

Divine Liturgy

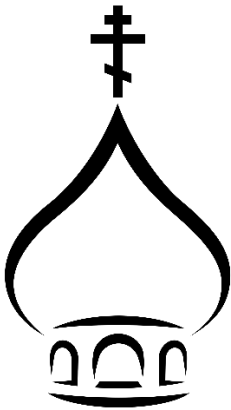
January 8, 2023

30th Sunday after Pentecost

Afterfeast of the Theophany

Sunday After the Theophany

Ven. George the Chozebite



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



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Mitred Archpriest James Mason, Attached

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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.***

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

Schedule for the Week of January 8, 2023

30th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 5. Afterfeast of the Theophany. Sunday after Theophany. Ven. George the Chozebite, Abbot (6th c.). Ven. Domnica of Constantinople (474). St. Emilian the Confessor, Bishop of Cyzicus (9th c.). Ven. Gregory, Wonderworker of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves–1093). Ven. Gregory the Recluse, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves–13th-14th c.). Hieromartyr Isidore and 72 others at Yuriev (Estonia–1472). St. Paisius of Uglich (1504). Hieromartyr Carterius of Cæsarea in Cappadocia (304). Martyrs Theophilus the Deacon, and Helladius, in Libya (4th c.). Martyrs Julian and his wife, Basilissa, and with them Marcionilla, her son Celsus, Anthony, Anastasius, 7 children and 20 soldiers, at Antinoë in Egypt (313). Ven. Elias the Hermit, of Egypt (4th c.). Martyr Abo the Perfumer, of Tiflis (Georgia–790).

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Regular Office Hours will resume after the House Blessing Season.

Coffee Hour Today

Today's coffee hour is hosted by The Lezinsky Family
In Honor Of Fr. Nikolai & Mat. Mila's 1st Anniversary at St. Nicholas

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

Saturday, January 14

Sunday, January 15

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

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

Monday, January 23

Saturday, January 28

Sunday, January 29

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

Divine Liturgy

January 8, 2023

**30th Sunday after Pentecost
Afterfeast of the Theophany
Sunday After the Theophany
Ven. George the Chozebite**

Tone 5 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

Tone 1 Troparion *(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 5 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior, shattering its gates as Almighty, resurrecting the dead as Creator, and destroying the sting of death. Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man, and we cry to Thee: "O Lord, save us!"

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 1 Prokeimenon (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 John Heitzenrater

(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 for Sunday, January 8, 2023

Vigils in Altar - Windowsill (2)

Happy Birthday Liliana Roberts, Offered by Baba & Papa

Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)

Happy Birthday Alex Roberts, Offered by Mom & Dad

Vigils in Altar - Side Table (2)

Safe Travels Gordon & Valerie Roberts

Votives in Altar

Happy Birthday Baba Roberts, Offered by Emily, Evie, Hannah, Lili, Leah

Votives in Iconostas

In Memory Of Alexander & Helen Karel
Offered by Thomas & Olga Karel & Family

Vigil in Side Candle Holders (2)

In Memory Of Alexander & Helen Karel
Offered by Thomas & Olga Karel & Family

Crosses

Happy Birthday Mom Roberts, Offered by Matt, Jess, Alex, Megan, Nick, Tosha

Vigils on the Tetrapod (2)

In Memory Of Alexander & Helen Karel
Offered by Thomas & Olga Karel & Family

Vigils on Icon Table (2)

Safe Travels Gordon & Valerie Roberts

Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)

In Memory Of Nancy Junda 1st Year Anniversary, Offered by Barb & Kyra

Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary

In Memory Of Nancy Junda 1st Year Anniversary, Offered by Barb & Kyra

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

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

Votives - Icon of St. John the Baptist

In Memory Of Alexander & Helen Karel
Offered by Thomas & Olga Karel & Family

Vigils on South Wall Window Sill (3)

Happy Birthday Liliana Roberts, Offered by Baba & Papa

Vigils of St. Gregory (1)

Safe Travels Gordon & Valerie Roberts

Vigils of St. Paul (1)

In Memory Of Alexander & Helen Karel
Offered by Thomas & Olga Karel & Family

Vigils on North Wall Window Sill (3)

Happy Birthday Alex Roberts, Offered by Mom & Dad

Vigil of St. Michael (1)

In Memory Of Alexander & Helen Karel
Offered by Thomas & Olga Karel & Family

Vigil of St. Andrew (1)

In Memory Of Alexander & Helen Karel
Offered by Thomas & Olga Karel & Family

Annual Parish Meeting Notice

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 19, 2023. 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.

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 Parish Meeting Reports Available

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 19, 2023. Please be advised that printed copies of the agenda and reports will be available at the candle desk beginning on Sunday, January 29, 2023. 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. Please note that due to postal delays, we cannot guarantee that mailed copies will arrive prior to the meeting.

Annual Church Office Elections

What you need to know to vote in the Annual Parish Meeting being held on February 19, 2023 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 Fr. Nikolai or 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)

Auditor Positions

Four (4) one year terms

Parish Council Positions

Two (2) three year terms

Diocesan Assembly Positions

Diocesan Assembly Delegate
Diocesan Assembly Alternate

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.

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.

Diocesan Assembly

On Thursday, January 26th, and Friday, January 27th, our parish will be hosting the Annual Diocesan Assembly for the Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania. We have been host to this event multiple times over the years, and every time, we've been known to be excellent hosts. Let's have this year be no exception. We need people on hand to help serve food and drinks for the meals on Thursday evening and Friday morning, as well as to help with setup and cleanup leading up to and after the event. If you are able to assist, please let Fr. Nikolai or Jen Bzik know!

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.

A Note of Thanks

Dear St. Nicholas Carolers,

Christ Is Born! Glorify Him!

We are so thankful to belong to a wonderful Church family at St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church. The joy of Christ's Birth was heard in your singing! Praise God!! We also thank you for the gift bag with all the goodies in it. This will be a Christmas that we will remember forever!!

Our Love,
Shirley & Mickey Isbansky

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

2022 Calendars Are Available

The St. Tikhon's Monastery 2022 Lectionary Wall Calendars are now available to pick up in the Narthex. Thank you to Connell Funeral Home for their generous sponsorship of these calendars.

Address Change

Please note the new address for Walter Grigoruk:

The Village at LifeQuest
2100 Cherry Blossom Lane, Apt 156
Quakertown, PA 18951
Phone: 215-529-5935
Cell: 484-894-7007

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!

Upcoming Parish Council Meeting

Parish Council Meeting - Monday, January 23, 2023, at 7:00 pm.

Some may not know, but Council Meetings are open to all Parishioners to observe. If you wish to attend, please let Fr. Nikolai or Jen know, so we know to expect you.

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!

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.

ATTENTION!!

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

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, 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: Lydia Hashinger, 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.