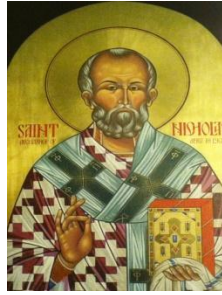


The Saint Nicholas Chronicle



ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

505 Jefferson Avenue, Scranton, PA, 18510

Fr. Daniel Vaskalis, Pastor
Rectory: 621 Vine St., Scranton PA, 18510
Rectory: (570) 344-5917
Parish Hall: (570) 344-1522
Church Website:
www.stnicholasorthoxscranton.org
***Fr. Daniel Cell: (570) 861-2712 ← PLEASE USE
Fr. Daniel Email: frdvaskalis@gmail.com

Jane Togher, Board President
(570) 842-3311
jctogher@gmail.com
Diocesan Website: <http://www.acrod.org>
Camp Nazareth: <http://www.campnazareth.org>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/acrodnews>
Youtube: <https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2017

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, February 26 – Forgiveness Sunday (Cheese-Fare Sunday)

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy
Blue Pew Book – Tropar → Resurrection Tone 3 (p. 87) and Special Hymns → p. 178
Epistle: Romans 13:11-14, 14:1-4 **Gospel:** Matthew 6: 14-21
Panachida for Kathryn Stocoski given by the Parish Board.

Forgiveness Sunday Vespers (*about an hour after Liturgy – following Sunday School and Men's Club Meeting*)

Monday, February 27 – 6:30 PM Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete [Day of Strict Fast]

Tuesday, February 28 – 6:30 PM Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete

Thursday, March 2 – 6:30 PM Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete

Friday, March 3 – 6:30 PM Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (*in order to receive Communion, one must fast at least 3 hours prior to the Presanctified Liturgy*)

Sunday, March 5 – Sunday of Orthodoxy

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil
Blue Pew Book – Resurrection Tropar (Tone 4); hymns pp. 179-180
Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-30, 12:1-2 **Gospel:** John 1:43-51
LENTEN MISSION IN LANSFORD – SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY VESPERS – 3:00 PM

Confessions: *Prior to scheduled services. If you cannot make it, please let me know and we can set up a time that is convenient for you.*

Please Keep in Your Prayers

Living: Fr. Lawrence Barriger. Fr. Michael Polanichka. Fr. John Gido. Fr. George Hutnyan. Fr. James Gleason. Fr. Tom Kadlec. Fr. George Dursa. Fr. Donald Valasek. Fr. Jonathan Tobias. Fr. Michael Rustick. Fr. John Zboyovski. Fr. Robert E. Lucas. Pani Donna Smoley. Pani Linda Barriger. Pani Peggy Teklinski. Reese: Eric, Tamsen, James, Gineva, Benjamin, and Thomas. Ann Richardson. Joseph Kacaba. Lorraine Kacaba. Stephanie Bonk. Bill Wassel. Owen Bonn. Gloria Bracey. Susan Danchak. Ricky, Rick & Sarah. Michael Danchak. Jada Eiden. Tammy Hall. Heather Harris. Madelyn Hodanich. Johnny Huniyack. Anna Mae Kuklis. Rose Markiewicz. Mary Phillips. John Polanichka. Karen Rolka. JoyAnn Scarnato. Amy Shimo. Faye Snell. Patricia Snell. Russell Spilka. Jeff Thomas. AnnMarie Tigue. Gary Wassel. Mary Kay Wroblewsky. Aubrey Wydock. Eugene Vaskalis.

At home: Michael Andreosky. Elizabeth Basalyga. Anna Senich.

Assisted Living: Julie Roberts. Marion Sosnowski. Delores Naglak. Mary Kneiss. Susan Danchak.

Eternal light: In memory of Denise Sovitch given by Laurence Czibik.

Parish Life

FILL UP THE BREADBASKETS OF NEPA!

Please remember those families who rely upon food donations to help make ends meet! We have a food donation container in the Church Hall, and ***we need your help*** to fill this container with non-perishable food items: cans, dry goods, etc.

UPDATE: Five boxes of food were delivered to the Bread Basket this past Wednesday. They, as always, are truly thankful for our donation. Let's keep it up!

"Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food...'"

