

Divine Liturgy

Sunday, December 1, 2024

23rd Sunday after Pentecost (11th of Luke)

Prophet Nahum



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



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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.***

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stnicholasoca.org

Schedule for the Week of December 1, 2024

23rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 6. Venerable Botolph of Iken (7th c.). Prophet Nahum (7th c. B.C.). Righteous Philaret the Merciful of Amnia in Asia Minor (792). Martyr Ananias of Persia.

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Monday, December 2nd – Fr. Nikolai's Day Off
Wednesday, December 4th – 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Friday, December 6th – 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Coffee Hour Today

As of the time of bulletin printing, there was no coffee hour host.

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

Thursday, December 5	6:00 pm – Great Vespers w/ Litia for St. Nicholas
Friday, December 6	St. Nicholas the Wonderworker 8:50 am – Reading of the Hours 9:00 am – Divine Liturgy
Saturday, December 7	Christmas Bazaar 10:00 am – 4:00 pm – Bazaar 5:00 pm – Great Vespers
Sunday, December 8	24th Sunday after Pentecost 9:10 am – Reading of the Hours 9:30 am – Divine Liturgy 12:00 pm – Parish Yolka
Thursday, December 12	9:00 am – Akathist – Nurturer of Children 6:00 pm – Great Vespers w/ Litia for St. Herman

Friday, December 13	St. Herman of Alaska 8:50 am – Reading of the Hours 9:00 am – Divine Liturgy
Saturday, December 14	5:00 pm – Great Vespers
Sunday, December 15	Sunday of the Forefathers 9:10 am – Reading of the Hours 9:30 am – Divine Liturgy 3:30 pm – Choir Concert
Saturday, December 21	5:00 pm – Great Vespers
Sunday, December 22	Sunday Before Nativity 9:10 am – Reading of the Hours 9:30 am – Divine Liturgy
Tuesday, December 24	Eve of Nativity 9:00 am – Royal Hours 7:00 pm – Nativity Vigil
Wed., December 25	Nativity of our Lord 9:10 am – Reading of the Hours 9:30 am – Divine Liturgy
Thursday, December 26	Synaxis of the Mother of God 8:50 am – Reading of the Hours 9:00 am – Divine Liturgy
Saturday, December 28	5:00 pm – Great Vespers
Sunday, December 29	Sunday after Nativity 9:10 am – Reading of the Hours 9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

Basket Raffle Donation Deadlines!

Today, 12/1 is the deadline for basket donations.
Please contact Jen Bzik if you are planning to bring a basket after today.

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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 2 Troparion *(Prophet Nahum)*

We celebrate the memory of Thy prophet Nahum, O Lord; through him we beseech Thee: "Save our souls!"

Tone 6 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

When Christ God, the Giver of Life, raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand, He bestowed resurrection on the human race. He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

Tone 4 Kontakion *(Prophet Nahum)*

Illumined by the Spirit, thy heart was a vessel of illustrious prophecy, seeing far-off things as though they were present. Therefore, we venerate thee, glorious prophet Nahum.

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

(Ephesians 2:4-10) But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

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 18:18-27 (from the 25th Sunday)) Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not steal,' 'Do not bear false witness,' 'Honor your father and your mother.'" And he said, "All these things I have kept from my youth." So when Jesus heard these things, He

said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich. And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." And those who heard it said, "Who then can be saved?" But He said, "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God."

Communion Hymn

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

Candle Offerings - Sunday, December 1, 2024

Votives in Altar

In Honor Of Nicholas Petrides on his Names Day

Offered by Fr. Michael & Mat. Susan Kon

Votives in Iconostas

For Health Of Kh. Sophia Shadid, Offered by Fr. Michael & Mat. Susan Kon

Crosses

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov

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

In Memory Of Mom, Dad & Joan, Offered by Pat & Tom

Votives - Icon of St. John the Baptist

In Memory Of Mom, Dad & Joan, Offered by Pat & Tom

Vigils of St. Paul (1)

For Health Of Mircea, Offered by The Lungu Family

Vigil of St. Michael (1)

In Memory Of Father Michael Antoniak Sr., Offered by Michele Guydan

Flowers to Adorn the Icon of Patron Saint - Saint Nicholas

For Health Of Nichols, Austin & Timmy, Offered by Stephanie Pasquel

Prayer for Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we Thine unworthy servants do give Thee most humble and hearty thanks for all Thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men. We bless Thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for Thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech Thee, give us that due sense of all Thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth Thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to Thy service, and by walking before Thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to Whom, with Thee and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, unto ages of ages. Amen.



