

Divine Liturgy

Sunday, February 11, 2024

36th Sunday after Pentecost

Hieromartyr Blaise, Bishop of Sebaste



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



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Reverend Nikolai Breckenridge, Rector
Cell: 570-604-4277
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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
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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 February 11, 2024

36th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 3. Hieromartyr Blaise, Bishop of Sebaste (ca. 316). Ven. Dimitri (Demetrius), Wonderworker of Priluki (Vologdá–1392). Rt. Blv. Great Prince Vsevolod (in Baptism Gabriel), Wonderworker of Pskov (1138). Righteous Theodora, wife of Emperor Theophilus the Iconoclast (ca. 867).

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Monday, February 12th - Fr. Nikolai's day off
Wednesday, February 14th - 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Friday, February 16th - 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Coffee Hour Today

Coffee Hour today is hosted by Victoria Dimonie & The Markham Family

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Thursday, February 15 | 10:00 am - Essentials of The Orthodox Faith
Session #9 - The Church |
| Saturday, February 17 | 5:00 pm - Great Vespers |
| Sunday, February 18 | 37th Sunday After Pentecost
Sunday of Zacchaeus
9:10 am - Reading of the Hours
9:30 am - Divine Liturgy
Annual Parish Meeting following Coffee Hour |
| Wednesday, February 21 | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm - Halushki Sale Order Pick Ups |
| Thursday, February 22 | 10:00 am - Essentials of The Orthodox Faith
Session #10 - Who is Christ, and who are we? |
| Saturday, February 24 | 5:00 pm - Great Vespers |
| Sunday, February 25 | Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee
9:10 am - Reading of the Hours
9:30 am - Divine Liturgy |

Wednesday, February 28 10:00 am – 1:00 pm – Halushki Sale Order Pick Ups
Thursday, February 29 10:00 am – Essentials of The Orthodox Faith
Session #11 – The History of the Church

Looking Ahead:

Friday, March 15 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm – Lenten Fish Dinner &
Paska Bread Order Pick Ups
Friday, March 29 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm – Lenten Fish Dinner &
Paska Bread Order Pick Ups

Bulletin Printing & Out of Office Notice

Please note that the bulletin for Sunday, February 18, 2024 will be printed earlier than usual, as I will be out of the office from Wednesday, February 14 through Monday, February 19. If you have announcements or other information to be included for that bulletin, please submit it by Monday, February 12, 2024.

Jennifer Bzik, Administrative Assistant

Pierogi Schedule

Pierogi Making – Feb 12, 13, 14
Pierogi Making – Feb 19, 20, 21
Pierogi Making – Feb 26, 27, 28
Pierogi Making – Mar 4, 5, 6
Pierogi Making – Mar 11, 12, 13
Pierogi Making – Mar 18, 19, 20
Pierogi Making – Mar 25, 26, 27
Pierogi Making – April 1, 2, 3
Pierogi Making – April 8, 9, 10
Pierogi Making – April 15, 16, 17
Pierogi Making – April 22, 23, 24
NO Pierogi Making – April 29, 30, May 1
NO Pierogi Making – May 6, 7, 8

****Please note that this schedule is subject to change as we work on scheduling the HVAC replacement work.****

Divine Liturgy

Sunday, February 11, 2024

36th Sunday after Pentecost

Hieromartyr Blaise, Bishop of Sebaste

Tone 3 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. He has trampled down death by death. He has become the first born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted to the world great mercy.

Tone 4 Troparion *(St. Blaise)*

By sharing in the ways of the Apostles, thou didst become a successor to their throne. Through the practice of virtue, thou didst find the way to divine contemplation, O inspired one of God; by teaching the word of truth without error, thou didst defend the Faith, even to the shedding of thy blood. O Hieromartyr Blaise, entreat Christ God to save our souls!

Tone 3 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One, leading us from the gates of death. On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; with the Prophets and Patriarchs they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

Tone 2 Kontakion *(St. Blaise)*

Godly shoot, unfading flower, most fruitful branch of Christ the Vine, God-bearing Blaise, fill with joy those who in faith honor thy memory as thou unceasingly intercedest for us all.

