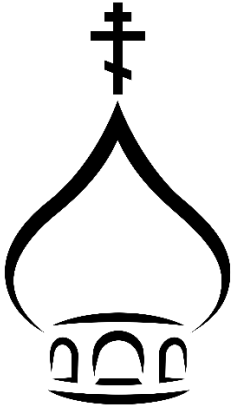


Divine Liturgy
Sunday, April 20, 2025
GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



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.***

980 Bridle Path Road | Bethlehem, PA 18017-3120 | T: 610-867-0402
stnicholasoca.org

Schedule for the Week of April 20, 2025

HOLY PASCHA – THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST. [Beginning of the Pentecostarion]. Ven. Theodore Trichinas (“the Hair-shirt Wearer”), Hermit, near Constantinople. Ven. Alexander, Abbot of Oshevensk (1479). Child-martyr Gabriel of Bialystok (1690). Ss. Gregory (593) and Anastasius the Sinaite (599), Patriarchs of Antioch. Ven. Anastasius, Abbot of Sinai (695).

Fr. Nikolai’s Office Hours

Fr. Nikolai will not have formal office hours this week.
Please feel free to contact Fr. Nikolai directly if you need to speak with him.

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

Sunday, April 20

11:00 am - Agape Vespers

Monday, April 21

Bright Monday

8:50 am - Paschal Hours

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

Saturday, April 26

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, April 27

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 3

4:30 pm - General Panikhida

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, May 4

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

Divine Liturgy

Sunday, April 20, 2025

GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA

Paschal Troparion

Christ is Risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

Paschal Verses, Psalm 68

Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from before His face!

As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire!

So the sinners will perish before the face of god: but let the righteous be glad!

This is the day which the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen

The First Antiphon, Tone 2, Psalm 66

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of His name, give glory to His praise! Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

Say to God: How awesome are Thy deeds! So great is Thy power that Thy enemies cringe before Thee Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

Let all the earth worship Thee and praise Thee! Let it praise Thy name, O Most High! Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

The Second Antiphon, Tone 2, Psalm 67

God be bountiful to us and bless us! Show the light of Thy countenance upon us and have mercy on us! O Son of God who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: ALLELUIA!

That we may know Thy way upon the earth, and thy salvation among all nations!
O Son of God who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: ALLELUIA!

Let the people give thanks to Thee, O God! Let all the people give thanks to
Thee! O Son of God who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee:
ALLELUIA!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto
ages of ages. Amen.

Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God, Who for our salvation didst will
to be incarnate of the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, Who without change
didst become man and was crucified, Who art one of the Holy Trinity, glorified
with the Father and the Holy Spirit: O Christ our God, trampling down death by
death, save us!

The Third Antiphon, Psalm 68

Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate him flee from
before his face!

CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD, TRAMPLING DOWN DEATH BY DEATH!
AND UPON THOSE IN THE TOMBS BESTOWING LIFE!

As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire!

CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD, TRAMPLING DOWN DEATH BY DEATH!
AND UPON THOSE IN THE TOMBS BESTOWING LIFE!

So the sinners will perish before the face of God; but let the righteous be glad!

CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD, TRAMPLING DOWN DEATH BY DEATH!
AND UPON THOSE IN THE TOMBS BESTOWING LIFE!

Hypakoe

Before the dawn Mary and the women came and found the stone rolled away
from the tomb. They heard the angelic voice: "Why do you seek among the
dead as a man the One who is everlasting light? Behold the clothes in the grave!
Go and proclaim to the world: The Lord is risen! He has slain death, as He is the
Son of God, saving the race of men."

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto
ages of ages. Amen.

Kontakion, Tone 8

Thou didst descent into the tomb, O Immortal. Thou didst destroy. The power of death! In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, proclaiming "rejoice" to the myrrh-bearing women, granting peace to Thy apostles and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

Instead of the Trisagion:

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia!

Prokeimenon, Tone 8, Psalm 118

This is the day which the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it! O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever!

EPISTLE

Read by Reader Nicholas Stepanoff

(Acts of the Apostles 1:1-8) The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Alleluia Verses, Psalm 102 & 33

Thou didst arise and have mercy on Zion. The Lord looked down from Heaven and saw all the sons of men. This is the day which the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

GOSPEL LESSON FOR PASCHA

(John 1:1-17) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.'" And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

The Hymn to the Theotokos

The Angel cried to the Lady Full of Grace: Rejoice, O Pure Virgin! And again I say: Rejoice! Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb! With Himself he has raised all the dead! Rejoice, all ye people! Shine! Shine! O New Jerusalem! The Glory of the Lord has shone on you! Exult now and be glad, Zion! Be radiant, O Pure Theotokos, in the Resurrection of your Son.

