Divine Liturgy

Sunday, September 27, 2026

17th Sunday after Pentecost (1st of Luke)

Martyr Callistratus and his companions

SAINT NICHOLAS

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Mitred Archpriest James Mason, Attached

Patricia Stetz Grammes, Parish Council President

Reader Nicholas Lezinsky, Choir Director

Danielle Brown, Church School Administrator
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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 September 27, 2026

17th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 8. Martyrs Callistratus and his company (49 Martyrs—ca. 304). Ven. Savvatii (Sabbatius), Wonderworker of Solovétsky Monastery (1435). Apostles Mark, Aristarchus, and Zenas, of the Seventy (1st c.). Martyr Epicharis of Rome (3rd c.). St Ignatius of Christ the Savior Monastery (963-975).

Fr. Nikolai's Office Hours

Monday, September 28th - Fr. Nikolai's Day Off
Wednesday, September 30th - 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Friday, September 2nd – 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

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 house blessing or an in-person or Zoom meeting with me. - Fr. Nikolai

Coffee Hour Today

The Coffee Hour today will be hosted by Nicholas & Carolina for the Celebration of Radu Lungu's Retirement from the City of Allentown

Weekly & Upcoming Calendar

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

Tuesday, September 29 6:00 pm – Catechism Class (via Zoom)
Wednesday, September 30 6:00 pm - Great Vespers

Thursday, October 1	**The Protection (Pokrov) of our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary**
	8:50 am – Reading of the Hours
	9:00 am – Divine Liturgy
Saturday, October 3	4:30 pm – Monthly General Panikhida
	5:00 pm - Great Vespers
Sunday, October 4	**18th Sunday After Pentecost**
	9:10 am – Reading of the Hours
	9:30 am – Divine Liturgy
Thursday, October 8	9:00 am - Akathist - Theotokos, Nurturer of Children
Saturday, October 10	2:00 pm – 4:30 pm – Fellowship Picnic
	5:00 pm - Great Vespers
Sunday, October 11	**19th Sunday After Pentecost**
	9:10 am – Reading of the Hours
	9:30 am – Divine Liturgy
Saturday, October 17	9:30 am – Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with Ordination (Reception to Follow)
	5:00 pm - Great Vespers
Sunday, October 18	**20th Sunday After Pentecost**
	9:10 am – Reading of the Hours
	9:30 am – Divine Liturgy
	110th Anniversary Celebration following the Liturgy
Saturday, October 24	5:00 pm - Great Vespers
Sunday, October 25	**21st Sunday After Pentecost**
	9:10 am – Reading of the Hours
	9:30 am – Divine Liturgy
Saturday, October 31	5:00 pm - Great Vespers
Sunday, November 1	**22nd Sunday After Pentecost**
	9:10 am – Reading of the Hours
	9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

Choir Practice After Liturgy Today

Divine Liturgy

Sunday, September 27, 2026

17th Sunday after Pentecost (1st of Luke)
Martyr Callistratus and his companions

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 3 **Troparion** *(St. Callistratus)*

In contest thou wast strengthened by the Holy Spirit, O Martyr Callistratus, and wast glorious in casting down the Enemy. Thou didst offer a noble army of athletes as sweet-smelling incense to Christ. With them pray for us who praise thee with hymns!

Tone 8 **Kontakion** *(Resurrection)*

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam. Eve exults in Thy Resurrection, and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

Tone 4 **Kontakion** *(St. Callistratus)*

Like stars you have shone upon the world, shedding the light of your contests and miracles upon all who cry to you: "Rejoice, Martyr Callistratus and fellow company of martyrs!"

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 Tricia Metz

(2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1) And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people." Therefore "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you." "I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty." Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

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 5:1-11) So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets. Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat. When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also

were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

Communion Hymn

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

Candle Offerings for Sunday, September 27, 2026

Votives in Altar
In Memory of Philip Stefanov, Offered by Boris & Marietta

Vigil in Side Candle Holders (2)
Happy Birthday Sandi Keysock, Offered by Patty Felix

Vigils on the Tetrapod (2)
Happy Birthday Sandi Keysock, Offered by Bill Keysock

Vigils on Icon Table (2)
Happy Birthday Sandi Keysock, Offered by Ann Marie & Barry

Vigils – Icon of the Virgin Mary (2)
In Memory Of Mom, Dad & Joan, Offered by Pat & Tom

Votives – Icon of the Virgin Mary
In Memory Of Tamara, Veronika, Ioann, Igor, Offered by Galina Yermolenko