Tone 3 Prokeimenon *(Resurrection)*

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing praises to our King, sing praises!
(Ps. 46:6)

Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! (Ps. 46:1)

Epistle

Read by Reader Nick Stepanoff

(1 Timothy 1:15-17) This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Tone 3

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

In Thee, O Lord, have I hoped; let me never be put to shame! (Ps. 30:1a)

Be a God of protection for me, a house of refuge in order to save me! (Ps. 30:2b)

Gospel

(Matthew 15:21-28) Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed." But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she cries out after us." But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, help me!" But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

Communion Hymn

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Candle Offerings

Sunday, February 11, 2024

Vigils in Altar - Windowsill (2)

In Memory Of Beloved Mother Paraskeya Aranjó
Offered by Laurel Riley & Diana Buskirk

Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)

In Memory Of Beloved Mother Paraskeya Aranjó
Offered by Laurel Riley & Diana Buskirk

Vigils in Altar - Side Table (2)

In Memory Of Beloved Mother Paraskeya Aranjó
Offered by Laurel Riley & Diana Buskirk

Votives in Altar

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov

Votives in Iconostas

For Health Of Nora Marie Shadid, Offered by Fr. Michael & Mat. Susan Kon

Crosses

In Honor Of Dorothy Havrilko's Birthday, Offered by Her Family

Vigils on the Tetrapod (2)

In Memory Of Helen Karel, Offered by Fr. Tom & Mat. Evelyn

Vigils on Icon Table (2)

In Memory Of Helen Karel, Offered by Fr. Tom & Mat. Evelyn

Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)

Happy Birthday Evie Roberts, Offered by Baba & Papa

Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary

Happy Birthday Evie Roberts, Offered by Baba & Papa

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

In Memory Of Patric Shea, Offered by Fr. Tom & Mat. Evelyn

Votives - Icon of St. John the Baptist

In Memory Of Patric Shea, Offered by Fr. Tom & Mat. Evelyn

Vigils on South Wall Window Sill (3)

In Memory Of Paul Stepanoff, Offered by His Wife, Kids & Grandkids

Vigils of St. Gregory (1)

In Memory Of Paul Stepanoff, Offered by His Wife, Kids & Grandkids

Vigils of St. Paul (1)

In Memory Of Paul Stepanoff, Offered by His Wife, Kids & Grandkids

Vigils on North Wall Window Sill (3)

In Memory Of Paul Stepanoff, Offered by His Wife, Kids & Grandkids

Vigil of St. Michael (1)

In Memory Of Paul Stepanoff, Offered by His Wife, Kids & Grandkids

Vigil of St. Andrew (1)

In Memory Of Paul Stepanoff, Offered by His Wife, Kids & Grandkids

Donations Received In Memory

In Memory of Sarkis Acopian: Offered by Helen Acopian

In Memory Of Helen Karel: Offered by Fr. Tom & Mat. Evelyn Edwards,

In Memory Of Elizabeth Ojaghian: Offered by Helen Acopian

In Memory Of Patric Shea: Barry & Ann Marie Bretz, Lorraine Chromiak, Fr. Tom & Mat. Evelyn Edwards, Patricia Felix, Michael & Shirley Isbansky, Nancy Kohudic, Mark Maben & Julie Burstein, Stephanie Pasquel, Michael & Francine Slivka,

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

In Memory Of Vera Stoiancheff: Offered by Patricia Felix, Nancy Kohudic, Michael & Francine Slivka,

Kitchen Closure for HVAC Work

Dear Faithful,

We have now finally received a tentative delivery date for the new HVAC equipment for the Church Hall. This means that we've also been able to schedule the installation. This will involve minimal impact to our weekend life here at St. Nicholas, but it will have a great impact on any activities involving the Kitchen DURING WEEK DAYS. By great impact, I mean, **the kitchen will be off-limits, and unusable during the weeks they are here.** The weekdays are as follows:

- Mon. April 29 - Thurs. May 2
- Mon. May 6 - Fri. May 10
- Mon. May 13 - Fri. May 17
- Mon. May 20 - Fri. May 24
- Tues. May 28 - Fri. May 31
- Mon. June 17 - Fri. June 21
- Mon. June 24 - Fri. June 28
- Mon. July 1 - Fri. July 5 (If Needed)

Thankfully, the majority of these weeks are already times when we would not normally be using the kitchen, but this means that if there are any projects that will need to make use of the kitchen, that needs to be arranged to happen before this block of weeks happens.

Thank you all!

Fr. Nikolai

A Note Of Thanks

Beloved of God:

The Brotherhood of St. Tikhon's Monastery wants to offer its sincere thanks to you for your donation and gratefully accepts your offering to God and His Church. Be assured of our prayers for you and your intentions and may the blessing of Almighty God be upon you always

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Archimandrite Sergius, Abbot of St. Tikhon's Monastery

Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers needed for Paska baking Saturdays February 10 and March 2 9:00 AM through 3:00 PM.

Please call Maxine Marsh 610-837-8063 if interested.

Fish dinners are scheduled for Fridays, March 15 & 29 from 4-6:00 PM.

Please consider helping during these events and contacting Pat Grammes for information.

An "angel" has made a monetary donation to the Christmas bazaar which rounds the net profit to \$27,000.00.

Thank you

Annual Parish Meeting Notice

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 18, 2024. The meeting will be held in the church hall immediately following the Divine Liturgy. A light luncheon will be served. All are encouraged to read the agenda and reports thoroughly and prepare their questions to ensure an expedited parish meeting. Please note that there will be no means of virtual participation in the meeting.

