

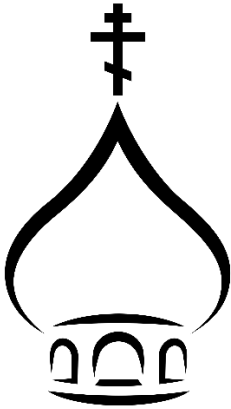
Divine Liturgy

Sunday, February 1, 2026

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

[Beginning of the Lenten Triodion]

Forefeast of the Meeting



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 February 1, 2026

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE – Tone 1. Beginning of the Lenten Triodion. Forefeast of the Meeting. Martyr Tryphon of Lampsacus near Apamea in Syria (250). Martyrs Perpetua, a woman of Carthage, and the Catechumens: Saturus, Revocatus, Saturninus, Secundulus and Felicitas (202-203). Ven. Peter Galata, Hermit, near Antioch in Syria (429). Ven. Vendemianus (Bendemianus), Hermit, of Bithynia (ca. 512). Ven. Bridget (Brigid) of Ireland (523).

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Regular Office Hours will resume after the House Blessing Season.



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

Please join us for coffee hour on February 1 to raise funds for Maeve Stuckey as she undergoes treatment for her autoimmune disorder. Medical treatment often comes with unexpected hurdles. Our goal is to lighten their load so they can focus on treatment and recovery. All donations and proceeds from this coffee hour will go directly toward the travel expenses to and from Philadelphia, meals and groceries to help the family during long hospital days and busy treatment weeks. Gift cards (Gas, Groceries, or Coffee) are warmly welcomed! Thank you!

Lara Bessman & Guliana Holobeny

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

Sunday, February 1

5:00 pm - Vespers w/Litia

Monday, February 2

Meeting of Christ in the Temple

8:50 am - Reading of the 3rd Hour

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

Thursday, February 5

9:00 am - Akathist - Nurturer of Children

Saturday, February 7

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, February 8

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 14

Memorial Saturday

8:50 am - Reading of the 3rd Hour

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, February 15

Sunday of Last Judgement / Meatfare Sunday

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 21

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, February 22

Forgiveness Sunday / Cheesefare Sunday

9:10 am - Reading of the Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

12:00 pm - Forgiveness Vespers

First Week of Lent - Clean Week

Monday, February 23

7:00 pm - Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Tuesday, February 24

7:00 pm - Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Wed., February 25

9:00 am - Presanctified Liturgy

7:00 pm - Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Thursday, February 26

7:00 pm - Compline with Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Friday, February 27

6:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

Saturday, February 28

St. Theodore the Recruit

8:50 am - Reading of the 3rd Hour

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy St. Theodore the Recruit

5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Divine Liturgy

Sunday, February 1, 2026

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

[Beginning of the Lenten Triodion]

Forefeast of the Meeting

Tone 1 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: "Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom! Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!"

Tone 1 Troparion *(Forefeast)*

The celestial choir of heavenly Angels bends down to the earth and sees the First-born of all creation being carried into the Temple as a Babe by a Mother who has not known man, and in amazement they sing along with us a hymn of the Forefeast.

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 6 Kontakion *(Forefeast)*

The Word unseen with the Father, now is seen in the flesh, ineffably born of the Virgin, and is given into the arms of the priest and Elder. Let us worship Him, our True God.

Tone 1 Prokeimenon *(Resurrection)*

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee! *(Ps. 32:22)*

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just! (Ps. 32:1)

Epistle

Read by Reader Mark Hrebinka

(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 1

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

God gives vengeance unto me, and subdues people under me. (Ps. 17:48)

He magnifies the salvation of the King and deals mercifully with David, His anointed, and his seed forever. (Ps. 17:51)

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."

