

Divine Liturgy

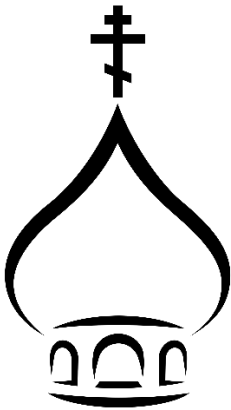
January 1, 2023

29th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday Before the Theophany

The Circumcision of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

St. Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



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Mitred Archpriest James Mason, Attached

Deacon Geoffrey LoBalbo

Lori Lezinsky, Parish Council President

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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)

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

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stnicholasoca.org

Schedule for the Week of January 1, 2023

29th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 4. The Circumcision of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. St. Basil the Great, Archbishop of Cæsarea in Cappadocia (379). Sunday before Theophany. Martyr Basil of Ancyra (ca. 362).

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Fr. Nikolai will be on Vacation from
Wednesday, December 28th - January 4th.
Regular Office Hours will resume after the House Blessing Season.

Coffee Hour Today

As of the time of bulletin printing, there was no host for coffee hour.

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

Thursday, January 5

Eve of Theophany
9:00 am - Royal Hours
6:00 pm - Theophany Compline with Blessing
of Waters

Friday, January 6

Theophany
8:50 am - Reading of the Hours
9:00 am - Festal Divine Liturgy

Saturday, January 7

4:30 pm - General Panikhida
5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, January 8

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

Saturday, January 14

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, January 15

31st Sunday after Pentecost
9:10 am - Reading of the Hours
9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Saturday, January 21
Sunday, January 22

5:00 pm - Great Vespers
32nd Sunday after Pentecost
9:10 am - Reading of the Hours
9:30 am - Divine Liturgy
7:00 pm - Parish Council Meeting
5:00 pm - Great Vespers
Sunday of Zacchaeus
9:10 am - Reading of the Hours
9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Monday, January 23
Saturday, January 28
Sunday, January 29

Candle Offerings for Sunday, January 1, 2023

Votives in Altar

In Memory Of Rosemary Ziegenfuss & Delphina Pociluyko
Offered by Laurel Riley & Diana Buskirk

Crosses

In Honor Of Donald Holobeny, for successful surgery & fast recovery
Offered by Guliana Holobeny

Vigils on the Tetrapod (2)

Happy Birthday Michael Keyscok, Offered by Bill & Sandi Keysock

Vigils on Icon Table (2)

For Health Of Joan Stetz, Offered by Pat & Tom

Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)

Happy Birthday Michael Slivka, Offered by Fran Slivka

Vigil of St. Michael (1)

Happy Birthday Michael Slivka, Offered by Slivka Children & Grandchildren

Flowers to Adorn the Icon of the Theophany of Our Lord

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

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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 1 Troparion *(Circumcision)*

Enthroned on high with the Eternal Father and Thy divine Spirit, O Jesus, Thou didst will to be born on earth of the unwedded handmaid, Thy Mother. Therefore Thou wast circumcised as an eight-day-old Child. Glory to Thy most gracious counsel; glory to Thy dispensation; glory to Thy condescension, O only Lover of man!

Tone 1 Troparion *(St. Basil)*

Thy proclamation has gone out into all the earth, which was divinely taught by hearing thy voice. Thou didst expound the nature of creatures and didst ennoble the manners of men. O venerable Father of royal priesthood, entreat Christ God that our souls may be saved!

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 4 Kontakion (St. Basil)

Thou wast revealed as the sure foundation of the Church, granting all mankind a lordship which cannot be taken away, sealing it with thy precepts, O venerable Basil, revealer of heaven.

Tone 3 Kontakion (Feast)

The Lord of all accepts to be circumcised, thus, as He is good, He excises the sins of mortal men. Today He grants the world salvation, while light-bearing Basil, high priest of our Creator, rejoices in heaven as a divine initiate of Christ.

Tone 6 Prokeimenon (Sunday Before and Circumcision)

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance! *(Ps. 27:9a)*

To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me! (Ps. 27:1a)

Tone 1 Prokeimenon (St. Basil)

My mouth shall speak wisdom, the meditation of my heart shall be understanding. *(Ps. 48:3)*

Epistle

Read by Reader Nick Stepanoff

(2 Timothy 4:5-8 (Sunday Before)) But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

(Colossians 2:8-12 (Circumcision)) Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. For in Him dwells

all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power. In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

Tone 8

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

O God, be bountiful to us and bless us, show the light of Thy countenance upon us, and have mercy on us. (Ps. 66:1)

That we may know Thy way upon the earth, and Thy salvation among all the nations. (Ps. 66:2)

Tone 8

Give ear, O shepherd of Israel, Thou Who leadest Joseph like a flock! (Ps. 79:1)

Gospel

(Mark 1:1-8 (Sunday Before)) The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the Prophets: "Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You. The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD; make His paths straight.'" John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

(Luke 2:20-21, 40-52 (Circumcision)) Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them. And when eight days were completed for the circumcision of the Child,

His name was called JESUS, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb. And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him. His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when He was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast. When they had finished the days, as they returned, the Boy Jesus lingered behind in Jerusalem. And Joseph and His mother did not know it; but supposing Him to have been in the company, they went a day's journey, and sought Him among their relatives and acquaintances. So when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking Him. Now so it was that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers. So when they saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously." And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" But they did not understand the statement which He spoke to them. Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

(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!

