Divine Liturgy Sunday, January 9, 2022 **Afterfeast of the Theophany Sunday After the Theophany**





Revered Nikolai Breckenridge, Rector Cell: 570-604-4277 Email: nikolai.breckenridge@gmail.com

Mitred Archpriest James Mason, Attached

Deacon Geoffrey LoBalbo

Lori Lezinsky, 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)

Please turn off or silence your electronic devices before entering the church. Thank you.

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

Schedule for the Week of January 9, 2022

29th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 4. Afterfeast of the Theophany. Sunday after Theophany. Martyr Polyeuktos of Melitēné in Armenia (259). Hieromartyr Philip, Metropolitan of Moscow and All Russia (1570). Prophet Shemaiah (Samaia, Semeias–3[4] Kings 12:22–10th c. B.C.). St. Peter, Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia (4th c.). St. Eustratius the Wonderworker (9th c.).

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Fr. Nikolai will establish office hours after house blessings are complete.

Coffee Hour Today

Please join us for coffee hour today.

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

Live Stream will also be available for all services.

Saturday, January 15, 2022

4:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, January 16, 2022

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Divine Liturgy

Sunday, January 9, 2022 Afterfeast of the Theophany Sunday After the Theophany

Tone 4Troparion(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 1Troparion(Feast)

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest. For the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee, and called Thee His beloved Son; and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ our God, Who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

Tone 4Kontakion(Resurrection)

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

Tone 4Kontakion(St. Polyeuctus)

When the Savior bowed His head in the Jordan, the heads of the dragons were crushed; when Polyeuctus was beheaded, the deceiver was put to shame.

Tone 4 Kontakion (Feast)

Today Thou hast shone forth to the world, O Lord, and the light of Thy countenance has been marked on us. Knowing Thee, we sing Thy praises: "Thou hast come and revealed Thyself, O unapproachable Light."

Tone 1Prokeimenon(Sunday After)

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

Read by Reader Matthew Lezinsky

(Ephesians 4:7-13 (Sunday After)) But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men." (Now this, "He ascended" - what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

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

(Matthew 4:12-17 (Sunday After)) Now when Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, He departed to Galilee. And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles: The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death Light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

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

Magnify, O my soul, the most pure Virgin Theotokos, more honorable than the heavenly hosts!

No tongue knows how to praise thee worthily, O Theotokos; even angels are overcome with awe praising thee. But since thou art good, accept our faith; for thou knowest our love inspired by God! Thou art the defender of Christians, and we magnify thee.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (*Ps. 148:1*) The grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men. (*Titus 2:11*) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Candle Offerings Sunday, January 2, 2022

Vigils in Altar - Windowsill (2)

Happy Birthday Paul Havrilko Offered by Slobada, Havrilko, and Lezinsky Familio

Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)

Happy Birthday Paul Havrilko Offered by Slobada, Havrilko, and Lezinsky Familio

Vigils in Altar - Side Table (2)

Happy Birthday Paul Havrilko Offered by Slobada, Havrilko, and Lezinsky Familio

Crosses

Happy Birthday Paul Havrilko, Offered by Lezinsky & Florenz Families

Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)

Happy Birthday Michael Slivka, Offered by Fran Slivka

Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary

Happy Anniversary Fran & Mike Slivka Offered by Slivka Children & Grandchildren

Vigils - Icon of St. John the Baptist (2)

In Memory of Stella Gall, Offered by Janice Cudlic

Vigils of St. Paul (1)

Happy Birthday GGPa Offered by Sasha, Elena, Nicholas, Sophia, Jacob, Brooke, Victoria

Flowers to Adorn the Icon of The Theophany of Our Lord

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

WELCOME!!!

Fr. Nikolai & Mat. Mila

Coffee Hour POSTPONED TO January 16, 2022 To Fund Tornado Relief

Dear Parishioners,

The devastation that recently occurred throughout Kentucky and other states is beyond imagining. There are two Orthodox Christian charities that offer assistance to those in need: IOCC and FOCUS. We will host a light luncheon Coffee Hour in the hope that you will be generous and give from your heart for those who have lost everything. Whatever we receive will be split between these two charities.

> With love in Christ, St. Nicholas Pierogi Workers

Request for Annual Church Organization Reports

Please note that all Church Organization Reports must be submitted to the Administrative Assistant by January 15, 2022 in order to prepare the packets for the Annual Parish Assembly. Kindly submit all reports formatted as Microsoft Word documents or in text in the body of an email to the Administrative Assistant. Packets will be distributed to parishioners prior to the meeting scheduled for February 20, 2022.

