

ST. NICHOLAS OF MYRA ORTHODOX CHURCH PASCHAL CHURCH BULLETIN

TWO-WEEK EDITION: SUNDAY, APRIL 16th & APRIL 23rd



CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!
CHRISTOS VOSKRESE! VOISTINU VOSKRESE!





Office of the Metropolitan 312 Garfield Street Johnstown, PA 15906

April 16, 2023

Protocol No. 6/2023

PASCHA ARCHPASTORAL LETTER

To the Very Reverend Protopresbyters, Very Reverend and Reverend Fathers, and Faithful (young and old) of our God-Protected Diocese:

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED, HE IS RISEN!

CHRISTOS VOSKRESE! VOISTINNU VOSKRESE!

CHRISTOS ANESTI! ALITHOS ANESTI!

On this great and glorious Feast of Pascha — the Resurrection of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ, our hearts are filled with tremendous joy, our souls are transformed and we bask in the Light of Truth. This year I want to share with you an excerpt from an inspiring, uplifting and brilliant homily of our Father among the Saints, Gregory of Nyssa.

"The reign of life has begun, the tyranny of death is ended. A new birth has taken place, a new life has come, a new order of existence has appeared, our very nature has been transformed! This birth is not brought about by human generation, by the will of man, or by the desire of the flesh, but by God.

If you wonder how, I will explain in clear language. Faith is the womb that conceives this new life, baptism the rebirth by which it is brought forth into the light of day. The Church is its nurse; her teachings are its milk, the bread from heaven is its food. It is brought to maturity by the practice of virtue; it is wedded to wisdom; it gives birth to hope. Its home is the kingdom; its rich inheritance the joys of Paradise; its end, not death, but the blessed and everlasting life prepared for those who are worthy.

This is the day the Lord has made — a day far different from those made when the world was first created and which are measured by the passage of time. This is the beginning of a new creation. On this day, as the prophet says, God made a new heaven and a new earth. What is this new heaven? you may ask. It is the firmament of our faith in Christ. What is this new earth? A good heart, a heart like the earth, which drinks up the rain that falls on it and yields a rich harvest.

In this new creation, purity of life is the sun, the virtues are the stars, transparent goodness is in the air, and the depths of the riches of wisdom and knowledge, the sea. Sound doctrine, the divine teachings are the grass and plants that feed God's flock, the people whom He shepherds; the keeping of the commandments is the fruit borne by the trees.

On this day is created the true man, the man made in the image and likeness of God. For this day that the Lord has made is the beginning of this new world. Of this day the prophet says that it is not like other days, nor is this night like other nights. But still we have not spoken of the greatest gift it has brought us. This day destroyed the pangs of death and brought forth birth of the firstborn of the dead.

I ascend to my Father and to Your Father, to my God and to your God. O what wonderful news! He who for our sake became like us in order to make us His brothers, now presents to His true Father His own humanity in order to draw all His kindred up after Him."

PERSONAL GREETINGS

May all the Clergy and Laity, Friends and Supporters of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese of North America experience the love, joy and excitement of the early followers of Christ when they first saw Him following His Resurrection. Christ is Risen!

Greetings from Johnstown with much love,

+Metropolitan Gregory of Nyssa

+ Metropolitan Xhegory

To be read as the sermon in all churches of the Diocese at Resurrection Matins and the Divine Liturgy on the Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ.

THE RESURRECTION HOMILY

As composed by Archbishop John Chrysostom, Patriarch of Constantinople in the 4th & 5th Centuries, & read worldwide even to this day at the celebration of the Resurrection.

Let all pious men and all lovers of feast; let the wise servants blissfully those who have borne the burden of who have toiled since the first hour, reward; let any who came after the feast, and those who may have come of being late, for the Lord is gracious first. He gives rest to him who comes who has toiled since the first: yes, He first; He rewards the one and is deed and praises the effort. Come all:



