

# **ST. NICHOLAS OF MYRA ORTHODOX CHURCH**

A PARISH OF THE AMERICAN CARPATHO-RUSSIAN ORTHODOX DIOCESE OF THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE 288 E. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10009

#### Sunday Divine Liturgy: <u>10 AM</u> Pastor: Rev. Fr. William Bennett

Cantor & Choir Director: Nicholas Timko Asst. Cantor: Reader Robert Zizik Hours: Reader Alexander Ioukliaevskikh



Church Phone #: 212-254-6685

Church Website: www.stnicholaschurchnyc.org Church Email: info@stnicholaschurchnyc.org

# WELCOME, ALL ST. NICHOLAS FAITHFUL & VISITORS!

*For Online Streaming Service:* 10 minutes prior to service, visit our website (<u>www.stnicholaschurchnyc.org</u>) and scroll down and press play on our live service feed. If using a smartphone, use our YouTube Channel: "St. Nicholas of Myra Orthodox Church NYC" At this time, we will livestream only for Lenten services, Saturday evening Vespers & Sunday morning Divine Liturgy. *Follow us on Facebook:* www.facebook.com/StNicholas10street / *Follow us on Instagram:* "10thSt.Orthodox"

# **LENTEN BLACK & WHITE EDITION** SUNDAY, APRIL 14th: Sunday of St. John Climacus

Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9:17-31 Troparia: p 44 (Tone 4), p 81-2 (St. John)

**SUNDAY OF ST. JOHN OF THE LADDER** is the fourth Sunday of Great Lent. It is the commemoration of the work of St. John Climacus, who was a monk at St. Catherine's Monastery on Mt. Sinai. The Monastery itself was built on the place where Moses encountered the living God through the burning bush. St. John wrote a particular book during this time there named The Ladder of Divine Ascent. This book serves as a spiritual and practical guide for monastics seeking to conquer the passions and grow in prayer, ascending, as it were, through spiritual struggle. May God bless and strengthen you, filling you with His grace to ascend from the world and her ways through prayer and love!

**HOLY COMMUNION** will be distributed toward the end of Divine Liturgy for all repentant Orthodox Christian faithful who are prepared. *If you would like to make a bread offering for a Liturgy, please see Fr. William.* 

**VENERATION OF THE HAND CROSS & BLESSED BREAD** is offered after Divine Liturgy for all faithful and visitors this morning. *May God grant you all many happy & blessed years!* 

**80th BIRTHDAY BLESSING OF MICHAEL KORMANIK** will take place at the end of Divine Liturgy. May God continue to bless Michael, his wife Evelyn, and all his beloved for many more happy & blessed years! *Mnohaja i Blahaja L'ita*!

#### THE GREAT FAST IS HERE: A REMINDER THAT CONFESSIONS ARE AVAILABLE

Fr. William will be available for confessions before Liturgy on Sundays, before & after Lenten services, and by appointment during the week. Let us begin to shine in spirit once again, being made free of the weight and stain of our own faults! "Lord, if you will, you can make me

**AN "ENHANCED" COFFEE HOUR** will take place after Divine Liturgy in honor of Michael's 80th Birthday. A special thank you to his wife Evelyn and all of Mike's family and friends who are contributing, and to everyone who makes it possible have coffee hour without fail, especially to our teams and Sunday regulars. *If you are not a part of a coffee hour team and would like to be, please see Debbie Derevjanik.* 



### **DURING THE WEEK**

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17th - PRE-SANCTIFIED LITURGY @ 7 PM w/ LITE

**MEAL:** We do not perform Divine Liturgy during the weekdays of Great Lent, being dedicated to more solemn celebration. That said, still desiring to receive the Body & Blood of Christ, we distribute "pre-sanctified" Holy Communion. \**Please fast from all food and drink before service, 3 hours or more. A common recommendation is from lunchtime onward, if able.* 

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 19th - PARAKLIS TO THE MOTHER OF GOD @ 7 PM

SATURDAY, APRIL 20th - DIVINE LITURGY @ 10 AM, LENTEN MISSION: St. Gregory of Nyssa Orthodox Church, 1100 Hicksville Road, Seaford, NY 11783. \*Holy Confession will be available before service.
- GREAT VESPERS @ 6 PM