Candle Offerings for Sunday, April 20, 2025

Vigils in Altar - Windowsill (2)

Happy Birthday Maria Bessman, Offered by Your Godmother

Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)

In Memory Of Alexander & Pauline Radchuk, Offered by Bill & Sandi Keysock

Vigils in Altar - Side Table (2)

In Memory Of Ray Pasquel, Offered by Barry & Ann Marie

Votives in Altar

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov, Offered by Family

Votives in Iconostas

In Honor Of Nicholas Petrides, Offered by Fr. Michael & Mat. Susan Kon

Vigil in Side Candle Holders (2)

Happy Birthday Lorraine Chromiak, Offered by Barry & Ann Marie

Crosses

In Memory Of The Hutz & Bretz Families, Offered by Barry & Ann Marie

Vigils on the Tetrapod (2)

Happy Birthday William Keysock, Offered by Sandi Keysock

Vigils on Icon Table (2)

In Honor Of Nicholas Petrides, Offered by Fr. Michael & Mat. Susan Kon

Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)

In Honor Of William & Mary Keysock, Offered by Bill & Sandi Keysock

Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary

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

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

In Memory Of Olga Sawarynski, Offered by Bill & Sandi Keysock

Votives - Icon of St. John the Baptist

In Memory Of Jay Radio, Offered by Greg & Rosalie Radio

Vigils on South Wall Window Sill (3)

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

Vigils of St. Gregory (1)

Happy Birthday Maria Bessman, Offered by The Hodson Family

Vigils of St. Paul (1)

For Health Of Radio & Tomsic Families, Offered by Greg & Rosalie

Vigils on North Wall Window Sill (3)

Happy Birthday Maria Bessman, Offered by The Holobeny Family

Vigil of St. Michael (1)

In Memory Of Michael Stetz, Offered by Pat & Tom

Vigil of St. Andrew (1)

In Memory Of David Keysock, Offered by Bill & Sandi Keysock

Flowers to Adorn the Icon of The Resurrection

In Memory Of Father Eugene Vansuch, Offered by Matushka Fran Vansuch

Flowers to Adorn the Icon of Our Lord Jesus Christ

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

Flowers to Adorn the Icon of The Theotokos

In Memory Of Sisters, Joan & Mary, Offered by Pat & Tom

Pascha Flower Donations

Medium Baskets for Iconostas

For Health Of Radio & Tomsic Families, Offered by Greg & Rosalie

In Memory Of Roberts & Konsevitch Families
Offered by Gordon & Valerie Roberts

In Memory Of John Junda, Offered by Anastasia & Alexander Junda

In Memory Of Nancy Junda, Offered by Anastasia & Alexander Junda

Easter Lilies

In Memory Of Subdn. Michael (Frank) Guydan, Offered by Michele Guydan

In Memory Of Jubinski & Deal departed family members
Offered by Peter & Sarah Jubinski

For Health Of Peter, Sarah, Dan & Jean, Offered by Sarah & Peter

In Memory Of Peter Kohudic

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov, Offered by Boris & Marietta

In Memory Of Natalie & Stephen Danchenko, Offered by Halina Danchenko

In Memory Of Natalie & Stephen Danchenko, Offered by Halina Danchenko

In Memory Of Natalie & Stephen Danchenko, Offered by Halina Danchenko

In Memory Of Valentin Golowchikov, Offered by Natalie & Alana Gould

In Memory Of Dr. Julius & Dr. Anna Herz
Offered by Peter, Sarah, Dan & Jean Jubinski

For Health Of The Heitzenrater Children
Offered by John & Christina Heitzenrater

In Memory Of Chrin & Kasmer Families, Offered by Terry Butler

For Health Of Chrin & Kasmer Families, Offered by Terry Butler

In Memory Of Ann Varvarich, Offered by The Livesey Family

Hyacinths

In Memory Of John & Mary Radio, Offered by Greg & Rosalie

In Memory Of John (Jay) Radio, Offered by Greg & Rosalie

For Health Of Ethan, Owen, Talia & Jones, Offered by Poppy & Baba

In Memory Of Guydan & Dupay & Antoniak/Kaminsky Families
Offered by Michele Guydan