A Note of Thanks from St. Michael's Cathedral in Sitka, Alaska

Dear Parishioners of St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church:

Thank you for your generous donation to St. Michael's Cathedral in Sitka, Alaska. Your kindness will help our parish and cathedral through this winter.

Bless you and Thank you,

Ana Dittmar, Parish Council, St. Michael's

A Note of Thanks from St. Tikhon's Monastery

Beloved of God:

The Brotherhood of St. Tikhon's Monastery wants to offer its sincere thanks to you for your donation and gratefully accepts your offering to God and His Church.

Be assured of our prayers for you and your intentions and may the blessing of Almighty God be upon you always.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Archimandrite Sergius, Abbot of St. Tikhon's Monastery

A Note of Thanks from St. Herman Theological Seminary

Dear friend of Saint Herman's Seminary,

I am writing you to thank you for your generosity that is so necessary for the work at our beloved seminary. Through your gifts, the seminary is able to continue the great labors of Saint Innocent and Saint Herman training future priests so that they might go forth with the true light of the Gospel of Christ. The light by which the seminarians read, the food blessed at the meals, the prayers offered up in the chapel, and the work they will one day do in the villages. You are part of all this. On behalf of the dean, the faculty, the staff, the seminarians, and their families, I thank you and pray that God bless you one-hundred fold.

With God's blessings through the prayers of St. Herman, +Bishop Alexis

A Note of Thanks from St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary

Dear parish council and faithful members:

You sustain us! We love you! You make St Tikhon's possible. Your gift helps make St Tikhon's, St Tikhon's. Our aim is to form the next generation of Orthodox Clergy and Lay Leaders for the Orthodox Church in America, and the wider Orthodox Christian Family. Just this summer - since graduation!- we have witnessed the making of three new priests from among our recent graduates: Fr Sergay Kakorin-who is heading to the Diocese of the West; Fr Jacob Ramseywho is heading to the Diocese of New York and New Jersey; and Fr Jeremiah McKemy, who is heading to the Diocese of the South. These, our graduates, are being sent out in all directions to share the love of Christ with all wo will listen.

Your generosity has helped to form these three, as well as their classmates, and will help accomplish the same in our incoming class-our largest in recent memory. With applications still coming in we expect 18 or more in the class of 2024.

St John Chrysostom said that the ministry of the priest is even great than that of the angels. Who else, he asks, can take bread and wine of the earth, and call down the grace of the Holy Spirit, to affect their change in the very Body and Blood of the Lord? Thank you-even since May!-for helping to make this miracle possible in three new men.

St Tikhon's is *your* seminary. While we are here, by your gifts, to train the seminarians, we are also here to serve you. If we can help in any way, even as a toke of our love and gratitude please write me at <u>dean@stots.edu</u> to say how.

Our door are open. Come and see! With abundant thanks, I remain, Fr. John Parker, Dean

Candle Desk Books Updated for 2022

All of the sign up sheets and books have been updated for 2022. Please stop by to sign up to sponsor a coffee hour, be a greeter, or read the Epistle during services in the new year. You may also sign up to sponsor icon flowers or altar candles for the feast days in 2022, as well as our weekly candles.

A Note of Thanks from The Orthodox Monastery of the Transfiguration

Dear Father and Faithful at St. Nicholas,

Thank you for your generosity to our monastery during this holy season, and for so many times in the past. We are really touched by your love.

May our Lord guide you in your ways and bless you with a joyous and healthy Nativity season.

In Christ,

Mother Christophora and all the Sisters

A Note of Thanks from

St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary

House Blessing Schedule

If you are interested in having Fr. Nikolai Breckenridge bless your home this year, please sign up on the sheet at the candle desk. Thank you!

Grocery Gift Cards Are Back!!!

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.

Current participating stores are **Redners**, **Giant** and **Weis Markets** (Coming soon - Valley Farms), but others may be added soon. Cards are available in a variety of denominations. 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!

Please see Judy Lezinsky for Grocery Gift Cards, or call for any special orders. 610-868-9468 (Cash or checks please.)

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, James Mason, Claude Vinyard, Dimitri Oselinsky, David Shewczyk, Dennis Swenki, James Weremedic

Priests: Nikolai Breckenridge, Ian Shipley, John Nightingale

Deacons: Geoffrey LoBalbo

Subdeacons: Michael (Frank) Guydan

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

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

Handmaidens of God: Lara Bessman, Tosha Roberts, Stephanie Sica, Valerie Stepanoff, and their unborn children

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