God rejoice in the splendor of this enter into the joy of their Lord; let Lent now receive their pay, and those let them now receive their due third hour be grateful to join in the after the sixth, let them not be afraid and He receives the last even as the in the eleventh hour as well as to him has pity on the last and He serves the generous to the other; He repays the enter into the joy of your Lord. You

the first and you the last, receive alike your reward; you rich and you poor, dance together; you sober and you weakling, celebrate the day; you who have kept the fast and you who have not, rejoice today. The table is richly laden: enjoy its royal banquet. The calf is a fatted one: let no one go away hungry. All of you enjoy the banquet of faith; all of you receive the riches of His goodness. Let no one grieve over his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed; let no one fear death, for the death of our Saviour has set us free: He has destroyed it by enduring it, He has despoiled Hades by going down into its kingdom, He has angered it by allowing it to taste of His flesh. When Isaiah foresaw all of this, he cried out: "O Hades, you have been angered by encountering Him in the nether world." Hades is angered because it has been destroyed, it is angered because it has been reduced to naught, it is angered because it is now captive. It seized a body, and lo! It discovered God; it seized earth, and behold! It encountered heaven; it seized the visible, and was overcome by the invisible.

O death, where is your sting?
O Hades, where is your victory?
Christ is risen and you are abolished;
Christ is risen and the demons are cast down;
Christ is risen and the angels rejoice;
Christ is risen and life is freed;
Christ is risen and the tomb is emptied of the dead:

For Christ, being risen from the dead, has become the Leader and Reviver of those who had fallen asleep. To Him be glory and power unto ages of ages. Amen.



ST. NICHOLAS OF MYRA ORTHODOX CHURCH

A PARISH OF THE AMERICAN CARPATHO-RUSSIAN ORTHODOX DIOCESE OF THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE

288 E. 10th Street, New York, NY 10009



Sunday Divine Liturgy: 10 AM

Pastor: Rev. Fr. William Bennett Cantor & Choir Director: Nicholas Timko Asst. Cantor: Reader Robert Zizik **Hours: Reader Alexander Ioukliaevskikh**

Church Phone #: 212-254-6685

WELCOME, ALL ST. NICHOLAS FAITHFUL & VISITORS!

For Online Streaming Service: 10 minutes prior to service, visit our website (www.stnicholaschurchnyc.org) 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"

APRIL 16th, 2023: GREAT & HOLY PASCHA!

Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 **Gospel:** John 1:1-17 **Troparia:** p 49-51

TODAY: SUNDAY, APRIL 16th

PASCHA is the Feast of feasts, the Joy of joys, the Celebration of celebrations. Pascha, or Passover (in Hebrew, Pesach), is the culmination of everything God has been preparing us for throughout the scriptures. In Egypt, Death passed over those marked with the blood of the lamb, freeing those who were captive there and bringing them to Himself. Now the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ, sheds His Blood for the forgiveness of sins and for live everlasting. In His life-giving Death, He descended into Hades and broke the bonds of those held captive, rendering Hell itself helpless. Through Christ's rising on the Third Day and taking up His Own life, Death now passes over to become the path to eternal life. Now all who live in Christ, who bind ourselves to Him and die to the world, experience the joys of paradise even now. Through even our own death, we become bound to God Himself and eternal life. In that spirit, we say with all joy: "Christ is Risen!" And we affirm and celebrate "Indeed He is Risen!"

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. There are bread stamps available for purchase on the gift case and recipes alongside.

THE ST. NICHOLAS CHOIR will be leading Divine Liturgy today. If you would like to participate, please come up to the choir loft and join us! May God grant to our director Nick Timko and to all the members many blessed years! Mnohaja i Blahaja L'ita!

FESTIVE ANOINTING OIL (MIROVANIJE) & BLESSED BREAD is offered after Divine Liturgy for all faithful and visitors this morning. May God grant you all many happy & blessed years!

BLESSING OF PASCHAL BASKETS, in addition to Saturday night's blessing in the Main Hall, will take place following Divine Liturgy today. Place all baskets on and around the tomb, or even along the side of the aisle, if necessary.



COFFEE HOUR will take place after Divine Liturgy in the Main Hall, all are invited downstairs. Join us! And a special thank you to the Altar Society and all the coffee hour teams who make it possible today. If you are not part of a coffee hour team and would like to be, please contact Debbie at debbiedev@verizon.net COFFEE APPEAL! We are in need of coffee donations, please bring in ground coffee.

THANK YOU FOR BRINGING DESSERTS! After Divine Liturgy, we look forward to a simple (yet awesome) dessert table supplied by...you. With desserts on a disposable tray or dish, cut and ready to go for the table, we can go downstairs, eat, enjoy, and go home with little to no clean-up.

DURING THAT WEEK:

BRIGHT MONDAY, APRIL 17th - DIVINE LITURGY @ 9 AM, with Gospel Procession to follow.