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND OUR CHURCH:

February 19, 2017

\$360.00	General Collection
\$78.00	7 Day Light
\$25.00	Holy Days
\$754.00	Church Dues
\$58.00	Maintenance and Repairs
\$14.00	Eternal Light
\$22.00	<u>Taper Candles</u>
\$1,311.00	Total Collection

Spring 2017 PIROHI SCHEDULE		
Wednesday PREP 7:30 AM	Thursday PINCHING 8:00 AM	Friday SALES 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
<i>March 8</i>	<i>March 9</i>	<i>March 10</i>
March 22	March 23	March 24
April 5	April 6	April 7

Parish News

- **LENT** - The Season of Lent is now upon us! It is a time of increased prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and true repentance. The Church calls us to come to the Mystery of Confession at least once, and to fast from meat products on Wednesdays and Fridays. However, we must never allow the minimum to become the maximum!
- **Sunday School** will be held **this morning** immediately following Divine Liturgy.
- **The Men’s Club** will meet **this morning** immediately following Divine Liturgy.
- **The Altar Society** will meet **next Sunday March 5** immediately following Divine Liturgy.

News Around the Diocese

Diocesan Lenten Retreat Schedule
 (If you wish to attend, please fill out the corresponding signup form(s) found at www.acrod.org)

Central Region – Saturday March 25, 2017 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM (EST) --- St. Nicholas Church in Homestead, PA
Eastern Region – Saturday April 1, 2017 from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM (EST) --- St. Francis Center for Renewal in Bethlehem, PA
Western Region – Saturday April 1, 2017 beginning at 2:00 PM (CST) --- St. Michael’s Church in Niles, Illinois

Pocono Deanery Lenten Mission Schedule

Sunday March 5 --- Lansford, PA --- Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers --- Father Alexi preaching

Sunday March 12 --- Freeland, PA --- Paraklis to the Mother of God --- Father Robert Preaching

Sunday March 19 --- Dickson City, PA --- Moleben to the Holy Cross --- Deacon Michael Azar preaching

Sunday March 26 --- Nesquehoning, PA --- Vespers for Sunday of Saint John of the Ladder --- Father Daniel preaching

Sunday April 2 --- Scranton, PA --- Vespers for Sunday of Saint Mary of Egypt --- Father Lawrence preaching

FORGIVENESS SUNDAY

Texts from www.goarch.org

Image from www.goarch.org

Exapostelation of Matins – Tone 2

Wretch that I am I disobeyed Your good commandment, O my Lord. And being stripped of Your glory, alas, with shame I am laden. And I have been evicted from the pure delights of Paradise. O merciful and compassionate, have mercy on me who rightly has been deprived of Your goodness.

We were expelled of old, O Lord, from the Garden of Eden, for wrongly eating from the tree. But, O my God and Savior, You once again have restored us through Your Cross and Your Passion. Thereby, O Master, fortify and enable us purely to finish Lent and to worship Your holy resurrection, Pascha our saving Passover, by the prayers of Your Mother.



The Sunday of Forgiveness – Remembering the Expulsion from Paradise and the Need for Forgiveness

“The Sunday of Forgiveness, the last of the preparatory Sundays before Great Lent, has two themes: it commemorates Adam’s expulsion from Paradise, and it accentuates our need for forgiveness. There are obvious reasons why these two things should be brought to our attention as we stand on the threshold of Great Lent. One of the primary images in the Triodion is that of the return to Paradise. Lent is a time when we weep with Adam and Eve before the closed gate of Eden, repenting with them for the sins that have deprived us of our free communion with God. But Lent is also a time when we are preparing to celebrate the saving event of Christ’s death and rising, which has reopened Paradise to us once more (Luke 23:43). So sorrow for our exile in sin is tempered by hope of our re-entry into Paradise.”

“The second theme, that of forgiveness, is emphasized in the Gospel reading for this Sunday (Matthew 6:14-21) and in the special ceremony of mutual forgiveness at the end of the Vespers on Sunday evening. Before we enter the Lenten fast, we are reminded that there can be no true fast, no genuine repentance, no reconciliation with God, unless we are at the same time reconciled with one another. A fast without mutual love is the fast of demons. We do not travel the road of Lent as isolated individuals but as members of a family. Our asceticism and fasting should not separate us from others, but should link us to them with ever-stronger bonds.”

“The Sunday of Forgiveness also directs us to see that Great Lent is a journey of liberation from our enslavement to sin. The Gospel lesson sets the conditions for this liberation. The first one is fasting—the refusal to accept the desires and urges of our fallen nature as normal, the effort to free ourselves from the dictatorship of the flesh and matter over the spirit. To be effective, however, our fast must not be hypocritical, a “showing off.” We must “appear not unto men to fast but to our Father who is in secret” (vv. 16-18).”

