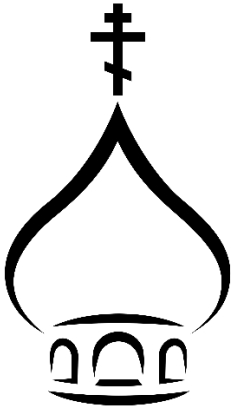


# **Divine Liturgy**

Sunday, March 31, 2024

**Second Sunday of Great Lent**

**St. Gregory Palamas**



**SAINT NICHOLAS**  
**RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**



**SAINT NICHOLAS**  
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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 March 31, 2024

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 2. St. Gregory Palamas. Synaxis of the Venerable Fathers of the Kiev Caves Lavra. Repose of St. Innocent, Metropolitan of Moscow, Enlightener of the Aleuts and Apostle to the Americas** (1879). St. Hypatius the Wonderworker, Bishop of Gangra (ca. 336). Repose of St. Jonah, Metropolitan of Moscow and All Russia (1461). Ven. Hypatius the Healer, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves–14th c.). Ven. Apollonius, Ascetic, of Egypt (4th c.). Hieromartyr Avdas, Bishop of Persia, and Martyr Benjamin the Deacon (418-424). Ven. Hypatius, Abbot of Rufinus in Chalcedon (ca. 446). Appearance of the “Ivëron” (Iberian) Icon of the Mother of God.

## Fr. Nikolai’s Office Hours

Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> - Fr. Nikolai's Day Off  
Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> - 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup> - 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

## Coffee Hour Today

Coffee Hour today is hosted by The Lezinsky Family  
In appreciation of our St. Nicholas Parish Family

## Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

<b>Wednesday, April 3</b>	6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy
<b>Thursday, April 4</b>	9:00 am - Akathist to the Theotokos, Nurturer of Children
<b>Friday, April 5</b>	9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy 7:00 pm - Akathist - St. Nicholas
<b>Saturday, April 6</b>	<b>Memorial Saturday</b> 8:50 am - Reading of the Hours 9:00 am - Divine Liturgy 4:30 pm - General Panikhida 5:00 pm - Great Vespers

**Sunday, April 7**

**Wednesday, April 10**

**Friday, April 12**

**Saturday, April 13**

**Sunday, April 14**

**Wednesday, April 17**

**Thursday, April 18**

**Friday, April 19**

**Saturday, April 20**

**Sunday, April 21**

**Wednesday, April 24**

**Friday, April 26**

**Saturday, April 27**

**Sunday, April 28**

**Sunday of Veneration of the Cross**

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm - Akathist - To Our Lord's Passion

**Memorial Saturday**

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

**St. John Climacus**

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

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

Andrew of Crete and the Life of St. Mary of Egypt

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm - Akathist - Theotokos

**Akathist Saturday**

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

**St. Mary of Egypt**

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm - Compline (Lazarus)

**Lazarus Saturday**

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

**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 29**

### **Holy Monday**

9:00 am – Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm – Bridegroom Matins

**Tuesday, April 30**

### **Holy Tuesday**

9:00 am – Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm – Bridegroom Matins

**Wednesday, May 1**

### **Holy Wednesday**

9:00 am – Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm – Holy Unction

**Thursday, May 2**

### **Holy Thursday**

**No Liturgy** – Fr. Nikolai at St. Tikhon’s to serve at the Liturgy to end the confecting of Holy Chrism  
7:00 pm – Matins of Holy Friday with the 12 Passion Gospels

**Friday, May 3**

### **Holy Friday**

9:00 am – Royal Hours

4:00 pm – Burial Vespers

7:00 pm – Matins Lamentations

All Night Watch

**Saturday, May 4**

### **Holy Saturday**

9:00 am – Vesperal Divine Liturgy of Holy Saturday

## **GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA**

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

Followed by blessing of baskets and Agape meal

## **Upcoming Parish Council Meeting**

Parish Council Meeting – Monday, April 1, 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, March 31, 2024

**Second Sunday of Great Lent**

**St. Gregory Palamas**

**Tone 2      Troparion**      *(Resurrection)*

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead. And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: "O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!"

**Tone 8      Troparion**      *(St. Gregory Palamas)*

O light of Orthodoxy, teacher of the Church, its confirmation, O ideal of monks and invincible champion of theologians, O wonderworking Gregory, glory of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, always intercede before the Lord that our souls may be saved!

**Tone 8      Kontakion**      *(St. Gregory Palamas)*

Holy and divine instrument of wisdom, joyful trumpet of theology, together we sing thy praises, O God-inspired Gregory. Since thou now standest before the Original Mind, guide our minds to Him, O Father, so that we may sing to thee: "Rejoice, preacher of grace!"

**Tone 4      Kontakion**      *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

Now is the time for action! Judgment is at the doors! So let us rise and fast, offering alms with tears of compunction and crying: "Our sins are more in number than the sands of the sea; but forgive us, O Master of all, so that we may receive the incorruptible crowns!"

**Tone 5      Prokeimenon**

Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.  
*(Ps. 11:7)*

*Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly! (Ps. 11:1a)*

**Tone 1      Prokeimenon      (St. Gregory Palamas)**

My mouth shall speak wisdom; the meditation of my heart shall be understanding. (Ps. 48:3)

**Epistle**

Read by John Heitzenrater

**(Hebrews 1:10-2:3)** And: "You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not fail." But to which of the angels has He ever said: "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool"? Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation? Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him,

**(Hebrews 7:26-8:2 (St. Gregory Palamas))** For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for his own sins and then for the people's, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself. For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, appoints the Son who has been perfected forever. Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.