BRIGHT SATURDAY, APRIL 22nd - GREAT VESPERS @ 6 PM

THOMAS SUNDAY, APRIL 23rd:

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ARTOS BREAD: All week long, like the Risen Lord, the *Artos* bread that was blessed at the end of Resurrection Matins remained with us in the Church. At holy anointing after Liturgy, it will be distributed as *antidoron*, or *ofera*, the blessed bread for all faithful and visitors to take.

PANACHIDA will be celebrated for the handmaiden of God +Mary Ceselka Zizik, offered by son Bob & Debra Zizik as a 5th Anniversary Remembrance. *May her memory be eternal! Christos Voskrese!*

BLESSING OF GRAVES is scheduled to take place this Sunday following Divine Services. Join us after Liturgy at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, 6540 Grand Avenue, Maspeth, NY 11378, all other places will be by appointments made with Fr. William. *We will also be placing many of the newly-made Pysanky at the graves as part of our Resurrection announcement. Join us!*



DURING THAT WEEK:

TUES., APRIL 25th THRU FRI., APRIL 28th - CLERGY CONVOCATION @ CAMP NAZARETH

SATURDAY, APRIL 29th - GREAT VESPERS @ 6 PM

REMINDER: THERE IS NO KNEELING IN CHURCH SERVICES UNTIL THE KNEELING PRAYERS OF PENTECOST IN 50 DAYS, FOR CHRIST IS RISEN!



SUNDAY OF THE HOLY MYRRHBEARERS, APRIL 30th:

FIRST HOLY CONFESSION CELEBRATION will take place for those who participated in their first Holy Confession the previous day, and we join with them all in the Liturgy, asking God to grant them many blessed years! *Christos Voskrese!*

PARASTAS will be celebrated for the servant of God +Jan Hubka Sr., offered by son Jan Hubka Jr. & family as a 40th Day Remembrance. *May his memory be eternal! Christos Voskrese!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:



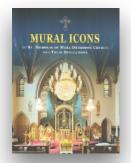
BANS OF MARRIAGE are hereby announced for the first time for **Robert Stack Jr. & Kristin Finan**. Their marriage is scheduled to take place here at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church on Saturday, May 6th, 2023 at 1 PM. If anyone is aware of any canonical impediment that would preclude this couple from entering the Sacrament of Marriage, let them notify Fr. William beforehand.

PREPARING TO RECEIVE SEMINARIAN GRADUATE DYLAN KELEMECZ! It is a privilege and a joy to receive in the coming weeks a graduate seminarian, Subdeacon Dylan, who will live with us for four months in the church and receive further pastoral experience. Dylan grew up at St. Michael's Orthodox Church in Binghamton, NY and received his seminary education from Christ the Saviour Seminary in Johnstown, PA. Thank God for the Altar Society volunteers for their help and for Bob & Debra Zizik, who have been sponsors of his stay. May God grant them and Subdeacon Dylan many happy and blessed years! Christos Voskrese!



THANK YOU FOR BUYING PIROHI & SUPPORTING THE CHURCH! The Pirohi are gone but they live on in our hearts (and bellies). We look forward to your help in the future. May God grant you many blessed years for your support of the Bride of Christ, the Church, and all the wonderful workers in the church who make it happen. *Christos Voskrese!*

YOU CAN STILL ADD TO OUR FOOD COLLECTION! We continue to support the North Rockland Food Pantry, who alone serves 100+ families EACH week. Please remember those less fortunate and help us feed the hungry. May God bless you for your generous donations! If you prefer to make a monetary donation, we will be happy to do the shopping for you. Please submit donations to Board Chairman Bob Zizik, and thank you to Bob for all that he does to head this and make this happen!



MURAL ICONS BOOKLET - \$25: Copies of this newly-published booklet are still available for purchase at today's coffee hour. This published booklet is a compilation of the mural icons of St. Nicholas Church, photographed together with their dedications and their backgrounds. This was put together with good work done by Junior Trustee Andrew McAusland, Trustee Bogdan Horbal, Photography by Paul Krzyzanowski, and edited by Jeffrey Paison. Thank you to all of them for their work! All proceeds will be put toward upcoming projects for the parish, including the creation of a new St. Nicholas Parish Honor Roll, which is currently 'rolling'.



