

Divine Liturgy

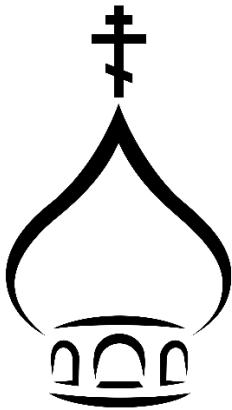
Sunday, September 10, 2023

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday Before the Exaltation of the Cross

Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos

Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora, at Nicomedia



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



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RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Mitred Archpriest James Mason, Attached

Deacon Geoffrey LoBalbo

Patricia Stetz Grammes, Parish Council President

Reader Nicholas Lezinsky, Choir Director

Karen Gowarty, Church School Administrator
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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 September 10, 2023

14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 5. Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos. Sunday before Elevation. Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora, at Nicomedia (305-311). Ven. Paul the Obedient, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves–13th-14th c.). Bl. Prince Andrew, in monasticism Joasaph, of Kubensk (Vologda–1453). Holy Apostles of the 70 Apelles, Luke (Loukios), and Clement (1st c.). Martyr Barypsabas in Dalmatia (2nd c.). Rt. Blv. Pulcheria, the Empress of the Greeks (453). Ss. Peter and Paul, Bishops of Nicaea (9th c.).

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Monday, September 11th - Fr. Nikolai's day off
Wednesday, September 13th - 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Friday, September 15th - 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Coffee Hour Today

Coffee Hour today is hosted by The Lezinsky Family
In Memory Of Departed Choir Members
*All proceeds will be added to the collection during the coffee hour
on 9/17 to benefit the Shipley Family*

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

Monday, September 11	7:00 pm - Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday, September 13	6:00 pm - Great Vespers for Exaltation
Thursday, September 14	Exaltation of the Cross 9:00 am - Divine Liturgy 6:00 pm - Essentials of the Orthodox Faith #1
Saturday, September 16	1:00 pm - Texas BBQ 6:00 pm - Great Vespers (Please note later time!)
Sunday, September 17	15th Sunday after Pentecost 9:10 am - Reading of the Hours 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Thursday, September 21

Saturday, September 23

Sunday, September 24

6:00 pm - Essentials of the Orthodox Faith #2

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

**16th Sunday after Pentecost /
Sts. Juvenaly & Peter the Aleut**

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Thursday, September 28

Saturday, September 30

Sunday, October 1

6:00 pm - Essentials of the Orthodox Faith #3

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

17th Sunday after Pentecost / Pokrov

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Upcoming Parish Council Meeting

Parish Council Meeting - Monday, September 11, 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 Benefiting The Shipley Family

On Sunday September 17th, Guliana Holobeny, Carmen Hudson and Matushka Mila will be hosting Coffee Hour for the sake of the Shipley Family. As many of you already know, Matushka Priscilla Shipley has now been admitted into Hospice care, and it is only a matter of time before she goes to be with her Lord. We ask everyone to be generous to help the Shipley's struggles at this time.

Any cards and well-wishes, can be sent to:

V. Rev. Ian Shipley

66 Cottage Ave.

Chico, CA 95926

Keep Matushka Priscilla in your prayers, as well as Fr. Ian, Jessica, Evan, Lydia, and Adriana.

Divine Liturgy

Sunday, September 10, 2023

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday Before the Exaltation of the Cross

Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos

Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora, at Nicomedia

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 4 Troparion *(Feast)*

Thy nativity, O Virgin, has proclaimed joy to the whole universe! The Sun of righteousness, Christ our God, has shone from thee, O Theotokos. By annulling the curse, He bestowed a blessing. By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

Tone 1 Troparion *(Martyrs)*

Let all who rejoice at their triumph honor those three virgin martyrs, who are united to God as sisters and who pour forth fair streams of grace: Menodora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora, who were in all things courageous; they ever pray to the Trinity for us.

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 (Martyrs)

Invincible in your struggles for the Holy Trinity, and through your love for each other as sisters, you defeated the foe of the spiritual life, and with the five virgins, entered victoriously into the heavenly mansions where you ever rejoice with the angels in the presence of the King of all!

Tone 4 Kontakion (Feast)

By thy nativity, O most pure Virgin, Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness, Adam and Eve – from the corruption of death. And we, thy people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to thee: "The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our Life."

Tone 6 Prokeimenon (Sunday Before)

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)

Tone 3 Prokeimenon (Song of the Theotokos)

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
(*Lk. 1:46-47*)

Epistle

Read by Reader Matthew Lezinsky

(Galatians 6:11-18 (Sunday Before)) See with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand! As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon

them, and upon the Israel of God. From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

(2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4) Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. Moreover I call God as witness against my soul, that to spare you I came no more to Corinth. Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are fellow workers for your joy; for by faith you stand. But I determined this within myself, that I would not come again to you in sorrow. For if I make you sorrowful, then who is he who makes me glad but the one who is made sorrowful by me? And I wrote this very thing to you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow over those from whom I ought to have joy, having confidence in you all that my joy is the joy of you all. For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you.

