Divine Liturgy

Sunday, November 12, 2023

23rd Sunday after Pentecost (8th of Luke)
St. John the Merciful, Patriarch of Alexandria
Ven. Nilus the Faster, of Sinai





Reverend Nikolai Breckenridge, Rector

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Mitred Archpriest James Mason, Attached

Deacon Geoffrey LoBalbo

Patricia Stetz Grammes, Parish Council President

Reader Nicholas Lezinsky, Choir Director

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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 November 13, 2023

23rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 6. Saint Varnava (Nastic) (1964). St. John the Merciful, Patriarch of Constantinople (612-20). Ven. Nilus the Faster, of Sinai (5th c.). Bl. John "the Hairy", Fool-for-Christ, in Rostov (1580). Prophet Ahijah (960 BC). Ven. Nilus the Myrrhqusher, of Mt. Athos (1651).

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Monday, November 13th - Fr. Nikolai's day off Wednesday, November 15th - 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm Friday, November 17th - 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Coffee Hour Today

On Sunday, November 12, 2023 we will be celebrating two big events at St. Nicholas - Fr. James Mason's 90th Birthday and the first round of awards for our children's Heavenly Host program. Thank you for bringing a covered dish to share for Coffee Hour.

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

Tuesday, November 14	6:00 pm - First of Three Lectures on
	Stewardship - What is Stewardship?

Wednesday, November 15	BEGINNING OF THE NATIVITY FAST
Saturday, November 18	5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, November 19	24 th Sunday after Pentecost
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9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Monday, November 20 6:00 pm - Great Vespers w/ Litia Tuesday, November 21 Entry of the Mother of God into the Temple

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

6:00 pm - Second of Three Lectures on Stewardship - Almsgiving and Salvation

Saturday, November 25 5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, November 26 25th Sunday after Pentecost

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Monday, November 27 7:00 pm - Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday, November 28 6:00 pm - Third of Three Lectures on

Stewardship - Different Ways of Stewardship

Upcoming Pierogi Making Schedule

Nov 13, 14, 15 - Pierogi making

Nov 20, 21, 22 - NO Pierogi making - Happy Thanksgiving

Nov 27, 28, 29 - Lenten pierogi will be made along with regular Pierogi

Please sign up for lenten pierogi on the sheet by the phone in the kitchen.

Please order for Christmas eve.

Dec 4, 5, - PIEROGI MAKING. Please note change because of St Nicholas Day on the 6th. We will make the pierogi on **TUESDAY**, **DEC 5** starting at 9 am.

Dec 11, 12, 13 - Pierogi making. Lunch will be served on Dec 13. More info to follow.

Dec 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27. NO Pierogi making - Merry Christmas!

Upcoming Parish Council Meeting

Parish Council Meeting - Monday, November 27, 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.

Divine Liturgy

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23rd Sunday after Pentecost (8th of Luke) St. John the Merciful, Patriarch of Alexandria Ven. Nilus the Faster, of Sinai

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 8 Troparion (St. John)

By endurance thou didst gain thy reward, venerable Father; thou didst persevere in prayer unceasingly; thou didst love the poor and provide for them in all things. Blessed John the Merciful, intercede with Christ God that our souls may be saved!

Tone 8 Troparion (Ven. Nilus)

By a flood of tears thou didst make the desert fertile, and thy longing for God brought forth fruits in abundance. By the radiance of miracles thou didst illumine the whole universe. Our holy Father Nilus, pray to Christ our God to save our souls!

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)

Thou didst distribute thy wealth to the poor and in return didst obtain wealth from heaven, O John the Merciful. Therefore, we honor thee and celebrate thy memory, O namesake of mercy.

Tone 8 Kontakion (Ven. Nilus)

By thy vigilant prayer thou didst cut away the undergrowth of the body's insurgent passions. As thou hast boldness before the Lord, free me from every danger so that I may cry to thee: "Rejoice, universal father Nilus!"