Vigils – Icon of St. John the Baptist (2)
Happy Birthday Greyson Mulcahy, Offfered by Chochi Val & Uncle Gordon

Vigils on North Wall Window Sill (3)
In Memory Of Tianka Roustcheva, Offered by Boris & Marietta

Flowers to Adorn the Icon of Protection of the Theotokos (Pokrov)
In Memory Of Metz & Radick Families, Offered by Peter & Patricia Metz

Fellowship Hall Game Drive for our Youth

On rainy or snowy Sundays when outdoor play is not an option, our children and youth need wholesome ways to unwind and connect during Coffee Hour, as well as for our upcoming Youth Group gatherings.

To help build this fellowship space for our youth, we are gratefully accepting donations of:

- Gently Used or New Board Games suitable for children and teenagers
- Financial Contributions to help purchase games and storage supplies

If you have any games that you would like to contribute, please place them in the designated box in the hall or speak with Nicole Pell.

2nd Quarter Treasurer's Report Summary

April 2026	Income:	$97,814.97
	Expenses:	$38,514.61
	Net Revenue:	$59,300.36
May 2026	Income:	$32,519.70
	Expenses	$27,835.68
	Net Revenue:	$4,684.02
June 2026	Income:	$36,531.92
	Expenses:	$28,980.92
	Net Revenue:	$7,551.00

"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 from October 1st through October 31st.

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!

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 Sunday, December 6th and will also be open Saturday, December 12th during the Christmas Bazaar and Sunday, December 13th during Coffee Hour. The last chance to get those tickets in will be on Sunday, December 13th 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 13th.

<u>If you are planning to make a cash donation, please do so as soon as possible (no later than Sunday, November 22, 2026)</u> so that we have an opportunity to shop and prepare a basket using those funds. **<u>All donated baskets must be brought to the church by noon on Sunday, November 29, 2026</u>**. If you have any questions or would like to make a donation, please contact Jennifer Bzik. Thank you so much for your support!

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, October 4, 2026**

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!

Halupki Schedule

Help needed for halupki making Sunday - Tuesday, September 27-29.

Sunday:
- After coffee hour – steam, devein, make rice, set-up

Monday: help needed
- 7:00 a.m. mix meat/rice and make balls
- 8:00 a.m. roll/cook/cool halupki and clean up
- Possibly steam and devein after rolling, then clean up
- EVENING HELP NEEDED to pack and freeze 4 packs, and wrap and freeze large pans of halupki, some dishes/clean up involved

Tuesday: help needed
- 7:00 a.m. mix meat/rice and make balls
- 8:00 a.m. roll/cook/cool halupki and clean up
- EVENING HELP NEEDED to pack and freeze 4 packs, and wrap and freeze large pans of halupki, some dishes/clean up involved

Kitchen Schedule

Perogies for the Bazaar will be made the weeks of October 19, 20, 21 and November 9, 10, 11.

Lenten Pierogies will be made November 9, 2026. Please place orders by November 8. Sign up sheet is by the kitchen phone.

Christmas Bazaar Prep

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

In preparation for our Annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, December 12, we are looking for additional help with food preparation and packaging on the following dates:

- Kiffle Prep - Need 10 people After Coffee Hour on the following Sundays: 10/11, 10/25
- Kiffle Packaging - Need 4-5 People between 4 & 6 PM on the following Wednesdays: 10/14, 10/28
- Halupki Steaming/Deveining - Need 4-5 People After Coffee Hour Sunday 9/27
- Halupki Packaging - Need 4-5 People between 6 & 8 PM on Monday 9/28 & Tuesday 9/29

If you can lend a hand, please call or text me. As the saying goes "Many hands make light work."

Thank you,
Damian Vansuch (484-764-9712)

New Parish Directory Work Begins

This Fall we will be working on an updated Parish Directory, in the hopes of having it ready for distribution around the Nativity. If you are new and have not yet turned in a Contact Information Form, please do so ASAP. If you have recently moved, changed phone number or email, etc., please get those changes to Jennifer Bzik ASAP. In the coming weeks, we will hand out sheets to confirm the information that we have on file for each individual. The Directory project is a big undertaking, and the more helpful everyone is with getting information updated, the faster it will be to produce. Thank you all for your help!

Save the Date for Sunday, October 18, 2026
St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church
110th Anniversary Celebration

On Saturday October 17 we will be celebrating Rdr. John Heitzenrater's ordination to the Deaconate. To RSVP for his celebration please email john.heitzenrater@icloud.com.

