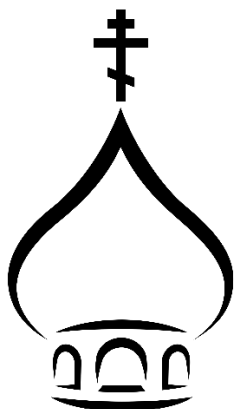


Divine Liturgy

March 26, 2023

**Fourth Sunday of Great Lent
St. John Climacus (of the Ladder)
Leavetaking of the Annunciation
Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel**



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
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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 March 26, 2023

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 8. Leavetaking of the Annunciation. Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel. St. John Climacus (of The Ladder).

Hieromartyr Irenæus, Bishop of Sirmium (304). Martyrs Bathusius and Bercus–Presbyters, Arpilus–Monk, Abibus, Agnus, Reasus, Igathrax, Iscoeus (Iskous), Silas, Signicus, Sonirilus, Suimbalus, Thermus, Phillus (Philgas)–laymen, and the women: Anna, Alla, Larissa, Monco (Manca), Uirko (Virko), Animais (Animaida), Gaatha and Duklida, in the Crimea (375). St. Malchus of Chalcis, Syria (4th c.). Ven. Basil the New, Anchorite, near Constantinople (10th c.). Martyr Montanus, Presbyter, of Singidunum, and his wife, Maxima (235).

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Tuesday, March 28th - Fr. Nikolai's Day Off
Wednesday, March 29th - 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Friday, March 31st - 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Coffee Hour Today

Today's coffee hour is hosted by Guliana Holobeny
In Memory Of Julia Smolenski

On March 26th, Guliana Holobeny 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.

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

Monday, March 27 7:00 pm - Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday, March 29 6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

Thursday, March 30

7:00 pm - Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete and the Life of St. Mary of Egypt

Friday, March 31

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm - Akathist - Theotokos

Saturday, April 1

Akathist Saturday

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

4:30 pm - General Panikhida

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, April 2

St. Mary of Egypt

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, April 5

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

Friday, April 7

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Lenten Fish Dinner

7:00 pm - Compline (Lazarus)

Saturday, April 8

Lazarus Saturday

8:00 am - Baptism of Andrew Goth

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, April 9

Palm Sunday

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

4:00 pm - Bridegroom Matins

Monday, April 10

Holy Monday

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm - Bridegroom Matins

Tuesday, April 11

Holy Tuesday

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm - Bridegroom Matins

Wednesday, April 12

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

March 26, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Great Lent
St. John Climacus (of the Ladder)
Leavetaking of the Annunciation
Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel

Tone 8 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings! O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

Tone 4 Troparion *(Feast)*

Today is the beginning of our salvation, the revelation of the eternal mystery! The Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin as Gabriel announces the coming of Grace. Together with him let us cry to the Theotokos: "Rejoice, O Full of Grace, the Lord is with thee!"

Tone 4 Troparion *(Archangel)*

Gabriel, Commander of the heavenly hosts, we who are unworthy beseech thee: by thy prayers encompass us beneath the wings of thine immaterial glory, and faithfully preserve us who fall down and cry out to thee: "Deliver us from all harm, for thou art the Commander of the Powers on high!"

Tone 8 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam. Eve exults in Thy Resurrection, and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

Tone 8 Kontakion (Archangel)

Supreme Commander Gabriel, thou art the glorious intercessor and servant before the all-radiant, worthy, all-powerful, infinite and awesome Trinity. Ever pray now that we may be delivered from all tribulations and torments, so that we may cry out to thee: "Rejoice, protection of thy servants!"

Tone 8 Kontakion (Feast)

O victorious leader of triumphant hosts! We, thy servants delivered from evil sing our grateful thanks to thee, O Theotokos. As thou dost possess invincible might set us free from every calamity so that we may sing: "Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!"

Tone 8 Prokeimenon (Resurrection)

Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God! (*Ps. 75:10a*)

In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel. (Ps. 75:1)

Tone 4 Prokeimenon (Feast)

From day to day proclaim the salvation of our God! (*Ps. 95:2a*)

Epistle

Read by Reader Michael Metz

(Hebrews 6:13-20) For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, "Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you." And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, where the

forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

(Hebrews 2:11-18 (Feast)) For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying: "I will declare Your name to My brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You." And again: "I will put My trust in Him." And again: "Here am I and the children whom God has given Me." Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham. Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

Tone 8

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior! (Ps. 94:1)

Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise! (Ps. 94:2)

Tone 1

He descends like rain upon the fleece, like raindrops that water the earth. (Ps. 71:6)

Gospel

(Mark 9:17-31) Then one of the crowd answered and said, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not." He answered him and said, "O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long

shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me." Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. So He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it: "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!" Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" So He said to them, "This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting." Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know it. For He taught His disciples and said to them, "The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day."

