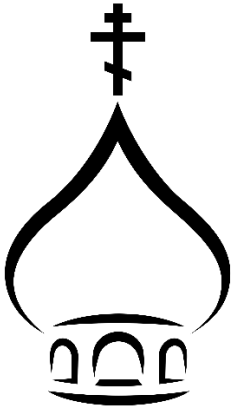


Divine Liturgy
Sunday, April 21, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Great Lent
St. Mary of Egypt



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 April 21, 2024

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 5. St Mary of Egypt. Hieromartyr Januarius, Bishop of Benevento, and his companions: Festus, Proculus, and Sosius—Deacons, Desiderius—Reader, and Euty chius and Acutius—laymen, at Pozzuoli (ca. 305). Hieromartyr Theodore of Perge in Pamphylia, his mother, Philippa, and Martyrs Dioscorus, Socrates, and Dionysius (2nd c.). Martyrs Isaac, Apollos, and Quadratus, of Nicomedia (303). St. Maximian, Patriarch of Constantinople (434). The Recovery of the Relics of Saint Theodore of Sanaxar (1791).

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Monday, April 22nd - Fr. Nikolai's Day Off
Wednesday, April 24th - 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Friday, April 26th - 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Coffee Hour Today

Coffee Hour today is hosted by The Lungu Family

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

Wednesday, April 24

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

Friday, April 26

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm - Compline (Lazarus)

Saturday, April 27

Lazarus Saturday

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy, followed by Church School Breakfast and preparation of pussy willows

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, April 28

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

11:00 am - Agape Vespers

Sunday, May 5

Monday, May 6

Bright Monday

8:50 am - Reading of the Hours

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Saturday, May 11

Sunday, May 12

St. Thomas Sunday

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Church School Easter Egg Hunt after Liturgy

2:00 pm - Blessing of the Graves - Union Cemetery

Saturday, May 18

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, May 19

Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing Women

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Church School Easter Egg Hunt Rain Date

2:00 pm - Blessing of the Graves - Catasauqua

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Saturday, May 25

Sunday, May 26

Sunday of the Paralytic

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

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 - Laura Eck

Treasurer - Joseph Kavchok

Council Member - John Heitzenrater

Council Member - Susan Nielsen

Council Member - Nicholas Stepanoff

Council Member - Daniel Stuckey

Auditors

Katherine Lichtenwalner Radu Lungu

David Metz Peter Metz

Cemetery Committee Chair

Jennifer Bzik

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 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. **REMINDER that even when there is not HVAC work scheduled, all activities taking place at the church should be listed on the internal church calendar. Please notify Jennifer Bzik if you have ANY activities planned at the church!**

Divine Liturgy

Sunday, April 21, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Great Lent
St. Mary of Egypt

Tone 5 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

Tone 8 Troparion *(St. Mary of Egypt)*

The image of God was truly preserved in thee, O Mother, for thou didst take up the Cross and follow Christ. By so doing, thou taughtest us to disregard the flesh for it passes away; but to care instead for the soul, for it is immortal. Therefore thy spirit, O holy Mother Mary, rejoices with the angels.

Tone 5 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior, shattering its gates as Almighty, resurrecting the dead as Creator, and destroying the sting of death. Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man, and we cry to Thee: "O Lord, save us!"

Tone 3 Kontakion *(St. Mary of Egypt)*

Having been a sinful woman, thou becamest through repentance a bride of Christ. Having attained angelic life, thou didst defeat demons with the weapon of the Cross. Therefore, O most glorious Mary, thou art a bride of the Kingdom.

Tone 5 Prokeimenon *(Resurrection)*

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 4 Prokeimenon (St. Mary of Egypt)

God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel. (Ps. 67:35a)

Epistle

Read by John Heitzenrater

(Hebrews 9:11-14) But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

(Galatians 3:23-29 (St. Mary of Egypt)) But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Tone 5

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation. (Ps. 88:1-2)

For Thou hast said: Mercy will be established forever; Thy truth will be prepared in the heavens. (Ps. 88:3)

Tone 1

I waited patiently for the Lord; He attended to me and heard my supplication. (Ps. 39:1)

Gospel

(Mark 10:32-45) Now they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was going before them; and they were amazed. And as they followed they were afraid. Then He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them the things that would happen to Him: "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death and deliver Him to the Gentiles; and they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit on Him, and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again." Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask." And He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" They said to Him, "Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They said to Him, "We are able." So Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink the cup that I drink, and with the baptism I am baptized with you will be baptized; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John. But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

(Luke 7:36-50 (St. Mary of Egypt)) Then one of the Pharisees asked Him to eat with him. And He went to the Pharisee's house, and sat down to eat. And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at the table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil, and stood at His feet behind Him weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed them with the fragrant oil. Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he spoke to himself, saying, "This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner." And Jesus answered and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." So he said, "Teacher, say it." "There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One

owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?" Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have rightly judged." Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head. You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil. Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little." Then He said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." And those who sat at the table with Him began to say to themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" Then He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."