According to the bylaws of St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, the required quorum for a parish meeting is the attendance of at least 25% of voting members in good standing. A quorum must be maintained throughout the meeting. If a quorum is not present, the meeting shall then be rescheduled by the Parish Council in consultation with the Rector, at which time the members present will constitute a quorum.

4th Quarter Treasurer's Report Summary

October 2023	Income:	\$43,380.22
	Expenses:	\$54,461.46
	Net Revenue:	<u>\$(11,081.24)</u>
November 2023	Income:	\$31,650.87
	Expenses	\$36,157.08
	Net Revenue:	<u>\$(4,506.21)</u>
December 2023	Income:	\$69,817.49
	Expenses:	\$33,489.81
	Net Revenue:	<u>\$36,327.68</u>

Annual Church Office Elections

What you need to know to vote in the Annual Parish Meeting being held on February 18, 2024 and to run for Church Office: According to our Bylaws in order to vote and participate in the discussions you must be a member at least 18 years of age and in good standing (both financially and sacramentally) for one (1) year. In order to run for Church Office you must be have been a practicing Orthodox Christian for at least one (1) year and a parishioner of this Parish for a prior 12 month period

If you are interested in serving on the Parish Council, please see Fr. Nikolai or any current member of the Parish Council.

Please note the Parish Council Vice President and Secretary are chosen by and from the newly elected Parish Council to serve for one (1) year terms.

Parish Council Officer Positions

Parish Council President (one year)

Treasurer (one year)

Financial Secretary (one year)

Auditor Positions

Four (4) one year terms

Parish Council Positions

Two (2) three year terms

Cemetery Committee Chair

One (1) one year term

Diocesan Assembly Positions

Diocesan Assembly Delegate

Diocesan Assembly Alternate

Voting Members

A voting member is a parishioner who has the privilege of attending, being counted when determining the number required for a quorum, taking part in discussion, and voting at any annual or special parish meeting. A voting member may also have the privilege of being elected as a member of the Parish Council if he or she possesses the appropriate gifts and disposition for working with others. A voting member is in "good standing" if he or she:

- a.** Is a baptized and chrismated an Orthodox Christian;
- b.** Is at least eighteen (18) years of age;
- c.** Partakes of the Sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion in this Parish at least once during the previous 12 month period;
- d.** Has been a practicing Orthodox Christian for at least one (1) year and a parishioner of this Parish for a prior 12 month period;
- e.** Has demonstrated commitment to the defined financial obligation during the previous 12 month period. (\$520 per year) If the financial obligation cannot be reached, an exemption can be requested and given by the Rector;
- f.** "Good standing" is determined in collaboration with the Rector and the Council President;
- g.** Voting membership in two or more Orthodox parishes is not permitted.
- h.** A Voting Member has accepted the right, privilege, and responsibility to vote in Parish Assemblies. A Voting Member may be considered for election to office in appropriate Parish bodies. A Voting Member is eligible for election as a delegate to the Diocesan Assembly and the All-American Council.

Annual Parish Meeting Reports Available

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 18, 2024. Please be advised that printed copies of the agenda and reports will be available at the candle desk beginning on Sunday, February 4, 2024. Please stop by to pick up a copy at your convenience. If you would like a copy emailed to you or mailed to you, please contact the Administrative Assistant at Assistant4StNicholas@outlook.com. Please note that due to postal delays, we cannot guarantee that mailed copies will arrive prior to the meeting.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

*Baby
shower*

CELEBRATING MAMA-TO-BE

LARA BESSMAN

FEBRUARY 25TH AT 11 AM
ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH
980 BRIDLE PATH RD.
BETHLEHEM PA 18017
RSVP TO CHRISTINA
972-313-5167

Greetings
ISLAND



2024 Lenten Fish Dinners



Menu

Baked or Fried Fish
Oven Roasted Potatoes
Vegetable & Dinner Roll
Coffee or Tea
Delicious Homemade Desserts
Soda & Water - \$1.00

Vendors

Treasures of Russia
Boutique for authentic gift items
Imported from Russia
Mom's Candy Kitchen
For delicious sweets!

Frozen potato/cheese pierogi & paska breads for sale.



HALUSHKI SALE!

\$10 per quart

Order your quart of halushki to go.
Just heat it up and enjoy delicious cabbage and
homemade noodles!

Wednesday February 21st and 28th

**Pick up at the church
10:00 am to 1:00 pm**



**Orders must be placed by
calling 610-867-0402
option 5 (the pierogi
hotline). Please specify
how many quarts and
what date you are picking
up your order.**

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, Corinne Stuckey, Maeve Stuckey, Patricia Telepchak, Irene Witaneck

Handmaidens of God: Lara Bessman, Tosha Roberts and their unborn children, and Yana Fedorenko and her newborn child.

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