

ST. NICHOLAS NEWS

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ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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April 7, 2013

THE ANNUNCIATION TO HOLY MARY THEOTOKOS BY THE ARCHANGEL GABRIEL
VENERATION OF THE PRECIOUS AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS

PARISH CALENDAR HI-LITES

Reminder: Confessions on Wednesdays & Fridays are at 5:30 PM. Service begins at 6:00 PM.

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

Sun., Apr. 7 **Feast of the Annunciation. Veneration of the Holy Cross**

9:30 Divine Liturgy - Special Sheet

Church School - Elementary

Altar Society meets.

3:00 PM Moleben to the Holy Cross - St. Mary's, Dickson City.

Wed., Apr. 10 Monk Hilarion

8 AM Pirohi Prep

5:30 PM Confessions

6:00 PM Presanctified Liturgy.

Thu., Apr. 11 Martyred Monk Mark

8 AM Pirohi Making

Fri., Apr. 12 Monk John Climacus

9:30 AM - 4:30 PM Pirohi Sale

5:30 PM Confessions

6:00 PM Presanctified Liturgy

Sat., Apr. 13 **All-Souls Saturday.**

**9 AM Divine Liturgy &
Reading of Hramoty**

Confessions

10 AM Church Cleaning

Sun., Apr. 14 **Holy Monk John Climacus**

9:30 Divine Liturgy - Special Sheet

Men's Club meets

3:00 PM Vespers - Nesquehoning

FEASTS . . . & FASTS

FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION - This great feast is celebrated today, along with the Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross. The fast is mitigated (lessened) this day because of the Great Feast. The Traditional Rules say you may eat fish, oil and dairy on this day. 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.

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

LENT, WEEKS 2 THROUGH 6:

DIOCESAN RULES require fasting from meat on Wednesdays and Fridays (which we are supposed to do all year anyway).

TRADITIONAL RULES call for STRICT FAST (no meat, dairy, wine or oil products) *every weekday* during the Great Lenten Season, with some few exceptions which I note in the bulletin. On Saturdays and Sundays the Traditional Rules

permit wine and oil. Meals should be limited to one a day.

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.

We are always called to grow in our spiritual life. With the Lenten Fast, we should be trying each year to be more and do more than we did last year. Here are a couple of ideas to get you started thinking:

- 1) Try fasting one more day a week than last year. For example, if you abstained from meat 2 days a week, go for 3 days this year.
- 2) Try fasting more on one or more days of the week. For example, if you abstained from meat 2 days a week, then abstain from meat and dairy both on those days.

By building up slowly, we become stronger spiritually. If we just do the same old thing we always did, we never exercise our spiritual muscles, and never grow in our faith and love for God.

Please remember that the rules are given to us so that we may THINK about what we are doing, and not just go through the motions. Thinking about it can lead us to praying about it, and hopefully enriching our life through the fast.

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.

PEOPLE STUFF

Please remember in your prayers:

Deceased: Kathryn Derenick.

Living: Stephanie Bonk. Gloria Bracey. Mary Chupron. Susan Danchak. Louis, Terri Nicholas &

Norah Anne DiMichele. Michael Danchak. Robert & Eddie Hawley. Michael Hrywnak. John & Jen Hrywnak. Lorraine Kacaba. 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.

Panachida: Kathryn Derenick - 40 day memorial.

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND HIS CHURCH

March 31, 2013

\$ 514.00	General Collection
\$ 13.00	1st Sunday
\$ 88.00	7 Day Light
\$ 2117.00	Pirohi
\$ 45.00	Church Dues
\$ 7.00	Eternal Light
\$ 10.00	Vigil Lights
\$ 3.00	IOCC
\$ 2797.00	Total Collection

PARISH EVENTS

Altar Society meets today after Divine Liturgy.

Men's Club meets next Sunday, Apr. 14. 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!

Thanks & God Bless! To Carol Wassel, who stepped forward to teach the Early Elementary class for the rest of the school year.

Pirohi Making: This Fri., April 12 will be the last pirohi sale of the season. We will be prepping and pinching as usual on Wed., 4/10 & Thu., 4/11.

