick, Mary K. Koretski, Stephanie Koretski, David Lezinsky, Judy Lezinsky, Victoria Lustig, Olga Maksimova, Lanelle Mikolaitis, Catherine Miller, Nicolae & Doina Marian, Mary Orzolek, Kylie Pinho, Ryan Pinkowicz, Kiera Pheiffer, Gordon Roberts, Clara Roman, Victoria Ross, Mary Ruzila, Nancy A. Sabol, Robert Schainfeld, Cate Shea, Francine Slivka, Michael Slivka, Julia Smith, Julia G. Smolenski, Dorothy Stafiniak, Mary Strohecker, Ola Tatusko, Irene Witanek

Child of God: Emily Estrin

Handmaidens of God: Corinne Gahles Stuckey, Amanda Riley, Natalie Stepanoff and their unborn children

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