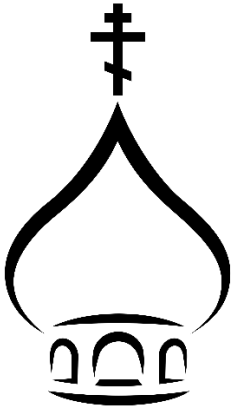


Divine Liturgy
April 2, 2023
Fifth Sunday of Great Lent
St. Mary of Egypt



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

Patricia Stetz Grammes, 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 April 2, 2023

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 1. St Mary of Egypt. Virgin Martyr Theodora of Tyre. Ven. Titus the Wonderworker (9th c.). Martyrs Amphianus (Apphianus) and Edesius (Aedesius) of Lycia (306). Martyr Polycarp of Alexandria (4th c.).

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Tuesday, April 4th - Fr. Nikolai's Day Off
Wednesday, April 5th - 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Friday, April 7th - 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Coffee Hour Today

Today's coffee hour is hosted by The Lungu Family
In Memory Of Dumitru & Silvia Lungu

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

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

April 2, 2023

Fifth Sunday of Great Lent

St. Mary of Egypt

Tone 1 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: "Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom! Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!"

Tone 8 Troparion *(St. Mary of Egypt)*

The image of God was truly preserved in thee, O Mother, for thou didst take up the Cross and follow Christ. By so doing, thou taughtest us to disregard the flesh for it passes away; but to care instead for the soul, for it is immortal. Therefore thy spirit, O holy Mother Mary, rejoices with the angels.

Tone 1 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Thyself. Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished. Adam exults, O Master! Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee: "Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!"

Tone 3 Kontakion *(St. Mary of Egypt)*

Having been a sinful woman, thou becomest through repentance a bride of Christ. Having attained angelic life, thou didst defeat demons with the weapon of the Cross. Therefore, O most glorious Mary, thou art a bride of the Kingdom.

Tone 1 Prokeimenon *(Resurrection)*

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)

Tone 4 Prokeimenon (St. Mary of Egypt)

God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel. (Ps. 67:35a)

Epistle

Read by

(Hebrews 9:11-14) But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

(Galatians 3:23-29 (St. Mary of Egypt)) But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Tone 1

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

God gives vengeance unto me, and subdues people under me. (Ps. 17:48)

He magnifies the salvation of the King and deals mercifully with David, His anointed, and his seed forever. (Ps. 17:51)

Tone 1

I waited patiently for the Lord; He attended to me and heard my supplication. (Ps. 39:1)

Gospel

(Mark 10:32-45) Now they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was going before them; and they were amazed. And as they followed they were afraid. Then He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them the things that would happen to Him: "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death and deliver Him to the Gentiles; and they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit on Him, and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again." Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask." And He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" They said to Him, "Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They said to Him, "We are able." So Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink the cup that I drink, and with the baptism I am baptized with you will be baptized; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John. But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

(Luke 7:36-50 (St. Mary of Egypt)) Then one of the Pharisees asked Him to eat with him. And He went to the Pharisee's house, and sat down to eat. And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at the table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil, and stood at His feet behind Him weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed them with the fragrant oil. Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he

spoke to himself, saying, "This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner." And Jesus answered and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." So he said, "Teacher, say it." "There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?" Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have rightly judged." Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head. You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil. Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little." Then He said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." And those who sat at the table with Him began to say to themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" Then He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."

(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!

Candle Offerings for Sunday, April 2, 2023

Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)

For Health Of Thomas Krejci, Offered by Karen Tokar

Vigils in Altar - Side Table (2)

For Health Of Chris Tokar, Offered by Karen Tokar

Votives in Altar

Happy Birthday Jean Jubinski, Offered by Dan, Peter & Sarah

Vigil in Side Candle Holders (2)

Happy Birthday Miss Jean, Offered by Sophia & Jacob

Crosses

Happy Birthday Stephanie Pasquel, Offered by Ann Marie & Barry

Vigils on the Tetrapod (2)

For Health Of Patricia Telepchak, Offered by Mat. Pat

Vigils on Icon Table (2)

In Memory Of Peter L. Slivka, Offered by Son Michael & Francine Slivka

Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)

Happy Birthday Jean Jubinski, Offered by Ann Marie & Barry

Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary

Happy Birthday Lucia Scheetz, Offered by Amber & Michael Metz

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

In Memory Of John Radio, Offered by Greg & Rosalie

Votives - Icon of St. John the Baptist

In Memory Of John Radio, Offered by Greg & Rosalie

Vigil of St. Michael (1)

