

Divine Liturgy

Sunday, January 21, 2024

Ven. Maximus the Confessor

Martyr Neophytus of Nicaea



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



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Mitred Archpriest James Mason, Attached

Deacon Geoffrey LoBalbo

Patricia Stetz Grammes, Parish Council President

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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 January 21, 2024

33rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 8. Ven. Maximus the Confessor (662). Martyr Neophytus of Nicæa (303-305). Martyrs Eugene, Candidus, Valerian, and Aquila, at Trebizond (3rd c.). Virgin Martyr Agnes of Rome (ca. 304). Martyr Anastasius, disciple of Ven. Maximus the Confessor (662). Venerable Neóphytos of Vatopaidi (Mt. Athos). Ven. Maxim the Greek (1556).

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Regular Office Hours will resume after the House Blessing Season.

Coffee Hour Today

Coffee Hour today is hosted by The Bzik Family

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

Saturday, January 27

5:00 pm – Great Vespers

Sunday, January 28

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

Thursday, February 1

6:00 pm – Great Vespers with Litia

Friday, February 2

Meeting of Christ in the Temple

8:50 am – Reading of the Hours

9:00 am – Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 3

4:30 pm – General Panikhida

Sunday, February 4

5:00 pm – Great Vespers

35th Sunday After Pentecost

9:10 am – Reading of the Hours

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 10

5:00 pm – Great Vespers

Sunday, February 11

36th Sunday After Pentecost

9:10 am – Reading of the Hours

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 17
Sunday, February 18

5:00 pm - Great Vespers
37th Sunday After Pentecost
Sunday of Zacchaeus

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours
9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 24
Sunday, February 25

5:00 pm - Great Vespers
Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee
9:10 am - Reading of the Hours
9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

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.

Upcoming Parish Council Meeting

Parish Council Meeting - Monday, January 29, 2024, 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

Sunday, January 21, 2024

Ven. Maximus the Confessor
Martyr Neophytus of Nicaea

Tone 8 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings! O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

Tone 8 Troparion *(Ven. Maximus)*

O Champion of Orthodoxy, teacher of purity and of true worship, the enlightener of the universe and the adornment of hierarchs; all wise Father Maximus, thy teachings have gleamed with light upon all things. Intercede before Christ God to save our souls!

Tone 4 Troparion *(St. Neophytus)*

Thy holy martyr Neophytus, O Lord, through his sufferings has received an incorruptible crown from Thee, our God. For having Thy strength, he laid low his adversaries, and shattered the powerless boldness of demons. Through his intercession, save our souls!

Tone 8 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam. Eve exults in Thy Resurrection, and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

Tone 6 Kontakion *(Ven. Maximus)*

The Thrice-radiant Light took up abode in thy soul, O all-blissful father, and displayed it as an elect vessel, manifest to the ends of the earth. O blessed Maximus, thou didst explain hard-to-grasp doctrines with brilliance and clarity, proclaiming the transcendent and unoriginate Trinity to all.

Tone 4 Kontakion (St. Neophytus)

Thou didst shine forth from the mount like lightning, glorifying Christ through thy struggles and death as a martyr. Therefore, thou hast received an unfading crown, O Great-martyr Neophytus.

Tone 8 Prokeimenon (Resurrection)

Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God! (Ps. 75:10a)

In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel. (Ps. 75:1)

Epistle

Read by David Metz

(Colossians 1:12-18) giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Tone 8

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior! (Ps. 94:1)

Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise! (Ps. 94:2)

Gospel

(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."

Communion Hymn

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

Candle Offerings

Sunday, January 21, 2024

Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)

In Memory of Archpriest John Mason, Offered by Fr. James & Mat. Pat

Vigils in Altar - Side Table (2)

In Memory Of Donna Mason, Offered by Fr. James & Mat. Pat

Votives in Altar

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov

Crosses

For Health Of Janice & Frank Shumbata, Offered by Gordon & Valerie Roberts

Vigils on the Tetrapod (2)

In Memory Of William & Mary Keysock, Offered by Bill & Sandi Keysock

Vigils on Icon Table (2)

Happy Birthday Pat Grammes, Offered by Tom & Joan

Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)

In Memory Of Mary Keysock, Offered by Bill & Sandi Keysock

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

Happy Birthday Pat Grammes, Offered by Joan & Tom

Votives - Icon of St. John the Baptist

Happy Birthday Pat Grammes, Offered by Joan & Tom

Vigil of St. Michael (1)

Happy Birthday Pat Grammes, Offered by Joan & Tom

Preparing for Scouting Sunday

We would like to refresh our list of St. Nicholas Scouts, so please take a moment to let us know of anyone who should be listed in the bulletin for Scouting Sunday on February 4, 2024. Please include the scouts' rank with their names. Kindly submit all names no later than Wednesday, January 31, 2024. Thank you!

A Note of Thanks

Dear St. Nicholas Church Family,

Thank you for your donation of Amazon Gift Cards on 12/22/2023. Your gift is a blessing to those seeking refuge and life restoration at Hope. Your support enables us to provide food, shelter, clothing, and guidance to over 1,200 individuals annually, including homeless veterans and many who are battling addiction. You are a valued partner in this ministry, and we could not manage all we do without your faithful financial and prayer support.

As we celebrate 129 years of service to the homeless of Berks County, we praise the Lord for our faithful partners who give sacrificially to feed the hungry, provide safe shelter for the homeless, and restore broken lives!

Blessing Hope Partners!

Sincerely,

Robert Turchi, CEO

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 !



The Lehigh Valley
Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood

INVITES YOU TO

*The Blessing of
the Jordan Creek*

1169 N 6TH STREET | FULLERTON, PA 18102

*Sunday, January 28th
3:00 pm*



Presented by The Diocese of Eastern PA and the Women's Group of Holy Trinity

THE GIFT OF COMPASSION:

From God to Us —Through Us, to Others

~Extending and Receiving Compassion ~Compassion vs. Empathy

~Compassion in Scripture ~The Many "Faces" of Compassion

Saturday, March 2nd - 10am-3pm

Holy Trinity Church, 1501 Trinity Ct, Stroudsburg, PA

Our featured speaker:

Presbytera Kerry Pappas

Kerry is a priest wife and licensed marriage and family therapist. She works extensively with seminarian and clergy families, primarily through the Center for Family Care Team of the GOA. Kerry's work of over 40 years takes her around the country leading women and couples in interactive exercises and dialogue.



This event is open to all women of our diocese and beyond. There is no charge and lunch and snacks will be provided.

Please bring a friend and enjoy a day of reflection and fellowship.

Please RSVP to Sara Rusk at rusksara21@gmail.com by February 24.

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, Lydia Bzik, 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, Janice Shumbata, Francine Slivka, Michael Slivka, Julia Smith, Dorothy Stafiniak, Joan Stetz, Vera Stoiancheff, 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.