

# ST. NICHOLAS NEWS

Vol. 5 No. 4.1

## ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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APRIL 3, 2016

### VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

#### PARISH CALENDAR

**Sun. Apr. 3** Veneration of the Holy Cross. Bishop Serapion of Thmuis.

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – Special Sheets

3:00 PM Moleben to the Holy Cross at St. Mary's, Dickson City. Fr. Larry preaching.

**Wed., Apr. 6** Pre-festive of the Annunciation. Holy Father Zachary.

5:30 PM Confessions

**6:00 PM** Moleben to the Holy Cross.

**THU., APR. 7** FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION TO HOLY MARY THEOTOKOS.

6:00 PM Great Vespers and the Divine Liturgy.

Panachida: Deacon Michael Kozar – 40 day commemoration.

*Please note: there will be no Confessions today.*

**Fri., Apr. 8** Leave-taking of the Annunciation. Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel.

5:30 PM Confessions

6:00 PM Vespers for the Deceased and reading of the Hramoty (list of names).

**Sat., Apr. 9** 4<sup>TH</sup> ALL SOULS SATURDAY. Nun Matrona of Thessalonica.

*Services for the deceased on Friday night.*

**Sun. Apr. 10** Remembering St. John Climacus. Monks Hilarion and Stephen.

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – Special Sheets

*Men's Club meets.*

*Church School meets.*

3:00 PM Lenten Vespers here. Fr. Bob preaching.

**Confessions** are available before Lenten services *except for this Thursday*. See Parish Calendar for times.

#### LENTEN SERVICES

**Moleben to the Holy Cross.** We recently received a directive from the Diocese that all parishes are obligated to celebrate this Moleben during the week of the Cross, preferably Wednesday or Friday. Therefore, we will celebrate this service **this Wednesday** at 6:00 PM.

**FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION TO HOLY MARY THEOTOKOS, this Thursday, April 7.** This is one of the Great Feasts of the Year. It is the only weekday that we are permitted to celebrate the Divine Liturgy

during Lent. It is also a day when the Fast is lessened because of the Feast. We will celebrate the **Great Vespers and Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom** on Thursday at 6:00 PM. Please note that there will be no Confessions scheduled for this day because of a scheduling conflict. *All are encouraged to celebrate with us.*

**Vespers for the Deceased with the reading of the Hramoty for the Deceased** will be celebrated on **Friday at 6:00 PM.**

**This Saturday is the 4<sup>th</sup> All-Souls Saturday.** We will remember the deceased at the Friday night service.

The **Deanery Lenten Mission.** Today at 3:00 PM at St. Mary's in Dickson City. We will celebrate the **Moleben to the Holy Cross**, with Fr. Larry preaching.

## FASTING

**Great Lent.** Diocesan Rules require that all must fast/abstain from Meat on all Wednesdays and Fridays of Lent. These are the rules for the Traditional Fast for this week, repeated from the bulletin of 2/21:

- Monday through Friday inclusive, one meal a day is permitted, to be taken in the afternoon following Vespers, and at this one meal xerophagy [*Strict Fast*] is to be observed.
  - A reminder: *strictly speaking*, Strict Fast means total abstinence from the following:
    - meat
    - Animal products (cheese, milk, butter, eggs, lard, etc.).
    - fish with backbones (shellfish are allowed)
    - oil (i.e. olive oil) and wine (i.e. all alcoholic drinks).
- On Sunday and Saturday, two main meals may be taken in the usual way [i.e., cooked], around mid-day and in the evening, with wine and olive oil; but meat, animal products and fish are not allowed.
- **FAST ON THURSDAY, FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION:** *Traditional Fast:* fish is permitted as well as wine and oil, but meat and animal products are not allowed. So, in essence, fast on this day is two steps higher than it normally would be. As a practical way of looking at it, we can loosen our fast by two steps: for

instance, if you are fasting only from meat and dairy, then today you can eat meat.

## PEOPLE STUFF

*Please remember in your prayers:*

*Deceased:* Deacon Michael Kozar.

*Living:* Fr. George Dursa. Fr. Donald Valasek. Stephanie Bonk. Owen Bonn. Gloria Bracey. Bob Chalk. Susan Danchak. Ricky, Rick & Sarah. Michael Danchak. Jada Eiden. Tammy Hall. Heather Harris. Robert Hawley. Madelyn Hodanich. Johnny Huniyack. Lorraine Kacaba. Anna Mae Kuklis. John Lange. Dee Lositski. Peggy Majcher. Rose Markiewicz. Theresa Niester. Mary Phillips. John Polanichka. Karen Rolka. JoyAnn Scarnato. Amy Shimo. Faye Snell. Russell Spilka. Jeff Thomas. Ann Marie Tigue. Gary Wassel.

