

ST. NICHOLAS NEWS

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ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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April 21, 2013

REMEMBERING ST. MARY OF EGYPT

PARISH CALENDAR HI-LITES

The Holy Week schedule will be different, so when that time comes you will want to check it out.

Sun., Apr. 21 **Holy Mother Mary of Egypt**

9:30 Divine Liturgy - Special Sheet

Church School - Elementary

Parish Board Meets

3:00 PM **Vespers - St. John the Baptist, Nesquehoning.**

Wed., Apr. 24 **Martyred Bishop Antipas**

5:30 PM **Confessions**

6:00 PM **Presanctified Liturgy.**

Fri., Apr. 26 **Martyred Priest Artemon et al.**

5:30 PM **Confessions**

6:00 PM **Presanctified Liturgy**

Sat., Apr. 27 **LAZARUS SATURDAY**

9:00 AM **Divine Liturgy**

10:00 AM *Church Spring Cleaning*

4:30 PM **Confessions**

5:00 PM **Great Vespers and Litija**

Sun., Apr. 28 **PALM (FLOWERY) SUNDAY**

9:30 Divine Liturgy - Special Sheet

Church School - Jr./Sr. Hi School

2:00 PM **Confessions - St. George, Taylor**

3:00 PM **Vespers - St. George, Taylor**

FEASTS . . . & FASTS

LENT ENDS THIS FRIDAY, APRIL 26.

LAZARUS SATURDAY AND PALM SUNDAY are days of rejoicing, and the Fast is mitigated (lessened). The Traditional Rules say you may eat oil, wine and fish on these days. If you are not yet keeping the Traditional Fast, you may "step up" two steps on this day. For instance, if you are fasting from meat and dairy only, you may eat meat.

FOR HOLY WEEK:

TRADITIONAL RULES: On Great Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and especially Holy & Great Friday, **STRICT FAST** (no meat, dairy, wine or oil products). In addition, some people fast completely on these days, or eat only cold vegetables.

On Great Thursday, wine and oil are permitted because of the celebration of the Divine Liturgy of the Last Supper.

On Great Saturday, wine is permitted, but no oil. Usually there is no sit-down meal this day.

DIOCESAN RULES require the following: for Holy Week: Monday through Thursday, no meat. Great Friday and Holy Saturday, **STRICT FAST**.

BRIGHT WEEK:

From Pascha through Thomas Sunday, there is *no fast* permitted, even on Wednesday or Friday, as we celebrate the great joy of our salvation in the Resurrection.

Please note: The "traditional rules" regarding fasting published here have been very simplified from the actual rules.

DURING GREAT LENT:

EVERYONE IS ENCOURAGED TO DO MORE THAN THE MINIMUM, AS MUCH AS YOU ARE ABLE. PLEASE REMEMBER THAT TOGETHER WITH FASTING, WE ARE CALLED ESPECIALLY TO GIVE ALMS - I.E., GIVE TO THE POOR - DURING THIS SEASON.

COMMUNION FASTING:

For the reception of Holy Eucharist in the morning, we must fast from bed-time until we receive, as usual. To receive Holy Eucharist in the evening (for instance, at the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts), we must fast for *at least 3 hours before the beginning of the service.* ESSENTIALLY, THIS MEANS NOT EATING AFTER LUNCH UNTIL YOU RECEIVE THE EUCHARIST, IF POSSIBLE. Of course, those who are under a doctor's care or are infirm must follow the doctor's orders. If you have any question about this, please see me.

GRAVE VIGIL There is a sign-up sheet in the hall. Take an hour or so on Great Friday evening or Great Saturday to spend in prayer before the Tomb of Our Lord.

PEOPLE STUFF

Please remember in your prayers:

Deceased: Fr. Stephen Kundla.

