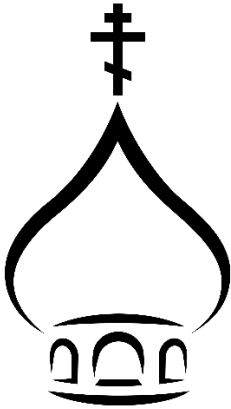


Divine Liturgy

February 12, 2023

35th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday of the Prodigal Son



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

Schedule for the Week of February 12, 2023

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON – Tone 2. St. Meletius, Archbishop of Antioch (381). St. Aleksy (Alexius), Metropolitan of Moscow, Wonderworker of All Russia (1378). St. Meletius, Archbishop of Khar'kov and Akhtyrsk (1840). Ven. Mary (who was called Marinus), and her father, Ven. Eugene, at Alexandria (6th c.). St. Anthony, Patriarch of Constantinople (895). St. Kristo the Gardener (Albania–1752). The “Iv'éron” (Iberian) Icon of the Mother of God.

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Monday, February 13th - Fr. Nikolai's Day Off
Wednesday, February 15th - 12:00 am - 5:00 pm
Friday, February 17th - 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Coffee Hour Today

Today's coffee hour is hosted by Margie & Joe Kavchok
To Support the Sunday School Children

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

Thursday, February 16

St. Nicholas of Japan

8:50 am – Reading of the Hours

9:00 am – Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 18

Memorial Saturday

8:50 am – Reading of the Hours

9:00 am – Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm – Great Vespers

Sunday, February 19

Sunday of Last Judgement / Meatfare Sunday

9:10 am – Reading of the Hours

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 25

5:00 pm – Great Vespers

Sunday, February 26

Forgiveness Sunday / Cheesefare Sunday

9:10 am – Reading of the Hours

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

12:00 pm – Forgiveness Vespers

Monday, February 27

7:00 pm - Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Tuesday, February 28

7:00 pm - Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Wednesday, March 1

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

Thursday, March 2

7:00 pm - Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Friday, March 3

7:00 pm - Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Saturday, March 4

St. Theodore the Recruit

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy St. Theodore the Recruit

4:30 pm - General Panikhida

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, March 5

The Sunday of Orthodoxy

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, March 8

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

Friday, March 10

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm - Akathist - St. Nicholas

Saturday, March 11

Memorial Saturday

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, March 12

St. Gregory Palamas

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, March 15

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

Friday, March 17

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm - Akathist - to our Lord's Passion

Saturday, March 18

Memorial Saturday

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, March 19

Sunday of the Cross

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, March 22

Friday, March 24

Saturday, March 25

Sunday, March 26

Wednesday, March 29

Thursday, March 30

Friday, March 31

Saturday, April 1

Sunday, April 2

Wednesday, April 5

Friday, April 7

Saturday, April 8

Sunday, April 9

Monday, April 10

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

Eve of Annunciation

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm - Vigil for Annunciation

Annunciation

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Festal Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

St. John Climacus

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm - Compline with Great Canon of St.

Andrew of Crete and the Life of St. Mary of Egypt

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm - Akathist - Theotokos

Akathist Saturday

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

4:30 pm - General Panikhida

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

St. Mary of Egypt

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm - Compline (Lazarus)

Lazarus Saturday

8:00 am - Baptism of Andrew Goth

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Palm Sunday

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

4:00 pm - Bridegroom Matins

Holy Monday

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

Tuesday, April 11

7:00 pm - Bridegroom Matins

Holy Tuesday

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

Wednesday, April 12

7:00 pm - Bridegroom Matins

Holy Wednesday

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm - Holy Unction

Thursday, April 13

Holy Thursday

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Vespereal Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

7:00 pm - Matins of Holy Friday with the 12 Passion Gospels

Friday, April 14

Holy Friday

9:00 am - Royal Hours

4:00 pm - Burial Vespers

7:00 pm - Matins Lamentations

All Night Watch

Saturday, April 15

Holy Saturday

9:00 am - Vespereal Divine Liturgy of Holy Saturday

GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA

11:30 pm - Paschal Vigil and Paschal Divine Liturgy
Followed by the blessing of baskets & Agape meal

11:00 am - Agape Vespers

Sunday, April 16

Monday, April 17

Bright Monday

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Saturday, April 22

Sunday, April 23

St. Thomas Sunday

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

2:00 pm - Blessing of the Graves - Union Cemetery

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Saturday, April 29

Sunday, April 30

Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing Women

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

2:00 pm - Blessing of the Graves - Catasauqua

Divine Liturgy

February 12, 2023

35th Sunday after Pentecost Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Tone 2 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead. And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: "O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!"

