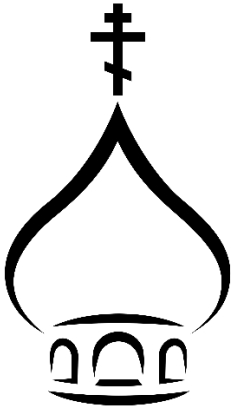


Divine Liturgy

Sunday, December 8, 2024

24th Sunday after Pentecost (12th of Luke)

Ven. Patapius of Thebes



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



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RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Archpriest 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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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 December 8, 2024

24th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 7. 362 Martyrs of Africa (62 Clergy and 300 Laypeople) (475). Ven. Patapius of Thebes (8th c.). Ven. Kirill, Abbot of Chelmogorsk (1378). Holy Apostles of the Seventy: Sosthenes, Apollos, Cephas, Tychicus, Epaphroditus, Cæsar, and Onesiphorus (1st c.). Martyr Anthusa, at Rome (5th c.).

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Monday, December 9th – Fr. Nikolai's Day Off
Wednesday, December 11th – 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Friday, December 13th – 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Coffee Hour Today

Coffee Hour today is hosted by Victoria Dimonie,
In Memory Of her parents, Magdalene & Nicolae

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

- 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
- Wednesday, December 18** 7:00 pm – Parish Council Meeting
- 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

Upcoming Parish Council Meeting

Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday, December 18, 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.

Pierogi Schedule

Pierogi Making 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.****

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.

Divine Liturgy

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Tone 7 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen, granting the world great mercy.

Tone 8 Troparion *(Ven. Patapius)*

The image of God was truly preserved in thee, O Father, 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, venerable Patapius, rejoices with the angels.

Tone 7 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: "The Savior has come to those in faith; enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!"

Tone 3 Kontakion *(Ven. Patapius)*

Thy temple is found to be a source of healing, and the people flock to it eagerly, O saint. They seek the healing of their diseases and the forgiveness of their sins, for thou art a protector for all those in need, ven'erable Patapius.

Tone 7 Prokeimenon *(Resurrection)*

The Lord shall give strength to His people. The Lord shall bless His people with peace. *(Ps. 28:11)*

Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord! (Ps. 28:1a)

Epistle

Read by Reader Nicholas Lezinsky

(Ephesians 2:14-22) For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Tone 7

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy Name, O Most High.
(Ps. 91:1)*

To declare Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth by night. (Ps. 91:2a)

Gospel

(Luke 17:12-19 (from the 26th Sunday)) Then as He entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off. And they lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" So when He saw them, He said to them, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan. So Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner? And He said to him, "Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well."

Communion Hymn

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Candle Offerings - Sunday, December 8, 2024

Vigils in Altar - Windowsill (2)

For Health Of Patty Felix, Offered by Bill & Sandi Keysock

Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)

In Memory Of Father, Offered by Victoria Dimonie

Vigils in Altar - Side Table (2)

In Memory Of Parents, Offered by Victoria Dimonie

Votives in Altar

For Health Of Patty Felix on her Birthday, Offered by Stephanie Pasquel

Votives in Iconostas

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

Vigil in Side Candle Holders (2)

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

Crosses

Happy Birthday Patty Felix, Offered by Ann Marie & Barry

Vigils on the Tetrapod (2)

In Memory Of James & Marianne Blachinski, Offered by Bill & Sandi Keysock

Vigils on Icon Table (2)

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

Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)

Happy Birthday Hannah Roberts, Offered by Baba & Papa

Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov

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

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov

Votives - Icon of St. John the Baptist

In Memory Of Stephen & Anna Sherbechuk, Offered by daughter, Sonya

Vigils of St. Gregory (1)

In Memory Of Stephen & Anna Sherbechuk, Offered by daughter, Sonya

Vigils of St. Paul (1)

For Health Of Mircea, Offered by The Lungu Family

Vigil of St. Michael (1)

In Memory Of Stephen & Anna Sherbechuk, Offered by daughter, Sonya

Flowers to Adorn the Icon of Patron Saint - Saint Nicholas

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

Donations Received In Memory

In Memory of Walter Grigoruk, offered by: Ronald Ballek, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Brown, Jeff Callender, Catherine Miller, Barbara Monarek, Joe & Regina Pinkowicz,

In Memory of Andrew Hasenecz, offered by: Daria Pagan

Prayer to Saint Herman of Alaska

O Almighty God, We praise and glorify Thee, Our Lord and Creator. All the earth and everything within it acknowledges Thee as Creator, the Eternal Father.

