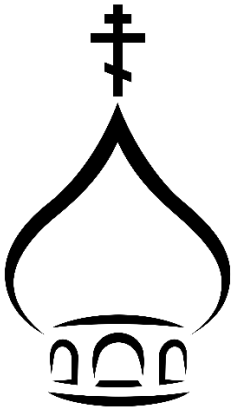


# **Divine Liturgy**

Sunday, December 31, 2023

**Sunday After the Nativity of Christ**

**Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King,  
and James the Brother of the Lord  
Leavetaking of the Nativity**



**SAINT NICHOLAS**  
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



# SAINT NICHOLAS

## 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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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.***

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stnicholasoca.org

# Schedule for the Week of December 31, 2023

**30th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 5. Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James the Brother of the Lord. Leavetaking of the Nativity. Sunday after Nativity.** “Unfading Flower” Icon of the Mother of God at Ardatov. Ven. Melania the Younger of Rome (439). Ven. Chiriacos (Kyriakis) of Bisericani (Romanian–160). Ven. Chiriacos (Kyriakis) of Tazlau (Romanian–1660).

## Fr. Nikolai’s Office Hours

Fr. Nikolai will be on Vacation from  
Wednesday, December 27 through Thursday, January 4.

## Coffee Hour Today

As of the printing of the bulletin, no one had signed up to host coffee hour.

## Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

**Friday, January 5**

**Eve of Theophany**

9:00 am – Royal Hours

6:00 pm – Compline w/ Blessing of Waters

**Saturday, January 6**

**Theophany / Epiphany**

8:50 am – Reading of the Hours

9:00 am – Divine Liturgy

4:30 pm – General Panikhida

5:00 pm – Great Vespers

**Sunday, January 7**

**Sunday after Theophany**

9:10 am – Reading of the Hours

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

**Saturday, January 13**

5:00 pm – Great Vespers

**Sunday, January 14**

**32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

**Saturday, January 20**

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

**Sunday, January 21**

**33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

**Saturday, January 27**

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

**Sunday, January 28**

**34<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

**Monday, January 29**

7:00 pm - Parish Council Meeting

## **Parish Budget Presentation**

In order to facilitate a smooth Annual Parish Meeting, we will be having an open presentation of the proposed budget that the Parish Council is recommending for 2024. This will be held in the Chernay Fellowship Hall on Sunday, February 4, 2024, after Divine Liturgy and Coffee Hour. We will be talking about the major budget items, so that any questions can be asked well in advance of the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 18, 2024

## **Pierogi Updates**

We are currently on our Holiday Break. We will resume regular weekly pickup orders on January 17, 2024. We also have frozen 4 packs of Halupki for sale for \$15. Please note that this schedule is subject to change.

## **Bakers - Come Get Your Dishes!**

Thank you to all of the bakers who made delicious treats for the Christmas Bazaar. Please make sure to pick up your plates/dishes in the kitchen as soon as possible. Thank you!

# Divine Liturgy

Sunday, December 31, 2023

## Sunday After the Nativity of Christ

**Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King,  
and James the Brother of the Lord  
Leavetaking of the Nativity**

**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 Christ our God, has shone to the world the light of wisdom! For by it, those who worshipped the stars, were taught by a star to adore Thee, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know Thee, the Orient from on high. O Lord, glory to Thee!

**Tone 3      Kontakion**      *(Feast)*

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One, and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One! Angels with shepherds glorify Him! The Wise Men journey with the star, since for our sake the eternal God was born as a little Child!

**Tone 8      Prokeimenon**      *(Feast)*

Let all the earth worship Thee and praise Thee; let it praise Thy Name, O Most High! (*Ps. 65:3*)

*Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of His Name, give glory to His praise! (Ps. 65:1)*

## **Epistle**

**(Galatians 1:11-19 (Sunday After))** But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

### **Tone 1**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims His handiwork. (Ps. 18:1)*

*Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. (Ps. 18:2)*

### **Tone 4**

*Remember, O Lord, David and all his meekness! (Ps. 131:1)*

## **Gospel**

**(Matthew 2:13-23 (Gospel, Sunday After))** Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him." When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt I called My Son." Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: "A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted, because they are no more." Now when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child's life are dead." Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee. And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

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

Magnify, O my soul, the most pure Virgin Theotokos, more honorable and more glorious than the heavenly hosts.

I behold a strange, most glorious mystery: heaven—the cave; the cherubic throne—the Virgin; the manger—the place where Christ lay: the uncontainable God, Whom we magnify in song.

*(or, the ninth heirmos of the second canon)*

Out of fear, we should choose to love silence, for that is a safer course; so difficult it is lovingly to compose intricately woven songs to thee, O Virgin. But grant us strength, O Mother, equal to our natural calling.

### **Communion Hymn**

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

The Lord has sent redemption to His people. *(Ps. 110:8a)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



# **Candle Offerings**

## **Sunday, December 31, 2023**

### **Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)**

Good Health and Happy Birthday Tricia Metz, Offered by Sue & Bill Nielsen

### **Votives in Altar**

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov

### **Vigil in Side Candle Holders (2)**

For Health Of Raymond & Susan Sherbechuk, Offered by Jaap & Sonja

### **Crosses**

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov

### **Vigils on the Tetrapod (2)**

Happy Birthday Michael Keysock, Offered by Bill & Sandi Keysock

### **Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)**

In Memory Of Rosemary Barhight  
Offered by Brother Michael & Francine Slivka

### **Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary**

Happy Birthday Mom Metz, Offered by Michael & Amber Metz

### **Vigils on North Wall Window Sill (3)**

God Grand Many Blessed Years to Moses Hodson  
Offered by Mike & Shirley Isbansky

### **Flowers to Adorn the Icon of the Theophany of Our Lord**

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

# House Blessing Schedule

Dear faithful,

Glory to Jesus Christ! This year, I am attempting as much as possible to schedule 2024 House Blessings electronically. Therefore I've created an online sign-up form. We will also have the normal paper sign up at the candle desk, for those who don't wish to fill in the form themselves. Blessings will begin on Monday, January 8th, and are arranged according to location, so be sure to check both the time and the location on the schedule when you sign up.

The sign-up form can be found at [www.stnicholasoca.org/theophany2024](http://www.stnicholasoca.org/theophany2024)

In Christ,

Priest Nikolai Breckenridge

## Theophany Eve Holy Supper

A Strict Lenten Holy Supper will be served at 4:30 pm on Theophany Eve, Friday, January 5, 2024. Please sign up at the candle desk if you are interested in attending. Thank you to Lori Lezinsky for hosting!

## Request for Annual Church Organization Reports

Please note that all Church Organization Reports must be submitted to the Administrative Assistant by January 15, 2024 in order to prepare the packets for the Annual Parish Assembly. Packets will be distributed to parishioners from the candle desk beginning on January 28, 2024 for their review prior to the meeting on February 18, 2024.

## Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

There are several open coffee hour days in the upcoming months. 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!

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, David Gowarty, Walter Grigoruk, Monique Haney, Rachel Hardesty, Nicholas Hazzard, Don Holobeny, Jonathan Hontz, Sherry Hromiak, Krista Irwin Michael H. Isbansky, Sarah Jubinski, Alexandra Keysock, William 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 Witaneck

**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.**