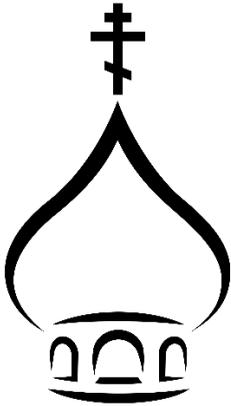


Divine Liturgy

Sunday, March 3, 2024

39th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday of the Prodigal Son



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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
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 March 3, 2024

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON – Tone 6. Martyr Eutropius of Amasea, and with him Martyrs Cleonicus and Basiliscus (ca. 308). Saint Piamoun (337). Ss. Zenon and Zoilus.

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Monday, March 4th – Fr. Nikolai's day off
Wednesday, March 6th – 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Friday, March 8th – 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Coffee Hour Today

Fundraiser for Lowry Family March 3rd coffee hour sponsored by the Lezinsky's

On March 3rd, we will have a fundraiser for the Lowry Family. Mark Thomas is 2 years old and our parish and Father Nikolai have been praying for him since birth. He is in need of a Liver transplant which will be happening in the beginning of April. His mother Yana will be donating

part of her liver. Yana is a very good friend of our daughter Kyra Florenz. Tom (father) was in the military with Andrew (Kyra's husband). Kyra and Andrew are Godparents to Mark Thomas. Yana and Tom also have 2 other girls, Nina and Vera. This Orthodox family will be having a long road of recovery. Both Yanna and Mark Thomas will need continuous care for over 3 months. We pray that everyone involved will have a complete recovery and hope that we are able to help them with their journey of healing.



Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

Live Stream will also be available for all services.

- Thursday, March 7** 9:30 am - Akathist to the Theotokos, Nurturer of Children
- Saturday, March 9** **Memorial Saturday / 40 Martyrs of Sabaste**
8:50 am - Reading of the Hours
9:00 am - Divine Liturgy
5:00 pm - Great Vespers
- Sunday, March 10** **Sunday of Last Judgement / Meatfare Sunday**
9:10 am - Reading of the Hours
9:30 am - Divine Liturgy
- Friday, March 15** 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm - Lenten Fish Dinner & Paska Bread Order Pick Ups
5:00 pm - Great Vespers
- Saturday, March 16**
Sunday, March 17 **Forgiveness Sunday / Cheesefare Sunday**
9:10 am - Reading of the Hours
9:30 am - Divine Liturgy (**w/ Archbishop MARK**)
12:00 pm - Forgiveness Vespers
- First Week of Lent - Clean Week**
- Monday, March 18** 7:00 pm - Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
- Tuesday, March 19** 7:00 pm - Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
- Wednesday, March 20** 6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy
- Thursday, March 21** 7:00 pm - Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete (*Moved from Wednesday*)
- Friday, March 22** 7:00 pm - Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete (*Moved from Thursday*)
- Saturday, March 23** **St. Theodore the Recruit**
8:50 am - Reading of the Hours
9:00 am - Divine Liturgy St. Theodore the Recruit
5:00 pm - **Triumph of Orthodoxy Vespers**
w/ Lehigh Valley Brotherhood - St. Paul's - Emmaus

Sunday, March 24

The Sunday of Orthodoxy

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm - Great Vespers w/ Litia for Annunciation

Monday, March 25

Annunciation

9:00 am - Annunciation Vespers Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, March 27

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

Friday, March 29

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm - Lenten Fish Dinner &
Paska Bread Order Pick Ups

Saturday, March 30

Memorial Saturday

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, March 31

St. Gregory Palamas

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

REMINDER - Kitchen Closure for HVAC Work

Due to scheduled HVAC replacement work, **the kitchen will be off-limits, and completely unusable on the following days:**

- 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)

If you anticipate needing to use the kitchen (on weekends) for anything other than normal Sunday coffee hour activities, please contact Jennifer Bzik as far in advance as possible to coordinate.

