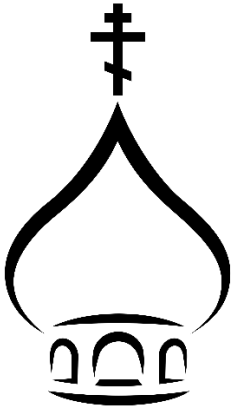


**Divine Liturgy**  
Sunday, April 18, 2021  
**Fifth Sunday of Great Lent**  
**St. Mary of Egypt**



**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 18, 2021

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 4. St Mary of Egypt.** Ven. John, disciple of Ven. Gregory of Decapolis (9th c.). Martyrs Victor, Zoticus, Zeno, Acindynus, and Severian, of Nicomedia (303). St. Cosmas, Bishop of Chalcedon, and his fellow ascetic, St. Auxentius (815-820). New Martyr John the New of Epirus (1526). Ven. Evfimii (Euthymius), Enlightener of Karelia; and the Righteous Anthony and Felix.

## 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 19, 2021**

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

**Tuesday, April 20, 2021**

*Invitation for services from Holy Tuesday through Bright Monday will be emailed*

**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)

12:00 pm - Deadline to RSVP for services from  
Holy Tuesday through Bright Monday

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

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)

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 - Vespers 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

# Divine Liturgy

Sunday, April 18, 2021  
**Fifth Sunday of Great Lent**  
**St. Mary of Egypt**

**Tone 4      Troparion**      *(Resurrection)*

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: "Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!"

**Tone 8      Troparion**      *(St. Mary of Egypt)*

The image of God was truly preserved in thee, O Mother, for thou didst take up the Cross and follow Christ. By so doing, thou taughtest us to disregard the flesh for it passes away; but to care instead for the soul, for it is immortal. Therefore thy spirit, O holy Mother Mary, rejoices with the angels.

**Tone 4      Kontakion**      *(Resurrection)*

My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell, and as Master, He has risen on the third day!

**Tone 3      Kontakion**      *(St. Mary of Egypt)*

Having been a sinful woman, thou becamest through repentance a bride of Christ. Having attained angelic life, thou didst defeat demons with the weapon of the Cross. Therefore, O most glorious Mary, thou art a bride of the Kingdom.

**Tone 4      Prokeimenon**      *(Resurrection)*

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works; / in wisdom hast Thou made them all.  
*(Ps. 103:26)*

*Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, Thou art very great! (Ps. 103:1)*

**Tone 4      Prokeimenon      (St. Mary of Egypt)**

God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel. (Ps. 67:35a)

## **Epistle**

(Hebrews 9:11-14) But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

(Galatians 3:23-29 (St. Mary of Egypt)) But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

## **Tone 4**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth!  
(Ps. 44:3b)*

*For Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest iniquity. (Ps. 44:6)*

## **Tone 1**

*I waited patiently for the Lord; He attended to me and heard my supplication. (Ps. 39:1)*

## **Gospel**

(Mark 10:32-45) Now they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was going before them; and they were amazed. And as they followed they were afraid. Then He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them the things that would happen to Him: "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death and deliver Him to the Gentiles; and they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit on Him, and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again." Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask." And He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" They said to Him, "Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They said to Him, "We are able." So Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink the cup that I drink, and with the baptism I am baptized with you will be baptized; but to sit on



My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John. But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

(Luke 7:36-50 (*St. Mary of Egypt*)) Then one of the Pharisees asked Him to eat with him. And He went to the Pharisee's house, and sat down to eat. And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at the table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil, and stood at His feet behind Him weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed them with the fragrant oil. Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he spoke to himself, saying, "This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner." And Jesus answered and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." So he said, "Teacher, say it." "There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?" Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have rightly judged." Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I

entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head. You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil. Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little." Then He said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." And those who sat at the table with Him began to say to themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" Then He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."

*(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**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! *(Ps. 148:1)*  
The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance! He shall not fear evil tidings! *(Ps. 111:6)*  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

# **Candle Offerings for Sunday, April 18, 2021**

## **Votives in Altar**

In Honor Of Gordon Roberts  
Offered by Val, Matt, Jess, Alex, Megan, Nick, Tosha

## **Votives in Iconostas**

In Honor Of Gordon Roberts  
Offered by Granddaughters Emily, Evie, Hannah, LiLi

## **Crosses**

In Memory Of Rosemary Ziegenfuss, Offered by Her Family

## **Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary**

In Memory Of David Distefano, Offered by The Distefano Family

## **Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary**

In Memory Of David Distefano, Offered by The Distefano Family

## **Vigils - Icon of St. John the Baptist**

In Memory Of David Distefano, Offered by The Distefano Family

## **Votives - Icon of St. John the Baptist**

In Memory Of David Distefano, Offered by The Distefano Family

# Special Invitation to Services for Holy Week

Please watch your email inbox this week for a special invitation to services from Holy Tuesday on April 27th through Bright Monday on May 3rd. If you wish to attend services during this time, you will be required to **RSVP no later than noon on Lazarus Saturday, April 24, 2021**. In order to allow us to be prepared for the busy schedule of services during Holy Week, kindly RSVP promptly and with clear information about who will attend each service. Your assistance is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact the Administrative Assistant.

## PASCHA Blessing of Baskets & Agape Meal

In order to help the St. Nicholas Parish Council plan for the Agape Meal to break the Lenten Fast and for the blessing of baskets, we are asking all who are planning to participate to RSVP for all activities in which you plan to participate.

Emailed invitations to RSVP for the blessing of baskets and Agape Meal will be sent out this week. **The RSVP deadline will be noon on Lazarus Saturday, April 24, 2021.**

For those participating in the Agape Meal a table will be reserved for you and your guests in the hall. As in prior years, the church will not provide any food or beverages during the Agape Meal. For parishioners bringing baskets to be blessed however not staying to break the fast, a designated table will be provided for the baskets in the church fellowship hall. To ensure appropriate social distancing a parish council staff member will provide guidance upon entering the church hall.

For parishioners bringing baskets to be blessed after the Sunday morning Agape Vespers, a table will be provided in the narthex. A parish council staff member will provide assistance.

Your cooperation and understanding are deeply appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact the Administrative Assistant.

# **A Note Of Thanks**

Parish faithful,

We wanted to take a moment to express our thanks for the generosity expressed to us at the parish assembly in offering to us a bonus for this year. Our appreciation for you is great, and we give thanks to God for the blessing to serve here among you! May God grant you all many blessed years!

In Christ, our Lord,  
Fr. Matthew, Mat. Ashley, Liam & Declan

## **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.

## **Raisin and Plain Paska Breads Available**

We still have some raisin and plain paska breads available. These breads were baked last year and have been frozen since that time. Please contact Maxine Marsh at 610-837-8063 if you are interested in the breads. Donations accepted.

# Parish Council Meeting Minutes and Financial Secretary Report

The Parish Council conducted the first 2021 council meeting on Monday, March 29th. During the meeting, the Parish Council approved the January Parish Council meeting minutes and the February Financial Secretary report. The Parish Council Meeting Minutes will be posted on the bulletin board located in the hallway. To request a copy of the January Meeting Minutes and / or the February Financial Secretary report, send your request via email to [Assistant4StNicholas@outlook.com](mailto:Assistant4StNicholas@outlook.com).

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will need to store the willows until they are prepared for Palm Sunday on April 25<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.



## 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.

## **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.

## **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.

## **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.

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, Judi Diaz, 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 Witaneck

**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.**