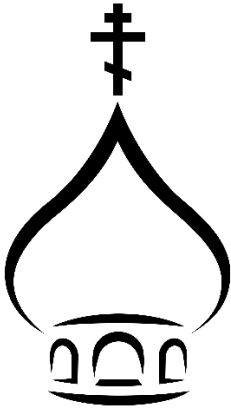


Divine Liturgy

Sunday, November 23, 2025

24th Sunday after Pentecost (9th of Luke)
Afterfeast of the Entrance into the Temple
St. Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



SAINT NICHOLAS RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Archpriest Nikolai Breckenridge, Rector

Cell: 570-604-4277

Email: nikolai.breckenridge@gmail.com

Mitred Archpriest James Mason, Attached

Deacon Geoffrey LoBalbo

Patricia Stetz Grammes, Parish Council President

Reader Nicholas Lezinsky, Choir Director

Reader John Heitzenrater, Church School Administrator

Email: ChurchSchool@stnicholasoca.org

Jennifer Bzik, Administrative Assistant

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 November 23, 2025

24th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 7. Afterfeast of the Entry Into the Temple. Repose of Rt. Blv. Great Prince Alexander Nevsky, in schema Aleksy (1263). St Amphilokhios, Bishop of Iconium (394). St. Gregory, Bishop of Agrigentum (6th-7th c.). St. Metrophán, in schema Makáry, Bishop of Vorónezh (1703). Sisinius the Confessor, Bishop of Cyzicus (3rd c.). Martyr Theodore of Antioch (4th c.).

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Wednesday, November 26th - 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Friday, November 28th - Fr. Nikolai's Day Off



In an effort to make my scheduling more efficient, and to avoid a bunch of back-and-forth emails, please take advantage of my new scheduling app at www.calendly.com/frnikolai You can also scan this QR code with your phone, to be taken directly to the site. With this you can schedule a confession outside of the usual Vespers times, or schedule a 1-hour in-person or Zoom meeting with me. - Fr. Nikolai

Coffee Hour Today

Coffee Hour today is hosted by William Heitzenrater

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

- Tuesday, November 25** 6:00 pm - November Zoom Lecture Series
On Prayer
- Thursday, November 27** **Thanksgiving Day**
9:00 am - Moleben of Thanksgiving
- Saturday, November 29** 5:00 pm - Great Vespers
- Sunday, November 30** **25th Sunday After Pentecost**
9:10 am - Reading of the Hours
9:30 am - Divine Liturgy
- Friday, 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
4:30 pm - General Panikhida
5:00 pm - Great Vespers
- Sunday, December 7** **26th Sunday after Pentecost**
9:10 am - Reading of the Hours
9:30 am - Divine Liturgy
12:00 pm - Parish Yolka
- Thursday, December 11** 9:00 am - Akathist, Nurturer of Children
- Friday, December 12** 6:00 pm - Great Vespers w/ Litia for St. Herman
- Saturday, December 13** **St. Herman of Alaska (Note Early Liturgy Time)**
6:50 am - Reading of the Hours
7:00 am - Divine Liturgy
10:00 am - 4:00 pm - Christmas Bazaar
5:00 pm - Great Vespers
- Sunday, December 14** **27th Sunday after Pentecost / Forefathers**
9:10 am - Reading of the Hours
9:30 am - Divine Liturgy
3:30 pm - Choir Concert
- Saturday, December 20** 5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, December 21	Sunday Before Nativity 9:10 am – Reading of the Hours 9:30 am – Divine Liturgy
Wed., December 24	Eve of Nativity 9:00 am – Royal Hours 7:00 pm – Nativity Vigil
Thurs., December 25	Nativity of our Lord 9:10 am – Reading of the Hours 9:30 am – Divine Liturgy
Friday, December 26	Synaxis of the Mother of God 8:50 am – Reading of the Hours 9:00 am – Divine Liturgy 5:00 pm – Great Vespers
Saturday, December 27	
Sunday, December 28	Sunday after Nativity 9:10 am – Reading of the Hours 9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

There are several open coffee hour days in the upcoming months. Please consider signing up if you haven't hosted in the past! There are copies of the guidelines for hosting coffee hour available in the signup book at the candle desk if you are not familiar with what to do. Contact Jennifer Bzik if you need help or have questions. Thank you!

Divine Liturgy

Sunday, November 23, 2025

24th Sunday after Pentecost (9th of Luke)
Afterfeast of the Entrance into the Temple
St. Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium

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 4 Troparion *(Feast)*

Today is the prelude of the good will of God, of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. The Virgin appears in the Temple of God, in anticipation proclaiming Christ to all. Let us rejoice and sing to her: "Rejoice, O Fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation!"