(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, April 21, 2024

Vigils in Altar - Windowsill (2)

Happy Birthday & For Health Of Elizabeth Hasenecz
Offered by The Hasenecz/Nielsen Family

Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)

Happy Birthday Maria Bessman, Offered by Friends

Vigils in Altar - Side Table (2)

Happy Birthday Lorraine Chromiak, Offered by Barry & Ann Marie

Votives in Altar

In Memory Of Ray Pasquel, Offered by The Pasquel Family

Vigil in Side Candle Holders (2)

Happy Birthday Alan (Nikolai) Bondarenko, Offered by The Hodson Family

Crosses

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov, Offered by Family

Vigils on the Tetrapod (2)

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

Vigils on Icon Table (2)

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

Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)

In Memory Of Mother, Anne Antoniak, Offered by Michele Guydan

Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary

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

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

For Health Of Elizabeth Hasenecz, Offered by Barb, Kyra & Gregory

Votives - Icon of St. John the Baptist

For Health Of Elizabeth Hasenecz, Offered by Barb, Kyra & Gregory

Vigils of St. Gregory (1)

Happy Birthday Bill Keysock, Offered by Barry & Ann Marie

St. Nicholas Church Higher Education Scholarship Notice

Members of the church who are entering their second, third, or fourth year of full-time studies at an accredited two year, four year college/university or Orthodox Seminary are invited and urged to apply for the several scholarships available. For further information and applications, please contact Nancy Kohudic at 610-391-1257 or ndk175@ptd.net no later than May 28, 2024.

Thank you for your consideration.

Nancy Kohudic

Lenten/Paschal Sign Up Sheets

As we approach the end of our Lenten journey to Pascha, there are many opportunities to become involved. Please visit the candle desk to review the following sign up sheets.

- Flowers to adorn the grave of Our Lord
- Burial Vespers Procession
- Grave Watch
- Pascha Procession
- Red Eggs
- Bright Monday Procession

If you have any questions, please ask a Church Council Member or stop by the candle desk.

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.

Church School Announcements

- On Lazarus Saturday, April 27, 2024, we will have a Church School Breakfast after the Divine Liturgy. Afterwards, we will prepare the pussy willows and palms for Palm Sunday.
- The Pascha Easter egg hunt (open to all children) will be after liturgy on Sunday, May 12, 2024 with rain date of May 19, 2024.
- Last day of Sunday School is May 19, 2024

Did You Know? - Vigil Jars

Some parishioners have recently been asking if the empty glass jars from vigil candles can be returned. We have verified with our candle supplier that YES, they will accept returned glass jars for a small credit on the Church's next candle order. So if you're wondering what to do with those jars, please bring them back to the church and turn them in at the candle desk. Please note that this only applies to the colored glass jars (blue, red, white, gold) purchased here at the church. Thank you!

Please Help Take Care of Our Church

As we approach Holy Week and Paschal Services when many parishioners may be holding lit candles during services, please be reminded to take care not to drip wax on the pews, floor, or carpet, etc. As a general reminder, please leave all parts of the church facility in the condition you found it (or better). Some examples: If young children are snacking during services, make sure not to leave crumbs in and around the pews. If you are hosting coffee hour, make sure to put extra paper products back on the shelves in their labeled spots. If something spills or there are crumbs around your table at the end of coffee hour, please tidy up. Everyone doing their part helps to maintain our beautiful church.

Pierogi Schedule

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.****

Hope Rescue Mission needs your HELP!

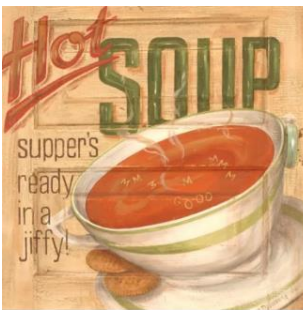
St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church is collecting all types of gently used clothing including coats, hats, boots, belts, men's clothing for the men at Hope Rescue Mission and for the women's and children's shelter (Lighthouse). We will take all seasons of clothing for men, women, and children. We have 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.

Lemon Bean Soup
Corn Chowder



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, Artemiy Hartman, Kalista Hartman, 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, Barbara Roman, 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.