

Divine Liturgy

Sunday, February 9, 2025

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

[Beginning of the Lenten Triodion]

Leavetaking of the Meeting of the Lord



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 February 9, 2025

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE – Tone 8. Beginning of the Lenten Triodion. Leavetaking of the Meeting. Martyr Nikephoros of Antioch in Syria (ca. 257). Uncovering of the Relics of St. Innocent, Bishop of Irkutsk (1805). Ven. Pankratii (Pancratius) of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves–13th c.). Ven. Nikifor (Nicephorus–1557) and Gennádii (Gennadius–ca. 1516), of Vazheozérsk. Hieromartyrs Marcellus, Bishop of Sicily, Philagrius, Bishop of Cyprus, and Pancratius, Bishop of Taoromina (1st c.).

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Fr. Nikolai will be on Vacation until February 13.

Coffee Hour Today

Coffee Hour will be hosted In Honor of The Shadid Family

Mat. Susan & Fr. Michael Kon are hosting in gratitude for our parishes' prayers and support for the 9 months of church candles for our daughter Sophia's pregnancy. Parishioners' generous donations will be given to one of our favorite charities: IOCC (International Orthodox Christian Charities) specifically their work with vulnerable children overseas.

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

Saturday, February 15

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, February 16

**Sunday of the Prodigal Son
St. Nicholas of Japan**

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 22

Memorial Saturday

8:50 am Reading of Hours

9:00 am - Memorial Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, February 23

Sunday of the Last Judgment

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy



PLEASE JOIN US

Care Ministry

The goal of the **St Nicholas Care Ministry** is to pay special care to the needs of the members of our church and provide any extra support they may require. Some of our duties include planning and facilitating special events (bridal/baby showers, birthdays, anniversaries etc), delivery and preparation of meals and/or essentials to homebound members of the parish as well as any other support we can give to make everyone feel included, welcome and cared for.

Our ministry would like to invite anyone interested in helping out to contact **Guliana Holobeny**. There are so many ways to contribute so all ages are welcome to participate!

Divine Liturgy

Sunday, February 9, 2025

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee [Beginning of the Lenten Triodion] Leavetaking of the Meeting of the Lord

Tone 8 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings! O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

Tone 1 Troparion *(Feast)*

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! From thee shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, enlightening those who sat in darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder, thou didst accept in thine arms the ^Redeemer of our souls, Who grants us the Resurrection!

Tone 4 Kontakion *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee! Let us learn humility from the Publican's tears! Let us cry to our Savior: "Have mercy on us, O only merciful One!"

Tone 1 Kontakion

By Thy Nativity Thou didst sanctify the Virgin's womb and didst bless Simeon's hands, O Christ God. Now Thou hast come and saved us through love. Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of Man!

Tone 8 Prokeimenon *(Resurrection)*

Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God! *(Ps. 75:10a)*

In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel. (Ps. 75:1)

Epistle

Read by Reader Nicholas Lezinsky

(2 Timothy 3:10-15) But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra - what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me. Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Tone 8

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior! (Ps. 94:1)

Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise! (Ps. 94:2)

Gospel

(Luke 18:10-14) "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men - extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.' And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:)

Tone 3

O Virgin Theotokos, hope of all Christians, protect, preserve, and save those who hope in thee!

In the shadow and letter of the Law, let us the faithful discern a figure: every male [child] that opens the womb is holy to God. Therefore we magnify the firstborn Word of the Father Who has no beginning, the Son firstborn of a Mother who had not known man.

Communion Hymn

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

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord. *(Ps. 115:4)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Candle Offerings for Sunday, February 9, 2025

Vigils in Altar - Windowsill (2)

In Memory Of Mother, Paraskeva Aranjo
Offered by Daughters, Diana Buskirk & Laurel Riley

Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)

In Memory Of Mother, Paraskeva Aranjo
Offered by Daughters, Diana Buskirk & Laurel Riley

Votives in Altar

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov, Offered by Family

Vigils on the Tetrapod (2)

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

Vigils on Icon Table (2)

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

Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)

In Memory Of Joan, Offered by Pat & Tom

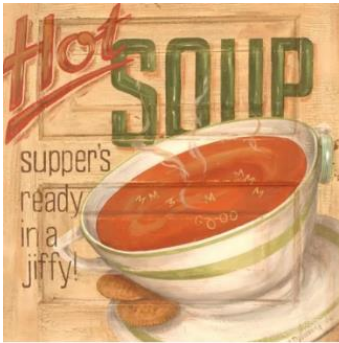
Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary

In Memory Of Joan, Offered by Pat & Tom

Vigil of St. Andrew (1)

For Health Of Nicolae, Offered by The Lungu Family

Lenten Soup Sunday

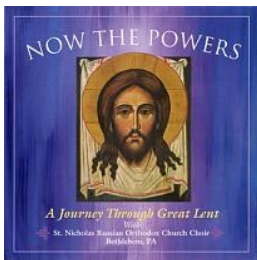


Our Lenten soup Sundays are back and we need your help! While we love making new and delicious soups for our fellow parishioners the task has become a bit overwhelming as the sale has grown! We know how many fantastic cooks we have at St. Nicholas and we'd love to have volunteers donate soups each week. We will provide the quart containers if you will fill them (about 10 per soup)! Please



consider joining us in this Lenten mission! If you're interested in helping please contact Marina Murgia (610) 533-4719 or Lori Lezinsky (484) 375-3874 Thank you!

Prepare for Lent with the St. Nicholas Choir CD Now The Powers



For the Orthodox Christian, the liturgical year revolves around the celebration of the death, burial and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In this recording we share with you the rich and powerful message of the Church's teaching about Great Lent and Pascha as conveyed through her liturgical worship. The music collection of over 25 hymns takes you on a moving, spiritual journey to Pascha, beginning with Pre-Lenten season and ending with the triumphant Paschal proclamation that "Christ is Risen...!" Contact Nick Lezinsky if you are interested in purchasing a CD.

4th Quarter Treasurer's Report Summary

October 2024	Income:	\$35,990.59
	Expenses:	\$48,608.80
	<u>Net Revenue:</u>	<u>\$(12,618.21)</u>
November 2024	Income:	\$33,432.45
	Expenses	\$22,686.01
	<u>Net Revenue:</u>	<u>\$10,746.44</u>
December 2024	Income:	\$79,302.25
	Expenses:	\$57,653.34
	<u>Net Revenue:</u>	<u>\$21,648.91</u>

Women's Psalter Group - Great Lent 2025

This year we are excited to be organizing a Women's Psalter group for Great Lent! What is a Psalter group? A group of ladies who want to pray together and deepen their spiritual journey during the Lenten fast. We hope to have at least 20 or more women sign up. Each day you will read a particular section of the Psalter (Psalms). Since the Psalter is traditionally broken up into 20 Kathisma readings, everyday during the Lenten fast we would collectively be reading the entire Psalter together. If interested, please contact Judy Lezinsky. Please provide your name and email address so that she can set up the groups. 😊.

Halupki Making

Sunday, February 23 - Tuesday, February 25

Dear Parish Family,

We are doing a special winter halupki making this year at the end of February to replenish our very popular frozen 4-packs, and make ahead for another halupki dinner. This is a big job, with many steps, requiring much help. Please see the schedule and tasks below. Any and all help will be appreciated! Lunches will be served, Lenten ones on Monday and Tuesday. For more information, please contact Val Roberts.

Halupki Schedule

SUNDAY AFTER COFFEE HOUR

- Set up halupki room and hall
- Steam and devein cabbage
- Cook and mix 8-10 batches of rice/onions/seasonings
- Pick up meat for Monday
- Make sauce
- Rip foil for wrapping
- Count out trays and pans
- Clean up and dishes

MONDAY

- 7:00 mix meat/rice and make balls
 - Steam rest of cabbage
- 8:00 roll halupki
 - Cook and mix 2-4 batches of rice/onions/seasonings
 - Make sauce
- After rolling
 - Devein rest of cabbage
 - Clean up and dishes
 - Pick up meat for Tuesday
 - Repack pans into 4s with sauce Evening
 - Wrap/freeze remaining large pans of halupki

TUESDAY

- 7:00 mix meat/rice and make balls
- 8:00 roll halupki
 - Make sauce
- After rolling
 - Devein rest of cabbage
 - Clean up and dishes
 - Repack pans into 4s with sauce
 - scrub floors - kitchen, hall by roasters, halupki room Evening
 - Wrap/freeze remaining large pans of halupki

Annual Parish Meeting Notice

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 16, 2025. The meeting will be held in the church hall immediately following the Divine Liturgy. A light luncheon will be served. All are encouraged to read the agenda and reports thoroughly and prepare their questions to ensure an expedited parish meeting. Please note that there will be no means of virtual participation in the meeting.