Tone 4 Troparion *(Sts. Amphilochius and Gregory)*

O God of our Fathers, always act with kindness towards us; take not Thy mercy from us, but guide our lives in peace through the prayers of the hierarchs Gregory and Amphilochius!

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 2 Kontakion *(St. Amphilochius)*

Holy thunder, spiritual trumpet, nurse of the faithful and axe striking down heresy, O hierarch Amphilochius, great and well-pleasing servant of the Trinity, as thou standest forever with the Angels, unceasingly pray for us all!

Tone 4 Kontakion (*Feast*)

The most pure Temple of the Savior; the precious Chamber and Virgin; the sacred Treasure of the glory of God, is presented today to the house of the Lord. She brings with her the grace of the Spirit, therefore, the angels of God praise her: "Truly this woman is the abode of Heaven!"

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 3 Prokeimenon (*Song of the Theotokos*)

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. (*Lk. 1:46-47*)

Epistle

Read by Reader John Heitzenrater

(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)

Tone 8

Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline thine ear! (Ps. 44:9a)

Gospel

(Luke 12:16-21) Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. 'And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.'" But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

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

Tone 4

The angels beheld the entrance of the Pure One and were amazed. How has the Virgin entered into the Holy of Holies?

Since she is a living Ark of God let no profane hand touch the Theotokos. But let the lips of believers unceasingly sing to her, praising her in joy with the angel's song: "Truly, thou art more exalted than all, O pure Virgin!"

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!

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.



Candle Offerings for Sunday, November 23, 2025

Vigils in Altar - Windowsill (2)

In Memory Of Nicolae (Aliana's Father), Offered by Victoria Dimonie

Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)

Happy Birthday Ryan Roberts, Offered by Uncle Gordon & Aunt Val

Votives in Altar

In Memory Of Henry Bretz

Votives in Iconostas

In Honor Of Nicholas Heitzenrater's Birthday, Offered by Mama & Papa

Crosses

In Honor Of Michael & Mary Dorosh's 60th Wedding Anniversary
Offered by Joseph & Marina Murgia

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 Philip Stefanov

Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary

In Memory Of Philip Stefanov

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

In Memory Of James Bartos, Offered by Fran & Mike Slivka

Vigils on South Wall Window Sill (3)

In Honor Of Michael & Mary Dorosh's 60th Wedding Anniversary
Offered by Michael & Toni Dorosh

Remember Our Homebound

As of 11/1/2025

Mrs. Mary Dorosh - 4535 Charles Street, Easton, PA 18045-4809

Mr. Damian Drasher - Whitehall Manor Room A8, 1177 Sixth St, Whitehall, PA 18052

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

Mat. Julia Romanchak - Whitehall Manor Room A10, 1177 Sixth St, Whitehall, PA 18052

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

"One Can Can Help" Annual Food Drive

Sponsored by: RO59/NSS

We will be collecting non-perishable food products to benefit the New Bethany Ministries until December 7, 2025.

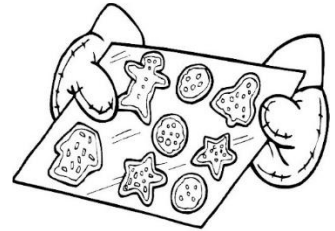
Please leave your generous donations in the boxes on either side of the entrance doors to the hall. They will accept nonperishable food items as well as paper products.

Thank you so much!

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 Kathy Lichtenwalner what kind you would like to make (We would like to prevent duplicate flavors), or sign up at the candle desk.
- 🍪 Please bring in your cookies in sealed containers on Sunday, December 7, 2025. There will be a rack in the Church Hall for cookies to be placed on.
- 🍪 Please no cookies that have to be refrigerated.
- 🍪 Please put cookies on plates or in containers with wax paper to separate the layers. No Zip Loc Bags please.



Thank you!!!

Hope Rescue Mission needs your **HELP!**

St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church is collecting all types of gently used clothing including coats, hats, boots, belts, men's clothing for the men at Hope Rescue Mission and for the women's and children's shelter (Lighthouse). We will take all seasons of clothing for men, women, and children. We have a need for new men's underwear, undershirts, and sweatpants all in sizes medium to xxxl.



You can drop items off in the designated containers in the Chernay Fellowship Hall. Please make all donations by **Sunday, November 30, 2025.**

This clothing helps provide food, clothing, and shelter for the men at Hope Rescue and the women and children at Lighthouse.

Thank you in advance for your donations!