Divine Liturgy

Sunday, March 3, 2024

39th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Tone 6 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

The Angelic Powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure body. Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee.

Tone 3 Kontakion *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

I have recklessly forgotten Thy glory, O Father; and among sinners I have scattered the riches which Thou gavest me. And now I cry to Thee as the Prodigal: "I have sinned before Thee, O merciful Father; receive me as a penitent, and make me as one of Thy hired servants!"

Tone 6 Prokeimenon *(Resurrection)*

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance! *(Ps. 27:9a)*

To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me! (Ps. 27:1a)

Epistle

Read by Reader Matthew Lezinsky

(1 Corinthians 6:12-20) All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not!

Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For "the two," He says, "shall become one flesh." But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

Tone 6

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

He who dwelleth in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the heavenly God. (Ps. 90:1)

He will say to the Lord: "My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in Whom I trust." (Ps. 90:2)

Gospel

(Luke 15:11-32) Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood. And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I

have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry. Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.' But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. So he answered and said to his father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.'"

Communion Hymn

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

Tone 1 Kathisma Hym of the Canon on the Sunday of the Prodigal Son Thy Fatherly Embrace

Make haste to open to me, O Lord, thine arms in fatherly embrace: for I have wasted all my life in sin, like the Prodigal Son; as I now behold, O my Savior, the unfailing riches of thy great loving kindness, despise not my feeble heart, for unto thee, O Lord, I cry with tears of repentance: O Father forgive me, I have sinned against heaven and before thee.

Candle Offerings

Sunday, March 3, 2024

Vigils in Altar - Windowsill (2)

Happy Birthday Ro, Offered by Greg

Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)

For Health Of Gordon Roberts, Offered by The Roberts Family

Vigils in Altar - Side Table (2)

In Memory Of Reade Roberts, Offered by The Roberts Family

Votives in Altar

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov, Offered by Family

Votives in Iconostas

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

Vigil in Side Candle Holders (2)

In Memory Of Joan Stetz, Offered by Pat & Tom

Crosses

Happy Birthday Lydia Bzik, Offered by Mommy, Daddy & Nic

Vigils on the Tetrapod (2)

Happy Birthday Scott Radio, Offered by The Radio-Tomsic Families

Vigils on Icon Table (2)

Happy Birthday Rosalie, Offered by The Radio-Tomsic Families

Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)

Happy Birthday Baba, Offered by Ethan, Owen, Talia & Jones

Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary

In Memory Of JoAnn Konsevitch, Offered by Roberts & Konsevitch Families

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

Happy Birthday Scott, Offered by Jen, Ethan & Owen, Kody, Austin & Devon

Votives - Icon of St. John the Baptist

For Health Of Gordon Roberts, Offered by The Roberts Family

Vigils on South Wall Window Sill (3)

Happy Birthday Ophelia, Offered by Godparents Amber & Michael

Vigils of St. Gregory (1)

Happy Birthday Scott, Offered by Mom & Dad

Vigils of St. Paul (1)

In Memory Of Joan Stetz, Offered by Dorothy Havrilko

Vigils on North Wall Window Sill (3)

In Memory Of Betty Fedora, Offered by Cudlic & Eck Families

Vigil of St. Michael (1)

In Memory Of Joan Stetz, Offered by Nick & Judy Lezinsky

Vigil of St. Andrew (1)

In Memory Of Joan Stetz, Offered by Nick & Judy Lezinsky

Let's Have A Card Shower!

Mr. Walter Grigoruk is turning 90 on March 6th! Let's all send him cards to celebrate this milestone birthday! Mail cards to:

Mr. Walter Grigoruk
LifeQuest
2100 Cherry Blossom Lane, Apt 156
Quakertown, PA 18951

Lenten Pierogi

Lenten Pierogi will be made on March 18. To order sign your name with the number of dozen you want on the sheet in the kitchen by the telephone. Please order by Sunday, March 17 or sooner.

