Divine Liturgy

Sunday, April 14, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Great Lent
St. John Climacus (of the Ladder)





Reverend Nikolai Breckenridge, Rector

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Mitred Archpriest James Mason, Attached

Deacon Geoffrey LoBalbo

Patricia Stetz Grammes, Parish Council President

Reader Nicholas Lezinsky, Choir Director

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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 April 14, 2024

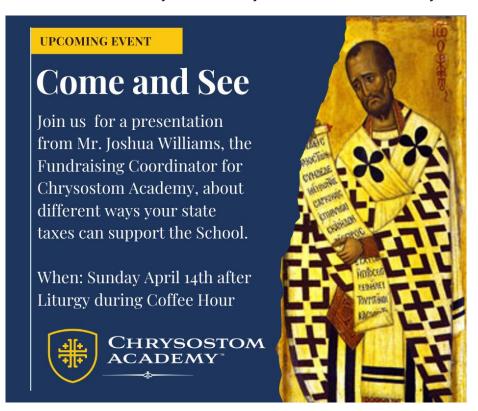
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 4. St. John Climacus (of The Ladder). St. Martin the Confessor, Pope of Rome (655). Martyrs Anthony, John, and Eustathius of Vilnius (Lithuania–1347). Martyr Ardalion the Actor (4th c.). Martyr Azades the Eunuch and 1,000 Martyrs of Persia (ca. 341).

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Monday, April 15th - Fr. Nikolai's Day Off Wednesday, April 17th - 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm Friday, April 19th - 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Coffee Hour Today

Coffee Hour today is hosted by The Heitzenrater Family



Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

Wednesday, April 17 6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy **Thursday, April 18** 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 Friday, April 19 7:00 pm - Akathist - Theotokos Saturday, April 20 **Akathist Saturday** 8:50 am - Reading of the Hours 9:00 am - Divine Liturgy 5:00 pm - Great Vespers St. Mary of Egypt Sunday, April 21 9:10 am - Reading of the Hours 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy Wednesday, April 24 6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy Friday, April 26 9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy 7:00 pm - Compline (Lazarus) **Lazarus Saturday** Saturday, April 27 9:00 am - Divine Liturgy 5:00 pm - Great Vespers **Palm Sunday** Sunday, April 28 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 **Holy Tuesday Tuesday, April 30**

7:00 pm - Bridegroom Matins **Wednesday, May 1 Holy Wednesday**

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

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

Parish Council Members

As Of 03/31/2024

Parish Council President - Patricia Stetz Grammes
Parish Council Vice President - Valerie Roberts
Financial Secretary - Anna Rodzianko
Recording Secretary - Nicholas Stepanoff
Treasurer - Joseph Kavchok
Council Member - Laura Eck
Council Member - John Heitzenrater
Council Member - Susan Nielsen
Council Member - Daniel Stuckey

Auditors

Katherine Lichtenwalner Radu Lungu David Metz Peter Metz

Cemetery Committee Chair

Jennifer Bzik

Divine Liturgy

Sunday, April 14, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Great Lent St. John Climacus (of the Ladder)

Tone 4 Troparion (Resurrection)

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: "Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!"

Tone 1 Troparion (St. John Climacus)

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body, thou wast a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father John. Thou didst receive heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil, and prayer, healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to thee by faith. Glory to Him Who gave thee strength! Glory to Him Who grants healing to all!

Tone 4 Kontakion (Resurrection)

My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell, and as Master, He has risen on the third day!

Tone 4 Kontakion (St. John Climacus)

The Lord truly set thee on the heights of abstinence, to be a guiding star, showing the way to the universe, O our father and teacher John.

Tone 4 Prokeimenon (Resurrection)

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works; in wisdom hast Thou made them all. (Ps. 103:26)

Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, Thou art very great! (Ps. 103:1)

Tone 7 Prokeimenon (St. John Climacus)

Let the saints exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches! (Ps. 149:5)

Epistle

Read by Reader Michael Metz

(Hebrews 6:13-20) For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, "Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you." And so, after he had patiently endured, he

obtained the promise. For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

(Ephesians 5:9-19 (St. John Climacus)) (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore He says: "Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light." See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

Tone 4

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth! (Ps. 44:3b)

For Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest iniquity. (Ps. 44:6)

Tone 4

They that are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. (Ps. 91:12)

Gospel

(Mark 9:17-31) Then one of the crowd answered and said, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not." He answered him and said, "O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me." Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him,

immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. So He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it: "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!" Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" So He said to them, "This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting." Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know it. For He taught His disciples and said to them, "The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day."

(Matthew 4:25-5:12 (St. John Climacus)) Great multitudes followed Him - from Galilee, and from Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan. And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

(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!

Candle Offerings - Sunday, April 14, 2024

Vigils in Altar - Windowsill (2)

Happy Birthday & Good Health Fr. Timothy Hasenecz Offered by The Hasenecz/Nielsen Family

Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)

Happy Birthday Gordon Roberts, Offered by Val

Vigils in Altar - Side Table (2)

Happy Birthday PaPa Gordon Roberts Offered by Emily, Evelyn, Hannah, Liliana, Leah & Nathan

Votives in Altar

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov, Offered by Family

Votives in Iconostas

In Memory Of Rosemary Ziegenfuss Offered by Sisters, Diana Buskirk & Laurel Riley

Vigil in Side Candle Holders (2)

In Memory Of Rosemary Ziegenfuss Offered by Sisters, Diana Buskirk & Laurel Riley

Crosses

Happy Birthday Gordon Roberts
Offered by Matthew, Jessica, Alex, Megan, Nick & Tosha

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)

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

Lenten Covered Dish Coffee Hour Palm Sunday

On Palm Sunday, April 28, 2024 we will be having a Lenten Covered Dish Coffee Hour. Please bring a Lenten covered dish to share for Coffee Hour. There is a sign up sheet at the candle desk to let us know what you'll be bringing.

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!

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!

Hope Rescue Mission needs your HELP!

St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church is collecting all types of gently used clothing including coats, hats, boots, belts, men's clothing for the men at Hope Rescue Mission and for the women's and children's shelter (Lighthouse). We will take all seasons of clothing for men, women, and children. We have a need for new men's underwear, undershirts, and sweatpants all in sizes medium to xxxl.

You can drop items off in the designated containers in the Chernay Fellowship Hall. Please make all donations by **Palm Sunday, April 28, 2024.**

This clothing helps provide food, clothing, and shelter for the men at Hope Rescue and the women and children at Lighthouse.

Thank you in advance for your donations!

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.

Clam Chowder Mushroom Soup



Pierogi Schedule

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, <u>the kitchen will be off-limits</u>, <u>and completely unusable on the following days:</u>

- 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 31st, 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 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 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.