Communion Hymn

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

Candle Offerings for Sunday, February 1, 2026

Vigils in Altar - Windowsill (2)

In Memory Of Dorothy Havrilko, Offered by Family

Vigils in Altar - Table of Oblation (2)

In Memory Of Dorothy Havrilko, Offered by Family

Vigils in Altar - Side Table (2)

In Memory Of Dorothy Havrilko, Offered by Family

Votives in Altar

In Memory Of Philip Stepanov, Offered by Boris & Marietta

Votives in Iconostas

Happy Anniversary Moses & Carmen Hodson, Offered by The Lezinskys

Crosses

Happy Birthday Donald, Offered by Guliana Holobeny

Vigils on the Tetrapod (2)

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

Vigils on Icon Table (2)

In Memory of Dorothy Havrilko

Offered by Carmen, Moses, Alexander & Christopher Hodson

Vigils - Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)

In Memory Of Anna Kanerva, Offered by Barb, Kyra & Gregory

Votives - Icon of the Virgin Mary

In Memory Of Anna Kanerva, Offered by Barb, Kyra & Gregory

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

In Memory Of John Mikita, Offered by Barry & Ann Marie Bretz

Votives - Icon of St. John the Baptist

In Memory of Dorothy Havrilko

Offered by Carmen, Moses, Alexander & Christopher Hodson

Vigils on South Wall Window Sill (3)

In Memory Of Dorothy Havrilko, Offered by Boris & Marietta

Vigils on North Wall Window Sill (3)

In Memory of Dorothy Havrilko

Offered by Carmen, Moses, Alexander & Christopher Hodson

Flowers to Adorn the Icon of Entry of the Lord in the Temple

In Memory Of Joan Stetz, Offered by Pat & Tom

2026 - St. Nicholas Scouts

David Cudlic, Order of Arrow, Assistant Scout Master
Michael Dorosh, Alpha Omega, Order of Arrow, Eagle (1958)
Daniel Jubinski, Alpha Omega, Order of Arrow, Eagle (1987)
Jacob Lezinsky, Cub Scout, Webelo, Order of St. George, Chi Rho Award
Fr. James Mason, Order of Arrow, Scout Master
Amber Metz - Girl Scouts, Brownie Daisy
Christopher Metz - Star
David Metz - Star
Julianne Metz - Girl Scout, Junior
Kimberly Metz - Girl Scout, Senior
Michael Metz - Life
Peter Metz- Star
William Podlusky - Life
Dr. Gregory Radio, Order of Arrow, Eagle, Medicine Man (1964)
Gordon Roberts, Order of Arrow, Eagle

Candle Prices

- Decorated Candles \$15 each
- Tall Thin Beeswax Tapers \$1 each
- Short Thick Beeswax Tapers \$2 each
- Vigils in Colored Glass \$4 each
- 4 hr votives \$0.50 each

4th Quarter Treasurer's Report Summary

October 2025	Income:	\$27,565.33
	Expenses:	\$62,942.42
	<u>Net Revenue:</u>	<u>\$(35,377.09)</u>
November 2025	Income:	\$48,626.41
	Expenses	\$29,320.34
	<u>Net Revenue:</u>	<u>\$19,306.07</u>
December 2025	Income:	\$89,767.58
	Expenses:	\$36,810.37
	<u>Net Revenue:</u>	<u>\$52,957.21</u>

Annual Parish Meeting Notice

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 15, 2026. 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 15, 2026 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)

Diocesan Assembly Positions

Diocesan Assembly Delegate
Diocesan Assembly Alternate

Parish Council Positions

Two (2) three year terms

Auditor Positions

Four (4) one year terms

Cemetery Committee Chair

One (1) one year term

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 15, 2026. Please be advised that printed copies of the agenda and reports will be available at the candle desk beginning on Sunday, February 1, 2026. 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.

Lenten Schedule Available at the Candle Desk

In the past we have handed or mailed individual copies of the Lenten and Paschal Schedule to every parishioner. Since we have noted that so many are now using the online calendar on the church's website, and in an effort to save on printing and postage, we will not be individually handing/mailing the schedule. There will still be printed copies available for anyone who is interested. Just stop by the candle desk to pick one up at your convenience.