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 Matthew Lezinsky

(Ephesians 2:4-10) But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

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 10:25-37) And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?" So he answered and said, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,' and 'your neighbor as yourself." And He said to him, "You have answered rightly; do this and you will live." But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Then Jesus answered and said: "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.' So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?" And he said, "He who showed mercy on him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Communion Hymn

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

Candle Offerings Sunday, November 12, 2023

Vigils in Altar - Windowsill (2)

Happy Birthday Barb Monarek, Offered by Susan & Bill Nielsen

Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)

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

Vigils in Altar - Side Table (2)

Happy Birthday Barb Monarek, Offered by Elizabeth Hasenecz

Votives in Altar

For Health of Joe Pinkowicz on his Birthday, Offered by Stephanie Pasquel

Votives in Iconostas

In Honor Of Presby. Stephanie Petrides Offered by Fr. Michael & Mat. Susan Kon

Vigil in Side Candle Holders (2)

Happy Anniversary Moses & Carmen Hodson

Crosses

Happy Birthday Joe Pinkowicz, Offered by Barry & Ann Marie Bretz

Vigils on the Tetrapod (2)

Happy Birthday Susan Nielsen, Offered by Sandi & Bill Keysock

Vigils on Icon Table (2)

Happy Birthday Tosha Roberts, Offered by Mom & Dad

Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)

Happy Birthday Barb Monarek, Offered by Kyra & Gregory Monarek

Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary

Happy Birthday Corinne Stuckey, Offered by The Hodsons

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

Happy Birthday Susan Nielsen, Offered by Barb, Kyra & Gregory Monarek

Votives - Icon of St. John the Baptist

Happy Birthday Larry Heffelfinper, Offered by Sister, Patricia Owens

Vigils on South Wall Window Sill (3)

In Honor Of Sarah & Peter, Offered by Gordon & Valerie Roberts

Vigils of St. Gregory (1)

In Honor Of Heavenly Host Award Recipients

Vigils of St. Paul (1)

In Honor Of Fr. James' 90th Birthday, Offered by Mat. Pat

Vigils on North Wall Window Sill (3)

In Memory Of Departed Loved Ones, Offered by Victoria Dimonie

Vigil of St. Michael (1)

In Honor Of Fr. James' 90th Birthday, Offered by Mat. Pat

Vigil of St. Andrew (1)

In Honor Of Heavenly Host Award Recipients

Honoring Our Veterans

On this Veterans Day 2023 we honor our men and women who so valiantly served in the United States Armed Forces. We pray for those on active duty and for those veterans who completed their tours of duty. We thank them and wish them God's blessings for many years.

Active Duty

Reader, Captain Daniel Holobeny, U. S. Air Force Jonathan Hontz, U.S. Navy

Veterans

V. Rev. James Mason, U.S. Navy
Leo Tony Anicola, U.S. Air Force
Barry Bretz, U.S. Navy
Stephen Chromiak, U.S. Navy
Stephen Doncevic, U. S. Army
Michael Dorosh, U.S. Navy
Paul Dragovich, U.S. Marines
Donald Dudash, U.S. Army
Walter Grigoruk, U.S. Marines
Donna Haney, U.S. Navy
Andrew Hasenecz, U.S. Air Force
Michael Isbansky, U.S. Army
Joseph Kavchok, Jr. U.S. Air Force

William Keysock, U.S. Navy
Gary Kiechel, U.S. Army
Walter Logechnik - US Army
Michael Matsko, U.S. Navy
John Mikita, U.S. Navy
David Monarek, U.S. Marines
Joseph Pinkowicz, U. S. Army
William J. Potter, U.S. Air Force
Patric Shea, U.S. Marines
Michael Slivka, U.S. Air Force
Dorothy Stafiniak, U.S. Air Force
Wash Telepchak, U.S. Army
Keith Atlee, (4 years) ROTC

DECEASED

Further, we pray for those sons and daughters of our parish who have given their lives in battle and for those who served their tours of duty and have passed on to eternal rest. May their Memory Be Eternal.

