

# **Divine Liturgy**

Sunday, May 23, 2021

**Paralytic**



**SAINT NICHOLAS**  
**RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**



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RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Very Reverend James Mason, Attached

Reverend Timothy Hasenecz, 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 Sunday's bulletin must be submitted by noon on Thursday. Thank you! ~ Jennifer N. Bzik)*

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# Schedule for the Week of May 23, 2021

**4th SUNDAY OF PASCHA – Tone 3.** Paralytic. St. Michael the Confessor, Bishop of Synnada (831). Synaxis of the Saints of Rostov–Yaroslavl'. Ven. Euphrosynē, Abbess of Polótsk (1173). Ven. Paísii, Abbot of Galich (1460). Martyr Michael “the Black-robbed” of St. Savva Monastery (9th c.).

## Father Matthew’s Office Hours This Week

**Wednesday** 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm

**Friday** 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

## Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

**Monday, May 24, 2021**

7:00 pm – Parish Council Meeting

**Saturday, May 29, 2021**

6:00 pm – Great Vespers

**Sunday, May 30, 2021**

9:10 am – Reading of the Hours

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

## A Reminder from the Parish Council

It has been brought to our attention there has been a notable amount of talking in the narthex prior to and following the Divine Liturgy and other services. Please be mindful that services have not ended until all people have exited the church and the prayers and choir have concluded. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

# Divine Liturgy

Sunday, May 23, 2021

## Paralytic

*Priest: "Blessed is the Kingdom..."*

*Choir: "Amen."*

*Priest: "Christ is risen..." (2 ½ times)*

*Choir: "and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!"*

*(The Divine Liturgy is begun in this manner until the Leavetaking of Pascha.)*

**Tone 3      Troparion      (Resurrection)**

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. He has trampled down death by death. He has become the first born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted to the world great mercy.

**Tone 3      Kontakion      (Pentecostarion)**

By Thy divine intercession, O Lord, as Thou didst raise up the Paralytic of old, so raise up my soul, paralyzed by sins and thoughtless acts; so that being saved I may sing to Thee: "Glory to Thy power, O compassionate Christ!"

**Tone 8      Kontakion      (Pascha)**

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, Thou didst destroy the power of death. In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, proclaiming, "Rejoice!" to the Myrrhbearing Women, granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

**Tone 1      Prokeimenon      (Pentecostarion)**

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee! (Ps. 32:22)

*Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just! (Ps. 32:1)*

## **Epistle**

(Acts 9:32-42) Now it came to pass, as Peter went through all parts of the country, that he also came down to the saints who dwelt in Lydda. There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden eight years and was paralyzed. And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus the Christ heals you. Arise and make your bed." Then he arose immediately. So all who dwelt at Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord. At Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha, which is translated Dorcas. This woman was full of good works and charitable deeds which she did. But it happened in those days that she became sick and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. And since Lydda was near Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him, imploring him not to delay in coming to them. Then Peter arose and went with them. When he had come, they brought him to the upper room. And all the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them. But Peter put them all out, and knelt down and prayed. And turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, arise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. Then he gave her his hand and lifted her up; and when he had called the saints and widows, he presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed on the Lord.

## **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. 88:1-2)*

*For Thou hast said: Mercy will be established forever; Thy truth will be prepared in the heavens. (Ps. 88:3)*

## **Gospel**

(John 5:1-15) After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had. Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk." And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath. The Jews therefore said to him who was cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your bed." He answered them, "He who made me well said to me, 'Take up your bed and walk.'" Then they asked him, "Who is the Man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and walk'?" But the one who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, a multitude being in that place. Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you." The man departed and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

*(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:)*

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace: "Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: Rejoice, thy Son is risen from His three days in the tomb! With Himself He has raised all the dead." Rejoice, O ye people!

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on thee. Exult now, and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O pure Theotokos, in the Resurrection of thy Son!

### **Communion Hymn**

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality!  
Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! *(Ps. 148:1)*  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*Priest: "In the fear of God..."*

*Choir: "Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord..."*

*Priest: "O God, save Thy people..."*

*Choir: "Christ is risen from the dead..." (sung once, instead of "We have seen the True Light...")*

*Priest: "Always, now and ever..."*

*Choir: "Let our mouths be filled..."*

*At the Dismissal, the Priest says: "Glory to Thee, O Christ..." and the choir sings "Christ is risen from the dead..." (thrice).*

And unto us He has given eternal life.  
Let us worship His Resurrection on the third day!