Inspection Report 2026 For Kitchen

On January 16, 2026, Sayyed Shah, an inspector for the PA Dept of Agriculture, visited our facility for the annual inspection of the kitchen, dishwashing area, pantry, slop room and restroom. He checked the license, then surveyed the areas, measured the temperatures of the walk in freezer and walk in refrigerator. The kitchen refrigerator was not operating. The temperature of the dish washer was recorded. In particular he was looking for items that had "best if used by dates" and if the items were still around after that date. He even scanned the dough roller with his flashlight and commented on the cleanliness. He commented on the cleanliness of our facility. After the entire area was visually inspected, he gave us a PASSED. There were two minor items that need our attention. The three signs on the three bay sink in the dishwashing area are missing. These sinks plus dishwashing detergent and sanitizer are used when dishes are not run through the washer and they should have appropriate signage. Mr. Shah sent the info to Jennifer and so this was resolved. Then he asked about how we take care of drying strainers, mixing bowls, etc. We replied that they are not stored wet and if they were they would be turned upside down. A question sometimes asked is why the inspection is completed by PA dept of Agriculture. Our (the Church's) mailing address is Bethlehem but our physical location is Northampton County Hanover Township. Hanover Township does not have a Health Bureau thus we come under the State. A very special thank you to the individuals who came to clean the areas. A job well done! A copy of the report will be posted in the kitchen by the phone. Please look at it so you can see all the categories that are covered. The report is also published on the PA Dept of Agriculture website.

Sarah Jubinski, Jean Lopata Jubinski, and Jennifer Bzik

Poinsettias Still Available

There are still many lovely Poinsettias from the Nativity Season which have not yet been "adopted". These plants were not sponsored during the Nativity Season, so they are now available on a first come, first served basis. The plants have been moved to the office for easier care. If you are interested in taking home any plants, please see Jennifer Bzik or just stop by the office and help yourself.

Please Check Lost & Found

There are quite a few things piling up in our Lost & Found box. Please take a moment the next time you are in church to look through and collect any of your items. Thank you!

Recycling of Vigil Containers

If you'd like to help out the church and the environment, please feel free to take a box of empty vigil containers home to put in your own recycling. The boxes are located on the right side of the main doors as you exit the building (near the wheel chairs).

Baked Goods Still Available First Come, First Served!

As of the time of bulletin writing, the following baked goods were still available. Please note that this is subject to change. Please see Pat or Maxine to purchase.

Frozen Rolls (Apricot, Poppy, Lekvar) - \$10
Frozen Kiffles (Nut, Apricot, Poppy) - \$5

Frozen Paska Bread
Frozen Borscht - \$10



The Lehigh Valley
Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood

POSTPONED!!!!

INVITES YOU TO

*The Blessing of
the Jordan Creek*

1001 N 6TH STREET EXT. | WHITEHALL, PA 18102

Sunday, February 1st

NEW DATE!! *3:00 pm*

O Heavenly Father...

Physician of our souls and bodies, Who hast sent Thine only-begotten Son to heal every sickness and infirmity, visit and heal us, Thy servants, from all physical and spiritual ailments, through the grace of Thy Son, Jesus Christ. Grant to us patience in this sickness, strength of body, and recovery of health. Lord, Thou hast taught us through Thy Word to pray for each other that we may be healed. For Thou art the source of healing, and to Thee we send up glory, to the 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, 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, Patricia Grammes, Tom Grammes, Rachel Hardesty, Artemiy Hartman, Kalista Hartman, Nicholas Hazzard, Dymphna (Madeleine) Heitzenrater, Marina (Margaret) Heitzenrater, Don Holobeny, Jonathan Hontz, Sava Hrebinka, Sherry Hromiak, Krista Irwin, Michael H. Isbansky, Shirley Isbansky, Sarah Jubinski, Kathleen Keimer, 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, Joseph Pinkowicz, Kiera Pheiffer, William Podlusky, Kathy Porter, 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, Maeve Stuckey, Jerry Volkert, Irene Witanek, Sandra Wyslutsky

Catechumens: Mo AboHagar, Austin Bednar, Shane Ernst, Nicholas Heacock, Mithrin Moses, Adam and Nicole Pell, Robert Peloquin, Bryan Peterson, Christian Reichert, Alejandro Santiago, Adam Smith,

Handmaidens: Lydia Claycomb, Ruth Finlaw, Tanner Mazur, and their unborn children

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