Divine Liturgy

Sunday, January 14, 2024

32nd Sunday after Pentecost Leavetaking of the Theophany





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 January 14, 2024

32nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 7. Leavetaking of the

Theophany. St. Savva I, first Archbishop of Serbia (1237). The Holy Fathers slain at Sinai and Raithu: Isaiah, Savva, Moses and his disciple Moses, Jeremiah, Paul, Adam, Sergius, Domnus, Proclus, Hypatius, Isaac, Macarius, Mark, Benjamin, Eusebius, Elias, and others (4th-5th c.). St. Nina (Nino), Equal-to-the-Apostles, Enlightener of the Georgians (355). St. Joseph Analytinus of Raithu (4th c.). Ven. Theodulus, son of Ven. Nilus of Sinai (5th c.). Ven. Stephen, Abbot of Khenolakkos Monastery near Chalcedon (8th c.). Saint Meletios, Bishop of Ryazan (19th c.). Hieromartyr Platon, the first Bishop of Estonia, and all the New Martyrs of Estonia (1869).

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Regular Office Hours will resume after the House Blessing Season.

Coffee Hour Today

Coffee Hour today is hosted by Pat Grammes

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

 Saturday, January 20
 Sunday, January 21
 33rd Sunday After Pentecost 9:10 am - Reading of the Hours 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy
 Saturday, January 27
 Sunday, January 28
 5:00 pm - Great Vespers 5:00 pm - Great Vespers
 34th Sunday After Pentecost 9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Monday, January 29 7:00 pm - Parish Council Meeting

Divine Liturgy

Sunday, January 14, 2024

32nd Sunday after Pentecost Leavetaking of the Theophany

Tone 7 Troparion (Resurrection)

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen, granting the world great mercy.

Tone 1 Troparion (Feast)

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest. For the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee, and called Thee His beloved Son; and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ our God, Who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

Tone 7 Kontakion (Resurrection)

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: "The Savior has come to those in faith; enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!"

Tone 4 Kontakion (Feast)

Today Thou hast shone forth to the world, O Lord, and the light of Thy countenance has been marked on us. Knowing Thee, we sing Thy praises: "Thou hast come and revealed Thyself, O unapproachable Light."

Tone 7 Prokeimenon (Resurrection)

The Lord shall give strength to His people. The Lord shall bless His people with peace. (Ps. 28:11)

Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord! (Ps. 28:1a)

Tone 4 Prokeimenon (Feast)

Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord. God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us. (Ps. 117:26b, 27b)

Epistle

Read by Reader Michael Metz

(Ephesians 6:10-17) Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

Tone 7

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy Name, O Most High. (Ps. 91:1)

To declare Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth by night. (Ps. 91:2a)

Tone 4

Bring to the Lord, O sons of God, bring to the Lord young rams. (Ps. 28:1a)

Gospel

(Luke 18:35-43) Then it happened, as He was coming near Jericho, that a certain blind man sat by the road begging. And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant. So they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. And he cried out, saying, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him, saying, "What do you want Me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, that I may receive my sight." Then Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

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

Magnify, O my soul, the most pure Virgin Theotokos, more honorable than the heavenly hosts!

No tongue knows how to praise thee worthily, O Theotokos; even angels are overcome with awe praising thee. But since thou art good, accept our faith; for thou knowest our love inspired by God! Thou art the defender of Christians, and we magnify thee.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (*Ps. 148:1*) The grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men. (*Titus 2:11*) Alleluia, Alleluia!

Candle Offerings Sunday, January 14, 2024

Votives in Altar

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov

Crosses

In Memory Of Paul Havrilko, Offered by Family

Vigils on the Tetrapod (2)

In Memory Of Peter Baker, Offered by Fr. James & Mat. Pat

Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary

Happy Birthday Mom (Neely), Offered by Amber & Michael Metz

Vigil of St. Michael (1)

Happy Birthday Michael Metz, Offered by Amber Metz

Thank You To The Church Christmas Carolers

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Thank you so very much for your caroling visit to our home. You lifted our spirits as only the Church, its hymns and some really good people can do. We have been unable to be in church for several years now. The Church and its people have been our life for all our lives from our Baptism to the present day. Being unable to participate in Church Life in our present "shut-in" status has been devastating... Until we heard (and sang along with) you, the hymns and carols of our youth. You have helped to restore our spirits and faith. We are in count down mode for your next visit. You are doing a blessed work of mercy as outlined in the Gospels. May you be blessed with good health and long life to be able to continue your blessed work of Christmas Caroling. Never let this tradition die out We and future shut-ins need you.

Thanks, love & prayers for everything needful Fr Tom & Matushka Evelyn Christos Razdaetsja! Slavit Jeho!

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.

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 24, 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 you plates/dishes in the kitchen as soon as possible. Thank you!

Christmas Bazaar

Thank you again to all who labored to make the Christmas Bazaar such a wonderful success. As you may know, it takes some time for all associated bills to be processed so that income and expenses may be accurately reported. We are now happy to report net proceeds of \$26,869 from this event.

A Note of Thanks

Bless us, Father

Dear Father Nikolai and our faithful friends at St. Nicholas Parish, Christ is Born! Glorify Him! You have once again blessed us and encouraged us with your generosity and kindness. May our Lord continue to direct your labors and good works.

> Mother Christophora and the Sisterhood Orthodox Monastery of the Transfiguration, Ellwood City, PA

A Note of Thanks

Dear St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church,

Thank you so much for your support of our work! It is such a blessing to see God's faithful promise to care for the poor and those in need, in action, through the support from generous partners like you! Your kindness has a profound impact that will echo through generations to come. We look forward to your next clothing drive for the Mission and Lighthouse! May you be blessed by blessing others!

Thank you, Diane Schenk Director of HopeThrift Distributors Hope Rescue Mission

Donations Received In Memory

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov: Offered by M. Peytcheva & B. Stefanov In Memory Of Michael & Vincentine Brusko: Offered by Andrew & Patricia Brusko

In Memory Of Yelena Davidian: Offered by Helen Acopian In Memory Of Mark Davidian: Offered by Helen Acopian

In Memory Of Mary Strohecker: Offered by Michele Guydan, Rosalie & Greg

Radio

In Memory Of Natalie & Stefan Danchenko: Offered by Halina Danchenko

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 themself. 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 In Christ, Priest Nikolai Breckenridge

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 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.