

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 svajatjy 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

Sunday, April 13, 2014

Palm Sunday

Epistle Reading: Phil 4:4-9

Gospel Reading: John 12:1-18

Troparian & Kontakian: pp 85-88

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.

COMMUNION REQUEST: Please state your name as you approach the Chalice for communion. Since we understand "Communion" to mean that we have all things in common, sharing an identical Faith, the reception of the Holy Eucharist is **RESERVED** only to those who are baptized and chrismated members of the Orthodox Church and have prepared themselves by prayer, a recent confession, fasted from all food/ drink from midnight and arrived on time for Liturgy. Those who are not fully prepared to receive the Holy Gifts, or those who are non-Orthodox, may approach the chalice to receive a blessing only. Please advise the priest or deacon of your intention.

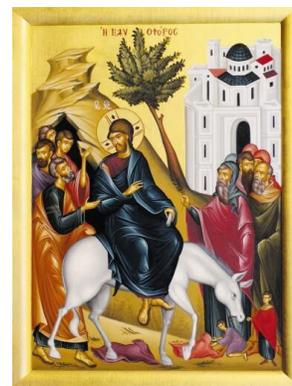
HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Mnohaja i Blahaja L'ita

Let us all wish Anna Hubka, Renata Hubka, Ava Karpiak, Mike Kormanik, Audrey Rael, Ann Vislocky many happy and blessed years!

PLEASE CONTINUE PRAYERS FOR: Mary Fackovec, Steven Gaydos, Ann Gaydos, Justine Gidicsin, Marge Hildebrant, Deacon Joseph Hotrovich, Neil Ingenito Helen Karpiak, Mike Kormanik, Deacon Michael Kozar, Mary Lichvarik, Olga Petrick, Joyce Rusinak, Mary Strenk, Miron Timoshuk, Peter Tymus, Lorraine Vira and Victoria Vislocky. Please contact Kim Busel to add and/or remove names: k.busel@att.net

FLOWER DONATIONS

As we approach Holy Week and the Resurrection of our Lord on Holy Pascha, we are once again asking for your heartfelt donations towards the efforts of decorating the Grave and needs for our church during various services. Please see Magda in the office to donate one of the items remaining for use during Pascha and Holy Week. **We will also continue to collect for flowers this week.** Our cost this year is nearly double because of sharing the same holiday as Western Easter as well as our primary distributor is no longer in business. Please give generously.



PALM SUNDAY

On the Sunday before the beginning of Holy Week, the Orthodox Church celebrates one of its most joyous feasts of the year. Palm Sunday is the commemoration of the Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem following His glorious miracle of raising Lazarus from the dead. Having anticipated His arrival and heard of the miracle, the people went out to meet the Lord and welcomed Him with displays of honor and shouts of praise. Just as His triumphal entrance into Jerusalem, we receive and worship Christ in this same manner, acknowledging Him as our King and Lord.

'Hosanna!

**Blessed is He who comes in the name
of the Lord!**

Ten Tips for Holy Week and Pascha:

1. Make participation at the Services a priority- especially Holy Thursday, Holy Friday and Holy Saturday. This is especially crucial for those families with children. They must experience as much of Holy Week and Pascha as possible with their parents.
2. In our homes we should strive to "keep out the world" and enter into the peace, solemnity, and theology of the events of the last days of Our Lord. Don't plan social events, movie outings or other distractions.
3. Be sure to read the last chapters of the Holy Gospels that speak of the Passion, Death, Burial and Resurrection of Christ.
4. Last year's palms and pussy willows should be placed outside in an area to decay where they will not be disturbed. They are holy and should not be simply thrown out with the garbage.
5. Before venerating Holy Objects, such as the Cross, the Chalice, Icons, or the Winding-Sheet (Plaschanitsa), make sure to wipe off lipstick and/or Chapstick. Remember, we do not kiss the face of Our Lord, His Mother or the Saints; instead kiss the hands, shoulders and feet.
6. If you haven't yet made your confession during Great Lent, do so before Great and Holy Thursday.
7. Make an attempt to make amends with those we may be upset with or those who may be upset with us, so that on Pascha we can joyfully sing "Let us call brothers even those who hate us, and forgive all by the Resurrection".
8. Try to limit the intake of food and drink on Great and Holy Friday. Television, radio and computers should remain off for the entire day. On this day of the Crucifixion, we recall the words which Our Lord spoke to the Pharisees: "the days will come, when the Bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then they shall fast" (Matthew 9:15).
9. During Bright Week, sing or read the Paschal Hours instead of your normal morning or evening prayers. Let the joy of praising The Lord's Resurrection accompany you throughout Bright Week, the Paschal season and your whole life.
10. The joy of the Resurrection is part of our very essence as Orthodox Christians. Pascha MUST be a permanent experience for each one of us. Christ can resurrect us, even now, if this is what we want with a new quality of life, a new perspective, a new peace, a new joy, a new love. Accept the truth of Christ's Resurrection with conviction.

