

O who loves Nicholas the Saintly
O who serves Nicholas the Saintly
Him will Nicholas receive
And give help in time of need
Holy Father Nicholas



O kto kto Nikolaja l'ubit
O kto kto Nikolaja služit
Tomu svjatyj Nikolaj
Na vsjakij čas pomahaj
Nikolaj, Nikolaj

ST. NICHOLAS OF MYRA ORTHODOX CHURCH

A PARISH OF THE AMERICAN CARPATHO-RUSSIAN ORTHODOX DIOCESE OF THE
ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE

288 E. 10th Street, New York, NY 10009

Divine Liturgy: 10am

Church Phone #: 212-254-6685

For Dial-in Service: ten minutes prior to Liturgy call 1-877-459-3710 and enter access code 2546685#

Website: www.stnicholaschurchnyc.org Email: info@stnicholaschurchnyc.org www.facebook.com/StNicholas10street

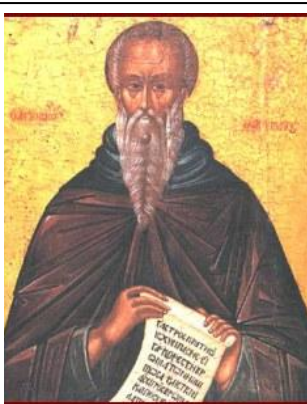
March 22, 2015

St. John Climacus; St. John of the Ladder

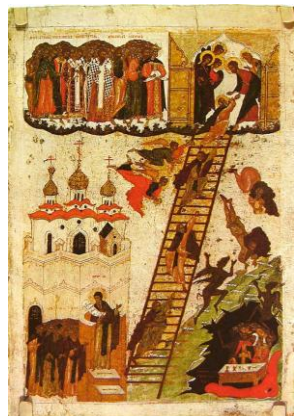
Epistle Reading: Hebrews 6:13-20 **Gospel Reading:** Mark 9:17-31 **Tone:** 8 **Troparion & Kontakion:** pg 48

Welcome! If you are visiting today, we are delighted that you are here and we hope that you will find a spiritual home among us.

The path of fasting leads to the path of purity. Fasting... is the purity of prayer, the illumination of the soul, the guarding of the mind, the deliverance from hardness of heart, the door to contrition, the occasion for silence, the health of the body, freedom from the passions, the remission of sins. St. John Climacus (579 – 649 AD)



ST JOHN CLIMACUS



**THE LADDER OF
DIVINE ASCENT**

The 4th Sunday of Lent commemorates the Venerable Father John Climacus of Sinai.

Born in the sixth century, Father John Climacus is considered one of the greatest monastic fathers and scholarly monks in Christendom. St. John was surnamed "Climacus" (the Ladder) in honor of his ascetical treatise called *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*. This book has been held as a fundamental text on the ascetic life by avoiding vice and practicing virtue so that at the end, salvation may be obtained. It has become one of the most influential and important works used by the Church as far as guiding the faithful to a God-centered life, second only to Holy Scripture. In 30 chapters, St. John covers all of the vices that we might face and gives practical advice on how we might fight them. He uses the image of the ladder to illustrate that we must struggle along the path of life to keep on track. Each rung brings us closer to the top of the ladder and thus closer to God. If we keep our focus on the top of the ladder and not take our eyes off Christ, it will be difficult for us to stumble.

Special Collection Update

For the past two weeks, St Nicholas Church had a special collection for the family of +Fr. Matthew Baker. The combined total between the collection and donations from the Altar Society and church funds is \$1,000. Thank you to all parishioners who generously gave in church and who went online to the fund website and contributed directly. You can still make a donation to the family at: www.gofundme.com/nizf2g The website posts updates on the family. The latest update chronicles Presbytera Katherine's visit to the crash site and her gratitude for all of the prayers which were felt during the visit and the miracle of the childrens' survival.

Please keep the repose of the soul of God's newly departed priestly servant,
+ Fr. MATTHEW
in your prayers and also pray for the comfort of Presbytera Katherine and their young children.

MEMORY ETERNAL!

COMMUNION REQUEST: Please state your name as you approach the Chalice for communion.

UPCOMING SERVICES

March 29th – There will be a panachida on the 1-year anniversary of the repose of Sam Kovalcik given by niece, Barbara Kovalcik and nephew, Michael Kelcho.