In Honor Of Charlotte Maria on the day of her baptism
Offered by Godmother Pat Grammes

Vigil of St. Andrew (1)

In Honor Of Charlotte Maria on the day of her baptism
Offered by Godmother Pat Grammes

Altar Candles for Great Lent

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

A Note about BrightHope

To the charitable parishioners of St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church,

Thanks be to God for your bountiful response to the diaper collection on behalf of the local OCL (Orthodox Christians for Life) chapter at St. Paul's Antiochian Orthodox parish in Emmaus. Your abundant donations were dropped off at the BrightHope Pregnancy Support Center in Easton this week where I was given a comprehensive tour of their welcoming residential home offering warm support and counseling for expectant mother, confidential ultrasound services, a prayer room for spiritual support and counseling (donated and served by a local parish and their pastor) for the mothers-to-be and their families, a Baby Boutique where they provide essential items of clothing, baby care, and of course lots and lots of diapers! All of BrightHope's services and supportive care for pregnant women and their babies are free, a blessing from donations and volunteers. They are deeply thankful for our generosity.

BrightHope's next fundraising endeavor is The Lehigh Valley Walk for Life on Saturday, April 29 at the Bethlehem Township Community Center. Fr. Michael and I will be participating as sponsors and seek your generous support as you are inclined and inspired. The sponsor form is on the former diaper table in the narthex and we hope you will join us, as kindred donors and walkers.

With Love in Christ,
Mat. Susan Kon



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980 Bridle Path Road | Bethlehem, PA 18017 | T: 610.867.0402 | E: assistant4StNicholas@outlook.com

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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!

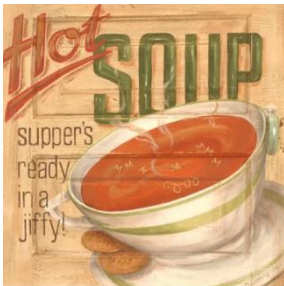
Orders and money due Sunday,
April 2

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'S SOUPS ARE FROZEN:

Minestrone Soup
Manhattan Clam Chowder
Borscht (very limited supply)

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

Media Opt-Out Information

As many of you know, from time to time we (St. Nicholas Church) record, photograph or videotape various events and activities that reflect an active parish. These pieces of communication may be published on our website, in our bulletin, on our social media page, on the OCA website, or used on other printed material. Some people may choose not to have their photos used and if you are among them, we ask that you fill-out the Media Opt-Out Form that can be found at the information table outside the church hall. Please return it to the church administrative assistant so that we may have a copy on file. If you are okay with the use of media, you do not have to do anything. Thank you.

Donations Received In Memory

In Memory of Betty Fedora: Offered by Barry & Ann Marie Bretz, Victoria Dimonie, Patty Felix, Nancy Kohudic, Nicholas & Judy Lezinsky, Kathy Lichtenwalner, Marianne McIntyre, Peter & Patricia Metz, Catherine Miller, Barbara Monarek, Barbara Roman, Michael & Francine Slivka, The St. Nicholas Church Choir

In Memory of Mat. MaryAnn Oselinsky: Offered by Catherine Miller, Michael & Francine Slivka

St. Nicholas Church Scholarship Notice

Members of the church who are entering their second, third, or fourth year of full time studies at an accredited two year, four year college/university or Orthodox Seminary are invited and urged to apply for the several scholarships available. For further information and applications, please contact Nancy Kohudic at 610-391-1257 or ndk175@ptd.net no later than May 22, 2023.

Thank you for your consideration.

Nancy Kohudic
Administrator

Lenten/Paschal Sign Up Sheets

As we approach the end of our Lenten journey to Pascha, there are many opportunities to become involved. Please visit the candle desk to review the following sign up sheets.

- Feast Day Icon Flowers for Palm Sunday
- Flowers to adorn the grave of Our Lord
- Burial Vespers Procession
- Grave Watch
- Pascha Procession
- Red Eggs
- Bright Monday Procession
- Bright Monday Hot Dog Luncheon

If you have any questions, please ask a Church Council Member or stop by the candle desk.

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

A Note Of Thanks

Many thanks to ALL who participated and contributed in so many ways to the luncheon(s) organized to collect the funds needed for Julia Smolenski's funeral. Through your generosity we met the goal of collecting the \$5000 approved by the Parish Council at the time of Julia's passing. May God bless everyone who took part in this good deed!

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 Melchisedek 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, 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, Patricia Telepchak, 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.