To make reservations for our 110th Anniversary celebratory reception on Sunday, October 18, please sign up at the Candle Desk. You must list the names of the adults (number of adults) and number of children under the age of 12 so we have an exact count for the caterer. No reservations will be accepted after Sunday, October 4.

The $10 per adult nominal fee has been waived as an anonymous donor has stepped forward to cover the charge.

If you have signed up but have not yet received your tickets, please see Patty Felix.

Any questions please see Sandi Keysock or Patty Felix.

2027 Stewardship Envelopes

If you did not receive a box of personalized weekly Stewardship Envelopes in 2026 and would like to receive a box for 2027, please email Jennifer Bzik with your name and address no later than October 9, 2026. Please note that Stewardship Envelopes are not required to make donations, but are available for those who choose to use them. Thank you!

A Note of Thanks

We would like to thank Guliana for hosting our beautiful baby shower last week and our church family for celebrating Baby Sneket. We truly appreciate the love, support, and thoughtful gifts. We are so grateful for your generosity and feel blessed to be part of this amazing church family.

In Christ,
The Sneket Family

The Myrrh-Streaming Iveron Icon of the Theotokos from Hawaii

When: Saturday, October 10, 202610:00 AM

Where: Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Cathedral
109 Grand Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302.
Parking is available at St. Peter's Prep on Grand Street.

Service and anointing, with refreshments to follow

On Saturday morning, October 10, this diocese will be blessed by the presence of the miraculous Myrrh-Streaming Iveron Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos from Hawaii, and Saints Peter and Paul is the first stop on its visit. We will have a service before the icon, everyone present will be anointed with the myrrh, and refreshments will follow.

In June of 2008 the Holy Myrrh-Streaming Hawaiian Iveron Icon was officially recognized by the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia as miraculous and genuine, and given the blessing to travel to the churches and monasteries of Holy Orthodoxy. The icon continues to stream myrrh to this day.

If you belong to pan-Orthodox groups, or have friends who have never been inside an Orthodox church, please invite them. Parking is available at St. Peter's Prep.

2:00-4:30PM |FOLLOWED BY 5PM VESPERS

OCTOBER 10TH

Fellowship PICNIC

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FUN, POTLUCK, AND GAMES!

WHAT TO BRING?

FAMILY/FRIENDS
FOOD TO SHARE
GAMES

ST. NICHOLAS RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

O 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 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, Benjamin Peterson
Igumen: Patrick 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

Matushki: Liudmyla Breckenridge, Marie Mason, Johanna Bohush, Evelyn Edwards, Paraskeva Vansuch, Myra Kovalak, Gloria Martin, Rebekah Markewich, Mary Reynolds, Sophia Shadid, Katia Vansuch, Lisa Weremedic, Stephanie Onofrey, Susan Kon

Servants: Ann Marie Bretz, Bethany Bruder, Theresa Butler, Jennifer Bzik, Helen Cotirgasanu, David G. Cudlic, Val Danchenko, Alexis Defoe, Maryann Dudash, Christopher Felix, Nikolay Fetisov, Olga Frimenko, David Gowarty, Patricia Grammes, Rachel Hardesty, Luca Harford, 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, Austyn Mazur, Michael Metz, Lanelle Mikolaitis, Doina Marian, Kylie Pinho, Joseph Pinkowicz, Kiera Pheiffer, William Podlusky, Kathy Porter, William Potter, Laurel Riley, Valerie Roberts, Barbara Roman, Victoria Ross, Mary Ruzila, Connor Samuels, Robert Schainfeld, Catherine Shea, Janice Shumbata, Francine Slivka, Michael Slivka, Julia Smith, Maeve Stuckey, Heatherlyn Sturges, Jerry Volkert, Jerri Williams, Irene Witanek,

Catechumens: Seth Brady, Jared Buck, Jessica Clossey, Nicholas Heacock, Eli Lerch, Taylor Magditch, Kate Maritch, Luke Maritch, Anastasia Moore, Emily Moore, Isaac Moore, Józef Moore, Mariella Moore, Michael Moore, Thérèse Moore, Anastasia Quadrino, Cecilia Quadrino, Juliana Quadrino, Meghan Quadrino, Theodora Quadrino, Christian Reichert, Sean Seidel, Adam Smith,

Handmaidens:, , Juliane Metz, Amber Metz, Jess Sneket and their unborn children, Lydia Claycomb, Ruth Finlaw, Tanner Mazur Lisa Metz and their newborn children

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