ST. NICHOLAS PARISH PRAYER LIST

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

Continuous: Phyllis Kanya Adams, Matuska Olga Andrejuk, Walter Bubniak, David Bulko, Kim Busel, Bianca Ceselka, Peter & Maria Ceselka, Tony Ceselka, Michal Derevjanik Sr., Pani Kathy Dutko, Cassandra Eddy, Mary & Tommy Fackovec, Gia Fazio, Charlie & Helen Gaydos, John Geida, Julius Gontkovsky, Olga Gubinski, Danny Halama, Diana Hannan, Priest Joseph Hoffmann, Noah Homyak, Magdalena Ilanovska, Jana Johnson-Plutchok, Sharon Kanya, Michael Kerr, Paul Koehler, Maria Koneval, Betty Kormanik, Michal Kormanik, Barry Lerner, Ann Mammoliti, Anna Mamrillova, Alex & Holly Marchak, Kamila Matišinova, Luboš Matlak, Richard McCullough, Stephanie McNellis, Christine Merriam, Sean Merriam, Christine & Rick Martines, Lucia Matišinova, John Ochlan, Stephen Pezzulich, Deacon Michael Pirich, Rastislav Salon, John Salony, Mary Seewald, Paul Sikoryak Sr, Toni Sikoryak, George Sipko, Miroslav Strenk, Katherine Tam, Paul Tymus Sr, Teri Upton, Tim Upton, Lorraina Vira, Marek Vattek, Bill Vislocky, Catherine Vislocky, Sandy Wagner, Cathryn Walker, Dennis & Cathy Walsh, and Reader Bob & Debbie Zizik. For those suffering from the invasion of Ukraine. For those suffering from the earthquakes in Syria & Turkey.

ENGAGED:

Andrew Timko & Erin McDonald Benjamin Worobey & Sophia Timko Robert Stack Jr. & Kristin Finan

DIOCESAN CLERGY:

Priest Demetrious Glimidakis Priest Kevin Greenwood Deacon Robert Conjelko

Catechumens:

Richard John Stutts Donovan Valencia

DEANERY CLERGY:

Priest Alexandre Ioukliaevskikh (NY, NY) Priest David Kossey (Yonkers, NY) Priest Andrew Gromm (Seaford, NY)

SEMINARIANS: Thomas Kovalak, Nicholas Worobey, Seamus Murray, Thomas Slosky, Samuel Loposky, Timothy Paproski, Nicholas Fong, & Nicolas Laliberte. *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.

<u>BIRTHDAYS:</u> May God grant many more happy & blessed years to those celebrating their birthdays this week, especially to Audrey Rael, Renata Hubka, Philip Kortak, Giana Mammoliti, Vladimir Timko, & John McAusland! *Mnohaja i Blahaja L'ita! Christ is Risen!*

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O HOLY FATHER NICHOLAS, WONDERWORKER OF MYRA, PRAY TO THE LORD GOD FOR US!



FOLLOW THE DIOCESE ONLINE:

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



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: fr.william.bennett@gmail.com

APRIL - JUNE 2023

*Shaded areas indicate days of fasting

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
APR 16 HOLY PASCHA Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM - Blessing of Baskets - Dessert Table (No Class)	17 BRIGHT MONDAY Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM	FA	ST-FF	REE W	VEEK	22 Great Vespers @ 6pm
23 THOMAS SUNDAY Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM - PANACHIDA for +Mary Zizik - Blessing of Graves @ Mt. Olivet Cemetery (No Class)	24	25 Clergy Convocation @ Camp Nazareth	26 Clergy Convocation @ Camp Nazareth	27 Clergy Convocation @ Camp Nazareth	Clergy Convocation @ Camp Nazareth	29 First Holy Confessions - Great Vespers @ 6pm
30 MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM - First Holy Confession Celebration - 40th DAY PARASTAS for Jan Hubka Sr.	MAY 1	2	3	4	5	6 Marriage of Robert Stack Jr. & Kristin Finan @ 1pm - *No Vespers
7 HEALING OF THE PARALYTIC Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM	8	9	10	11	12	13 Great Vespers @ 6pm
14 THE SAMARITAN WOMAN Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM - Mother's Day Blessing	15	16	17	18	19	20 Great Vespers @ 6pm

