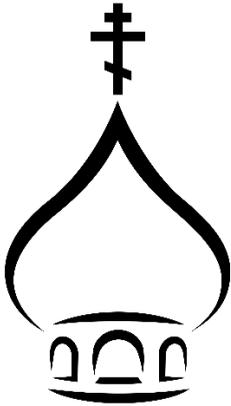


# **Divine Liturgy**

December 24, 2022

**Eve of the Nativity of Christ  
Saturday Before the Nativity**



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



# SAINT NICHOLAS

## RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

Karen Gowarty, Church School Administrator  
Phone: 610-810-6290  
Email: kareng18020@gmail.com

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

# Divine Liturgy

December 24, 2022

## Eve of the Nativity of Christ Saturday Before the Nativity

**Tone 2      Troparion**      *(of the day, for All Saints)*

O Apostles, Martyrs, and Prophets, Hierarchs, Holy Monks, and Righteous Ones, who completed well the fight and kept the faith, you have boldness before the Savior. We pray: "Intercede for us with Him, as He is good, that He may save our souls!"

**Tone 8      Kontakion**      *(of the day, for the Departed)*

With the saints give rest, O Christ, to the souls of Thy servants, where there is neither sickness nor sorrow, and no more sighing, but life everlasting!

**Tone 8      Kontakion**      *(of the day, for All Saints)*

The universe offers Thee the God-bearing Martyrs as the first fruits of creation, O Lord and Creator. By their prayers keep Thy Church, Thy habitation, in abiding peace through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One!

**Tone 8      Prokeimenon**      *(of the day, for All Saints)*

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O you righteous! *(Ps. 31:11a)*

*Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.  
(Ps. 31:1)*

### Epistle

**(Galatians 3:8-12 (Saturday Before))** And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed." So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham. For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them." But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for "the just shall live by faith." Yet the law is not of faith, but "the man who does them shall live by them."

## **Tone 4**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*The righteous cried and the Lord heard them, and delivered them out of all their troubles. (Ps. 33:17)*

*Many are the afflictions of the righteous; the Lord will deliver them out of them all. (Ps. 33:19)*

## **Gospel**

**(Luke 13:18-29 (Saturday Before))** Then He said, "What is the kingdom of God like? And to what shall I compare it? It is like a mustard seed, which a man took and put in his garden; and it grew and became a large tree, and the birds of the air nested in its branches." And again He said, "To what shall I liken the kingdom of God? It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened." And He went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. Then one said to Him, "Lord, are there few who are saved?" And He said to them, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able. When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open for us,' and He will answer and say to you, 'I do not know you, where you are from,' then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets.' But He will say, 'I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity.' There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out. They will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and sit down in the kingdom of God.

## **Communion Hymn**

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! (Ps. 32:1)  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!