3rd Quarter Treasurer's Report Summary

July 2025	Income:	\$39,318.30
	Expenses:	\$33,261.91
	<u>Net Revenue:</u>	<u>\$6,056.39</u>
August 2025	Income:	\$27,801.05
	Expenses	\$28,906.42
	<u>Net Revenue:</u>	<u>\$(1,105.37)</u>
September 2025	Income:	\$37,025.85
	Expenses:	\$31,468.50
	<u>Net Revenue:</u>	<u>\$5,557.35</u>

Calling All Bakers for the 12/13 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 consistence 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 12th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Grammes.

Upcoming Pierogi Schedule

The last time to order fresh pierogi will be Sunday, December 14, 2025 for pickup on Wednesday, December 17, 2025. Get your orders in early as quantities will be limited. We will not be making any fresh pierogi in January or February 2026. We will return the week of March 1, 2026. Please place phone orders by Sunday, February 28, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

Please also note - Fresh Pierogi will not be made the week of Thanksgiving. Frozen Pierogi will be available during the break on a first come, first served basis. Leave a message on the pierogi hotline and we will call you to coordinate pickup.

Lenten Pierogi (Potato or Sauer Kraut) will be made December 1, 2025. To order, please sign up on the sheet by the phone in the kitchen no later than noon on Sunday, November 30, 2025.

Basket Raffle Donations Wanted

We will once again be hosting a Basket Raffle this year during the holiday season and we are looking for volunteers to donate baskets. We have a track record of offering beautiful baskets and we are hoping to uphold tradition. If you are able to make a basket, please contact Jennifer Bzik to let her know in advance.

Don't be shy if you have never made a basket for the raffle before! Jennifer will be happy to help you out. If you are interested in supporting the Basket Raffle but are not able to make a basket, please consider making a cash donation. Jennifer (and her daughter Lydia 😊) will be happy to do the shopping and prepare a basket on your behalf!

The Basket Raffle will open on Saturday, December 13th during the Christmas Bazaar and Sunday, December 14th during Coffee Hour. The last chance to get those tickets in will be on Sunday, December 14th before our Christmas Choir Concert, which begins at 3:30 pm. The Basket Raffle Drawing will be held following the conclusion of the concert on Sunday, December 14th.

If you are planning to make a cash donation, please do so as soon as possible (no later than Sunday, November 30, 2025) so that we have an opportunity to shop and prepare a basket using those funds. **All donated baskets must be brought to the church by noon on Sunday, December 7, 2025.** If you have any questions or would like to make a donation, please contact Jennifer Bzik. Thank you so much for your support!

JOURNEY THROUGH THE DIVINE LITURGY

4 ZOOM LECTURES, NOVEMBER, 2025



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

6:00 PM - SESSION #1
WHAT IS LITURGY?

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

6:00 PM - SESSION #2
THE LITURGY OF THE CATECHUMENS

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

6:00 PM - SESSION #3
THE LITURGY OF THE FAITHFUL

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

6:00 PM - SESSION #4
ON PRAYER

**COMING TUESDAYS, STARTING
NOVEMBER 4TH - AT 6:00 PM
ZOOM ONLY!**

**TO REGISTER, PLEASE VISIT:
[STNICHOLASOCA.ORG/LITURGY](https://stnicholasoca.org/liturgy)**

**ST. NICHOLAS RUSSIAN
ORTHODOX CHURCH (OCA)**

980 BRIDLE PATH ROAD | BETHLEHEM, PA 18017

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, David Shewczyk, Ian Shipley, James Weremedic, John Onofrey, George Hasenecz, Emilian Hutnyan, John Nightingale, Gregory White

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, Susan Kon

Servants: Bethany Bruder, Theresa Butler, Jennifer Bzik, 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, Marina (Margaret) Heitzenrater, 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, Doina Marian, Kylie Pinho, Kiera Pheiffer, William Podlusky, William Potter, Rosalie Radio, Laurel Riley, Gordon Roberts, Leah Roberts, Barbara Roman, Victoria Ross, Mary Ruzila, Connor Samuels, Robert Schainfeld, Catherine Shea, Janice Shumbata, Francine Slivka, Michael Slivka, Julia Smith, Dorothy Stafiniak, Maeve Stuckey, Irene Witanek, Sandra Wyslutsky

Catechumens: Shane Ernst, Elizabeth Glazman, Tonia Matyger, Mithrin Moses, Adam and Nicole Pell, Robert Peloquin, Bryan Peterson, Alejandro Santiago

Handmaidens: Corinne Stuckey, and her newborn son

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