THE PASCHA BASKET TRADITION

After the Saturday Paschal Liturgy, we all gather together to bless the Pascha baskets. These baskets have been carefully prepared with many of the foods from which we've been fasting for the past month and a half during Great Lent. There are several foods traditionally included in the basket each with its own symbolism:

Sweet bread leavened with yeast. This is a symbol of the New Covenant; the Jews made unleavened bread, and we, the Children of the New Covenant, make leavened bread. Paska (Carpatho-Rusyn), Kulich (Russian) and Tsoureki (traditional Greek braided bread) are examples. The braided form of this bread is a reminder of the Trinity and the Crown of Thorns.

Sweet cheese (Sirnaya Paskha in Russian tradition) is a reminder of the "mountain of God" described in the Psalms: "The mountain of God is a butter mountain; a curdled mountain, a rich mountain." (Psalm 67:15LXX)

Bitter herb, often horseradish or garlic, serves as a reminder of the first Passover (horseradish is eaten as a traditional part of the original Passover meal) and of the bitter sufferings which Christ endured for our sake. Sometimes the horseradish is colored red with beets, symbolizing the Blood of Christ. The "bitter herb" is also to bring to mind the Jews' forty years of wandering in the wilderness.

Wine, cheese, and butter are figurative of all the good things of life, and remind us of the earthly gifts that come from God.

Meat is included in remembrance of the sacrifice of the Old Testament Passover, which has been replaced by Christ, the New Passover and Lamb of God.

Salt reminds us that we are "the salt of the earth."

Red eggs remind us the tomb from which Christ arose. This is because of the miracle of new life which comes from the egg, just as Christ miraculously came forth from the tomb. The color red reminds us of the glory of God and the beauty of the Kingdom of heaven. Additionally, according to the church's tradition, during a dinner with the emperor Tiberius Caesar, Mary Magdalene was speaking about Christ's Resurrection. Caesar scoffed at her, saying that a man could rise from the dead no more than the egg in her hand could turn red. Immediately, the egg turned red. Because of this, icons of Mary Magdalene frequently depict her holding a red egg. This is why red is the color used by Orthodox for dyeing eggs at Pascha.

Thus each of the foods in the Pascha basket have rich meaning, as does everything in Orthodoxy.

Glory to God

HOLY WEEK & PASCHA PARKING HAS BEEN ARRANGED: See page 6 for complete details.

FOOD NEEDED FOR PASCHA LUNCHEON: We are in need of a few items for the Pascha luncheon. Please see the new rolling Bulletin Board for a list. Thanks to all who have signed up already!

IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

As you are filling your basket next week, why not bring a bag of non-perishable food items to add to our collection in Hall #2. **THANK YOU!**



**LENTEN
FOOD DRIVE**

CAMP NAZARETH RAFFLE TICKETS

Camp Nazareth Family Day Raffle Tickets have arrived! The raffle takes place at the camp on Family Day, Sunday June 2nd. Tickets are \$20. If you're interested see Debbie Derevjanik any Sunday or email me at: info@stnicholaschurchnyc.org.

DIOCESE NEWS

Remember all of the fun we had bowling?? St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Elizabeth NJ and ACRY Chapter #34 will be the host for the 2014 66th Metropolitan Orestes Memorial Bowling Tournament, May 23-26th. If you are potentially interested in bowling, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Registration is by April 30th so we can figure out if there is enough interest and the details.



2ND ANNUAL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

For the 2nd year, Tracy Heidenfelder Memorial Fund will be presenting a \$1,000 Scholarship Award to the student selected (in the event of a tie, the award will be split). Applications are available outside the church office. The due date for application receipt is May 20th. The Scholarship Selection Committee who are not affiliated with St. Nicholas Church (does not include Diane, Gary or Michele) will announce the recipient of the scholarship by June 16th. Selection will be based on the application content only.