Heaven and Earth, Angels and Men, together, praise and glorify Thee, the most glorious company of Apostles, the praiseworthy fellowship of Prophets, the great and noble gathering of Martyrs, the whole community of Saints, all praise Thee.

We the members of the holy community on earth pray: Make us worthy with all the Saints in Heaven, especially the newly glorified Elder, the Blessed Herman of Alaska, to reign in Thine everlasting glory.

On this day the Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church praises and glorifies Thee, our God, in joyful thanksgiving. The inheritors and children of the Holy Church of Christ which you, O Blessed Father Herman and your holy companions planted here, now flowering and growing throughout this great continent, gather at your reliquary. We gaze at your Relics in the knowledge that your soul joins together with the Apostles, Prophets, Martyrs, Saints and the Heavenly Hosts before the Throne of the Most Merciful God in praise of the Holy Trinity.

O Blessed Hermit of Spruce Island, good teacher of the faith in the Holy Trinity, and our Spiritual Father, intercede before the throne of the Almighty God, for peace within the Church, the dispelling of all disunity, faithlessness and discord.

Come to the aid of our spiritual leaders that they may always be true and effective instruments of the Holy Spirit, with the power to proclaim the evangelical truths, with the wisdom to enlighten the unenlightened, with the spirit to inspire all to love the knowledge of God, with the perseverance to defend the Church, even unto death, from all enemies both within and without and at all times.

May the hearts of your spiritual children be filled with that faith and love of the Holy Church which you manifested in your holy life; praying to Him to: deliver us from the temptations which cause us to fall; renew our child-like faith in our Heavenly Father; replace our trust in God, and in Him alone; satisfy our thirst for the true knowledge of God; teach us to serve God faithfully; transfigure our life that it may truly reflect the image and likeness of God.

O Holy Father and Patron of the Church in America: Be a physician to the weak in faith; be a support to the fallen; be a defender to the defenseless; be a bulwark of strength to the weary in spirit; be a guide to the travelers by sea, by land and by air; be our heavenly intercessor.

O Blessed Father Herman of Alaska, together with all the Saints and the Heavenly Hosts, pray to God that on each of us He will bestow wisdom for our mind, strength for our will, light for our spirit, enabling us to attain to the true peace of life which is from God alone. We praise with joyous and grateful hearts, the Life-Creating Trinity: Father Almighty, Only-Begotten Son, Comforter, Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Remember Our Homebound

As of 12/06/2024

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

Mat. Patricia Mason - 788 Hunter Rd, Easton, PA 18040

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

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

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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.

A Note of Thanks

Many, Many thanks to all of the parish bakers who provided delicious cookies for the cookie trays sold at the Christmas Bazaar. We were overwhelmed by the wonderful offerings. God Grant You Many Years!

A Note of Thanks

Dear St. Nicholas Community,

Thank you for graciously opening your beautiful church to host our Byzantine Chant fundraiser. Your brotherly kindness means so much to us, and we deeply appreciate your generosity. May you continue to have a blessed and peaceful Nativity Fast.

In Christ,

St. Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church Fundraising Committee

A Note of Thanks

Dear St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church,

Thank you so much for your support in our work! It is such a blessing to see God's faithful promise to care for the poor and those in need, in action, through the support from generous partners like you! Your kindness has a profound impact that will echo through generations to come. Thank you for being a faithful partner in fighting homelessness. We look forward to your next drive for the Mission and LightHouse. May you be blessed by blessing others!

Thank you,

Diane Schenk, Director of HomeThrift Distributions

Giving Tree Reminder

Please bring all Giving Tree Donations to benefit the Cay Galgon Life House to the church by 12/15 -no exception.

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, Suzanna Hrebinka, 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.