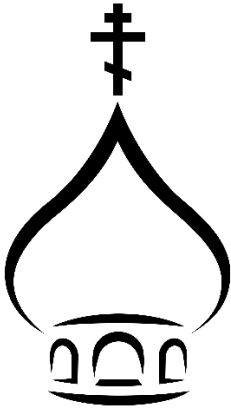


Divine Liturgy

Sunday, March 30, 2025

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



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



SAINT NICHOLAS

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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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
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Schedule for the Week of March 30, 2025

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 7. St. John Climacus (of *The Ladder*). Ven. John Climacus of Sinai, author of *The Ladder* (6th c.). St. Sophróny (Sophronius), Bishop of Irkutsk (1771). Prophet Joad (1 Kings 13:11–10th c. B.C.). Apostles Sosthenes, Apollos, Cephas, Cæsar, and Epaphroditus, of the Seventy (1st c.). St. Eubula, mother of St. Panteleimon (ca. 303). Ven. John the Silent of St. Savva Monastery (6th c.). St. Zosimas, Bishop of Syracuse (ca. 662).

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Monday, March 31st - Fr. Nikolai's Day Off
Wednesday, April 2nd - 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Friday, April 4th - 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Coffee Hour Today

Coffee Hour will be hosted by The Lungu Family

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

Tuesday, April 1

7:00 pm - Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday, April 2

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

Thursday, April 3

6:00 pm - Full Canon of St. Andrew of Crete and the Life of St. Mary of Egypt
(please note time change)

Friday, April 4

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy
6:00 pm - Akathist - Theotokos

Saturday, April 5

Akathist Saturday
8:50 am - Reading of the 3rd Hour
9:00 am - Divine Liturgy
4:30 pm - General Panikhida
5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, April 6

St. Mary of Egypt
9:10 am - Reading of the Hours
9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, April 9
Friday, April 11

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy
9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy
4:00 - 6:00 pm - Fish Dinner
6:00 pm - Lazarus Saturday Compline

Saturday, April 12

Lazarus Saturday
8:50 am - Reading of the 3rd Hour
9:00 am - Divine Liturgy
5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, April 13

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 14

Holy Monday
9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy
7:00 pm - Bridegroom Matins

Tuesday, April 15

Holy Tuesday
9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy
7:00 pm - Bridegroom Matins

Wednesday, April 16

Holy Wednesday
9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy
7:00 pm - Holy Unction

Thursday, April 17

Holy Thursday
8:50 am - Reading of the Hours
9:00 am - Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
7:00 pm - Matins of Holy Friday with 12 Passion Gospels

Friday, April 18

Holy Friday
9:00 am - Royal Hours
4:00 pm - Burial Vespers
7:00 pm - Matins with Lamentations
All Night Watch

Saturday, April 19

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 the blessing of baskets and
Agape meal

Sunday, April 20

Monday, April 21

11:00 am - Agape Vespers

Bright Monday

8:50 am - Paschal Hours

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Saturday, April 26

Sunday, April 27

St. Thomas Sunday

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

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

Upcoming Parish Council Meeting

Parish Council Meeting - Tuesday, April 1, 2025, 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 Making Schedule

Pierogi Making March 31, April 1, 2

Pierogi Making April 7, 8, 9

NO Pierogi April 14, 15, 16 (Holy Week)

NO Pierogi April 21, 22, 23 (Bright Week)

NO Pierogi April 28, 29, 30

Lenten Covered Dish Coffee Hour Palm Sunday

On Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025 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.

Divine Liturgy

Sunday, March 30, 2025

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

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 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 granted thee a crown! Glory to Him Who grants healing to all!

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 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 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)

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 Tricia 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 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)

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, Alleluia!

Pussy Willow Branches



Reminder: It will soon be time for pussy willows to start blooming. Please cut the branches of willows and bring them to the church as soon as they bloom. Since Pascha is April 20th, we will need to store the willows until Saturday, April 12th for Palm Sunday, April 13th. Please wrap the willows loosely in newspaper (PLEASE DO NOT WRAP IN PLASTIC!) so we can save them for Palm Sunday. Thank you for your help in gathering the willows.



Candle Offerings for Sunday, March 30, 2025

Vigils in Altar - Windowsill (2)

For Health Of Greg, Offered by Rosalie

Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)

Happy Birthday Regina Pinkowicz, Offered by Joe Pinkowicz

Votives in Altar

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov, Offered by Family

Votives in Iconostas

Thanking God, Offered by The Lungu Family

Crosses

For Health Of Greg Radio, Offered by Rosalie

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)

For Health Of Maeve Stuckey, Offered by The Stuckey Family

Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary

For Health Of Corinne & Baby Stuckey, Offered by The Stuckey Family

Votives - Icon of St. John the Baptist

Happy Birthday Nana, Offered by Colleen, Donna & Gemma

Vigils on North Wall Window Sill (3)

Happy Birthday Taras, Offered by Glenn, Carol & Yuri

Vigil of St. Michael (1)

For Health Of Luke Gabriel, Offered by Fr. Michael & Mat. Susan

Vigil of St. Andrew (1)

Thanking God for His Blessings, Offered by The Lungu Family

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, 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, Shirley 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, Nicolae & Doina Marian, Kylie Pinho, Kiera Pheiffer, William Potter, Laurel Riley, Gordon 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 Witaneck, Sandra Wyslutsky

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

Handmaiden: Christina Heitzenrater, Kerry Kurtz, Christina Mazur, Amanda Riley, Corinne Stuckey, and their unborn children;

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