Tone 1

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

I have exalted one chosen out of My people. (Ps. 88:18b)

For My hand shall defend him and My arm shall strengthen him. (Ps. 88:20)

Tone 8

Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline thine ear! (Ps. 44:9a)

Gospel

(John 3:13-17 (Sunday Before)) No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

(Matthew 22:1-14) And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. Again, he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding.'" But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them. But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.' So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

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

Tone 8

Magnify, O my soul, the most glorious birth of the Mother of God!

Virginity is foreign to mothers; childbearing is strange for virgins. But in thee, O Theotokos, both were accomplished. Therefore all we nations of the earth unceasingly magnify thee.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! *(Ps. 148:1)*
I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord. *(Ps. 115:4)*
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Candle Offerings

Sunday, September 10, 2023

Vigils in Altar - Windowsill (2)

Happy Birthday Dad

Offered by Lezinsky - Kyra, Andrew, Peter, Erin, Lori, Matthew

Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)

Happy Birthday Nick Lezinsky, Offered by Judy

Vigils in Altar - Side Table (2)

Happy Birthday Grandpa

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

Votives in Altar

In Memory Of Beloved Sister - Delphina Pociluyko

Offered by Laurel Riley & Diane Buskirk

Votives in Iconostas

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov, Offered by B. Stefanov & M. Peytcheva

Crosses

In Honor Of Greg Radio on his Birthday, Offered by Rosalie

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)

In Memory Of Beloved Sister - Delphina Pociluyko

Offered by Laurel Riley & Diane Buskirk

Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary

In Memory Of Beloved Sister - Delphina Pociluyko

Offered by Laurel Riley & Diane Buskirk

Votives - Icon of St. John the Baptist

In Honor Of Greg Radio, Offered by Scott, Jen, Keri & Jason

Vigils on South Wall Window Sill (3)

In Honor Of Poppy, Offered by Ethan, Owen, Talia & Jones

Vigils on North Wall Window Sill (3)

Happy Birthday Grandpa, Offered by Sophia & Jacob

Vigil of St. Michael (1)

In Memory Of Michael Stetz, Offered by Pat & Joan

Vigil of St. Andrew (1)

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov, Offered by B. Stefanov & M. Peytcheva

Flowers to Adorn the Icon of The Universal Exaltation of the Cross

In Memory Of Michael Stetz, Offered by Pat & Joan

Calling All Bakers for the Texas BBQ on 9/16/23

Fire up the ovens!

It's time for your SCRUMPTIOUS desserts that St. Nicholas is famous for. If you are a returning baker to new task, we welcome your YUMMY desserts. Please keep these things in mind:

- Please bring cakes to the church on Friday, September 15th between 11:00 am and 3:00 pm or on Saturday, September 16th between 9:00 am and 12:00 pm.
- We have very limited refrigerator space, so please consider items that do not require refrigeration.
- Please DO NOT slice your cakes, pies, brownies, etc. The baked goods team will pre-slice items for consistence in serving piece and pricing.
- Feel free to provide a label e.g. German Chocolate Cake, Snickerdoodle Cookies, etc. There is no need to list ingredients, however it is useful to note: "nut free", "egg free", "dairy free" or "sugar free".
- Please provide baked goods on sturdy plates. DO NOT use cardboard because it is often too big and not sturdy.
- Securely label your name on your containers/dishes that you want returned. They will be cleaned and placed on racks in the kitchen where you can pick them up. And, whilst we are very careful with your dishes, DO NOT use precious containers that cannot be replaced if accidentally broken.

Thank you to all the great bakers who contribute to the success of the sale! Your efforts are truly appreciated! If you have any questions, please contact Joann Brusko.

Help Wanted!

Roll baking - Help will be needed packing rolls at 5:00 pm on the following days:
Thursday, September 21, 2023

Thursday, September 28, 2023

Please contact Maxine Marsh if you can help.

Christmas Bazaar Baking & Pierogi Making Schedule for August through October 2023

Monday, September 11 - pierogi prep 6:30 AM

Tuesday, September 12 - pierogi prep 6:30 AM

Wednesday, September 13 - pierogi making 6:30-11:00 AM & kiffle baking
11:00 AM-3:00 PM; packing kiffles at 5:00 PM

Monday, September 18 - pierogi prep 6:30 AM

Tuesday, September 19 - pierogi prep 6:30 AM

Wednesday, September 20 - pierogi making 6:30-11:00 AM

Thursday, September 21 - baking rolls 9:00AM-3:00 PM; packing rolls 5:00 PM

Saturday, September 23 - kiffle prep 8:30 AM-Noon

Monday, September 25 - pierogi prep 6:30 AM

Tuesday, September 26 - pierogi prep 6:30 AM

Wednesday, September 27 - pierogi making 6:30-11:00 AM & kiffle baking
11:00 AM-3:00PM; packing kiffles at 5:00 PM