Church Easter Cleaning: Spring cleaning of the Church this Saturday, April 13, from 10 AM on. The Altar Society is spearheading this project, but we could use all the help we can get so come on down!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>St. Nicholas Orthodox Church</h1> <h2>April 2013</h2>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6 ALL SOULS SATURDAY. PREFEST OF ANNUNCIATION 5 PM Great Vespers with Litija
7 ANNUNCIATION. VENERATION OF THE CROSS. 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy Church School - Elem. Altar Society Mtg. 3 PM Dickson City - Moleben to the Cross	8	9	10 Monk Hilarion 8 AM <i>Pirohi Prep</i> 5:30 PM Confessions 6 PM Presanctified Liturgy	11 Martyred Monk Mark 8 AM <i>Pirohi Making</i>	12 Monk John Climacus 9:30 - 4:30 <i>Pirohi Sale</i> 5:30 PM Confessions 6 PM Presanctified Liturgy	13 ALL SOULS SATURDAY 9 AM Divine Liturgy & Reading of Hramoty Confessions 10 AM Church Cleaning
14 Holy Monk Climacus 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy Men's Club Mtg 3 PM - Freeland - Paraklis	15	16	17 Monks Joseph & George 5:30 PM Confessions 6 PM Presanctified Liturgy	18	19 Abp Eutyches. Bishop Methodios 5:30 PM Confessions 6 PM Presanctified Liturgy	20 Akathist Saturday
21 HOLY MARY OF EGYPT 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy Church School - Elem. Parish Board Mtg. 3 PM Nesquehoning - Vespers	22	23	24 Mar. Bp. Antipas 5:30 PM Confessions 6 PM Presanctified Liturgy	25	26 Martyred Priest Artemon <i>Last Day of Lent</i> 5:30 PM Confessions 6 PM Presanctified Liturgy	27 LAZARUS SATURDAY 9 AM Divine Liturgy 4:30 PM Confessions 5 PM Great Vespers w/ Litija
28 PALM SUNDAY 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy Church School - Hi Sch 2 PM Taylor - Confessions 3 PM Taylor - Vespers	29 GREAT MONDAY <i>FAST</i> 6 PM Confessions 6:30 PM Presanctified Liturgy	30 GREAT TUESDAY <i>FAST</i> 6 PM Confessions 6:30 PM Presanctified Liturgy	5/1 GREAT WEDNESDAY <i>FAST</i> 6 PM Confessions 6:30 PM Presanctified Liturgy	5/2 GREAT THURSDAY <i>FAST</i> 6:30 PM Vespers Liturgy of the Mystical Supper	5/3 GREAT FRIDAY <i>STRICT FAST</i> 10 AM Gospel Matins 7:00 PM Vespers & Procession w/ Shroud	5/4 GREAT SATURDAY <i>STRICT FAST</i> 4 PM Paschal Vigil Liturgy 8 PM Resurrection Matins

Residents of LIFE Geisinger (Living Independently for Elders) visit our parish! On Clean Monday, Fr. Nik went to *Life Geisinger* - near Marywood University - to give a talk to the residents there. This past Friday, Apr. 5, some of the residents returned the visit and came to our parish to see our church. Fr. Nik gave a brief explanation of the church and how we worship here at St. Nicholas. The visit was much appreciated by all concerned. God bless our visitors!

RUMMAGE SALE/ETHNIC DINNER Saturday, May 18. The Altar Society asks that you all start saving up your spring cleaning stuff that you wish to donate. Clothes must be clean and in slightly used condition and they are seeking larger sizes. Other household items in good condition are accepted.

COMING UP SOON!

Lenten Deanery Missions. Upcoming:

- Dickson City: Sunday, April 7 (*today*) - Moleben to the Cross @ 3:00 p.m. – (Fr. Larry Preaching)
- Freeland: Sunday, April 14 – Paraklis @ 3:00 p.m. (Fr. Ron Preaching)

Eastern Region Diocesan Lenten Retreat:

- Saturday, April 20
- 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
- Holy Ghost Church, Starr & Bridge Sts., Phoenixville, PA
- Cost, (includes lunch): \$20/adult or teen. \$7/child 6-12 yrs old
- Registration Deadline: April 10
- Contact Tracey Bilanin @ tbilanin@yahoo.com or 484-624-4664.
- Sponsored by the National ACRY.

DOWN THE ROAD!

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.

Pan Orthodox Sports Tournament & Fellowship Weekend May 17-19, 2013, Akron, OH.

From Michael Pacurar, consultant to the Assembly of Bishops Youth Committee:

I would like to invite you to the first event we are organizing, the Pan Orthodox Fellowship Weekend, which will be held in Akron, Ohio on May 17-19, 2013. The weekend will include a round-robin Soccer Tournament, Ethnic Dance Competition, Corn-hole Tournament, and International Festival. This weekend is in conjunction with the International Festival at Presentation of Our Lord Orthodox Church, which has activities and entertainment for everyone. Therefore, people of all ages are encouraged to attend.

More information is available on the flyers available in the vestibule and posted in the hall.

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