Living: Stephanie Bonk. Gloria Bracey. Mary Chupron. Susan Danchak. Louis, Terri Nicholas & Norah Anne DiMichele. Michael Danchak. Robert & Eddie Hawley. Michael Hrywnak. John, Jen, Ashley, Shelby and John Michael Hrywnak. Lorraine Kacaba. Anna Mae Kuklis. Dee Lositski. Peggy Majcher. Emma Sacco. Amy Shimo. Connie Lou Slater. Jeff Thomas. Ann Marie Tigue. Gary Wassel. Julia Worobey.

At Home: Michael Andreosky. Elizabeth Basalyga. Steve & Julie Roberts. George & Anna Senich. Kathryn Stocoski.

In Assisted Living Homes: Julie Kovacs. Irene Munchak. Julie Soares.

Altar Vigil Candles: Memory of Mary Snell - Bill & Carol Wassel & family.

Eternal Light: Memory of Mary Snell - Bill & Carol Wassel & family.

Panachida: Just a reminder: there are no memorial or anniversary Panachidas celebrated from Palm Sunday through Thomas Sunday.

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND HIS CHURCH

April 14, 2013

\$ 1045.00	General Collection
\$ 41.00	1st Sunday
\$ 99.00	7 Day Light
\$ 36.00	Holy Days
\$ 996.00	Pirohi
\$ 2.00	Maintenance & Repairs
\$ 7.00	Eternal Light
\$ 223.00	Easter Flowers
\$ 100.00	Donation Memory of Kathryn Derenick
\$ 257.00	Patriarchal Pence
\$ 2806.00	Total Collection

PARISH EVENTS

Jr Hi/Hi School Class- meets next Sunday

Men's Club meets today. The new officers will take their oath of office at that time.

Pussy Willow Call! We are asking that anyone who has pussy willows to donate them for Palm Sunday. Just cut them and bring them on Sunday. You may need to hurry – they are almost done.

Church School - Elementary meets *today* Once again, I emphasize the value of Church School for helping our children know and keep their faith!

Church Easter Cleaning RESCHEDULED! To this Saturday, April 27, Lazarus Saturday, between Divine Liturgy and Vespers. I know it is late in the season, but we ask anyone who can to come down and help!

RUMMAGE SALE/ETHNIC FOODS Saturday, July 13th. and make it a Rummage sale and Ethnic foods. The Altar Society asks that you start bringing your gently-used items as soon as you can and we will begin storing them.

Clothes must be clean and in slightly used condition and they are seeking larger sizes. Other household

items in good condition are accepted.

Please look for a sign-up sheet in the hall so you can let us know when you will be able to work the day of the sale.

COMING UP SOON!

Lenten Deanery Missions. Upcoming:

- Nesquehoning: Sunday, April 21 – Vespers @ 3:00 PM. (Fr. Deacon Ted Worobey preaching)
- Taylor, Sunday, April 28 – Confessions @ 2:00 PM and Vespers @ 3:00 PM. (Fr. Nik Preaching).

3rd Annual International Children's Classic Golf Tournament: St. Michael's in Binghamton will again be the host of the Third Annual International Children's Classic Golf tournament.

See flyer in hall for information. Also, please feel free to contact Dr. Nicholas Seketa, chairperson of the event, if you have any questions. You can reach him by e-mail at NFSeketa@gmail.com or by phone at (607) 729-0261.

BYZANTINE ICON WRITING WORKSHOP FOR BEGINNERS

May 20-25, 2013

St. Andrei icon studio, Scranton, Pa. No art experience is needed. small group.

Experience the beauty and power of the traditional spiritual art of symbolic icon writing. You will be taught the ancient technique of writing (painting) icons using egg tempera with gold leaf on wooden board. Also you will learn the explanation of sacred iconology.

6-day icon writing workshop for beginners and intermediate students.. We will be writing the Icon of Archangel Michael for beginners on 9 x 12 icon board.

Instructor is iconographer nina kouznetsov. Her website is iconclasses.org. More information - please call 570-342-2921 or e-mail contact@iconclasses.org.