Thursday, September 28 - baking rolls 9:00 AM-3:00PM; packing rolls 5:00 PM

Monday, October 2 - pierogi prep 6:30 AM

Tuesday, October 3 - pierogi prep 6:30 AM

Wednesday, October 4 - pierogi making 6:30 - 11:00 AM

Thursday, October 5 - baking rolls 9:00 AM-3:00 PM; packing at 5:00 PM

Saturday, October 7 - kiffle prep 8:30-Noon

Monday, October 9 - pierogi prep 6:30 AM

Tuesday, October 10 - pierogi prep 6:30 AM

Wednesday, October 11 - pierogi making 6:30-11:00 AM & kiffle baking 11:00
AM-3:00PM; packing kiffles at 5:00 PM

Saturday, October 14 - kiffle prep 8:30-Noon

Monday, October 16 - pierogi prep 6:30 AM

Tuesday, October 17 - pierogi prep 6:30 AM

Wednesday, October 18 - pierogi making 6:30-11:00 AM & kiffle baking 11:00
AM-3:00 PM; packing kiffles at 5:00 PM

Friday, October 20 - kiffle prep 8:30-Noon

Monday, October 23 - pierogi prep 6:30 AM

Tuesday, October 24 - pierogi prep 6:30 AM

Wednesday, October 25 - pierogi making 6:30-11:00 AM & kiffle baking 11:00
AM-3:00 PM; packing kiffles at 5:00 PM

Donations Received In Memory

In Memory of Subdeacon Michael Frank Guydan, Offered by Damian Drasher, Dorothy Stafiniak

In Memory of David Keysock, Offered by Mat. Frances Vansuch

Welcome Back Children!

Sunday School Begins:

September 10 with a Moleben prayer immediately following Divine Liturgy

September 17 Sunday classes begin just before dismissal

Please see Karen Gowarty if you wish your child/grandchild to be enrolled in our Sunday School program if he/she has not been enrolled before this year. Children must turn 4 by October 1st to begin Sunday School.

Parents - Please also note that we have created an emergency contact form for our students. Please stop by the candle desk and fill out a form for each child enrolled in the Sunday School program. Thank you!

A Note Of Thanks

To: Fr. Nikolai and my Church family and friends -

I would like to give you my heartfelt thank you for your get well wishes, prayers and thoughtful acts during my recent illness. It all meant so much to me. May our wonderous Lord bless you all. I appreciate all of you.

Sincerely,
Terry Butler

ESSENTIALS OF THE ORTHODOX FAITH

FALL SESSIONS - 1 THROUGH 8

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

6:00 PM - SESSION #1
CREATION AND THE FALL

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

6:00 PM - SESSION #2
THE KINGDOM OF GOD
AND THE WORLD

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

6:00 PM - SESSION #3
GOD, JESUS, AND THE
CHRISTIAN LIFE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

6:00 PM - SESSION #4
WORSHIP

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

6:00 PM - SESSION #5
THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS IN
THE ORTHODOX CHURCH

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

6:00 PM - SESSION #6
THE HOLY TRINITY

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

6:00 PM - SESSION #7
THE SCRIPTURES IN THE
ORTHODOX CHURCH

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9

6:00 PM - SESSION #8
MEETING CHRIST,
UNDERSTANDING, AND
BEING TRANSFORMED

**COMING THURSDAYS, STARTING
SEPTEMBER 14TH - AT 6:00 PM**

**ST. NICHOLAS RUSSIAN
ORTHODOX CHURCH (OCA)**

980 BRIDLE PATH ROAD | BETHLEHEM, PA 18017

As many are already aware, beginning on Thursday, September 14th, at 6:00 pm, we will begin the first 8 sessions of what I anticipate will be a yearly set of Adult education/Catechism classes based on the OCA's newly-released text, "Essential Orthodox Christian Beliefs" Due to the nature of this material being for the building up of our knowledge at St. Nicholas specifically, I do not plan to stream these sessions, but they may possibly be recorded for the sake of St. Nicholas Parishioners who cannot attend in person. The book we will be using can be found at stnicholasoca.org/essentials, and each week will focus on a single chapter of the text. We will have hard copies available if anyone needs one. There is no need to RSVP, but it would be good to know how many might be interested in attending, in order to know what room in the complex would best serve our purposes. The second series of 8 sessions will take place beginning in mid-February.



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*25% and 10% off certain items. Excludes our New! on the 'Friends Helping Friends' shopping pass. If you do not have a shopping pass, you will be able to purchase one on the day of the event from a participating non-profit organization.

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If you are interested in purchasing a shopping pass for \$5.00, please contact Jennifer Bzik. Passes will also be available for sale at the candle desk, during weekly Pierogi sales, and at the Texas Barbecue on September 16<sup>th</sup>. This is a great opportunity to get an early start on your holiday shopping. All proceeds go directly to St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church. Thank you for your support!

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

**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, Val Danchenko, Christopher Felix, Patricia Felix, Olga Frimenko, Walter Grigoruk, Rachel Hardesty, Nicholas Hazzard, Don Holobeny, Jonathan Hontz, Sherry Hromiak, Krista Irwin 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, Joseph Pinkowicz, 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:** Julianna Kahl, Tosha Roberts and their unborn children, Lydia Hashinger, Amanda Riley, Kaylee Riley, and their newborn children.

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