Thank you Father Mark Leasure - The pilgrims of St. Nicholas Church would like to thank Father Mark for so graciously welcoming us into his church, for a beautiful Moleben Service, and for sharing his personal stories and experiences of the miraculous weeping icon of our Blessed Mother/Bohorodice. The experience has truly strengthened our faith. May God give you the strength to carry on your good works for many many years, and bless you and your family with health and happiness - Na Mnohaja i Blahaja L'ita!



PILGRIMAGE/OTPUST TO TAYLOR, PA – On Saturday, April 5, St. Nicholas Church parishioners went on a spiritual pilgrimage to visit the miraculous icon of the Blessed Mother at St. George's Orthodox Church in Taylor, PA. It was an emotional experience best told by those who witnessed the miracle:

Saturday, April 5, 2014, our pilgrimage to St. George's Orthodox Church in Taylor, PA. will be a day I will never forget. 56 parishioners and friends arrived via mini bus and personal cars - the youngest 16 months old; the oldest 92 years old - not fully knowing what to expect. It was a cold, brisk, and cloudy day. As we entered the



church one by one, we were in awe at the beauty and solemnity. The church was dimly lit, and spiritual hymns were being played filling the church with a spiritual aura. We all lit candles, sat in the pews and waited, again, wondering what we were going to see. As we waited for another group to arrive, Father Mark turned off the sound system to allow us to sing the traditional hymns to the Bohorodice/Blessed Mother/The Theotokos. As is our tradition on 10th Street, we sang in both Slavonic and English. Soon after, the group from a Greek Church arrived, and Father Mark, along with his Readers conducted a Moleben in Greek. Their voices echoed through the church with the beautiful Greek Chants. At the end of that service, Father Mark asked the children to come to the front with their hands opened. He proceeded to hold the icon of the Mother of God over their little



My Pilgrimage trip was so inspirational and spiritual that it made me feel miracles happen and we should never give up. The stories the Priest told us were so miraculous it sent chills through my body. I kept thinking of my daughter Joyce who has ALS, that it can happen to her. I'm sending her the oil on the prayer card with the hope the Blessed Mother will be with her at all times and make a miracle happen.

The bus ride and the people were wonderful. I'm so delighted you invited me to join you and I was able to bring Doris Bradley along. She was in awe and loved every minute of the trip. A terrific day well spent with all of you. Thank you, thank you. Dotty Rusinak

The pilgrimage to Taylor, PA was an amazing experience that everyone should try to make at least once in their lifetime. The sweet smell that filled the church, seeing the beautiful icon weeping, having the myrrh drip on our hands, hearing the touching stories of Father Mark...It was a true miracle that made such a profound impact on my spiritual life.

Danielle Hofmann



hands, and miraculously, a drop of myrrh fell onto their small innocent hands. I cannot begin to describe our feelings/reactions. Tears began to run down my cheeks, and I am sure that tears were flowing from many, many other eyes. After that group left, Father Mark had another moleben with us, and then he proceeded up and down the aisle with the icon

and we all eagerly put out our hands to catch the myrrh, which was flowing from it. Those who were seated in the middle quickly rushed to the aisle so that they could catch some of the myrrh into their hands. Father Mark then sat down in a pew and spoke to us about the history of the icon, the miracles that have occurred, and also allowed us to ask questions. There were not many questions, and I think the reason is, what can you ask? We saw and we believed! Our faith teaches us to believe without seeing, but we are all humans and we often doubt. I have no doubt that this is a true miracle sent by God. The extra special part of this whole day was that we were able to witness this with our families, friends, and parishioners of our beloved St. Nicholas Orthodox Church - 10th Street. Stephanie Salony

Take što sme vidili a prežyvali nedast ša ani slovom vyskazati ani perom opisati - musit človek viditi, precititi a mati vjiru. Je to zazrak, je to sila, a je to i blahodat take prežyvat. Lude povjidajut jak to može byti, jak to ša mohlo tak zrobiti? Podla mene nit što komentovati ... jak vjiriš ta vjiriš, že CHRISTOS v stav z mertvy tak - byv to zazrak, čudo tak i vytikaňa oliju z ikony Božoj Materi je to iste. Je to sila, a Boža sila! To nam davat znati že Boh može všyto zrobiti, že mat silu a moc nad cilym švitom, ale je terpezlivyj. Človek tam prežyv uspokojina, uvolniňa z cilych dnyv, z radosti i z toho prežyvana dokažu vyleteli slzy a citiv ša desi v ohromnym prostredu poblizku Pany Mariji kotra nas volat a nas tam zavolala. Ďakyjeme Bohu i tomu chto nam to zariatdiv iti na take cudotvorne misce. Ozaj nedast ša tak vypovjisti jak prežyti.