Remember Our Homebound

As of 11/14/2023

Fr. Thomas & Mat. Evelyn Edwards - 4052 Lehigh Drive, Northampton, PA 18067

Mrs. Olga Frimenko - Landis Homes, 1001 East Oregon Road, Lititz, PA 17543

Mr. Michael & Mrs. Shirley Isbansky - 2022 Arlington Street, Bethlehem, PA 18017-4879

Ms. Mary Koretski - Gracedale Nursing Home, 2 Gracedale Ave, SE 2, Room 8, Nazareth, PA 18064

Mrs. Antoinette Lebeduik - 832 Wellington Road, Manchester, NH 03104

Mrs. Michele Lovell - PO Box 20031, Lehigh Valley, PA 18002-0031

Ms. Nancy Sabol - 2443 Black River Road #4, Bethlehem, PA 18015

Mrs. Dorothy Stafiniak - 8 Dara Circle, Broomall, PA 19008

Donations Received In Memory

In Memory of Walter Grigoruk, offered by: Ronald E. Ballek, Mr. & Mrs. Payl G. Brown, Jeff Callender, Catherine Miller, Joseph & Regina Pinkowicz,

In Memory of Andrew Hasencz, offered by Daria A. Pagan

Theophany Eve Supper

We're looking for a host for the annual strict lenten supper traditionally held on Theophany Eve. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Fr. Nikolai or Jennifer Bzik.

Request for Annual Church Organization Reports

Please note that all Church Organization Reports must be submitted to the Administrative Assistant by January 15, 2024 in order to prepare the packets for the Annual Parish Assembly. Packets will be distributed to parishioners from the candle desk beginning on January 28, 2024 for their review prior to the meeting on February 18, 2024.

Help Wanted!

Traditionally, our annual Yolka St. Nicholas Day celebration (December 17) and coffee hour is hosted by our Sunday school. Since teachers are helping the students to prepare for their concert and to allow time for teachers/students to eat, we are asking for volunteers to help us setup, serve and clean up afterwards. We would appreciate your help. Please see Karen Gowarty with your intent: text 610-810-6290 email: kareng18020@gmail.com.

THANK YOU!!! "One Can Can Help" Food Drive

Sponsored by: RO59/NSS

Sincere thanks to all who donated to our food drive to benefit the Allentown Rescue Mission. They were thrilled with the amazing amount of food collected. Your generous donations are so deeply appreciated!

Pierogi Schedule

Pierogi Making December 2, 3, 4
December 9, 10, 11
December 16, 17, 17

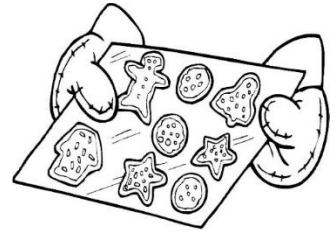
NO Pierogi Making December 23, 24, 25, December 30, 31, January 1
NO Pierogi Making January 6, 7, 8, January 13, 14, 15
Resume Pierogi Making January 20, 21, 22.

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

It's time again for COOKIES!!!

We will be making cookie trays to sell at the Christmas Bazaar and would appreciate your help.

- 🍪 Please make at least **5 dozen** cookies (more is totally fine)
- 🍪 Notify Judy Lezinsky or Jean Jubinski what kind you would like to make (We would like to prevent duplicate flavors)
- 🍪 Please bring in your cookies in sealed containers/bags on Sunday, December 1, 2024. There will be a rack in the Church Hall for cookies to be placed on.
- 🍪 Please no cookies that have to be refrigerated.