“The second condition is forgiveness—“If you forgive men their trespasses, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you” (vv. 14-15). The triumph of sin, the main sign of its rule over the world, is division, opposition, separation, hatred. Therefore, the first break through this fortress of sin is forgiveness—the return to unity, solidarity, and love. To forgive is to put between me and my “enemy” the radiant forgiveness of God Himself. To forgive is to reject the hopeless “dead-ends” of human relations and to refer them to Christ. Forgiveness is truly a “breakthrough” of the Kingdom into this sinful and fallen world.”

March 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>February 26</p> <p>9:30 AM Divine Liturgy</p> <p>Forgiveness Vespers (following Liturgy)</p>	<p>February 27</p> <p>Lent Begins – Strict Fast</p> <p>6:30 PM Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete</p>	<p>February 28</p> <p>6:30 PM Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete</p>	<p>March 1</p>	<p>March 2</p> <p>6:30 PM Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete</p>	<p>March 3</p> <p>6:30 PM Presanctified Liturgy</p>	<p>March 4</p>
<p>March 5</p> <p>9:30 AM Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil</p> <p>3:00 PM Lenten Mission (Lansford)</p>	<p>March 6</p> <p>6:30 PM Paraklis Service</p>	<p>March 7</p>	<p>March 8</p>	<p>March 9</p>	<p>March 10</p> <p>6:30 PM Presanctified Liturgy</p>	<p>March 11</p> <p>9:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Second All Souls Saturday)</p>
<p>March 12</p> <p>9:30 AM Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil</p> <p>3:00 PM Lenten Mission (Freeland)</p>	<p>March 13</p> <p>6:30 PM Moleben to the Holy Cross</p>	<p>March 14</p>	<p>March 15</p>	<p>March 16</p>	<p>March 17</p> <p>6:30 PM Presanctified Liturgy</p>	<p>March 18</p> <p>9:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Third All Souls Saturday)</p>
<p>March 19</p> <p>9:30 AM Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil</p> <p>3:00 PM Lenten Mission (Dickson City)</p>	<p>March 20</p> <p>6:30 PM Paraklis Service</p>	<p>March 21</p>	<p>March 22</p>	<p>March 23</p>	<p>March 24</p> <p>6:30 PM Presanctified Liturgy</p>	<p>March 25</p> <p>9:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Fourth All Souls Saturday)</p> <p><i>Western Region Lenten Retreat</i></p>
<p>March 26</p> <p>9:30 AM Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil</p> <p>3:00 PM Lenten Mission (Nesquehoning)</p>	<p>March 27</p> <p>6:30 PM Moleben to the Holy Cross</p>	<p>March 28</p>	<p>March 29</p>	<p>March 30</p>	<p>March 31</p> <p>6:30 PM Presanctified Liturgy</p>	

April 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						April 1 <i>Central and Eastern Lenten Retreats</i>
April 2 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil 3:00 PM Lenten Mission (Scranton)	April 3 6:30 PM Paraklis Service	April 4	April 5	April 6 6:30 PM Vespers for the Feast of the Annunciation	April 7 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Annunciation) 6:30 PM Presanctified Liturgy	April 8 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Lazarus Saturday)
April 9 PALM SUNDAY 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy	April 10 HOLY MONDAY 9:00 AM Bridegroom Matins 6:30 PM Presanctified Liturgy	April 11 HOLY TUESDAY 9:00 AM Bridegroom Matins 6:30 PM Presanctified Liturgy	April 12 HOLY WEDNESDAY 9:00 AM Bridegroom Matins 6:30 PM Unction Service	April 13 HOLY THURSDAY 9:00 AM Vespers Liturgy of Saint Basil 6:30 PM The Passion Service (12 Gospels)	April 14 GOOD FRIDAY (Strict Fast) 6:30 PM The Burial Service	April 15 HOLY SATURDAY 9:00 AM Vespers Liturgy of Saint Basil 8:00 PM Resurrection Matins
April 16 <u>PASCHA!</u> 9:30 AM Paschal Divine Liturgy 4:00 PM Agape Vespers	April 17 BRIGHT MONDAY 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy with Resurrection Matins	April 18 BRIGHT TUESDAY 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy with Resurrection Matins	April 19 BRIGHT WEDNESDAY	April 20 BRIGHT THURSDAY	April 21 BRIGHT FRIDAY	April 22 BRIGHT SATURDAY
April 23 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy (St. Thomas Sunday)	April 24	April 25 Clergy Convocation at Camp Nazareth	April 26 Clergy Convocation	April 27 Clergy Convocation	April 28	April 29
April 30 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy (Myrrh-Bearing Women)						