Heavenly Host Awards

Heavenly Host is a structured program based on the Angelic Ranks, providing age-appropriate activities for 8- to 18- year olds. It is intended to provide Orthodox Youth a foundation of Orthodox Christian Knowledge and experience so that they can passionately and intelligently "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations" for our Lord God, and Savior Jesus Christ! (Matthew 28:19). If you're not familiar with the program yet, please see Jennifer Bzik for more information.

In order to reach the Angel Rank, the children have completed the following requirements:

- List of the Ranks of Angels
- Know the Motto "Be Holy, for God is Holy" (Lev. 11:45)
- Know the Slogan "Do Good to all" (Gal 6:10)
- Recite the Lord's Prayer
- Recite "O Heavenly King"
- Fast prior to Liturgy
- Light a candle and pray for the poor
- Donate clothes and/or toys to charity
- Read and discuss the following Bible stories
 - o Creation (Gen 1 & 2)
 - o Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise (Gen 3)
 - o Cain and Abel (Gen 4)
 - o Jesus' Birth (Luke 2:1-21)
 - o Jesus' Baptism (Matthew 3:13-17)
- Complete the requirements of one of the 26 available electives

Awards will be presented to the following:

Everett Brown - Angel Rank, Camp Elective
Lydia Brown - Angel Rank, Camp Elective
Lydia Bzik - Angel Rank, Patron Saint Elective
Nicholas Bzik - Angel Rank, Bible Verses I Elective
Alexander Hodson - Angel Rank, Altar Server Elective
Christopher Hodson - Angel Rank, Altar Server Elective
Aurora Mascari - Angel Rank, Angels Elective
Joseph Mascari IV - Angel Rank, Altar Server Elective

Wonderworker

Fr. Nikolai will be working on the next edition of The Wonderworker in the coming weeks. If you or your church organization have photos or other information that you wish to include, please send to Fr. Nikolai or Jennifer Bzik by Wednesday, November 22, 2023. Thank you!

A Note of Thanks

A very sincere thank you to the members of our Parish family and others that helped clean up the two dead trees and the spent flowers from the summer. It was an enormous job, but it saved the church a great deal of money. A few things left to do so listen for an announcement to finish up before it gets cold.

Patrica Grammes

Hope Rescue Mission needs your HELP!



St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church is collecting all types of gently used clothing including coats, hats, boots, belts, men's clothing for the men at Hope Rescue Mission and for the women's and children's shelter (Lighthouse). We will take all seasons of clothing for men, women, and children. We have a need for new men's underwear, undershirts, and sweatpants all in sizes medium to xxxl.

You can drop items off in the designated containers in the Chernay Fellowship Hall. Please make all donations by **Sunday, November 12, 2023.**

This clothing helps provide food, clothing, and shelter for the men at Hope Rescue and the women and children at Lighthouse.

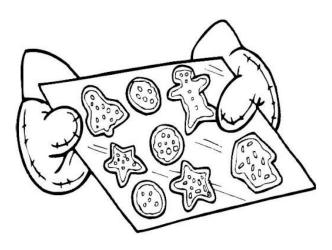
Thank you in advance for your donations!

It's time again for COOKIES!!!

We will be making cookie trays to sell at the Christmas Bazaar and would appreciate your help.

- Delease make at least 4 dozen cookies (more is totally fine)
- Notify Judy Lezinsky or Jean Jubinski what kind you would like to make (We would like to prevent duplicate flavors)
- Please bring in your cookies in sealed containers/bags on Sunday, December 3, 2023. There will be a rack in the Church Hall for cookies to be placed on.
- Delease no cookies that have to be refrigerated.

Thank you!!!



Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

There are several open coffee hour days in the upcoming months, **including next week**. 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 Jennifer Bzik if you need help or have questions. Thank you!