PLEASE CONTINUE PRAYERS FOR - JoAnn Attanasio, Fr. John Birch, Debbie Blue, Mary Fackovec, Fr. John Fencik, Ann Gaydos, Marge Hildebrant, Neil Ingenito, Helen Karpiak, Deacon Michael Kozar, Sean Merriam, Olga Petrick, Deacon Michael Pirich, Ann Petrik Plutchok, Joyce Rusinak, Toni Sikoryak, Miron Timoshuk, Peter Tymus, Lorraine Vira and Mary Zizik. Please contact Kim to add or remove names: k.busel@att.net.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Mnohaja i Blahaja L'ita

Let us all wish Andrew Bankovic, Tyler James Federico, John Gidicsin, Sr, Olga Ioukkliaevskikh, John Kania, Mara Kante, Dawn Salony and Helena Vilacky many happy and blessed years!

CROSS VENERATION –

March 15, 2015

Last week, we commemorated the Precious and Life-Giving Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As is the tradition in our church, the icon is surrounded by a wreath of red roses. Many thanks to Lauren Tymus for arranging the beautiful flowers.



PLACE YOUR ORDER FOR

PASKA & KOLAČ An order form

is on the back page of the bulletin.

Please see Magda if you have any questions. You must place your order

by Sunday, March 29th. If you do not place an order ahead of time, there will be a very limited amount available to purchase.

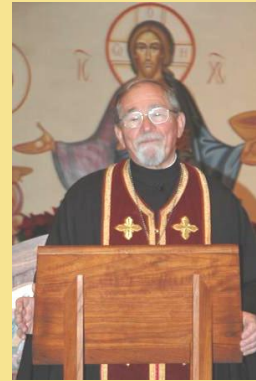
ITEMS NEEDED FOR PASCHA – HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- 1) We are asking for your heartfelt donations towards the efforts of decorating the Grave. **Flowers collection begins this week.**
- 2) Also, please see Magda in the office to donate one of the items for use during Pascha and Holy Week.
- 3) **Pussy Willows Needed** for Palm Sunday. If you have them in your yard, upon bloom, bring them to the church. Please let Stephanie know if you think you will be able to provide them this year.
- 4) **Easter Food Donations Needed** As we do every year, we are asking you for food donations for our Coffee Hour on Easter Sunday. We would like to keep it simple, but ensure that we have enough food to offer our parishioners and visitors after Liturgy. Lauren Tymus & Stephanie Salony will be approaching everyone on Sunday with a list of foods needed. Also, to allow those who set-up prior to services to attend the Liturgy from beginning to end, we ask that you prepare your food at home on a disposable plate/platter. The suggested foods are: Kolbasa, Ham, kapusta, horseradish, cheese, chlebiky (open sandwiches), potato and/or macaroni salad. *It is a very busy week prior to Easter with people attending church services, baking, cleaning, etc. and we thank you all in advance for your donations* – Lauren & Stephanie

MEMORY ETERNAL! VIČNAJA PAMJAT!

Protopresbyter Thomas Hopko, 75, dean emeritus of St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, priest, speaker, and theologian fell asleep in the Lord

March 18, 2015.



Thomas John Hopko was born in Endicott, NY, in 1939. He was baptized and raised in St. Mary's Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Greek-Catholic Church.

Father Thomas graduated from Fordham University in 1960 with a bachelor's degree in Russian studies. He received a theological degree from St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary, a master's degree in philosophy from Duquesne University and a doctorate degree in theology from Fordham University.

Ordained to the Holy Priesthood in August 1963, Fr. Thomas served three parishes as pastor and was honored with the clerical rank of Archpriest in 1970 and the rank of Protopresbyter in 1995.

Beginning in 1968, Fr. Thomas began his long service to St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary. During his years of priestly ministry, Fr. Thomas authored numerous books and articles. Most well known of these publications is *The Orthodox Faith: An Elementary Handbook on the Orthodox Church*. Upon retirement, Fr. Thomas began a new ministry: internet-based Orthodox Christian radio talks. Since 2008, Fr. Thomas has produced over 400 podcasts for Ancient Faith Radio.

Father Thomas is survived by his wife, Matushka Anne, five children, nineteen grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

LENTEN MISSION SERVICE – March 15, 2015

Last Sunday, five priests from the New York/New Jersey Deanery joined Father Alexandre for the Lenten Mission Service. It was a remarkable day. St. Nicholas Church was truly blessed by the presence of a special cross which was used during the service. Fr. Michael Chendorain, Perth Amboy, brought a cross/icon which contained a special relic, **a fragment of the very wooden Cross upon which our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, was crucified.** What gift from God it was for those in attendance to witness this remarkable testament to our faith.