Rectory Phone Number Change

Please be advised that the Rectory phone number has recently been changed to 610-849-2048. Please make a note of the new number. Fr. Nikolai's cell phone number and email address remain the same.

Theophany Eve Holy Supper

A Strict Lenten Holy Supper will be served at 4:30 pm on Theophany Eve, Thursday, January 5, 2023. Please sign up at the candle desk if you are interested in attending. Thank you to Kyra Monarek for hosting!

A Note Of Thanks

Dear St. Nicholas Parishioners:

As you know the Giving Tree Project has a huge impact on the children/families, adults and aging adults in Northampton County. Once again, your parish family has exceeded my expectations. I appreciate the care and commitment you take to make these purchases on behalf of the recipients. For many of the people I work with, the Holiday Season is not easy. Please know that you made a difference by individually selecting a gift that feels exclusively selected for them. Thank you.

Also, I cannot express enough how much the grocery cards are appreciated as they are distributed to an individual or family when faced with a food emergency. While we use these cards in the holiday season, we often are able to use them into the next year. Allowing an individual or family to make their own food selection with these grocery cards allows for dignity in a tough situation. Thank you.

Your kindness and charitable giving is overwhelming! May all of you have a safe, happy and healthy 2023!

Sincerely,
Darlene Sabol-Perschy
Northampton County CYF
Adolescent Caseworker
610-829-4567

A Note of Thanks

A big thank you to all parishioners that donated items for the during the "One Can Can Help" food drive to benefit the Allentown Rescue Mission. They were so grateful and said that God should bless us all for being so generous.

Sandi Keysock, President RO59/NSS

Parish Budget Presentation

In order to facilitate a smooth Annual Parish Meeting, we will be having an open presentation of the proposed budget that the Parish Council is recommending for 2023. This will be held in the Chernay Fellowship Hall on Sunday, January 15th, after Divine Liturgy and Coffee Hour. We will be talking about the major budget items, so that any questions can be asked well in advance of the February Annual Meeting.

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

There are several open coffee hour days in the upcoming months. Please consider signing up if you haven't hosted in the past! There are copies of the guidelines for hosting coffee hour available in the signup book at the candle desk if you are not familiar with what to do. Contact Lori Lezinsky if you need help or have questions. Thank you!

The Property Care Ministry Needs Your Help!

The St. Nicholas parish Property Care Ministry is looking for volunteers to help with small maintenance and repair tasks around the church property. Many of these tasks are simple and do not require specialized skills (ie: changing light bulbs). If you would like to volunteer any amount of your time, please contact Radu Lungu or Jennifer Bzik. Please note that you do not need to commit to every work session or commit to a certain amount of time. All help is deeply appreciated. Thank you!

Pierogi Updates

We are currently on our Holiday Break. We will resume regular weekly pickup orders on January 25th. We also have frozen 4 packs of Halupki for sale for \$15. Please note that this schedule is subject to change.

House Blessing Schedule

Dear faithful,

Glory to Jesus Christ!

This year, I am attempting as much as possible to schedule 2023 House Blessings electronically. Therefore I've created an online sign-up form. We will also have the normal paper sign up at the candle desk, for those who don't wish to fill in the form themselves. Blessings will begin on Monday, January 9th, and are arranged according to location, so be sure to check both the time and the location on the schedule when you sign up.

The sign-up form can be found at www.stnicholasoca.org/theophany2023

In Christ,
Priest Nikolai Breckenridge

ATTENTION!!

We have frozen 4-packs of halupki for sale! They are \$15. Please see Val Roberts or Maxine Marsh.

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. Packets will be distributed to parishioners from the candle desk beginning on January 29, 2022 for their review prior to the meeting on February 19, 2022.

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:

Archbishop Mechisedek Pleska

Igumen: Patric Carpenter, David Lewis

Archpriests: Thomas Edwards, John Perich, James Mason, Claude Vinyard, Dimitri Oselinsky, David Shewczyk, Ian Shipley, Dennis Swenki, James Weremedic, John Onofrey

Priests: Nikolai Breckenridge, 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, Stephanie Onofrey

Servants: Bethany Bruder, Mary Brzuchalski, Helen Cotirgasanu, David G. Cudlic, Roberta Cusick, Val Danchenko, Betty Fedora, Christopher Felix, Olga Frimenko, Patricia G. Fu, Linda Gardner, Michele Gianfarcaro, Walter Grigoruk, Rachel Hardesty, Nicholas Hazzard, Don Holobeny, Jonathan Hontz, Sherry Hromiak, Michael H. Isbansky, Sarah Jubinski, Alexandra Keysock, Mary K. Koretski, Stephanie Koretski, Bernard Kusior, Jean Kusior, David Lezinsky, Judy Lezinsky, Victoria Lustig, Olga Maksimova, Amber Metz, Lanelle Mikolaitis, Catherine Miller, Nicolae & Doina Marian, Kylie Pinho, Kiera Pheiffer, Laurel Riley, Victoria Ross, Mary Ruzila, Nancy A. Sabol, Connor Samuels, Robert Schainfeld, Catherine Shea, Francine Slivka, Michael Slivka, Julia Smith, Julia G. Smolenski, Dorothy Stafiniak, Joan Stetz, Mary Strohecker, Ola Tatusko, Irene Witanek

Handmaidens of God: Amanda Riley, Kaylee Riley, Alyssa Weaver and their unborn children, Lisa Metz, Molly Polacco, Tasha Roberts and their newborn children.

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