## **Tone 2**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*May the Lord hear thee in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect thee! (Ps. 19:1)*

*Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call! (Ps. 19:9)*

## **Tone 2**

*The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom, and his tongue shall speak of judgment. (Ps. 36:31)*

## **Gospel**

**(Mark 2:1-12)** And again He entered Capernaum after some days, and it was heard that He was in the house. Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive them, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them. Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you." And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, "Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?" But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, "Why do you reason about these things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your bed and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" - He said to the paralytic, "I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"



**(John 10:9-16 (St. Gregory Palamas))** I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.

*(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing the following)*

### **Hymn to the Theotokos**

All of creation rejoices in thee, O Full of Grace: the assembly of angels and the race of men. O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, the glory of virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a Child: our God before the ages. He made thy body into a throne, and thy womb He made more spacious than the heavens. All of creation rejoices in thee, O Full of Grace. Glory to thee!

### **Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! *(Ps. 148:1)*  
The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance! He shall not fear evil tidings! *(Ps. 111:6)*  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

# **Candle Offerings**

## **Sunday, March 31, 2024**

### **Vigils in Altar - Windowsill (2)**

Happy Birthday Regina Pinkowicz, Offered by Joe, Colleen, Donna & Gemma

### **Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)**

God Grant Many Years to Michael Isbansky on his 94<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
Offered by Shirley Isbansky

### **Vigils in Altar - Side Table (2)**

For Health of Pierogi Workers

### **Votives in Altar**

Happy Birthday Taras Guanowsky, Offered by Guanowsky Family

### **Votives in Iconostas**

In Honor Of Nora Marie Shadid, Offered Fr. Michael & Mat. Susan Kon

### **Crosses**

Happy Birthday Stephanie Pasquel, Offered by Ann Marie & Barry

### **Vigils on the Tetrapod (2)**

In Memory Of Michael, Mary & Joan Stetz, Offered by Pat & Tom

### **Vigils on Icon Table (2)**

In Memory Of Michael, Mary & Joan Stetz, Offered by Pat & Tom

### **Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)**

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov, Offered by Family

### **Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary**

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov, Offered by Family

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

For Health Of Our Loyal Pierogi Customers

### **Vigil of St. Michael (1)**

God Grant Many Years to Michael Isbansky on his 94<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
Offered by Shirley Isbansky

## **A Note of Thanks**

Thank you to everyone for their generosity at our Coffee Hour on March 24. We raised \$1,064 to assist Deacon Geoffrey during his recovery. Thank you to the entire St. Nicholas Parish Family!

## **Donations Received In Memory**

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

**In Memory Of Joan Stetz:** Offered by Rosalie Leone, Nicholas Lezinsky

## **News from St. Tikhon's Seminary**

During its recent celebration of serving the Lord for 85 years, St. Tikhon's Theological Seminary announced that the Association of Theological Schools awarded it full accreditation for a period of 10 years, the highest level of achievement. The extensive accreditation process included submitting a comprehensive self study exploring all aspects of the Seminary's mission of preparing men for the priesthood, followed by a four day visit by an ATS committee.

God grant many years to Archbishop Michael, Rector, Fr. John Parker, Dean, Fr. Paul Witek, Director of the Self Study, Board of Trustees, all administration, faculty, staff, and the entire Seminary Community.

Please keep St. Tikhon's Seminary in your prayers and consider increasing your generous support of the Spring, Fall and Sustainer appeals allowing the Seminary to maintain this high level of achievement.



# 2024-2025 school year Kindergarten Roundup



**CHRYSOSTOM  
ACADEMY™**

- **Friday, April 5, 2024 from 1:00–2:30pm**
- **St. John Chrysostom Academy, Grammar School  
395 Bridle Path Road, Bethlehem, PA 18017**
- **This is an event for prospective parents of  
Kindergarteners to learn about Chrysostom Academy, the  
Kindergarten program, and the application and enrollment  
process. Parents will also meet the Kindergarten team.**
- **The prospective student must be 5 years old by 9-1-24.**
- **RSVP to Mrs. Amy Chebib at [achebib@chrysostomacademy.org](mailto:achebib@chrysostomacademy.org)**

UPCOMING EVENT

# Come and See

Join us for a presentation from Mr. Joshua Williams, the Fundraising Coordinator for Chrysostom Academy, about different ways your state taxes can support the School.

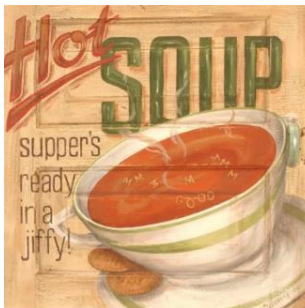
When: Sunday April 14th after Liturgy during Coffee Hour



CHRYSOSTOM  
ACADEMY™



## Lenten Soup Sale



**THIS WEEK:**

Every coffee hour during lent we will be hosting a take home quart soup sale. Each week will be different strict Lenten soups. \$10 a quart. While supplies last. All proceeds will go to St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church. See Judy or Lori if you have any questions.

Potato Soup  
Black Bean Soup



# Pierogi Schedule

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

Pierogi Making - June 3, 4, 5

Pierogi Making - June 10, 11, 12

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

## 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
- Tues. May 7 - 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 or hall AT ALL for anything other than normal Sunday coffee hour activities between now and July 31<sup>st</sup>,** please contact Jennifer Bzik as far in advance as possible to coordinate. In addition to the days listed above, the HVAC workers are coming by at various times to do preliminary setup. If Jen does not know that you have something planned, you may be interrupted by workers or unable to use the kitchen or other parts of the facility as you had planned.

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, Helen Cotirgasanu, David G. Cudlic, Val Danchenko, Christopher Felix, Olga Frimenko, David Gowarty, Walter Grigoruk, Donna Haney, Rachel Hardesty, Nicholas Hazzard, Don Holobeney, 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 Witanek

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

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