

ST. NICHOLAS NEWS

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ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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March 30, 2014

Holy Monk John Climacus

PARISH CALENDAR

- Sun., Mar. 30 *Monk John Climacus*. Bishop Patrick of Ireland.
9:00 AM Holy Confession
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy - Special Sheets
3:00 PM Deanery Mission: St. John's, Nesquehoning. Lenten Vespers
- Tue., Apr. 1 Martyrs Chrysanthus and Daria
6:00 PM *Adult Enrichment Group*
- Wed., Apr. 2 Monk Martyrs of Sabbas Monastery.
5:30 PM Holy Confession
6:00 PM Presanctified Liturgy
- Fri., Apr. 4 Martyred Priest Basil of Ancyra
5:30 PM Holy Confession
6:00 PM Akathist or Paraklis
- Sun., Apr. 6 *Holy Mother Mary of Egypt. Prefestive of the Annunciation.*
9:00 AM Holy Confession
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy - Special Sheets
Church School - Elementary
Altar Society meets
3:00 PM Deanery Mission: St. Michael's, Freeland. Paraklis
- MON., APR. 7 FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION TO HOLY MARY THEOTOKOS
5:30 PM Holy Confession
6:00 PM Vespers and the Divine Liturgy

Holy Mystery of Confession: I will be available for Confessions for 15 minutes or so before all services during Lent.

THE LENTEN FAST

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.

FOOD BANK DURING GREAT LENT:

EVERYONE IS ENCOURAGED TO DO MORE THAN THE MINIMUM, AS MUCH AS YOU ARE ABLE. Please remember that we are also called to almsgiving during Lent: WHAT WE TAKE FROM OURSELVES IS TO GO TO OTHERS IN NEED.

So, as we did at Christmas time, we are taking up a food collection for Easter to support the local Food Bank, *Bread Basket of NEPA*. Please bring in canned and dry goods (like the last time) to the hall where there are baskets to receive them.

Also, there will be a Special Collection at Divine Liturgy on Palm Sunday, April 13, which will also go to the local Food Bank. We ask for your generosity in this endeavor.

COMMUNION FASTING:

To receive the Holy Eucharist in the morning, fast from bed-time until we receive, as usual. To receive Holy Eucharist in the evening, fast for *at least 3 hours before the beginning of the service*. If possible, do not eat or drink after Lunch until you receive the Eucharist. Those who are under a doctor’s care must follow the doctor’s orders. Questions? See Fr. Nik.

PEOPLE STUFF

Please remember in your prayers:

Deceased: Raymond White.

Living: Stephanie Bonk. Gloria Bracey. Mary Chupron. Susan Danchak. Michael Danchak. Fr. George Dursa. Jada Eiden. Benjamin Groves III. Robert & Eddie Hawley. Lorraine Kacaba. Anna Mae Kuklis. Dee Lositski. Peggy Majcher. Mildred Orzolek. Emma Sacco. Amy Shimo. Connie Lou Slater. Faye Snell. Marion Sosnowski. Jeff Thomas. William Thomas. Ann Marie Tigue. Fr. Donald Valasek. Gary Wassel. Julia Worobey.

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

In Assisted Living Homes: Julie Kovacs. Julie Roberts.

Altar Vigil Candles: Memory of John Hafich, Sr., by Pucher and Roberts families.

Panachida: Raymond White - 40 day memorial.

PARISH STUFF

Church School.

- All Classes meet today.
- **Adult Enrichment Gatherings:** Next meeting is Tue., April 1, at 6 PM.

Altar Society meets next week.

Pirohi Making & Sale: We are planning to make pirohi this *Wednesday only* in anticipation of the Last Sale of the season on Friday, April 11. This week, we will only make *one bag*. Next week, the last week, we will make *only the usual two bags on that Tuesday and Wednesday*.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt! The children of the parish are invited to the annual Easter Egg Hunt on Easter

Sunday, April, 20, after Divine Liturgy. Sponsored by the Men’s Club.

Spaghetti Dinner! Hosted by the Men’s Club. Sunday, April 27, beginning at Noon. More info on the way.

Donation List - The Parish Board is trying to put together a list of the items donated by our parishioners for the church over the years. Unfortunately, the parish records are hit-and-miss about this. So, we are asking you all to help us get our information up to date. There is a form in the hall where folks can items they donated, who donated it (and the approximate year it was donated). We appreciate your help in this effort.