### NEXT WEEK: SUNDAY, APRIL 21st

**HOLY COMMUNION** will be distributed toward the end of Divine Liturgy for all repentant Orthodox Christian faithful who are prepared. *If you would like to make a bread offering for a Liturgy, please see Fr. William.* 

**THE VENERATION CROSS & BLESSED BREAD** will be offered after Divine Liturgy for all faithful and visitors. *May God grant you all many happy & blessed years!* 

### PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

WE ARE CONTINUING TO SUPPORT THE FLEMINGTON AREA FOOD PANTRY! With the help and arrangement of Elizabeth Krzyzanowski, we will be donating our food collection going forward toward the food pantry in Flemington, NY. The parish will continue to make a dedicated push, please look to purchase something extra on your next grocery trip and bring it to our food bin in the #2 Hall.



MANY BLESSED YEARS! Last Sunday, Nathan Deutsch was received into the Catchumenate.

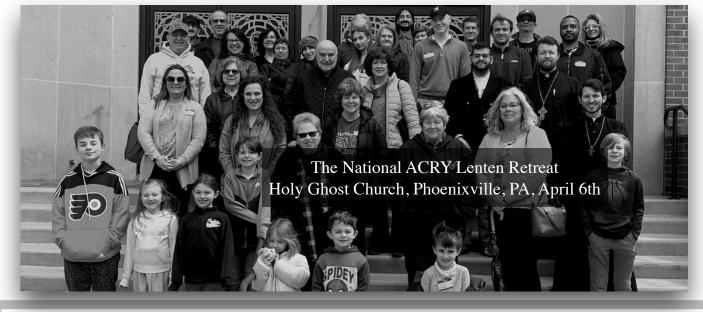
### **SPECIAL LENTEN COLLECTION: BABY SUPPLIES!**

As a special push during this lenten season, we are looking for donations of diapers (sizes 4, 5, & 6), perfume-free wipes, & baby formula to go towards families in need of them. These are often expensive items even for those without financial difficulties. We will be collecting throughout the lenten season.

**CONTRIBUTE TO OUR LENTEN MEMORIAL WALL!** During the Lenten season, we would like to remember our St. Nicholas family and friends who have departed with a memorial picture wall. *If you have a photo that you would like for us to include, please email it to Debbie Derevjanik - <u>debbiedev@verizon.net</u> or bring it to church any Sunday during Lent and we'll add it.* 

**BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES PRAYER LIST IS BEING RESET!** There is a birthday/anniversary form in the back of the church for the current church attending and their families. Please fill one out for you and your family to be prayed for in the Divine Liturgy each week when the special occasion comes around. The list will be officially reset by Pascha Sunday, May 5th. Submit a copy to the office or hand directly to Fr. William.

**CONTINUE TO HELP US WITH DRINK DONATIONS!** We are so grateful to the teams for providing refreshments each week. As we all have seen, food and supply prices have gone up. To help our teams, we are asking you for a little help. While *shopping*, *can you pick up a ready to pour (non-refrigerated) tea gallon*,





### FOLLOW THE DIOCESE ONLINE:

Diocesan Website: <u>www.acrod.org</u> Camp Nazareth: <u>www.campnazareth.org</u> Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/acroddiocese</u> Twitter: <u>http://twitter.com/acrodnews</u> YouTube: <u>https://youtube.com/acroddiocese</u>





### ST. NICHOLAS PARISH PRAYER LIST

For additions or updates, please contact Fr. William directly: <u>fr.william.bennett@gmail.com</u>

<u>CONTINUOUS</u>: Matuska Olga Andrejuk, David Bulko, Kim Busel, Peter & Maria Ceselka, Tony Ceselka, Stephanie Downes, Cassandra Eddy, Mary & Tommy Fackovec, Gia Fazio, Helen Gaydos, John Geida, Julius Gontkovsky, Olga Gubinski, Diana Hannan, Todd Henderson, Priest Joseph Hoffmann, Noah Homyak, Aleksandra Horbal, Luke Iera, Magdalena Ilanovska, Jana Johnson-Plutchok, Michael Kerr, Paul Koehler, Joanna Kolaczko, Maria Koneval, Michal Kormanik, Anka Ludwig, Anna Mamrillova, Alex & Holly Marchak, Luboš Matlak, Richard McCullough, Stephanie McNellis, Christine Merriam, Sean Merriam, Christine & Rick Martines, Lucia Matišinova, Deacon Michael Pirich, Gregory Rydzyk, Rastislav Salon, Anna Salony, John Salony, Stephanie Salony, Mary Seewald, Paul Sikoryak Sr, Toni Sikoryak, George Sipko, Michael Slavkovsky, Miroslav Strenk, Katherine Tam, Teri Upton, Tim Upton, Marek Vattek, Lorraina Vira, Ann Vislocky, Bill Vislocky, Sandy Wagner, Cathryn Walker, Dennis & Cathy Walsh, and Reader Bob & Debbie Zizik.