Pierogi Schedule

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 through May 31

****Please note that this schedule is subject to change.****

Volunteers Needed!

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.

Thank you

Reminder - Fish Dinner Baked Goods

Reminder: We need those delicious cakes! If you are able to bake a dessert for the Lenten Fish Dinners, please deliver to the church between 7:00 am and 2:00 pm on March 15th and/or March 29th. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Grammes.

Pussy Willow Branches



Reminder: It will soon be time for pussy willows to start blooming. Please cut the branches of willows and bring them to the church as soon as they bloom. Since Pascha is May 5th we will need to store the willows until Saturday, April 27th for Palm Sunday, April 28th. Please wrap the willows loosely in newspaper so we can save them for Palm Sunday. Thank you for your help in gathering the willows.



A Note Of Thanks

Thank you for your extremely generous contribution of \$225 received on 2/15/2024.

The Academy is starting out 2024 with grateful hearts and busy minds. Our students, faculty, and staff are already hard at work in the classroom, teaching and learning.

Your generosity is the precise reason we continue to operate this unique institution. Not many places in America can claim to be both academically vigorous and also authentically Orthodox.

The world is in such desperate need of institutions like this Academy, and we are striving every day to fill this need. This hard work is paying off and the community is taking notice. As you know, we have already doubled our enrollment from last year, and are expecting a full slate of students to begin in the fall as well.

I cannot thank you enough for your partnership with our Academy. I am so grateful you have chosen to join us in this exciting and extraordinary journey. You are the Reason we firmly believe that this school will not only survive but thrive.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Josh Williams

Fundraising Coordinator, Chrysostom Academy.

A Note Of Thanks

Thank you to everyone for Lara's wonderful baby shower! It was absolutely perfect, being far beyond anything we had expected. The food was delicious, the decorations beautiful, and the gifts thoughtful. As many of you know, we have no family in the area, and I do not think we would be on our fourth child without the love and generosity of this parish. You are our church family, and we are eternally thankful to God for you!

With love and gratitude,
The Bessmans

Donations Received In Memory

In Memory Of Patric Shea: Offered by Stephen & Mary Doncevic, Olga Frimenko, Catherine Miller, Nick & Barb Roman, Dorothy Stafiniak,

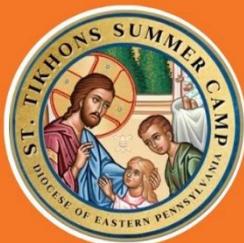
In Memory Of Philip Stefanov: Offered by Marietta Peytcheva & Boris Stefanov, The Stefanov Family

In Memory Of Joan Stetz: Offered by Barry & Ann Marie Bretz, Lorraine Chromiak, Damian Drasher, Patricia Felix, Mark & Eileen Flisak, Michele Guydan, Roger & Barbara Lemar, Roseann Leonzi, Catherine Miller, Stephanie Pasquel, Joe & Regina Pinkowicz, Michael & Francine Slivka,

In Memory Of Vera Stoiancheff: Offered by Paula & John Lahutsky, Connell Funeral Home

Attention Heavenly Host!

Lent is a time for increased prayer and spiritual activity. The Pascha Season elective can provide some guidance on how to increase your effort, but it's important to start early, since attendance at the Canon of St. Andrew of Crete is one of the requirements, and that occurs the first week of Lent. Remember the motto of the Heavenly Host "Be Holy for God is Holy! Have a blessed fast!



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SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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.

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:

Archbishops: Melchisedek Pleska, Nathaniel Popp

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, Donna 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, Gordon Roberts, Leah Roberts, Victoria Ross, Mary Ruzila, Nancy A. Sabol, Connor Samuels, Robert Schainfeld, Catherine Shea, Janice Shumbata, Francine Slivka, Michael Slivka, Julia Smith, Dorothy Stafiniak, Corinne Stuckey, Maeve Stuckey, Patricia Telepchak, Irene Witaneck

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

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