In Memory Of Fedora, Cudlic & Gall Families, Offered by Cudlic & Eck Families

In Memory Of Nancy Cudlic & Andrew Treichak
Offered by Cudlic & Eck Families

In Memory Of Family & Friends, Offered by Damian Drasher

In Memory Of Family & Friends, Offered by Damian Drasher

In Memory Of Hutz & Bretz Families, Offered by Ann Marie & Barry Bretz

In Memory Of Dmitry & Elsbeth Guanowsky, Offered by The Guanowsky Family

In Memory Of Leo Howell, Offered by Mary Howell

In Memory Of Metz & Scheetz Families, Offered by Michael & Amber Metz

For Health Of Stepanoff & Rodzianko Families, Offered by Terry Butler

For Health Of Marian, Lupu & Lungu Family, Offered by Radu & Aliana

For Health Of Marian, Lupu & Lungu Family, Offered by Radu & Aliana

In Appreciation Of Fr. Nikolai's Pastoral Care at St. Nicholas
Offered by The Bzik Family

Daffodils

For Health Of Radio & Tomsic Families, Offered by Greg & Rosalie

For Health Of Radio & Tomsic Families, Offered by Greg & Rosalie

For Health Of Guydan/Dupay & Antoniak/Kaminsky Families
Offered by Michele Guydan

In Memory Of John, Ann Mason, Kathryn Mason, Archpriest John, Mat. Daria
Offered by Fr. Jim

In Memory Of Peter Baker & Mary Baker, Offered by Mat. Pat Mason

In Memory Of Paul Havrilko, Offered by Dorothy Havrilko

In Memory Of Our Parents, Offered by Judy & Nick Lezinsky

For Health Of Lezinsky & Florenz Families, Offered by Judy Lezinsky

For Health Of Roberts Families, Offered by Gordon & Valerie Roberts

For Health Of Our Parish Family, Offered by Gordon & Valerie Roberts

In Memory Of Selar & JoAnn Konsevitch, Offered by Gordon & Valerie Roberts

In Memory Of Reade & Mary Roberts, Offered by Gordon & Valerie Roberts

In Appreciation Of Fr. Nikolai's Pastoral Care at St. Nicholas
Offered by The Bzik Family

In Appreciation Of Fr. Nikolai's Pastoral Care at St. Nicholas
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In Appreciation Of Fr. Nikolai's Pastoral Care at St. Nicholas
Offered by The Bzik Family

Tulips

For Heath Of Radio & Tomsic Families, Offered by Greg & Rosalie

In Memory Of Ray, Stephen & Johanna, Offered by The Pasquel Family

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

In Memory Of Erin Custlow, Offered by Mike & Kerry Kurtz

For Health Of Family & Friends, Offered by Mike & Kerry Kurtz

In Memory Of Departed Family & Loved Ones, Offered by The Isbansky Family

For Health Of Our St. Nicholas Family & Friends
Offered by The Isbansky Family

In Memory Of Michael Stafiniak, Offered by his wife, Dorothy

In Memory Of Michael Stafiniak
Offered by his children Michele, Joseph & Stephen and their families

In Appreciation Of Fr. Nikolai's Pastoral Care at St. Nicholas
Offered by The Bzik Family

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In Appreciation Of Fr. Nikolai's Pastoral Care at St. Nicholas
Offered by The Bzik Family