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
21 HEALING OF THE BLIND MAN Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM	22	Great Vespers & Divine Liturgy @ 6 PM	24 STS CYRIL & METHODIUS - Great Vespers & Divine Liturgy @ 6 PM	25 FEAST OF ASCENSION	26	27 Marriage of Andrew Timko & Erin McDonald - Great Vespers @ 6pm
28 FATHERS OF THE 1st ECUMENICAL COUNCIL Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM	29	30	31	JUNE 1	2	3 STS CONSTANTINE & HELEN Divine Liturgy @ 8 AM
4 PENTECOST Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM	5 SPIRIT MONDAY	FA	ST-FR	REE W	⁹ /EEK	10
11 ALL SAINTS DAY Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM	12 Apostles' Fast Begins	13	14	15	16	17
CARPATHO-RUSYN SAINTS DAY Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM - Father's Day Blessing	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM	26	27	28	29	30	JULY I
2 SUMMER HOURS: Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM	3	4	5	6	7 NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST	8

TRZASKA FUNERAL HOME, INC.

ALEXANDER MARCHAK, JR. – Licensed Funeral Director & Owner Services available whenever and wherever needed 1275 - 65th St (Corner of 13th Ave), BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11219 Family Owned & Operated since 1924 Large Parking Area 718-748-4860

WITH SPECIAL THANKS FOR YOUR PASCHAL DONATIONS

ITEM	DONATED BY	FOR
14 Decorated Candles on Main Altar	Lillian Benc	In Memory of Husband +Andrey Benc
6 Main Altar Candles	Charles J. Honara	Christos Voskrese! In Memory of Parents +Charles & Helen, and Brother Steven.
Triple Bar Cross of Votives (Lord's Side)	Zizik & Fornazor Families	In Memory of Parents & Grandparents +M/M Peter Ceselka
Triple Bar Cross of Votives (Theotokos Side)	Bob & Debbie Zizik	In Memory of Parents +Frank & Mary Zizik, and Uncle John & Aunt Helen Fornazor
2 Large Side Altar Candles (Christ in Garden)	Lillian Benc	In Memory of Departed Members of the Benc, Bulko, & Kramer Families
2 Large Side Altar Candles (Baptism of Christ)	Evelyn & Mike Kormanik	In Memory of the Beattie, Gidicsin, Spontak, & Kormanik Families
Nativity Vigil Light, Side Altar	Anna & Richard Vislocky	For the Health of the Vislocky & Benyo Families
Resurrection Vigil Light, Side Altar	Anna & Richard Vislocky	In Memory of parents +Anna & John Benyo, +Charles & Anna Vislocky
Sacramental Wine	Helenka & Paul Tymus	For the Health of Granddaughter Stella Prokos
Festive Oil	Stephanie Salony	In Memory of Parents +Michael & Anna Salony
4 Vigil Lights, Top of Round Votive Stands	Joanne & Lorraine Medvecky	In Memory of the Medvecky & Yanoscik Families
Eternal Lamp, Center of Church	Jane & Vasil Rusinak and Family	In Loving Memory of +Vasil Rusinak Sr. and John & Anna Strenk.
Charcoal	Iveta Canjura	In Memory of the Halama Family
Altar Boy Candles	M/M John Mcausland, Andrew & Michael	For all St. Nicholas Altar Boys, young & old
Incense	M/M John Mcausland, Andrew & Michael	In Memory of Father +Andrey Benc and grandparents, for the Bulko, Kramere, & Benc families.

MAY GOD GRANT TO ALL DONORS
MANY HAPPY AND BLESSED YEARS!
CHRISTOS VOSKRESE!
CHRIST IS RISEN!



WE HAVE A CUSTOM NEW CANDLE-HOLDER! May God grant many blessed years to Subdeacon John Barone, who fashioned and donated a beautiful custom rack for the altar server candles. The rack was permanently installed in altar. God bless the working and talented hands of our parish family and friends!

CONGRATULATIONS TO MICHAEL SEEWALD! In March, Michael attended the 2023 National Masters Weightlifting Championships and came away with three medals: Silver in the Snatch, Bronze in the Clean & Jerk, and Silver in the Overall Total. We look forward to Michael's participation in the Pan-American Championships in Orlando

toward the end of May. May God grant him and his growing family strength, health, and long life for many blessed years!







THANKS BE TO GOD FOR OUR LAZARUS SATURDAY & HOLY THURSDAY

VOLUNTEERS! These were beautiful days to show some additional love for God's house with some cleaning, the binding of branches for Palm Sunday's celebration, and finally the decorating of our Lord's tomb. May God grant to all many blessed years! Christos Voskrese! Christ is Risen!