(Luke 1:24-38 (Annunciation)) Now after those days his wife Elizabeth conceived; and she hid herself five months, saying, "Thus the Lord has dealt with me, in the days when He looked on me, to take away my reproach among people." Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!" But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be

born will be called the Son of God. Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. For with God nothing will be impossible." Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:)

The Hymn to the Theotokos

O earth, announce good tidings of great joy: O heavens, praise the glory of God!

Since she is a living Ark of God let no profane hand touch the Theotokos. But let the lips of believers unceasingly sing to her, praising her in joy with the angel's song: "Rejoice, O Lady, full of grace, the Lord is with thee!"

Communion Hymn

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

The Lord has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His habitation. *(Ps. 131:14)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Candle Offerings for Sunday, March 26, 2023

Votives in Altar

For Health Of Regina Pinkowicz on her Birthday, Offered by Stephanie Pasquel

Votives in Iconostas

Memory Eternal Richard Scheetz, Offered by Amber & Michael Metz

Vigil in Side Candle Holders (2)

Happy Birthday Regina Pinkowicz, Offered by Joe, Colleen, Donna & Gemma

Crosses

Happy Birthday Regina Pinkowicz, Offered by Ann Marie & Barry

Vigils on the Tetrapod (2)

Happy Birthday Taras Guanowsky
Offered by Godparents Greg & Rosalie Radio

Vigils on Icon Table (2)

Happy Birthday Michael Isbansky
Offered by Moses, Carmen, Christopher & Alex

Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)

In Honor Of Michel H. Isbansky's 93rd Birthday, Offered by Shirley Isbansky

Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary

In Honor Of Michel H. Isbansky's 93rd Birthday, Offered by Shirley Isbansky

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

In Honor Of Michel H. Isbansky's 93rd Birthday, Offered by Shirley Isbansky

Votives - Icon of St. John the Baptist

In Honor Of Michel H. Isbansky's 93rd Birthday, Offered by Shirley Isbansky

Vigils on South Wall Window Sill (3)

Happy Birthday Taras Guanowsky, Offered by The Guanowsky Family

Vigil of St. Michael (1)

Happy Birthday Dad (Jim Scheetz), Offered by Amber & Michael Metz

Altar Candles for Great Lent

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



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2023 LENTEN FISH DINNERS



Menu

Baked or Fried Haddock
Oven Roasted Potatoes
Vegetable Roll
Beverage
Choice of Home Baked Desserts

Basket Raffle

Drawing on Friday
April 7 at 6:00pm

You don't need to be
present to win.

Vendors

Treasures of Russia
boutique for authentic gift
items imported from Russia

Mom's Candy Kitchen for deli
cious sweets!

Frozen potato/cheese pierogies & paska breads for sale.

Kielbasy Sampler Platter Church Fundraiser



Just in time for PASCHA!

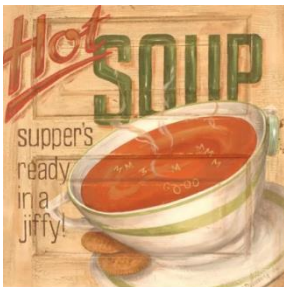
Orders and money due Sunday,
April 2

Pick up Saturday, April 15 after
the morning
liturgy until noon

Checks payable to:

Valerie Roberts
219 Pennsylvania Ave
Catasauqua, PA 18032
Phone: 610-264-7518

Lenten Soup Sale



Every coffee hour during lent we will be hosting a take home quart soup sale. Each week will be different strict Lenten soups. \$10 a quart. While supplies last. All proceeds will go to the HVAC fund. See Judy or Lori if you have any questions.



THIS WEEK:

Cabbage Soup (Kapusta)
White Bean/Orzo Soup
Minestrone Soup
Manhattan Clam Chowder

PS - If possible, please return your empty quart containers so that we may reuse them.

A Note Of Thanks

Dear St. Nicholas Family,

On behalf of the faculty and students of St. John Chrysostom Academy's Music Conservatory, thank you for your generous donations given during the coffee hour that the Heitzenrater Family sponsored on March 5, 2023. Over \$550.00 was collected for our music and theater program! May God bless your generosity and remember to save the date for May 19th and 20th when Chrysostom Academy will be hosting The Sound of Music.

In Christ,

John W. Heitzenrater II
Headmaster, Chrysostom Academy

Pussy Willow Branches



Reminder: It will soon be time for pussy willows to start blooming. Please cut the branches of willows and bring them to the church as soon as they bloom. Since Pascha is April 16th we will need to store the willows until Saturday, April 8th for Palm Sunday, April 9th. Please wrap the willows loosely in newspaper so we can save them for Palm Sunday. Thank you for your help in gathering the willows.



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.)

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, Julia Romanchak

Servants: Bethany Bruder, Mary Brzuchalski, Helen Cotirgasanu, David G. Cudlic, Roberta Cusick, Val Danchenko, 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, Alyssa Weaver and her newborn son.

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