*At Home:* Michael Andreosky. Elizabeth Basalyga. Anna Senich.

*Assisted Living Homes:* Julie Roberts. Marion Sosnowski. Kathryn Stocoski. Dolores Naglak. Mary Kneiss.

*Altar Vigil Lights:* God's Blessing for newly born Kolten Dylan Rixford - Mny Years by Paul Doman.

*Eternal Light:* Memory of John Hafich by Pucher family.

## PARISH FUND RAISERS

**Pirohi Sales:** *Thanks* to all who helped out this past week. We sold well this week, and we already have orders for the next sale., So, *Last Sale of the Season* is Friday, April 15, with the usual workdays of Wednesday, April 13 and Thursday, April 14. See Parish Calendar.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

**Breadbasket of NEPA:** Donation boxes are in the hall.

## PARISH STUFF

**BISHOP GREGORY IS VISITING OUR PARISH!** I received word this past week that Bishop Gregory will be with us on **Holy Tuesday, April 26**, to celebrate the

Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts with us at 6:30 PM. This is Bishop Gregory's first visit to our parish, and the first Episcopal Visit that we have had in a long time. Please put this date on your calendar and plan to be a part of this day!

**Church School** meets next Sunday, Apr. 10.

**Men's Club News:**

- ◆ **Kolači for Sale** The Men's Club is offering their famous Kolači for Sale for our Easter. All five flavors will be available: nut, poppy, apricot, raspberry-coconut, etc. \$8.00 per roll. *You must order to get yours – there will be no extras available.* You can place your orders on the Order Sheet in the hall.
- ◆ Meeting is next Sunday, Apr. 10.

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND OUR CHURCH	
March 27, 2016	
\$ 830.65	General Collection
\$ 10.00	1st Sunday
\$ 107.00	7 Day Light
\$ 20.00	Maintenance & Repairs
\$ 31.00	Taper Candles
\$ 10.00	Vigil Light
\$ 5.00	Patriarchal Pence
\$ 210.00	IOCC
<b>\$1223.65</b>	<b>Total Collection</b>
<i>Renovation Donations to date: \$1000</i>	

**Deanery Mission here April 10.** Some items have already been donated for the fellowship supper after the Vespers. If you would like to donate something, please check out the list in the hall to see what we already have, and sign up for something else. You can also talk to Carol Pugh about how you can help for the dinner.

**FROM THE DIOCESE & OTHER STUFF**

**Camp Nazareth Raffle Tickets** are now available in the Office in the Hall. They go pretty fast, so please see Nick Polanichka for yours!

**CAMP NAZARETH CABIN BLESSING AND DEDICATION!**

*From the Diocese:*

Dear Faithful,

All of us are invited to take part in the dedication of the newly renovated and expanded cabins at Camp Nazareth in Mercer, PA on Wednesday, May 11, 2016. We are invited to the Service of Dedication which will take place at 10am on that day and then to the brunch which will be served in the Main Lodge following the dedication.

If you are able, plan on attending the festivities. We are grateful to God for many blessings including the blessing of our beloved Camp Nazareth and the ministry that takes place there. Come to enjoy the festivities and give thanks to God for what He has allowed us and blessed us to accomplish.

Please see the flyer attached to the bulletin and the RSVP portion of the flyer. Please note that reservations for the event must be received by May 3, 2016!! Hurry! Space is limited!

DEANERY MISSION SCHEDULE	
<i>Revised and updated April 2, 2016.</i>	
Sun., Apr. 3 @	St. Mary, Dickson City: 3:00 PM Moleben to the Cross. Fr. Larry will be preaching.
Sun., Apr. 10 @	St. Nicholas, Scranton: 3:00 PM Lenten Vespers. Fr. Bob will be preaching.
Sun., Apr. 17 @	St. John the Baptist, Nesquehoning: 3:00 PM Lenten Vespers Deacon Michael Azar from St. George parish will be preaching.
Sun., Apr. 24 @	St. George, Taylor: 3:00 PM Vespers. Fr. Dan Vaskalis from St. Michael parish will be preaching.

**Camp Nazareth Family Camp 2016:** Our Diocese is pleased to announce its fourth annual Family Camp at Camp Nazareth this year in conjunction with Family Day. The event is exactly what it sounds like. Families “camping” together in the Camp cabins and participating in a weekend of services, games, discussions, activities and challenges that are all designed to help families deepen their relationship

with God and with one another.

This year's theme – "*Not letting Orthodoxy be your Family's Secret Identity*". Our Family's Orthodoxy is both Public and Private...sometimes our family has to be like Superman and sometimes like Clark Kent!!

Family Camp is scheduled for Friday, June 3 – Sunday, June 5, 2016.