Lenten Missions - See schedule in box.

Lenten Mission Schedule	
Nesquehon.:	Sunday, March 30 - Vespers @ 3:00 p.m. (Fr. Deacon Ted or Fr. Deacon Michael Azar preaching)
Freeland:	Sunday, April 6 - Paraklis @ 3:00 p.m. (Fr. Nik Preaching)

ACRY Meeting: Reorganize? Or Not? Sunday, May 4, after Divine Liturgy, there will be a meeting in the hall. As you all know, the parish’s ACRY chapter has been rather moribund for the past few years. This meeting is being called for all former, present, and potential members of the ACRY. All are asked to attend this very important, but brief meeting. There will be only one question on the agenda: Should the local chapter of the ACRY reorganize or should it officially disband? All are asked to carefully consider this question and respond at the meeting.

Camp Nazareth Family Day Raffle Tickets are now available for purchase. The main Prize is \$20,000. and the cost is \$20 per ticket. See Nick Polanichka if you want some.

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND HIS CHURCH

Sunday, March 23, 2014

\$ 523.00	General Collection
\$ 76.00	7 Day Lights
\$ 218.00	IOCC
\$ 100.00	Maintenance and Repairs
\$ 19.00	Tapers
\$ 936.00	Total Collection

FROM THE DIOCESE & OTHER STUFF

CAMP NAZARETH ANNUAL FAMILY DAY SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 2014 (see flyer in hall)

Fellowship & fun all day! Music entertainment, swimming, craft activities, games and the Raffle Drawing. 10am -- DIVINE LITURGY. Lunch/Picnic following Liturgy. MENU: Holupki, Roast Chicken, Roast Potatoes, String Bean Casserole, Tossed Salad, Roll, Homemade Desserts, Drinks. Vegetarian Option: Vegetable Primavera. ADULTS: \$10.00. Children under 13 : \$6.00. Children under 5: free. FAMILY PRICE: \$30.00 (includes 2 parents & all children under age 13)

CAMP NAZARETH FAMILY CAMP MAY 30 – JUNE 1, 2014. *Packets with information and registration forms are available in the hall by the door.*: “Putting on Christ in Your Home” What does it mean for Families to “Put on Christ”? What does the Family who has “Put on Christ” look like? Come with your Family and help your family to grow in Christ and deepen your relationship with one another! Visit campnazareth.org, email campnazareth@acrod.org or call the Camp at 724-662-4840 for registration information.

Ham Bingo - sponsored by St. Nicholas Church, 140 Church St. in Old Forge on April 6th. Admission is \$3.00. Doors open at 11:00am; Games start at 1:00pm. Food and Refreshments and a Bake Sale!

St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church Center, 320 Mifflin Ave., Scranton, Pa. presents their INTERNATIONAL DINNER CLUB on Thursday, April 10, 2014 with 5:30 and 6:30 seatings at ONLY \$20.00 per person. Please call 570-343-5151. The Menu will start with a Mandarin Salad (Mixed Greens with Slivered Almonds and Mandarin Oranges, topped with a Sesame Dressing. The Appetizer is a Roasted Pork served with Spicy Onion Slaw. The entree is a Vegetarian Sushi Roll and Fried Rice topped with Honey Chicken and Garlic Ginger Green Beans. The dessert will be Sake Oranges and Cream with Sesame Brittle. Reservations requested by April 7th.

The 3rd Annual Meatless Meal for Lent "Baked Haddock Fish Dinner" sponsored by Saint Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church, Olyphant, PA on Friday, April 11, 2014. It will be held at The

REGAL ROOM, 216 Lackawanna Ave. Olyphant, PA. Starting at 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Pre-sold tickets are \$13.00 per person/dinner. You can "Sit In or Take Out" The dinner will included, baked haddock, potato vegetable, cole claw, roll, dessert with coffee or tea. At the door, a limited amount of tickets will be \$15.00 per dinner. Call Sandra at 570-383-9487 for reservations before Monday April 7th, 2014. Rev. Nestor Iwasiw is Pastor. Websites: <http://www.stcyrils.maslar-online.com>

St. John's Auxiliary, 310 Broadway, Scranton, Pa. will have a **Potato Pancake and Sausage/Pepper Sandwich Sale** on Friday, April 25, 2014. Pancakes -\$1.00each and Sandwiches -\$5.00 each. Deadline for pre-orders is Wednesday, April 16, 2014. Pick up time is 12:30pm on the 25th while supply lasts. Phone 570-343-8820 to order.