Our experience on Saturday was not only moving and emotional but a strong reminder of the power and presence of God in our lives. Seeing the Virgin Mary weep for us all using this beautiful icon as her medium and listening to the stories about how the myrrh has changed peoples' lives is as close as we will come on this earth to having proof of our belief. And our belief is the only explanation for the miracle we were so fortunate to witness. May God bless us all. Bob Zizik

It was the most amazing experience I have ever witnessed. From a seemingly ordinary picture the Priest picked up the icon of the Blessed Mother and tilted it. At that moment the oil started to drip. Everyone should take an opportunity to see this vision.

No words can express the feeling I received after viewing the weeping icon of the Blessed Mother. It was very emotional and fulfilling. Lillian Benc

It was a joyous day visiting the miraculous icon of the Blessed Mother. Through her tears, she offers us the possibility to feel His presence and seek a greater purpose of our life. The pilgrimage allowed us to recall all the gifts God has granted us, as well as, strengthen our religious and spiritual faith. The McAusland Family

I have never doubted the existence of a God, but being a witness of the weeping icon, on Saturday, April 5th, opened my eyes and my mind like never before. When Father Leasure circled the church holding the icon and anointing the open hands with endless, precious tears falling from the picture frame, I was overcome with the mystery and the miracle. Was this possible? A picture in a frame, under glass, shedding tears continuously? We were told the tears stop only during Holy Week before Easter. No reason given.

When my turn came to receive anointing, I held out my palm and watched closely the frame of the icon held at an angle. Nothing happened for a few seconds until a single drop began to fall and grew larger until it fell from the frame into my hand. Believe this or not, but I felt a wave of heat from head to toe and felt faint.

My daughter asked if I was okay, and I said I was. Whatever happened strengthened my belief and convictions after witnessing this miracle with my own eyes and experiencing a physical reaction to a drop of this precious fluid.

Further proof that the weeping icon works miracles was demonstrated by Father Leasure displaying a large box of letters and photos from people from all over who were helped.

In addition, we were told doctors and nurses come to the church regularly for the holy ointment. It seems modern medicine sometimes needs a helping hand from our Holy Icon. Her weeping tears heal the sick. May she live forever!

Finally, a true believer, John Gidicsin

Visiting the weeping icon was a very religious and emotional experience. Miracles do happen!!!
-Andrew McAusland

Trip to Taylor, PA was a good experience not only spiritually but mentally. It seemed like everyone was so overwhelmed with father's explanation that it put tears in my eyes. I would love to go back again and experience once again.



HOLY WEEK AND PASCHA PARKING

Parking for Holy Week and Easter Services has been arranged with the 9th Police Precinct and the NYC Parks Department as follows:

- In front of the Church (288 East 10th Street)
- Parking along Tompkins Square Park between Avenues A & B - one tire on the curb, one in the street.

Holy Wednesday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday,

April 16-18: From 6:00P – 11:00P

Resurrection Matins: Holy Saturday April 19th - 6:00P to 12:00A

Pascha Liturgy: Sunday April 20th – 8:00A to 3:00P

SPECIAL NOTES:

- 1) Vehicles must be parked with tires on one side of the car on the curb and the other side tires on the street. “Attending Church Services” sign must be displayed in the windshield;
- 2) Vehicles may park in front of St. Nicholas Church building entrance with the “Attending Church Services” sign in the windshield;
- 3) **DO NOT PARK** in front of the Boys Club on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. They are open during these times and have their own parking permits;
- 4) You must follow the parking rules and regulations for all other locations, including paying meters.

St. Nicholas Flea Market

Saturday, June 21st 11:00 – 4:00

We are in need of the following items: Housewares, home decorations, jewelry, handbags, books, toys and anything you no longer can use, but maybe someone else can.

PLEASE, NO CLOTHING! NO COMPUTERS/PRINTERS!

We will be storing the items in the Choir Room

Can you spare some time to help sell all of our “treasures”? Please Save the Date

APRIL 2014

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
13 Palm Sunday The A Team	14	15	16 Holy Uction 7:00 pm	17 Holy Thursday 7:00 pm	18 Holy & Great Friday 7:00 pm	19 Resurrection Matins & Procession 8pm Blessing of Baskets
20 The Resurrection of our Lord – PASCHA Divine Liturgy 10am Blessing of Baskets	21 Bright Monday	22 Bright Tuesday	23	24	25	26
27 Holy Baptism Luke Michael Stack Team BQE	28	29	30	MAY 1	2	3

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