Hydrangeas

In Memory Of Mary Radick, Offered by Peter & Patricia Metz

In Memory Of Felix Family, Offered by Patty Felix

Offered by The Bessmans

In Memory Of Valentin Gotowchikov, Offered by Natalie & Alana Gould

In Memory Of Mary & Stephen Belzner, Offered by Mary & Family

In Honor Of Our Risen Lord Jesus Christ, Offered by Shirley & Michael Isbansky

For Health Of Metz Family Members, Offered by Patricia & Peter Metz

For Health Of Radio & Tomsic Families, Offered by Greg & Rosalie Radio

Paschal Greetings from Around the World

From <https://www.oca.org/orthodoxy/paschal-greetings>

Language	Greeting & Response
Aleut:	Khristus anahgrecum! Alhecum anahgrecum!
Aleut:	Khris-tusax agla-gikux! Agangu-lakan agla-gikux!
Albanian:	Krishti U Ngjall! Vertet U Ngjall!
Alutuq:	Khris-tusaq ung-uixtuq! Pijii-nuq ung-uixtuq!
Amharic:	Kristos tenestwal! Bergit tenestwal!
Anglo-Saxon:	Crist aras! Crist sodhlice aras!
Arabic:	El Messieh kahm! Hakken kahm!
Armenian:	Kristos haryav ee merelotz! Orhnial eh harootyunuh kristosee!
Athabaskan:	Xristosi banuytashch'ey! Gheli banuytashch'ey!
Bulgarian:	Hristos voskrese! Vo istina voskrese!
Byelorussian:	Khrystos uvaskros! Saprawdy uvaskros!
Chinese:	Helisituosi fuhuole! Queshi fuhuole!
Coptic:	Pchristos aftooun! Alethos aftooun!
Czech:	Kristus vstal a mrtvych! Opravdi vstoupil!
Danish:	Kristus er opstanden! Ja, sandelig opstanden!
Dutch:	Christus is opgestaan! Ja, hij is waarlijk opgestaan!
English:	Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!
Eritrean-Tigre:	Christos tensiou! Bahake tensiou!
Esperanto:	Kristo levigis! Vere levigis!
Estonian:	Kristus on üles tõusnud! Ta on tõesti üles tõusnud!
Ethiopian:	Christos t'ensah em' muhtan! Exai' ab-her eokala!
Finnish:	Kristus nousi kuolleista! Totisesti nousi!
French:	Le Christ est réssuscité! En verite il est réssuscité!
Gaelic:	Taw creest ereen! Taw shay ereen guhdyne!
Georgian:	Kriste aghsdga! Cheshmaritad aghsdga!
German:	Christus ist auferstanden! Wahrlich Er ist auferstanden!
Greek:	Christos anesti! Alithos anesti!
Hawaiian:	Ua ala hou 'o Kristo! Ua ala 'I 'o no 'oia!

Hebrew:	Ha Masheeha houh quam! Be emet quam!
Hungarian:	Krisztus feltamadt! Valoban feltamadt!
Ibo (Nigeria):	Jesu Kristi ebiliwo! Ezia o' biliwo!
Indian (Malayalam):	Christu uyirthezhunnettu! Theerchayayum uyirthezhunnettu!
Indonesian:	Kristus telah bangkit! Benar dia telah bangkit!
Italian:	Cristo e' risorto! Veramente e' risorto!
Japanese:	Harisutos Fukkatsu! Jitsu ni Fukkatsu!
Javanese:	Kristus sampun wungu! Tuhu sampun wungu!
Korean:	Kristo gesso! Buhar ha sho nay!
Latin:	Christus resurrexit! Vere resurrexit!
Latvian:	Kristus ir augsham sales! Teyasham ir augsham sales vinsch!
Lugandan:	Kristo ajukkide! Amajim ajukkide!
Norwegian:	Christus er oppstanden! Sandelig han er oppstanden!
Polish:	Khristus zmartwyckwstal! Zaprawde zmartwyckwstal!
Portuguese:	Cristo ressuscitou! Em verdade ressuscitou!
Romanian:	Hristos a inviat! Adevărat a înviat!
Russian:	Khristos voskrese! Voistinu voskrese!
Sanskrit:	Kristo'pastitaha! Satvam upastitaha!
Serbian:	Hristos vaskrse! Vaistunu vaskrse!
Slovak:	Kristus vstal zmr'tvych! Skutoc ne vstal!
Spanish:	Cristo ha resucitado! En verdad ha resucitado!
Swahili:	Kristo amefufukka! Kweli amefufukka!
Swedish:	Kristus är uppstånden! Han är sannerligen uppstånden!
Syriac:	M'shee ho dkom! Ha koo qam!
Tlingit:	Xristos Kuxwoo-digoot! Xegaa-kux Kuxwoo-digoot!
Turkish:	Hristos diril - di! Hakikaten diril - di!
Ugandan:	Kristo ajukkide! Kweli ajukkide!
Ukrainian:	Khristos voskres! Voistinu voskres!
Welsh:	Atgyfododd Crist! Atgyfododd yn wir!
Yupik:	Xris-tusaq Ung-uixtuq! Iluumun Ung-uixtuq!
Zulu:	Ukristu uvukile! Uvukile kuphela!