See the flyer in the hall.

Camp Nazareth Family Camp May 31 - June 2.

This sounds like a great opportunity for families to enjoy. A variety of activities and events has been

planned to allow families the opportunity to learn together, have fun together, pray together and simply be together in the peaceful environment of the Camp. Families will be staying together, and have to themselves, a Camp cabin; plenty of space to rest and relax and simply be together during and after the weekend's festivities. Any questions? See campnazareth.org, or if you like speaking to human beings, call Fr. Steve Loposky, Camp Director, at 724-662-4840. Please see the flyer in the hall.

THE NATIONAL JUNIOR ACRY SPONSORED CAMP ESSAY CONTEST

Camp Nazareth is a place we all like to go, especially for the summer. The Jr. ACRY Board offers a full camper-ship to a Jr. ACRY member, or a half camper-ship to a non-Jr. ACRY member, who writes the best essay on this year's topic. The essay must be 200 words or less, and sent to the President of the National Jr. ACRY by the Friday of the Bowling Tournament (May 24, 2013). The Jr. ACRY board will decide the winner at the Bowling Tournament.

- Who can enter? ANYONE, whether a Jr. ACRY Member or not. What is the topic? Write about last year's camp theme: Matthew 19:17- "If you would enter life, keep the commandments."
- Who do I mail it to? National Jr. ACRY President Tim Paproski. 1194 Broadbridge Ave. Stratford, CT 06615. [jracy.president@gmail.com](mailto:jracry.president@gmail.com).
- Please write your name, address, telephone number, and chapter number on the back of the essay so the board can judge fairly.
- The winner will be notified at the Bowling Tournament, or after if not present.
- Entries must be received by the start of the National Jr. Board meeting on Friday, May 24, 2013 to be considered.

Yours in Orthodoxy,

The National Jr. ACRY Board

2013 DIOCESAN ALTARBOY RETREAT will take place from Sunday June 30- Wed July 3, 2013 at Christ the Saviour Seminary and Cathedral. More details and registration information will be coming soon.

The Boston Bombing: *Metropolitan Methodios, Greek Orthodox Bishop of Boston*, was part of the inter-faith service held in remembrance of those who died this past Monday at the Boston Marathon. I think his words are especially relevant:

This past Monday, a day rich with symbolism, an horrific act of terrorism wounded the heart and soul of our city and our nation. Thousands from throughout the world were in Boston as participants and spectators of the marathon which, as we all know, recalls the run of Phillipides from the ancient city of Marathon to Athens to announce the victory of Greece over the forces of an empire that devalued freedom, human dignity and democracy. The Boston marathon always coincides with Patriots Day, when we commemorate the battles of Lexington and Concord, the first of the American Revolution. Sadly it was on Patriot's Day—when we celebrate the values of freedom and democracy, and the fiercely independent spirit of America—that evil reared its ugly head once again and countless innocent men, women and children fell victim to a senseless and unspeakable act of brutality. But we know that bombs of terrorism may kill and injure, but they cannot crush the American spirit.

Today we thank Cardinal O'Malley for opening the embrace of his Cathedral to all of us... to President Obama, to Governor Patrick, to Mayor Menino; to all who are in the public service; to the religious leaders of the Commonwealth; to every citizen, regardless of creed. We gather as a community—as brothers and sisters in the household of God—to bow our heads in solemn prayer for the repose of the souls of three innocent victims whose lives were violently taken, and for the countless victims who will bare painful wounds for the rest of their lives.

We come today to thank God for the police and firefighters, the National Guard, the doctors and nurses—for all who responded selflessly and courageously.

We pray that our gracious, loving, compassionate and merciful God, the Healer of our souls and bodies watch over us and comfort us in our hour of pain. May He who is the Prince of peace bring peace to our souls and to our community. And may almighty God bless America!

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