

# **Divine Liturgy**

January 15, 2023

**31<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**Ven. Paul of Thebes**

**Ven. John Calabytes (the Hut-Dweller)**



**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

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

# Schedule for the Week of January 15, 2023

**31st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 6.** Ven. Paul of Thebes (341) and John Calabytes (“the Hut-dweller”–5th c.). Ven. Pansophius of Alexandria, Martyr (ca. 249-251). Ven. Prochorus, Abbot, in the Vranski desert on the River Pshina in Bulgaria (10th c.). Ven. Gabriel, founder of Lesnovo Monastery in Bulgaria (11th c.).

## 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 Wash & Pat Telepchak

## Parish Budget Presentation - TODAY

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.

## Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

**Saturday, January 14**

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

**Sunday, January 15**

31<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

<b>Saturday, January 21</b>	5:00 pm - Great Vespers
<b>Sunday, January 22</b>	32 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 9:10 am - Reading of the Hours 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy
<b>Monday, January 23</b>	7:00 pm - Parish Council Meeting
<b>Saturday, January 28</b>	5:00 pm - Great Vespers
<b>Sunday, January 29</b>	Sunday of Zacchaeus 9:10 am - Reading of the Hours 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy
<b>Wednesday, February 1</b>	6:00 pm - Great Vespers with Litia
<b>Thursday, February 2</b>	Meeting of the Lord in the Temple 8:50 am - Reading of the Hours 9:00 am - Divine Liturgy
<b>Saturday, February 4</b>	4:30 pm - General Panikhida 5:00 pm - Great Vespers
<b>Sunday, February 5</b>	Publican & Pharisee 9:10 - Reading of the Hours 9:30 - Divine Liturgy
<b>Saturday, February 11</b>	5:00 pm - Great Vespers
<b>Sunday, February 12</b>	Prodigal Son 9:10 - Reading of the Hours 9:30 - Divine Liturgy
<b>Thursday, February 16</b>	St. Nicholas of Japan 8:50 am - Reading of the Hours 9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

# Divine Liturgy

January 15, 2023

**31<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**Ven. Paul of Thebes**

**Ven. John Calabytes (the Hut-Dweller)**

**Tone 6      Troparion      *(Resurrection)***

The Angelic Powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure body. Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee.

**Tone 4      Troparion      *(Sts. Paul and John)***

O God of our Fathers, always act with kindness towards us; take not Thy mercy from us, but guide our lives in peace through the prayers of the venerable Paul and John!

**Tone 6      Kontakion      *(Resurrection)***

When Christ God, the Giver of Life, raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand, He bestowed resurrection on the human race. He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

**Tone 2      Kontakion      *(St. John)***

Longing for poverty in imitation of Christ, thou didst abandon thy parents' wealth, O wise Father John; grasping the Gospel in thy hands, thou didst follow Christ God, unceasingly praying for us all.

**Tone 3      Kontakion      *(St. Paul)***

Today we gather and praise thee with hymns as an unwaning ray of the spiritual Sun; for thou dost shine on those in the darkness of ignorance, leading all

mankind to the heights, venerable Paul, adornment of Thebes and firm foundation of the fathers and ascetics.

**Tone 6      Prokeimenon      *(Resurrection)***

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)*

### **Epistle**

Read by Reader Michael Metz

**(1 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.

### **Tone 6**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*He who dwelleth in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the heavenly God. (Ps. 90:1)*

*He will say to the Lord: "My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in Whom I trust."(Ps. 90:2)*

### **Gospel**

**(Luke 18:18-27)** Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. You know the commandments: 'Do not

commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not steal,' 'Do not bear false witness,' 'Honor your father and your mother.'" And he said, "All these things I have kept from my youth." So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich. And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." And those who heard it said, "Who then can be saved?" But He said, "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God."

### **Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (*Ps. 148:1*)  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

# **Candle Offerings for Sunday, January 15, 2023**

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

In Memory Of Paul Havrilko, Offered by Havrilko, Lezinsky & Slaboda Families

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

In Memory Of Paul Havrilko, Offered by Havrilko, Lezinsky & Slaboda Families

## **Vigils in Altar - Side Table (2)**

In Memory Of Paul Havrilko, Offered by Havrilko, Lezinsky & Slaboda Families

## **Crosses**

In Honor Of Jason Tomsic's Birthday, Offered by Greg & Rosalie

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

In Honor Of Jason Tomsic's Birthday, Offered by Keri, Talia & Jones

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

In Honor Of Mom on her 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Offered by Amber & Michael Metz

## **Vigils of St. Paul (1)**

In Memory Of GGP

Offered by Sasha, Elena, Nicholas, Sophia, Jacob, Brooke, Victoria

## **Vigil of St. Michael (1)**

In Honor Of Michael Metz on his Birthday, Offered by Amber Metz

## **Vigil of St. Andrew (1)**

In Honor Of Michael Metz on his Birthday, Offered by Amber Metz



The background of the poster is a traditional Orthodox icon depicting the Baptism of Christ. In the center, Jesus Christ stands in the Jordan River, being baptized by John the Baptist. Above them, the Holy Spirit descends as a dove, with the Greek letters 'IC XC' (Jesus Christ) and a cross above the dove. To the right, three angels are shown in profile, looking towards the central scene. The entire scene is set against a dark blue background with stars. The text is overlaid on this icon.

The Lehigh Valley  
Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood

INVITES YOU TO

*The Blessing of  
the Jordan Creek*

1169 N 6TH STREET | FULLERTON, PA 18102

*Sunday, January 22nd*

*3:00 pm*

# **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

# **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!

## **A Note of Thanks**

Dear St. Nicholas Family,

On behalf of the faculty, staff, students, and administration of Chrysostom Academy, THANK YOU for your great generosity during the coffee hour on December 4th. In total, more than \$860.00 was raised for our Academy! I am at once humbled and honored to have your support.

Please know that our students pray daily for you and your intentions. If you are ever in the area, please stop in to see us. We would love to show you around.

In Christ,

John W. Heitzenrater II, Headmaster

and

The Faculty, Staff, Students, and Board of St. John Chrysostom Academy

## **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](http://www.stnicholasoca.org/theophany2023)

In Christ,  
Priest Nikolai Breckenridge

## **A Note of Thanks**

The Sunday school wishes to express a big "Thank You" to our parish brothers and sisters in Christ for the generous donations offered for our almsgiving project during our St. Nicholas Day Yolka Coffee Hour. We collected \$900 in total for the benefit of St. John Chrysostom Academy. Thank you again, and God Bless you.

## **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, 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.**