Calling All Bakers for the 12/9 Christmas Bazaar Fire up the ovens!

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

- 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! <u>Baked goods may be dropped off on Friday, December 8th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm</u>. If you have any questions, please contact Maxine Marsh at 610-837-8063.

Boscov's Fundraiser

Thank you to all who participated in the Boscov's Shopping Pass Fundraiser! We raised \$140 for St. Nicholas Church. I hope everyone enjoyed their shopping spree! ~~~ Jennifer Bzik

Basket Raffle Donations Wanted

We will once again be hosting a Basket Raffle this year during the holiday season 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.

This year the Basket Raffle will be open on three weekends to allow for the most time to check out all those wonderful goodies. The Basket Raffle will open during Coffee Hour after the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, December 3rd, and will be open on Saturday, December 9th during the Christmas Bazaar and Sunday, December 10th for Coffee Hour and for the Christmas Choir Concert at 3:30 pm. Last chance to get those tickets in will be on Sunday, December 17th from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm, following our Children's Yolka Program. The Basket Raffle Drawing will begin at 2:00 pm on Sunday, December 17th.

If you are planning to make a cash donation, please do so as soon as possible (no later than Sunday, November 18, 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, November 25, 2023**. If you have any questions or would like to make a donation, please contact Jennifer Bzik. Thank you so much for your support!



ST. NICHOLAS RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (OCA)

980 BRIDLE PATH ROAD | BETHLEHEM, PA 18017

THREE LECTURES ON STEWARDSHIP

AT 6:00 PM ON

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14
WHAT IS STEWARDSHIP?

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21
ALMSGIVING AND SALVATION

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28
DIFFERENT WAYS OF STEWARDSHIP

ATTEND IN PERSON AT THE CHERNAY FELLOWSHIP HALL, OR REGISTER FOR THE ZOOM LINKS AT:

stnicholasoca.org/stewarshiplectures



Christmas Bazaar "LITTLE RUSSIAN DAYS" features ethnic foods like Halupki, Pierogi, Potato Pancakes, Halushki, Borscht, Pelmeni and our much celebrated Home Baked Goods plus Holiday Shopping



980 Bridle Path Road, Bethlehem stnicholasoca.org 610-867-0402







2023 Christmas Basket Raffle

Sunday, December 3 - Basket Raffle opens during Coffee Hour after the Divine Liturgy

Saturday, December 9 - Basket Raffle will be open from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm during the Christmas Bazaar

Sunday, December 10 - Basket Raffle will be open during Coffee Hour after the Divine Liturgy <u>AND</u> before and after the Christmas Choir Concert at 3:30 pm.



Sunday, December 17 - From 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm (after our Children's Yolka Program) is your final opportunity to check out the Basket Raffle goodies. Light refreshments will be available for purchase. **The Basket Raffle Drawing begins at 2:00 pm on Sunday, December 17.** You do not need to be present to win. Winners who are not present will be notified during the following week.



Tickets:

1 ticket for \$1.00 7 tickets for \$5.00 15 tickets for \$10.00 40 tickets for \$20.00

Contact Jennifer Bzik for more information.

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, George Hasenecz, Emilian Hutnyan

Priests: Nikolai Breckenridge, John Nightingale

Deacons: Geoffrey LoBalbo

Matushki: Liudmyla Breckenridge, Marie Mason, Johanna Bohush, Evelyn Edwards, Paraskeva Vansuch, Myra Kovalak, Gloria Martin, Katia Vansuch, Lisa Weremedic, Stephanie Onofrey, Julia Romanchak

Servants: Bethany Bruder, Mary Brzuchalski, Theresa Butler, Helen Cotirgasanu, David G. Cudlic, Val Danchenko, Christopher 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, 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, Maeve Stuckey, Patricia Telepchak, Irene Witanek

Handmaidens of God: Lara Bessman, Tosha Roberts and their unborn children, Nina Abaishvilli, Julianne Kahl and their newborn children.

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