

# **Divine Liturgy**

Sunday, January 30, 2022

**32nd Sunday after Pentecost**

**Synaxis of the Three Great Ecumenical Teachers and Hierarchs:  
Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom**



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



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Reverend 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 30, 2022

**32nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 7. Synaxis of the Ecumenical Teachers and Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom.** Hieromartyr Hippolytus, and those with him (268-270). Ven. Zenon the Faster, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves–14th c.). Ven. Zeno, Hermit, of Antioch, disciple of St. Basil the Great (5th c.). Martyr Theophilus the New in Cyprus (784). Rt. Blv. Petar (Peter), King of Bulgaria (967). The “TINOS” Icon of the Mother of God (1823).

## Fr. Nikolai’s Office Hours

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

## Coffee Hour Today

Coffee hour hosted by The Bzik Family

## Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

**Tuesday, February 1, 2022**

7:00 pm - Great Vespers

**Wednesday, February 2, 2022**

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

**Saturday, February 5, 2022**

4:00 pm - Great Vespers

**Sunday, February 6, 2022**

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Note: The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 20, 2022.

# Divine Liturgy

Sunday, January 30, 2022

## 32nd Sunday after Pentecost

### Synaxis of the Three Great Ecumenical Teachers and Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom

#### **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**      *(Three Hierarchs)*

Let us who love their words come together with hymns, and honor the three great torch-bearers of the triune Godhead: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom! These men have enlightened the world with the rays of their divine doctrines. They are sweetly flowing rivers of wisdom, and have filled all creation with springs of heavenly knowledge. They ceaselessly intercede for us before the Holy Trinity.

#### **Tone 4**      **Troparion**      *(Three Hierarchs)*

As sharers of the Apostles' life and character and teachers of the universe, intercede with the Master of all to grant peace to the world, and great mercy to our souls!

#### **Tone 7**      **Kontakion**      *(Resurrection)*

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: "The Savior has come to those in faith; enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!"

**Tone 2      Kontakion      *(Three Hierarchs)***

O Lord, Thou hast taken up to eternal rest and to the enjoyment of Thy blessings the divinely-inspired heralds, the greatest of Thy teachers, for Thou hast accepted their labors and deaths as a sweet-smelling sacrifice, for Thou alone art glorified in Thy saints.

**Tone 7      Prokeimenon      *(Resurrection)***

The Lord shall give strength to His people. The Lord shall bless His people with peace. *(Ps. 28:11)*

*Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord! (Ps. 28:1a)*

**Tone 8      Prokeimenon      *(Three Hierarchs)***

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe. *(Ps. 18:4)*

**Epistle**

Read by Reader Nicholas Lezinsky

**(Timothy 1:15-17)** This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

**(Hebrews 13:7-16 *(Three Hierarchs)*)** Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For it is good that the heart be established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied with them. We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned outside

the camp. Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate. Therefore let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach. For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come. Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

### **Tone 7**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy Name, O Most High.  
(Ps. 91:1)*

*To declare Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth by night. (Ps. 91:2a)*

### **Tone 1**

*The heavens will praise Thy wonders, O Lord; and Thy truth in the congregation of the saints. (Ps. 88:5)*

### **Gospel**

**(Matthew 15:21-28)** Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed." But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she cries out after us." But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, help me!" But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

**(Matthew 5:14-19 (Three Hierarchs))** You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your

light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

### **Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! *(Ps. 148:1)*  
Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe. *(Ps. 18:4)*  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

### **Magnification**

We magnify, we magnify you, O Hierarchs of Christ, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom, and we honor your holy memory, for you pray to Christ Our God for us.

## **The Feast of The Three Hierarchs**

During the reign of the Emperor Alexius Comnenus (1081-1118), a controversy arose in Constantinople among men learned in the Faith and zealous for virtue about the three holy Hierarchs and Fathers of the Church, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom.

Some argued for Saint Basil [known as Basilians] above the other two because he was able, as none other, to explain the mysteries of the Faith, and rose to angelic rank by his virtues. Organizer of monastic life, leader of the entire Church

in the struggle with heresy, austere and demanding shepherd as to Christian morals, in him there was nothing base or of the earth. Hence, said they, he was superior to Saint Chrysostom who was by nature more easily inclined to absolve sinners.

The partisans of Saint Chrysostom [known as Johnites] retorted that the illustrious Archbishop of Constantinople had been no less zealous than Saint Basil in combatting vices, in bringing sinners to repentance and in raising up the whole people to the perfection of the Gospel. The golden-mouthed shepherd of matchless eloquence has watered the Church with a stream of homilies in which he interprets the divine word and shows its application in daily life with more accomplished mastery than the two other holy Doctors.