# **Candle Offerings for Sunday, May 23, 2021**

## **Vigils in Altar**

Safe Travels Greg & Rosalie

## **Vigils in Altar**

Safe Travels Scott, Ethan & Owen, Offered by Greg & Rosalie

## **Votives in Altar**

For Health Of Barry Bretz for his Birthday, Offered by Stephanie Pasquel

## **Votives in Iconostas**

In Memory Of Peter Kohudic - 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

## **Crosses**

Happy Birthday Barry Bretz, Offered by Ann Marie

## **Vigils on the Tetrapod**

In Memory Of Michael & Mary Stetz, Offered by Pat & Joan

## **Vigils on Icon Table**

Happy Birthday Lindsey Slivka, Offered by Francine & Michael Slivka

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

Happy Birthday Hannah Slivka, Offered by Francine & Michael Slivka

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

Happy Birthday Talia Tomsic, Offered by Baba & Poppy

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

Happy Birthday Talia Tomsic, Offered by Scott, Jen, Ethan & Owen





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

May 15, 2021

*Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!*

Dear Rev. Frs. And faithful,

Hopefully, we are rejoicing with the announcement from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) of May 13<sup>th</sup>, that those *fully vaccinated no longer need to wear masks or socially distance inside or outside!* The state of Pennsylvania has adopted the CDC's new guidelines as well. Additionally, every adult wishing to be vaccinated has had more than adequate time to do so. (The HIPAA law, safeguards a person's right to privacy and consequently restricts who may ask about a person's vaccination status.) Therefore, effective immediately, we are eliminating the mandatory mask and social distancing requirements for our Pennsylvania parishes and encourage our faithful to return to full participation in the life of the church. Wilmington, DE may implement the new guidelines on May 21<sup>st</sup>. Let our churches be filled once again to the Glory of God! One may personally choose to wear a mask if desired, but it is no longer required. Parishes that have adequate room may set aside a small part of the sanctuary for those who may be immunocompromised, and medically need additional personal space.

I pray that our faithful will welcome these changes and begin to experience some measure of peace. Our full choirs may return to the choir lofts, parish councils may gather and other activities may resume as before. Let us give thanks to the Lord that He has heard the voice of His people and stretched forth His healing hand! I would encourage every parish and parishioner to offer prayers of thanksgiving for answered prayers.

Your unworthy father in Christ,

+ Mark

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



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

# **You're Invited!!!**

Please join us for a farewell coffee social in honor of Bryan and Denise Distefano. Their administrative and committee leadership contributions toward the health and welfare of our parish community is so appreciated, but more importantly their friendship has meant a lot to so many people and we will miss them. If you plan to attend, please let one of us know so that we may plan accordingly.

**Sunday, June 6**

RSVP - Aliana/Radu Longu, Guiliana Holebeny,  
Karen Gowarty or Victoria Dimonie

## **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.

## **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.

# **St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church**

## **Revitalization Groups**

Communication, Christian Education, and Active Service  
Combined Group Update - June 2021

A combined meeting of all the revitalization groups was held on Zoom, in February 2021. At this meeting, the members were tasked with deciding how we should proceed during 2021, in-light of the continued COVID-19 restrictions. We came to a consensus to address the following 4 projects for this year and to meet on an as needed basis.

Children's Library Books: The Reactivation Committee agreed to re-open the children's library at the beginning of Great Lent. As of May 2021, the entire library was re-opened for all youth and adults. Additional bookshelves have been added to the library and although some reorganization still needs to be completed, books are available for check out. (Completed)

Feed the Children Community Service: In March, Feed the Children was contacted to see if they were open to community volunteers to help stock canned goods for the needy, but they have not yet re-opened due to COVID-19. (Completed)

St Nicholas Welcome Brochure: The new welcome brochure has been completed and is now available. Copies may be found on the shelves in the narthex. Please take one home and give some to your friends and family! (Completed)

On-line Payment for St Nicholas: The group revisited the idea about having an on-line payment system on the St Nicholas website. On-line payments systems are a common practice and are available on many Orthodox websites. (Incomplete)

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Distefano

Revitalization Group Members 2021: Fr. Matthew Joyner, Karen Gowarty, Carmen Hodson, Guliana Holobeny, Jeff Markham, Mike Metz, Barb Monarek, Sue Nielsen, Nick Stepanoff

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, David G. Cudlic, Roberta Cusick, Val Danchenko, Judi Diaz, Betty Fedora, 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, 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, Natalie Stepanoff, Mary Strohecker, Ola Tatusko, Irene Witanek

**Child of God:** Emily Estrin

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

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