Glory be to Jesus Christ! Glory be forever!



L to R - Rev. Michael Chendorain, Perth Amboy; Rev. Kenneth Ellis, Manville; Very Rev. Andrew Fetchina, Dean, Rahway; Fr. Alexandre; Very Rev. John Pribish, Elizabeth; Rev. David Kossey, NYC



The True Cross – After receiving the blessing of venerating the beautiful icon with the relic of the True Cross, I wondered how it happened that its relics are found throughout the world. It is known that St. Helena went to Jerusalem to find Golgatha and the True Cross. Religious accounts date the discovery of the True Cross around the year 326.

According to Theodoret, an influential theologian of the School of Antioch of the 4th Century, "She [St. Helena] had part of the cross of our Saviour conveyed to the palace [to Constantinople and St Constantine, the Emperor and her son]. The rest of the True Cross was enclosed in a covering of silver, and committed to the care of the bishop of the city, whom she exhorted to preserve it carefully, in order that it might be transmitted uninjured to posterity." The silver reliquary was left at the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre in the care of the bishop of Jerusalem.

As early as 349 AD, St. Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem, stated that the True Cross "has been distributed, fragment by fragment, from this spot (Jerusalem) and has already nearly filled the world". One of the largest known relics of the True Cross is preserved in the Monastery of Koutlounousiou on Mount Athos.

Fr. Michael came into possession of a relic of the True Cross while attending seminary. He received the relic as a gift from a seminary classmate who had received it from a Russian monk. (He never became a priest). It sat for about two years in its small reliquary. Fr Michael decided to have the icon written. Fr. Deacon Oleg Amino from the Cathedral cut the cross. Johnstown iconographer and friend, Cheryl Pituch, wrote the icon.



3rd ANNUAL FAMILY CAMP: His Grace, Bishop Gregory has issued a cordial invitation to all Diocesan Youth and their families to join him at Camp Nazareth for the third annual Family Camp during Camp Nazareth's upcoming Family Day Weekend. Families "camp" together and participate 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. Family Camp is scheduled for June 5 -7, 2015 with the annual Family Day, Sunday, June 7th.

For more information may, visit: www.campnazareth.org/familycamp2015.htm.

EVENT OF INTEREST:

Sunday Evening Lenten Schedule for NYC - Sunday, March 29

St. Mary of Egypt - Service of the Sacrament of Holy Unction
Cathedral of the Holy Virgin Protection, 59 E. 2nd St., NYC 10003

March – Pentecost 2015

Please see Justine Timko if you would like to perform at the St. Nicholas Talent Show, Sunday April 26th.

All ages are welcome!



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
22 St John of the Ladder (Climacus) Team Koneval	23	24	25	26	27 Parakalis	28
29 St. Mary of Egypt All Souls Memorial Team Kitchen Cousins	30	31	1Apr	2	3	4 Lazarus Saturday Liturgy & Confession 10am
5 Palm Sunday Teams BQE & Slovakia & Poland	6	7	8 Holy Unction 7pm	9 Holy Thursday 7pm	10 Holy & Great Friday	11 Resurrection Matins Processional 8pm Blessing of Baskets
12 The Resurrection of our Lord PASCHA Blessing of Baskets	13 Bright Monday	14 Bright Tuesday	15	16	17	18
19 Apostle Thomas	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Myrrh Bearing Women Jr ACRY Talent Show	27	28	29	30	1May	2
3 Paralytic	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Mother's Day Samaritan Woman	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Blind Man	18	19	20	21 Ascension	22	23
24 Holy Fathers of the 1 st Ecumenical Council	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 Pentecost						

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KOLAČ/PASKA ORDER FORM

Order form can be dropped off at the church office; or e-mailed to :

mmatlak@kbcc.cuny.edu

call in your order to Magda Matlak on: 718 373-2279

Please make checks payable to: St. Nicholas Church

Orders must be placed by: March 29, 2015

Orders will be available for pick-up Sunday, April 5

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Item	Price	Amount	Total
Kolač – Poppyseed (Whole)	\$10.00		
Kolač – Walnut (Whole)	\$15.00		
Kolač – Lekvar (Whole)	\$10.00		
Paska- (S)	\$ 7.00		
Paska- (L)	\$10.00		
		GRAND TOTAL	

For office use only:

Paid: Yes _____; No _____ Form of Payment: Cash: _____; Check: _____; CC: _____