According to a third group [known as Gregorians], Saint Gregory the Theologian was to be preferred to the others by reason of the majesty, purity and profundity of his language. Possessing a sovereign mastery of all the wisdom and eloquence of ancient Greece, he had attained, they said, to such a pitch in the contemplation of God that no one had been able to express the dogma of the Holy Trinity as perfectly as he.

With each faction setting up one of the Fathers against the other two in this way, the whole Christian people were soon caught up in the dispute, which, far from promoting devotion to the Saints in the City, resulted in nothing but ill-feeling and endless argument.

Then one night the three holy Hierarchs appeared in a dream to Saint John Mauropus, the Metropolitan of Euchaita (5 Oct.), separately at first, then together and, speaking with a single voice, they said: "As you see, the three of us are with God and no discord or rivalry divides us. Each of us, according to the circumstances and according to the inspiration that he received from the Holy Spirit, wrote and taught what befits the salvation of mankind. There is not among us a first, a second or a third, and if you invoke one of us the other two are immediately present with him. Therefore, tell those who are quarrelling not to create divisions in the Church because of us, for when we were on earth we spared no effort to reestablish unity and concord in the world. You can conjoin our three commemorations in one feast and compose a service for it, inserting the hymns dedicated to each of us according to the skill and knowledge that



God has given you. Then transmit it to the Christians with the command to celebrate it each year. If they honour us thus as being with and in God, we give them our word that we will intercede for their salvation in our common prayer.” At these words, the Saints were taken up into heaven in a boundless light while conversing with one another by name [PG 120].

Saint John immediately assembled the people and informed them of this revelation. As he was respected by all for his virtue and admired for his powerful eloquence, the three parties made peace and every one urged him to lose no time in composing the service of the joint feast. With fine discernment, he selected January 30 as appropriate to the celebration, for it would set the seal to the month in which each of the three Hierarchs already had a separate commemoration.

The three Hierarchs – an earthly trinity as they are called in some of the wonderful troparia of their service – have taught us, in their writings and equally by their lives, to worship and to glorify the Holy Trinity, the One God in three Persons. These three luminaries of the Church have shed the light of the true Faith all over the world, scorning dangers and persecutions, and they have left us, their descendants, this sacred inheritance by which we too can attain to utmost blessedness and everlasting life in the presence of God and of all the Saints.

With the Feast of the Three Hierarchs at the end of January – the month in which we keep the memory of so many glorious bishops, confessors and ascetics – the Church in a way recapitulates the memory of all the Saints who have witnessed to the Orthodox faith by their writings and by their lives. In this feast we honour the whole ministry of teaching of the holy Church, namely, the illumination of the hearts and minds of the faithful through the word of truth. So the feast of the three Hierarchs is, in fact, the commemoration of all the Fathers of the Church, those models of evangelical perfection which the Holy Spirit has raised up from age to age and from place to place to be new Prophets and new Apostles, guides of souls heavenward, comforters of the people and fiery pillars of prayer, supporting the Church and confirming her in the truth.

# **Candle Offerings**

## **Sunday, January 30, 2022**

### **Vigils in Altar - Windowsill (2)**

Happy Birthday Keri Tomsic, Offered by Mom & Dad (Radio)

### **Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)**

In Memory Of Olga, Oleg, Mikhail, Victor, Polina, Aleksandr  
Offered by Elena & Mila

### **Votives in Altar**

In Memory Of Helen Karel On What Would Have Been Her 103<sup>rd</sup> Birthday  
Offered by Thomas & Olga Karel & Family

### **Crosses**

Happy Birthday Keri Tomsic, Offered by Godson, Ethan and Radio Family

### **Vigils on the Tetrapod (2)**

In Memory Of Child Of God Amelia Mack 40<sup>th</sup> Day  
Offered by Bill & Sandi Keysock

### **Vigils on Icon Table (2)**

For Health Of Lioudmila, Elena, Felipe, Ana, Offered by Elena & Mila

### **Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)**

In Memory Of Alexander Radchuk, Offered by Bill & Sandi Keysock

### **Vigils on South Wall Window Sill (3)**

In Memory Of Helen Karel On What Would Have Been Her 103<sup>rd</sup> Birthday  
Offered by Thomas & Olga Karel & Family

### **Vigils on North Wall Window Sill (3)**

In Memory Of Helen Karel On What Would Have Been Her 103<sup>rd</sup> Birthday  
Offered by Thomas & Olga Karel & Family

# Annual Parish Meeting Notice

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 20, 2022. The meeting will be held in the church hall immediately following the Divine Liturgy. A light luncheon will be served. All are encouraged to read the agenda and reports thoroughly and prepare their questions to ensure an expedited parish meeting. Please note that there will be no means of virtual participation in the meeting.