We had a wonderful time together last year and we are looking forward to being together again this year. A variety of events and activities have been planned that will allow families to learn, have fun and pray together, and simply be together in the peaceful environment of the Camp. With the newly renovated and expanded cabins, together with the new High and Low Ropes Course the Camp has even more to offer our families this year.

Don't miss out on this opportunity for you and your family. Space is limited to the first 10 families, so please send in your registration forms soon. They are due by Friday, May 20, 2016 and can be found at the Camp website -- [campnazareth.org](http://campnazareth.org).

**EASTERN REGION  
DIOCESAN LENTEN  
RETREAT**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2016**

**9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM**

**AT**

**THE CONFERENCE CENTER AT VALLEY  
FORGE**

**1485 VALLEY FORGE ROAD  
PHOENIXVILLE, PA**

**COST TO ATTEND (INCLUDES LUNCH):**

**\$20.00 ADULTS / TEENS**

**\$7.00 (AGES 6 TO 12)**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:**

**APRIL 2, 2016**

**CONTACT**

**TRACEY BILANIN**

**[tbilanin@yahoo.com](mailto:tbilanin@yahoo.com)**

**(484) 624-4664**

**SPONSORED BY THE  
NATIONAL A.C.R.Y**

*Sign Up Sheet is in the hall. Please sign up and  
we will send in one form for everyone.*

*All are encouraged to attend.*

**The Diocesan 3rd Annual Young Women's Encounter** will take place from Sunday June 26th to Wednesday June 29th, 2016. The YWE will be held at Sts. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church in Windber, Pennsylvania. Young women in our Diocese ages 12 - 18 are strongly encouraged to attend.

Please do not miss this wonderful opportunity for the young women of our Church and Diocese to gather with one another and grow in their faith. We ask for your prayers and support as we plan this event. With God's help and your participation, we hope this event will continue to bless our wonderful young women.

Registration details are forthcoming on our Diocesan website [acrod.org](http://acrod.org). Please register as soon as possible – Space is limited! For more information or if you have any questions please contact Pani Eleni Stagon at [acrodywe@gmail.com](mailto:acrodywe@gmail.com).

**St. Michael's Byzantine Catholic Church**, 205 N. Main St., Pittston is having a "**TRUNK SALE**" on June 4th, 2016 in the Church Parking Lot. Clear your garage and sell your stuff without strangers at your house. Pack up your "junk" and throw it in the trunk and make dollars! We will open from 8am to 3pm; set-up at 7am. Pre-paid spots are only \$10.00 each. Limited Space available. 1st Come - 1st Served. No Refunds. Call today to reserve your spot! 570-905-7387. E-Mail - [lindahando@hotmail.com](mailto:lindahando@hotmail.com). Rain Date is June 11th. Food will be available.

**THE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN STUDIES CENTER OF FORDHAM UNIVERSITY PRESENTS** *Upcoming Lectures and Events:*

- ◆ **YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: WISDOM FROM CHRISTIAN TRADITION FOR THE CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY.** Saturday, April 16, 2016 | 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Fordham Law School | Room 4-01 | 150 W. 62nd St. Lincoln Center Campus | Fordham University | New York City. Co-sponsored with the Romanian Orthodox Archdiocese in the Americas
- ◆ **IS THE POPE CATHOLIC? A CONVERSATION ON THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH.** Tuesday, April 19, 2016 | 6:30 p.m. Pope Auditorium| Lowenstein Center | 113 W. 60th St. Lincoln Center Campus | Fordham University | New York City. Co-sponsored with Fordham Theology
- ◆ Other events are listed on the Calendar in the hall.



**YOU ARE INVITED...**

**TO THE DEDICATION...**

**OF THE NEWLY RENOVATED AND  
EXPANDED CABINS...**

**AT CAMP NAZARETH!!!**

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**WHEN: WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2016 @ 10AM**

**WHERE: CAMP NAZARETH, MERCER PA**

**10AM – BLESSING SERVICE  
FOLLOWED BY A CELEBRATORY BRUNCH**

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**“OPEN HOUSE” AT THE CABINS FOLLOWING BRUNCH**

**ADULTS: \$15.00**

**CHILDREN UNDER 13: \$7.00**

**CHILDREN UNDER 5: FREE**

**FAMILY PRICE: \$45.00 (INCLUDES 2 PARENTS & ALL CHILDREN UNDER AGE 13)**

**SPACE IS LIMITED – SEND YOUR RESERVATION IN TODAY!!**

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**NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_**

**NUMBER ADULTS \_\_\_\_\_ CHILDREN UNDER 13 \_\_\_\_\_ CHILDREN UNDER 5 \_\_\_\_\_**

**DIETARY REQUIREMENTS \_\_\_\_\_**