April 20, 2025
Protocol 04/001

To the clergy, monastics, and faithful of the Orthodox Church in America, beloved children in the Lord,

Christ is risen! Indeed he is risen!

"This is the chosen and holy day, first of sabbaths, king and lord of days, the feast of feasts, holy day of holy days. On this day we bless Christ forevermore."

So we sang at Matins, at the eighth ode of the Paschal canon. St. John of Damascus, the author of that canon, calls today "the feast of feasts," and as we celebrate this feast of feasts, this first and greatest of feasts, we might ask a seemingly simple question: what are feasts, and why do we celebrate them? This question seems particularly appropriate as the world around us grows ever more chaotic and complex. In the midst of all the change and busy-ness, how can we spare the time just to celebrate and do nothing of use?

Many of us are familiar with the Russian festal greeting, *s prazdnikom*. The key word here is *prazdnik*, the Russian word for feast or holiday, which derives in turn from the adjective *prazdny*, meaning "empty," and hence "idle." But this emptiness, or idleness, is not merely an expression of absence. The feast has positive content, but this content is not man-made: it is something made by God, something that our inaction allows us encounter and appreciate. Feasts are days on which we remain idle so that God can act; they are days that we empty of our own works so that we can fill them with the remembrance of the things of God: his deeds, his presence, his glory.

After all, as the Lord says, the sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath (Mk. 2:27). We abused our freewill, sinned, and lost the continual enjoyment of God, instead being cursed to eat by the sweat of our brow (Gen. 3:19). But God, in his mercy, has given us the feast day, a day on which we are able to return to our Edenic state. We set aside the labor that is the result of our sin and, for a day at

least, devote ourselves to true rest, to the one thing needful: worship in spirit and truth, whose hour is coming and now is (Lk. 10:42, Jn. 4:23). As we sang at the canon, the feast is the day on which we bless Christ forevermore.

The feast day, in this way, becomes an icon of the deified person, filled with the divine energies—God's activity, rather than his own. The saints empty their hearts, their lives, their being, of everything worldly and passionate so that God can dwell there as his holy temple. The feast is also thus an icon of the life to come, in which the elect will no longer know toil or care, but only the never-ending banquet of the kingdom, the ceaseless heavenly worship of the one God in Trinity.

Thus, on this first of sabbaths, I pray that we might all set aside our Lenten labors and rejoice in the day which the Lord has made, Bright Sunday, his great and holy Pascha (Ps. 117:24). Following in the footsteps of our self-emptying Master, we worked for six weeks to cleanse our hearts and lives of everything unbecoming, not so that we could be empty, but so we could be filled, according to our own measure and capacity, with the grace that Christ brings into the world through his life-creating Resurrection. Christ rested after his six days of labor, and now after our six weeks of Lenten work, he calls us to enter into his rest, to find our peace in him and the great salvation that he has wrought for us upon the Wood.

Christ is risen, the Peace of God, the divine Peace himself, and so, in the midst of a busy and whirling world, we find everlasting peace on his feast of feasts. May the grace, peace, and joy of his Resurrection abide with all of you, always, now and throughout the ages to come.

Greeting you with festal cheer and Paschal rejoicing, and assuring you of my primatial prayers and blessing, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tikhon', written in a cursive style.

+Tikhon

Archbishop of Washington

Metropolitan of All America and Canada



DIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA AND EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

The Most Rev. Mark, Archbishop of Philadelphia • Orthodox Church in America

April 20, 2025

*Christ is risen from the dead trampling down
death by death
And upon those in the tombs bestowing life.
We celebrate the abolition of death,
The destruction of Hades and the first fruit
of everlasting life.
And as we leap with joy, we praise the
Cause of these good gifts,
The God of our fathers who alone is blessed
and most glorified.*



Beloved of God,

Christ is Risen! Truly, He is Risen! El Messieh kahim! Hakken kahim! Khristos voskryese! Voistinu voskryese!

Let God, arise and let His enemies be scattered! As smoke vanishes so let them vanish! So the sinner will perish before the face of God, but let the righteous be glad! This is the day that the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it! Let us embrace one another and forgive all things for the sake of Christ's Holy Resurrection.

Christos anesti! Alithos anesti! Cristos vaskryes! Vaistinu vaskryes! Cristos a inviat! Adevarat a inviat! Blessed Feast!

Your unworthy father in Christ,

+ Mark +

Mark, Archbishop of Philadelphia and the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania

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.