UKRAINIAN CHURCH IN CALL FOR STABILITY

by Gavin Drake. From *The Church Times, World's Leading Anglican Newspaper*.

<http://www.churchtimes.co.uk>. “Gavin Drake is a Midlands-based freelance writer and broadcaster, specialising in religion and faith with a particular interest in ecclesiastical law. He has more than two-decades' experience in journalism and has also worked as a press officer before returning to journalism in 2011.” www.gavindrake.co.uk

Posted: 28 Mar 2014 @ 12:20

Editor's Note: I received this link by email. You may have noticed that I do not ordinarily print or discuss current-event issues in the bulletin or in church. This is because I do not believe that it is the proper forum for such discussion. However, I am printing this article because it is a Church reaction to a politically volatile situation which affects the largest Orthodox Church in the world. There are many such articles and will be many more as the situation develops in Ukraine. I thought this one would be of value since it discusses calls for peace and reconciliation, important values for all of us during Lent. Be assured that I will not be making this bulletin an ongoing forum for discussion of the problems in Ukraine.

CHURCHES and the main religious groups in

Ukraine have issued a joint statement this week calling for a peaceful stabilisation of the country's political situation.

The ecumenical and interfaith group the All Ukrainian Council of Churches and Religious Organizations, welcomed the government's efforts to "stabilise the internal situation in the country", and urged "all citizens of our country to reject excessive emotionality and conscientiously fulfil their service and civic duty, strictly adhering to the applicable Ukrainian legislation".

In their statement, the church leaders said that the laws dealing with weapons-handling and ownership should be enforced. And it called on the government and people to work together on the basis of "respect for fundamental human and civil rights" to promote "national solidarity, the strengthening of the constitutional order, removing the country from its state of crisis, improving international relations with the Russian Federation, and the territorial integrity of our country Ukraine".

In a separate statement, Patriarch Filaret of the independent Ukrainian Orthodox Church Kiev Patriarchate, reiterated his Church's stance towards Moscow: "The Ukrainian people does not have and should not have any hatred or hostility to the Russian people, even in the face of military aggression against our country. We want, and I am sure in the future will have, friendly and equal relations between independent Ukraine and democratic Russia based on mutual respect to sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of each other."

But, at the same time, he called for concerted international action to protect Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

"The time for declarations of deep concern expired long ago, it's time to act," he said. "So I welcome the early signing of an association agreement between Ukraine and the EU, giving Ukraine the prospect of EU membership as a guarantee of peace not only in our country but also in the whole Europe [News, 21 March].

"Now not only is the fate of Ukraine to be decided, but also the fate of the world. Humanity stands at the crossroads: either to turn back to the era when relations between the nations are not based on the law

and justice, but by force of arms and cost of millions of victims, or together to stop this cynical aggression and save the world from the worst."

The former Archbishop of Canterbury Lord Williams this week described Russia's annexation of the Crimean Peninsula as a "legally pretty dubious venture". He said: "To have a plebiscite in a certain region of another sovereign state and declare that therefore you can annexe it seems to me a deeply worrying re-run of the 1930s."

Speaking to students at Anglia Ruskin University, where he holds an honorary doctorate in pastoral theology, Lord Williams warned that the "just-war" theory was no longer compatible with modern-day conflicts.

"We have a fast-shifting moral map of modern warfare. It is often a matter of proxy wars, wars between private and public, wars that spill over in different directions across national and other boundaries, and war that increasingly uses humanitarianly deplorable methods to sustain itself," he said.

Responding to questions, Lord Williams criticised Russia's actions, but warned against a military response.

"I'm wary of any military action to defend Ukraine against Russia. I'm looking hard to see what further diplomatic as well as sanction-based initiatives may follow, because I don't think it is simply a case of 'wicked aggressive Russia and plucky little Ukraine'," he said.

"There are more complex issues there, not least the inherent instability of Ukraine as a sovereign state."

Russian and Ukrainian Foreign Ministers met this week in The Hague, in the first direct contact between the two countries since the conflict began. The discussions were welcomed by the British Foreign Secretary, William Hague, who spoke by telephone with the acting Ukrainian Prime Minister, Arseniy Yatsenyuk, on Tuesday.

Mr Hague "continues to urge the Russian government to enter into direct talks with the Ukrainian government, in order to resolve this dispute peacefully", a spokesman for FCO said.