**ENGAGED:** Max Walker & Melia Summers

**EXPECTANT:** Robert & Kristin Stack Nicholas & Suzanne Spontak

#### **DIOCESAN CLERGY:**

Priest David Mastroberte Priest Luke Mihaly Protodeacon Emil Gulick

#### **CATECHUMENS:**

Ricardo Sullivan Nathan Deutsch John Stutts Donovan Valencia Rachel Soh Young Yi Nathan Mandell

**DEANERY CLERGY:** 

Priest Alexandre Ioukliaevskikh (NY, NY) Priest David Kossey (Yonkers, NY), for his Health and Salvation Priest Andrew Gromm (Seaford, NY)

**SEMINARIANS:** Nicholas Worobey, Seamus Murray, Ignatios Leonardo, Samuel Loposky, Timothy Paproski, Nicholas Fong, Nicolas Laliberte, & Alexander Hurtsellers. *That God may grant them many more blessed years, and for more vocations to the Priesthood!* 

**COLLEGE STUDENTS:** May God bless all of our parish college students both near & far, and members of Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF), especially the NYU OCF & Rutgers OCF. *Mnohaja i Blahaja L'ita!* 

**<u>BIRTHDAYS</u>**: May God grant many more happy & blessed years to those celebrating their birthdays this week, especially to Mike Kormanik, Ann Vislocky, Ava Karpiak, Audrey Rael, Elizabeth Seewald, & Renata Hubka! *Mnohaja i Blahaja L'ita*!

SPECIAL OCCASIONS: The Newly-Departed Servant of God +Gregory Dolhy. *Vičnaja Jemu Pamjat!* 

## HOLY FATHER NICHOLAS, PRAY TO GOD FOR US!





#### SPRING CLEANING OF THE SOUL By Fr. Konstantin Aristov

Each of us was once an innocent Adam or Eve. We were radiant, smiling, good-natured, gentle and trusting. It was in our childhood. But little by little sin distorted, corrupted and damaged us. We robbed ourselves...

And fasting is the time to return to the childhood state of Paradise. Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the Kingdom of Heaven (Mt. 18:3), Christ says. And perhaps that is why shortly before Great Lent the parable on the repentance of the prodigal son is read.

Fasting is a type of service of God, where the main goal is not to kill the flesh, but to subdue the insatiable body to the soul, rising it up and bringing it closer to Christ. As is said in the prayers of Baptism: "That he (she) may be no more a child of the body, but a child of Thy Kingdom", "that his (her) body may serve the rational soul."

Fasting is an arena of struggle. The same arena that is often heard about at services. In the spiritual ring the main Spectator and Judge is Christ, and there is only one player—man himself. And he fights not only with the devil—he fights even more with himself.

Fasting is a weapon against our passions, but how often it shoots at our neighbors and becomes a scourge for those around us when a Christian loses his strength and health from excessive abstinence, becoming angry and grumbling!

Fasting is a test of our faithfulness and love for God. The following parable comes to mind: *Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?* (Lk. 14:31). And the following words: *And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after Me, cannot be My disciple* (Lk. 14:27).

Fasting is a gift to the Savior, our tithe to Him for the year. But you can't decorate it with a wrapper of vanity and ribbons of pride. As any real gift, fasting should be presented with all your heart, not regretting the money and time spent.

Great Lent is a time for reflection and Divine contemplation. We sympathize with the suffering Christ and prepare to meet His Resurrection. If you remove the Cross and Pascha from fasting, such abstinence will be no different from the practices of Buddhism or Taoism. Even Lao-tzu some 500 years before the Birth of Christ said that a person must learn to control his desires. Fasting brings flowers to the soul! The soul can bloom like a spiritual bud if it is watered with living water—the Scriptures, and made fertile with the holy sacraments and prayer. But an ordinary plant fades with the onset of autumn, while a soul that has the Holy Spirit blooms forever.