Tone 3 Kontakion *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

I have recklessly forgotten Thy glory, O Father; and among sinners I have scattered the riches which Thou gavest me. And now I cry to Thee as the Prodigal: "I have sinned before Thee, O merciful Father; receive me as a penitent, and make me as one of Thy hired servants!"

Tone 2 Prokeimenon *(Resurrection)*

The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation. *(Ps. 117:14)*

The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death. (Ps. 117:18)

Epistle

Read by Reader Nicholas Stepanoff

(1 Corinthians 6:12-20) All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not!

Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For "the two," He says, "shall become one flesh." But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

Tone 2

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

May the Lord hear thee in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect thee! (Ps. 19:1)

Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call! (Ps. 19:9)

Gospel

(Luke 15:11-32) Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood. And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead

and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry. Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.' But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. So he answered and said to his father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.'"

Communion Hymn

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

Candle Offerings for Sunday, February 5, 2023

Vigils in Altar - Windowsill (2)

Happy Birthday Dorothy Havrilko (Mom), Offered by Nick & Judy

Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)

In Memory Of Mary Keysock, Offered by Bill & Sandi

Vigils in Altar - Side Table (2)

In Memory Of Paul Stepanoff, Offered by Jocelyn, Kids & Grandkids

Votives in Altar

In Memory Of Paul Stepanoff, Offered by Jocelyn, Kids & Grandkids

Vigil in Side Candle Holders (2)

Save Travels Greg & Rosalie

Crosses

Happy Birthday Evelyn Roberts, Offered by Baba and Papa

Vigils on the Tetrapod (2)

In Memory Of Michael Stetz, Offered by Pat & Joan

Vigils on Icon Table (2)

In Memory Of Michael Stetz, Offered by Pat & Joan

Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)

Happy Birthday GGMa, Offered by Matthew, Sophia, Jacob & Lori

Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary

Happy Birthday GGMa

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

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

In Memory Of John Radio, Offered by Greg & Rosalie

Vigils on South Wall Window Sill (3)

In Honor Of the Anniversary of Fr. Thomas Edwards'

Ordination to the Priesthood

Offered by Patric & Kate Shea

Vigils of St. Gregory (1)

In Honor Of Ethan Radio, Offered by Baba & Poppy

Vigils of St. Paul (1)

In Memory Of Paul Stepanoff, Offered by Jocelyn Stepanoff

Vigil of St. Michael (1)

In Memory Of Michael Stetz, Offered by Pat & Joan



The Orthodox Church in America
DIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA AND EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA
The Most Rev. Mark, Archbishop of Philadelphia

February 2, 2023

St. Nicholas Church
980 Bridle Path Rd
Bethlehem, PA 18017

Dear Fr. Nikolai and faithful,

Christ is in our midst! He is and shall be. Thank you once again for hosting the 59th Diocesan Assembly of the Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania. Your hospitality and warm welcome are a reflection on you and the faithful of the whole parish. Clergy remarked it was the best Assembly they attended in their priesthood.

The environment was gracious, warm and welcoming and the hospitality appropriate for such an occasion. We thank you and the faithful for providing an appropriate environment for a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy for the Ordination of Fr Nathan Claussion to the Holy Priesthood and Dn. Kirill Zawatski to the Holy Diaconate. Ordinations within our parishes were a rare event provide the faithful with hope for life and continuance of our rich Faith for the coming generations.

All the labors of the faithful for hospitality a prayerful environment and hospitality are greatly appreciated. May our Lord continue to bless you and the faithful who labored on behalf of our Diocese with good health and many year blessed years.