Thank you!!!

Poinsettias for Christmas

If you wish to sponsor the Poinsettias that will decorate the church during the Nativity season, please sign up in the book at the candle desk. Red and White Poinsettias are available for a \$12.00 donation and may be taken home at the end of the Nativity Season.

Calling All Bakers for the 12/7 Christmas Bazaar Fire up the ovens!

It's time for your SCRUMPTIOUS desserts that St. Nicholas is famous for. If you are a returning baker or new to the task, we welcome your YUMMY desserts. Please keep these things in mind:

- We have very limited refrigerator space, so please consider items that do not require refrigeration.
- Please DO NOT slice your cakes, pies, brownies, etc. The baked goods team will pre-slice items for consistency in serving piece and pricing.
- Feel free to provide a label e.g. German Chocolate Cake, Snickerdoodle Cookies, etc. There is no need to list ingredients, however it is useful to note: "nut free", "egg free", "dairy free" or "sugar free".
- Please provide baked goods on sturdy plates. DO NOT use cardboard because it is often too big and not sturdy.
- Securely label your name on your containers/dishes that you want returned. They will be cleaned and placed on racks in the kitchen where you can pick them up. And, whilst we are very careful with your dishes, DO NOT use precious containers that cannot be replaced if accidentally broken.

Thank you to all the great bakers who contribute to the success of the sale! Your efforts are truly appreciated! Baked goods may be dropped off on Friday, December 6th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Grammes.

Giving Tree

This year our parish Giving Tree will support the Cay Galgon Life House in their mission to prepare local pregnant women and mothers of infants for a life of self-reliance. Through their group home for homeless pregnant women and their community outreach program, they support hundreds of women and infants each year. Located on West Broad Street in Bethlehem, they are well positioned to help at risk families right here in our area. The tags on our Giving Tree will be ideas for items to help support either the general mission of the Cay Galgon Life House, or items to support their Holiday Toy Drive.

For the Holiday Toy Drive, we are collecting toys for infants and toddlers (birth to 3 years old). The most requested gifts are books and educational toys, which help foster early development and learning. Many of the tags have small, simple items so please take several!!!

In addition we are collecting gift cards:

Amazon gift cards (any dollar amount)

Giant grocery gift cards (\$25 increments are most helpful)

Lowe's gift cards (\$25 increments are most helpful)

Please bring your gift unwrapped in a gift bag or a bag to contain/separate your item from the others when placed in the large collection box in the vestibule. **Please ensure that the tag is firmly attached to the gift(s).** (If item is wrapped IT WILL BE OPENED!) **Gifts are due in by 12/15 -no exception.**

You will also see a list hanging on the tree of general items that are needed on an ongoing basis. If you would like to make a monetary donation please pass that donation on to Jennifer Bzik.

Remember that specific brand names are not as important as getting these vital items into the hands of those that need them. Bargain shopping is a great way to help more families. For these and other consumable items (baby wash, shampoo for moms, etc.), keep in mind that multiple small or medium containers are more useful than large bulk sizes. While one giant size bottle of shampoo might be the better bargain, buying several smaller bottles allows them to be distributed to help multiple families.

The generosity of our St. Nicholas family is amazing. Thank you in advance.

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: Nikolai Breckenridge, Thomas Edwards, John Perich, James Mason, Claude Vinyard, Dimitri Oselinsky, David Shewczyk, Ian Shipley, James Weremedic, John Onofrey, George Hasenecz, Emilian Hutnyan

Priest: 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, Theresa Butler, Helen Cotirgasanu, David G. Cudlic, Val Danchenko, Christopher Felix, Olga Frimenko, David Gowarty, Tom Grammes, 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, Radu Lungu, Mircea Lupo, 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, Sandra Wyslutsky

Catechumens: Jason & Taylor Fogel, Martha Klein, Chris Kiris, Lee & Jess Snekot, William Stofko

Handmaiden: Elizabeth Hockman and her newborn daughter

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