According to the bylaws of St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, the required quorum for a parish meeting is the attendance of at least 25% of voting members in good standing. A quorum must be maintained throughout the meeting. If a quorum is not present, the meeting shall then be rescheduled by the Parish Council in consultation with the Rector, at which time the members present will constitute a quorum.

## Annual Parish Meeting Reports Available

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 20, 2022. Please be advised that printed copies of the agenda and reports will be available at the candle desk on Sunday, February 6, 2022 and Sunday, February 13, 2022, as well as prior to the meeting on Sunday, February 20, 2022. Please stop by to pick up a copy at your convenience. If you would like a copy emailed to you or mailed to you, please contact the Administrative Assistant at [Assistant4StNicholas@outlook.com](mailto:Assistant4StNicholas@outlook.com). Please note that due to postal delays, we cannot guarantee that mailed copies will arrive prior to the meeting.

## 2021 Donation Receipts Available

The 2021 donation receipt letters are available at the candle desk. Please be sure to stop by and pick yours up **TODAY** so that we can minimize the cost of mailing. **Any letters not picked up on Sunday, January 30, 2022 will be mailed on Monday, January 31, 2022.** Thank you!

# Parish Member in Good Standing

A member of the Parish is “in good standing” if he/she is no less than eighteen years of age; partakes of the Sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion at least once a year in his/her home parish; and regularly fulfills his/her financial obligations as established by the All-American Councils, Diocesan Assemblies and Parish Annual Meeting.

The required minimum financial obligation to remain “in good standing” is \$520.00 per member and is due by December 31st of each year. Parishioners who are unable to meet this obligation are encouraged to speak with the pastor about other ways to support the work of the Church. Parishioners who have not met this obligation for two years will be deleted from the Parish, Diocesan, and national membership lists.

## Annual Church Office Elections

What you need to know to vote in the Annual Parish Meeting being held on February 20, 2022 and to run for Church Office: According to our Bylaws in order to vote and participate in the discussions you must be a member at least 18 years of age and in good standing (both financially and sacramentally) for one (1) year. In order to run for Church Office you must be a member in good standing for two (2) years, same as above.

**If you are interested in serving on the Parish Council, please see any current member of the Parish Council.**

Please note the Parish Council Vice President and Secretary are chosen by and from the newly elected Parish Council to serve for one (1) year terms.

### **Parish Council Officer Positions**

Parish Council President (one year)  
Treasurer (one year)  
Financial Secretary (one year)

### **Parish Council Positions**

Three (3) three year terms  
One (1) one year term

### **Auditor Positions**

Four (4) one year terms

### **Diocesan Assembly Positions**

Diocesan Assembly Delegate  
Diocesan Assembly Alternate

### **All American Council Delegate**

### **All American Council Alternate**

## **Candle Prices**

- Decorated Candles \$10 each
- Tall Thin Beeswax Tapers \$1 each
- Short Thick Beeswax Tapers \$2 each
- Vigils in Colored Glass \$4 each
- 4 hr votives \$.50 each

## **Upcoming Scout Sunday Information Request**

Next Sunday is Orthodox Scouting Sunday, and we would like to recognize all of our current and former scouts. If you know of anyone who is new to scouting or had not been listed in the past, please let Jennifer Bzik know (by Thursday morning) so that all of our scouts names can be included in the bulletin.

## **A Note of Thanks**

Dear Parish Faithful,

We are pleased to announce that we raised a total of \$3,500 for the poor people who lost everything in the recent tornado devastation. A total of \$2,100 was raised during the coffee hour, the Pierogi Workers contributed \$1,000 and the Parish Council donated \$400 from our Charitable budget line item. We thank you all for your generosity and loving kindness.

With love in Christ,  
Pierogi Workers

## **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.

# Safety & Security Announcement

Parish Faithful,

We would like to thank you for making St. Nicholas a warm and inviting place for our many visitors and guests, and we fully expect that you will continue to do so in the future. Given the recent events in Dallas, we would like to respectfully request that you **DO NOT** admit **ANYONE** into the building unless they are personally known to you, particularly after services have started. For the safety and security of the Parish, we lock the Church doors at the start of services. If someone unknown to you does try to enter, please find a Parish Council member and notify them that someone is attempting to join the service.

We will attend to the visitor and welcome them into the Church.

Likewise, if you notice that a visitor is acting strangely, or seems "off", please let one of us know as well.

Yours in Christ,  
The Parish Council

## 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.**