Your unworthy father in Christ,

+ Mark

+MARK, Archbishop of Philadelphia and the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania
Locum Tenens of the Albanian Archdiocese of the Orthodox Church in America



325 N. Walnut Street * Bath, Pennsylvania 18014-1201

Telephone: 484.281.3406 * <http://www.doeppa.org> * Email: diocesoeppa@gmail.com

Chancellor: V. Rev. Raymond Martin Browne * Mobile: 570.906.1388

Diocesan Treasurer: Mark Linnehan * treasurer@doeppa.org

"Thou hast made us for Thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in Thee." Augustine

All Grocery Gift Cards Available

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.

We have cards available from all participating stores: Redner's, Giant, Weis Markets and Valley Farm Market. 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.)

Basket Raffle Donations Wanted

We will once again be hosting a Basket Raffle this year during our Lenten Fish Dinners, and we are looking for volunteers to donate baskets. We have a track record of offering beautiful baskets and we are hoping to uphold tradition. If you are able to make a basket, please contact Jennifer Bzik to let her know in advance. Don't be shy if you have never made a basket for the raffle before! Jennifer will be happy to help you out. If you are interested in supporting the Basket Raffle but are not able to make a basket, please consider making a cash donation. Jennifer will be happy to do the shopping and prepare a basket on your behalf! If you are planning to make a cash donation, please do so as soon as possible (no later than Sunday, March 12, 2023) so that we have an opportunity to shop and prepare a basket using those funds. All donated baskets must be brought to the church by noon on Sunday, March 19, 2023. If you have any questions or would like to make a donation, please contact Jennifer Bzik. Thank you so much for your support!

Bakers - Come Get Your Dishes by 2/26!

We have an accumulation of dishes, cookie containers, baking dishes, etc. belonging to our talented parish bakers. Please come claim yours! Check the table just inside the fellowship hall doors on the left. **Any items not claimed by February 26th will be donated.**

Upcoming Coffee Hour

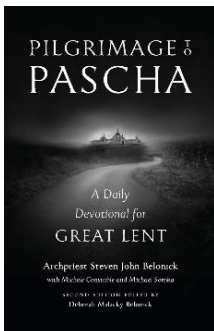
On March 26th, Aliana Lungu will be hosting a coffee hour to help defray the cost of providing for a traditional Orthodox burial for Julia Smolenski. At the time of Julia's passing, the Parish Council authorized that \$5,000 be contributed towards this effort, as her estate was not sufficient to cover the entire cost. The Parish Council has faith that the generosity of the St. Nicholas parishioners will ultimately come through to provide for this important effort for a valued member of our parish family.

4th Quarter Treasurer's Report Summary

October 2022	Income:	\$24,957.42
	Expenses:	\$37,944.82
	<u>Net Revenue:</u>	<u>\$(12,987.40)</u>
November 2022	Income:	\$48,686.43
	Expenses	\$38,167.09
	<u>Net Revenue:</u>	<u>\$10,519.34</u>
December 2022	Income:	\$63,074.68
	Expenses:	\$29,145.22
	<u>Net Revenue:</u>	<u>\$33,929.46</u>

Paska Baking Schedule

We will be baking Paska Bread on Friday, February 17, Friday, February 24 and Thursday, March 2. The process begins at 6:00 am and goes until approximately 5:00 pm, but you do not need to commit to staying the entire time. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Grammes or Maxine Marsh.



Pilgrimage to Pascha Books Available

Copies of Pilgrimage to Pascha: A Daily Devotional for Great Lent by Archpriest Steven John Belonick with Michele Constable and Michael Soroka are now available at the candle desk for \$15 each. All proceeds go to St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church.

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 are available at the candle desk. 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

Cemetery Committee Chair

One (1) one year term

Diocesan Assembly Positions

Diocesan Assembly Delegate

Diocesan Assembly Alternate

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, 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, Michael 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, and their unborn children, Lisa Metz, Molly Polacco, Alyssa Weaver and their newborn children.

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