According to the bylaws of St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, the required quorum for a parish meeting is the attendance of at least 25% of voting members in good standing. A quorum must be maintained throughout the meeting. If a quorum is not present, the meeting shall then be rescheduled by the Parish Council in consultation with the Rector, at which time the members present will constitute a quorum.

Annual Church Office Elections

What you need to know to vote in the Annual Parish Meeting being held on February 16, 2025 and to run for Church Office: According to our Bylaws in order to vote and participate in the discussions you must be a member at least 18 years of age and in good standing (both financially and sacramentally) for one (1) year. In order to run for Church Office you must be have been a practicing Orthodox Christian for at least one (1) year and a parishioner of this Parish for a prior 12 month period.

If you are interested in serving on the Parish Council, please see Fr. Nikolai or any current member of the Parish Council.

Please note the Parish Council Vice President and Secretary are chosen by and from the newly elected Parish Council to serve for one (1) year terms.

Parish Council Officer Positions

Parish Council President (one year)
Treasurer (one year)
Financial Secretary (one year)

Parish Council Positions

Two (2) three year terms

Auditor Positions

Four (4) one year terms

Cemetery Committee Chair

One (1) one year term

Diocesan Assembly Positions

Diocesan Assembly Delegate
Diocesan Assembly Alternate

All American Council Positions

All American Council Delegate
All American Council Alternate

Voting Members

A voting member is a parishioner who has the privilege of attending, being counted when determining the number required for a quorum, taking part in discussion, and voting at any annual or special parish meeting. A voting member may also have the privilege of being elected as a member of the Parish Council if he or she possesses the appropriate gifts and disposition for working with others. A voting member is in "good standing" if he or she:

- a.** Is a baptized and chrismated an Orthodox Christian;
- b.** Is at least eighteen (18) years of age;
- c.** Partakes of the Sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion in this Parish at least once during the previous 12 month period;
- d.** Has been a practicing Orthodox Christian for at least one (1) year and a parishioner of this Parish for a prior 12 month period;
- e.** Has demonstrated commitment to the defined financial obligation during the previous 12 month period. (\$520 per year) If the financial obligation cannot be reached, an exemption can be requested and given by the Rector;
- f.** "Good standing" is determined in collaboration with the Rector and the Council President;
- g.** Voting membership in two or more Orthodox parishes is not permitted.
- h.** A Voting Member has accepted the right, privilege, and responsibility to vote in Parish Assemblies. A Voting Member may be considered for election to office in appropriate Parish bodies. A Voting Member is eligible for election as a delegate to the Diocesan Assembly and the All-American Council.

Annual Parish Meeting Reports Available

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 16, 2025. Please be advised that printed copies of the agenda and reports will be available at the candle desk beginning on Sunday, January 26, 2025. Please stop by to pick up a copy at your convenience. If you would like a copy emailed to you or mailed to you, please contact the Administrative Assistant at Assistant4StNicholas@outlook.com. Please note that due to postal delays, we cannot guarantee that mailed copies will arrive prior to the meeting.



2025 Lenten Fish Dinner Fundraiser



Menu

Baked or Hand Breaded Fried Fish
Oven Roasted Potatoes
Vegetable & Dinner Roll
Coffee or Tea
Delicious Homemade Desserts
Soda & Water - \$1.00

Vendors

Treasures of Russia
Boutique for authentic gift items
Imported from Russia
Mom's Candy Kitchen
For delicious sweets!

Frozen potato/cheese pierogi & paska breads for sale.

980 Bridle Path Road | Bethlehem, PA 18017 | T: 610-867-0402 | E: assistant4stnicholas@outlook.com

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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, Maryann Dudash, Christopher Felix, Patricia Felix, Olga Frimenko, David Gowarty, Tom Grammes, Rachel Hardesty, Artemiy Hartman, Kalista Hartman, Nicholas Hazzard, Don Holobeney, Jonathan Hontz, Susanna 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, William Potter, 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, Maeve Stuckey, Patricia Telepchak, Irene Witanek, Sandra Wyslutsky

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

Handmaiden: Christina Heitzenrater, Kerry Kurtz, Amanda Riley, Corinne Stuckey, and their unborn children; Elizabeth Hockman and her newborn daughter

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