Church School Easter Egg Hunt

The Church School Easter Egg Hunt will be scheduled on Sunday, April 27 immediately following Divine Liturgy. Rain Date will be May 4. The Easter Egg Hunt is OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN.

Pierogi Making Schedule

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

NO Pierogi April 28, 29, 30

Did You Know?

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!



The Orthodox Church in America
DIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA AND EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA
The Most Rev. Mark, Archbishop of Philadelphia

March 26, 2025

INVESTING IN OUR YOUTH

*Train up a child in the way he should go,
And when he is old he will not depart from it. (Proverbs 22:6)*

Dear to God,

Christ is in our midst! This year we will be ministering to approximately 150 children at the St. Tikhon's Camp Program. Through the program, our youth not only learn about their faith, and have fellowship with other Orthodox youth, but have the opportunity to develop lifelong relationships. These relationships and their experience help solidify their relationship to Christ and the Church.

Our Diocesan Council wants to ensure that all children of the Diocese are able to attend. The past two years the Diocese, together with our parishes and camp tuition from outside the Diocese covered the cost for all children of the Diocese. The previous cost of \$375 for the first child and \$350 for any siblings, made it quite difficult for families with more than one child. Parents previously decided that if they could not send all of their children who were age appropriate, they would not send any of them. Thanks be to God, we had numerous children there for the first time! Last year Diocesan Campers outnumbered those coming from outside the Diocese for the first time. This year, 110 of the 150 are from our own Diocese.

As a Church, we should never want any child unable to attend because of the cost. Secondly, we do not want to embarrass or humiliate parents by having to ask for assistance from their parish or the Diocese, whether it is for one child or more. We as Orthodox Christians need to invest in our youth by supporting all youth ministry fully. In some Orthodox jurisdictions parishes or organizations within the parish make sure every child can go to camp and even cover airfare.

Statistically, 70% of our youth once going away to college or entering the workforce fall away from the Church and 2/3 of those never return. We as a Church must do a better job of caring for our youth and providing opportunities for learning, fellowship and growth in their faith. Our Camp program is an important part of addressing the problem and has also contributed to young men and women making decisions to serve the Church in various ways. They want to give back.

In order to make our camp available and accessible to all our youth within the Diocese we are asking our faithful to consider sponsoring a camper with a contribution of \$375. We also ask our parishes to consider covering the cost of their own campers. If the parish has none, to consider helping to underwrite the cost of caring for our youth with a contribution of \$500. If we can get a commitment of \$42,000 a year through various contributions, we can offer the camp free of charge for all our children. We are also setting up a donation button on our website. You may send contributions to the Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania, 325 N Walnut St., Bath, PA 18014 and earmark it for St Tikhon's Camp. Thank you for your generosity and concern for our youth.

While we make this appeal to our parishes and faithful, please be aware the Diocese also covers the cost of the fall and Winter Retreats for our youth at a cost of approximately \$30,000. Likewise, we cover all clergy, clergy wives, men's and women's retreats.

Your unworthy father in Christ,

+ Mark

+ MARK (Maymon), Archbishop of Philadelphia and the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania
Please post on every parish website and in every parish bulletin.



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Diocesan Treasurer: Mark Linneman * treasurer@doepa.org

"Thou hast made us for Thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in Thee." Augustine



CHRYSOSTOM
ACADEMY™



Saturday, May 10
10:00 to 11:30 AM

St. John Chrysostom Academy Speaker Series Presents:

Life and Wisdom of St. John Chrysostom

**St. Nicholas Russian
Orthodox Church,
Parish Hall**

980 Bridle Path Road,
Bethlehem, PA 18017

Questions? Please reach out to
Mr. John Heitzenrater, Headmaster at
jheitzenrater@chrysostomacademy.org



RSPV:
<https://app.jotform.com/250965834848170>



Guest Speakers

**Drs. David
and Mary Ford**

*** COFFEE AND DONUTS WILL BE PROVIDED**

*** THE FORDS' BOOK WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AND SIGNING**

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, Alexis Defoe, Maryann Dudash, Christopher Felix, Olga Frimenko, David Gowarty, Tom Grammes, Rachel Hardesty, Artemiy Hartman, Kalista Hartman, Nicholas Hazzard, Don Holobeny, Jonathan Hontz, Sava Hrebinka, 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, 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

Catechumen: Chris Kiris

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.