

2023

Lenten and Paschal Schedule



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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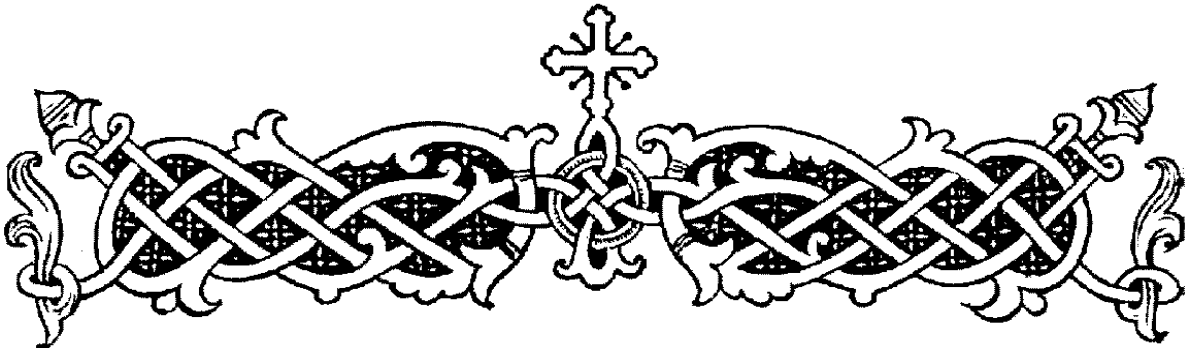
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Note to our Guests and Friends Visiting St. Nicholas:

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.

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Parish Faithful,

Glory be to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

In St. Luke's account of the parable of Prodigal Son, we hear the following words of the son to the father: "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants." While all of us have received the spirit of sonship (Romans 8:15), like the Prodigal Son, we have squandered that gift and have rejected the pledge of future inheritance.

Every Great Lent, we are given that opportunity to come before our Heavenly Father as repentant children, crying, "Abba, Father, turn not Thy face from Thy servant, for I am afflicted; hear me speedily, draw near unto my soul, and deliver it!" (Psalm 68/69:17-18). The present Lenten season allows us to assess what we are doing with our lives, discerning what has caused us to turn away from sonship and striving to regain it again through the acquisition of love.

The Example is set before us of Moses' forty days and nights without food or drink on Mount Sinai, and the forty days and forty nights that our Lord fasted in the desert. Likewise, we fast for forty

days and nights from certain foods, and hopefully from our sinful nature as well!

While our battle takes place within this world, we know from the words of the Apostle that the weapons of our warfare are not truly physical (2 Corinthians 10:4). Rather, the weapon given to us by our Lord is His commandment to “love one another as I have loved you” (John 13:34). This commandment is the basis on which we will be judged by the Son of Man at His awesome second coming. When we saw one hungry, did we love him? When we saw one imprisoned, did we love him? When we saw one homeless and a stranger, did we love him? If we do any of these tasks, if we give of all that we possess but do not do it in response to Christ’s commandment, we have gained nothing (1 Corinthians 13:3).

We are given this time of the Great Fast to grow closer to God and His Holy Church, specifically, in loving one another. Because, before we can even begin to take steps toward a closer relationship with our Lord and Savior, we must learn to love, for “whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love” (1 John 4:8).

As we enter together into the season of Great Lent, let us “cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light, that having sailed across the great sea of the Fast, we may reach the third-day Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Saviour of our souls” (Apostikha at Vespers, Sunday of Forgiveness). Let us learn to love!

In Christ,

Priest Nikolai Breckenridge - Rector

2023 Lenten and Paschal Schedule

Saturday, February 18

Memorial Saturday

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, February 19

Sunday of Last Judgement / Meatfare Sunday

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 25

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, February 26

Forgiveness Sunday / Cheesefare Sunday

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

12:00 pm - Forgiveness Vespers

First Week of Lent - Clean Week

Monday, February 27

7:00 pm - Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Tuesday, February 28

7:00 pm - Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Wednesday, March 1

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

Thursday, March 2

7:00 pm - Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Friday, March 3

7:00 pm - Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Saturday, March 4

St. Theodore the Recruit

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy St. Theodore the Recruit

4:30 pm - General Panikhida

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, March 5

The Sunday of Orthodoxy

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, March 8

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

Friday, March 10

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm - Akathist - St. Nicholas

Saturday, March 11

Memorial Saturday

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, March 12

St. Gregory Palamas

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, March 15

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

Friday, March 17

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm - Akathist - to our Lord's Passion

Saturday, March 18

Memorial Saturday

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, March 19

Sunday of the Cross

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, March 22

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

Friday, March 24

Eve of Annunciation

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm - Vigil for Annunciation

Saturday, March 25

Annunciation

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Festal Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, March 26

St. John Climacus

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

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

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

Great and Holy Week

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 – Vespertal 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 – Vespertal Divine Liturgy of Holy Saturday



GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA

**11:30 pm – Paschal Vigil and
Paschal Divine Liturgy**

Followed by the blessing of
baskets and Agape meal

Christ is risen!

Χριστός воскрес! Χριστός ανέστη!

Sunday, April 16

11:00 am - Agape Vespers

Monday, April 17

Bright Monday

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

Saturday, April 22

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

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

Saturday, April 29

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

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