Fasting is the renovation of the house of the soul. When someone begins to move old sofas and wardrobes, he suddenly discovers a lot of dust and other dirt. The Designer here is God; wallpaper, flooring and ceiling are His commandments; and the worker is man himself. After all, you must someday become what the greatest Artist and Creator intended you to be.

Who among us does not wash his jacket after being doused by a car? Or will he not clean his boots after stepping into the dung? Great Lent is the same washing machine, hard brush, spring cleaning and dry cleaning for the "clothes" of our soul. And each heart must choose a suitable remedy: a spiritual bleach, powder, or conditioner... And there is a remedy, and a universal one. Or rather He. His name is Jesus Christ.

(Taken from <u>www.orthochristian.com</u>)



## **CHURCH SERVICE & ACTIVITY CALENDAR**

**Note from Fr. William:** If you would like anyone remembered or prayed for during the course of the week or would like someone remembered in a memorial service, please see Fr. William or simply email: <u>fr.william.bennett@gmail.com</u>

# APRIL - JUNE 2024

\*Shaded areas indicate days of fasting

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
APR 14 SUNDAY OF <u>ST. JOHN CLIMACUS</u> Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM - 80th Birthday Blessing of Mike Kormanik	15	16	17 Presanctified Liturgy @ 7 PM, lite social to follow	18	19 Paraklis to the Mother of God @ 7 PM	20 NY DEANERY <u>MISSION</u> Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM, St. Gregory's, Seaford, NY - Great Vespers @ 6 PM
APR 21 SUNDAY OF <u>ST. MARY OF EGYPT</u> Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM	22	23	24 Presanctified Liturgy @ 7 PM, lite social to follow	25	26 Paraklis to the Mother of God @ 7 PM	27 <u>LAZARUS SATURDAY</u> Great Vespers @ 6 PM

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
APR 28 <u>PALM SUNDAY</u> Holy Baptism of Catechumen Donovan Valencia @ 9:30 AM - Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM - Blessing of Palms & Branches, to follow	29 HOLY <u>MONDAY</u> Bridegroom Matins @ 9am - Holy Presanctified Liturgy @ 7pm, lite social to follow	30 HOLY <u>TUESDAY</u> Bridegroom Matins @ 9am - Holy Presanctified Liturgy @ 7pm, lite social to follow	MAY 1 HOLY <u>WEDNESDAY</u> Bridegroom Matins @ 9am - Holy Unction Service @ 7pm	2 HOLY <u>THURSDAY</u> Vesperal Liturgy (a) 9am - Twelve Passion Gospels (a) 7pm, tomb decoration to follow	3 HOLY <u>FRIDAY</u> Burial Service & Procession @ 7pm	4 HOLY <u>SATURDAY</u> Vesperal Liturgy @ 9am - Resurrection Matins @ 7pm - Blessing of Baskets
MAY 5 <u>PASCHA</u> Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM - Blessing of Baskets	6 BRIGHT <u>MONDAY</u> Divine Liturgy @ 9am	<sup>7</sup> FAS	<sup>8</sup> <b>T-FRE</b>	9 E WEH	10 E <b>K</b>	11 Great Vespers @ 6 PM
MAY 12 <u>THOMAS SUNDAY</u> Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM - Mother's Day Blessings	13	14 Clergy Convocation @ Camp Nazareth	15 Clergy Convocation @ Camp Nazareth	16 Clergy Convocation @ Camp Nazareth	17 Clergy Convocation @ Camp Nazareth	18 Divine Liturgy @ 8 AM, St. Mary's, 7th St. - First Holy Confession - Great Vespers @ 6 PM
MAY 19 MYRRH-BEARING <u>WOMEN</u> Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM - First Holy Confession Celebration	20	21	22 Vespers, Meal, & Scripture @ 6 PM	23	24 STS CYRIL & METHO- DIUS	25 Great Vespers @ 6 PM
MAY 26 HEALING OF THE <u>PARALYTIC</u> Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM	27 Memorial Day	28	29 Vespers, Meal, & Scripture @ 6 PM	30	31	JUNE 1 Divine Liturgy @ 8 AM, St. Mary's, 7th St. - Great Vespers @ 6 PM

### TRZASKA FUNERAL HOME, INC.

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