



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



Sunday Divine Liturgy: 10 AM

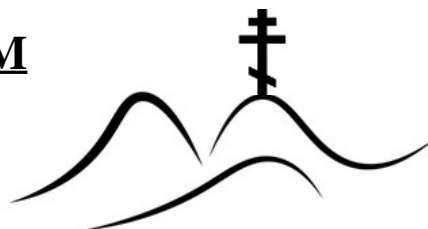
Pastor: Rev. Fr. William Bennett

Cantor & Choir Director: Nicholas Timko

Asst. Cantor: Reader Robert Zizik

Hours: Reader Alexander Ioukliaevskikh

Church Phone #: 212-254-6685



Church Website: www.stnicholaschurchnyc.org Church Email: info@stnicholaschurchnyc.org

WELCOME, ALL ST. NICHOLAS FAITHFUL & VISITORS!

For Online Streaming Service: 10 minutes prior to service, visit our website (www.stnicholaschurchnyc.org) and scroll down and press play on our live service feed. If using a smartphone, use our YouTube Channel: "St. Nicholas of Myra Orthodox Church NYC"

At this time, we will livestream only for Lenten services, Saturday evening Vespers & Sunday morning Divine Liturgy.

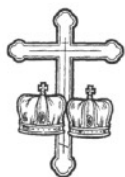
Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/StNicholas10street / Follow us on Instagram: "10thSt.Orthodox"

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20th, 2024: Sts Sergius & Bacchus

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1 **Gospel:** Luke 7:11-16 **Troparia:** p 48 (Tone 8)

STS. SERGIUS & BACCHUS lived in the 4th Century as high-ranking officials in the military. The emperor was not aware that these two friends were Christians, which was a crime at the time. They refused to offer sacrifices to local 'gods' and so they were stripped of their rank and dragged embarrassed through the city. They were sent away, where they were eventually tortured brutally and gave up their lives for Christ. **O Saints Sergius & Bacchus, pray to God for us!**

HOLY COMMUNION will be distributed toward the end of Divine Liturgy for all repentant Orthodox Christian faithful who are prepared. *If you would like to make a bread offering for a Liturgy, please see Fr. William.*



50th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY BLESSING OF LUBOMIR & MAGDALENA MATLAK: All are invited to remain at the end of Divine Liturgy to pray for Luboš & Magda in honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary, at which time we will offer them a special blessing from the Church. May God grant them, their children, and their children's children many happy & blessed years! *Mnohaja i Blahaja L'ita!*

FESTIVE ANOINTING (MIROVANIJE) & BLESSED BREAD will be offered after Divine Liturgy for all faithful and visitors that morning. *May God grant you all many happy & blessed years!*

PANACHIDA will take place for the handmaiden of God +Helene Potishnak Stowe, offered by Diana Essock and other beloved family as a first anniversary remembrance. *May her memory be eternal! Vičnaja Jej Pamjat!*

ALTAR FLOWERS were donated today by the daughters of Luboš and Magda Matlak in honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary. *Mnohaja i Blahaja L'ita!*

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON will take place after Divine Liturgy in the Main Hall downstairs. *All parishioners are specially invited by the family of Luboš and Magda to join and celebrate!*

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Dawn's Confession Class will meet as scheduled with student families; for pre-Confession children, there will be a brief lesson available downstairs on the stage with Stephanie, as she is able.

WEEKLY POST-CONFESSION SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS @ 7 PM! Students will meet in the evening online with Fr. William for a 30-minute session with an activity and a lesson. Fr. William sent out an invitation to all parish families with students by email. If you did not receive that invitation, please contact Fr. William immediately.

LOTS-O-LUCK ACRY CALENDARS are here! They are \$25 each, and only a few left. Please see Dawn Krzyzanowski if you are interested in one. Checks should be made out to "Lots-O-Luck Calendar Fund".

DURING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 20th:

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23rd - VESPERS, MEAL, & SCRIPTURE @ 6:30 PM: We are continuing Vespers services every Wednesday, along with a lite meal and some study. We are going following the book Of Water & The Spirit by Fr. Alexander Schmemmann, a study of Holy Baptism of the Orthodox Church. Books are available.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26th - DIVINE LITURGY @ 8 AM, ST. MARY'S CHURCH, 7th STREET
- GREAT VESPERS @ 6 PM**

NEXT WEEK: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27th, 2024:

HOLY COMMUNION will be distributed toward the end of Divine Liturgy for all repentant Orthodox Christian faithful who are prepared. *If you would like to make a bread offering for a Liturgy, please see Fr. William.*

ST. NICHOLAS CHOIR will lead responses in the Divine Liturgy that day, led by Choir Director Nicholas Timko. May God bless their voices!

COFFEE HOUR will take place after Divine Liturgy in the Main Hall, all are invited downstairs! And a special thank you to everyone who makes it possible to have our coffee hour; our teams, our volunteers, all without fail. God grant them many years! *Mnohaja i Blahaja L'ita!*

ANNUAL COSTUME PARTY & GAMES will take place during coffee hour! All children are specially invited to bring their costumes to change into after services are over for games and activities. See you there!



*In memory of +Richard Seewald,
husband of Mary Hlinka Seewald, and
their 68th Wedding Anniversary which
occurred this past week.*

PRE-CONFESSION & HOLY CONFESSION CLASSES, TO FOLLOW; POST-CONFESSION @ 7 PM

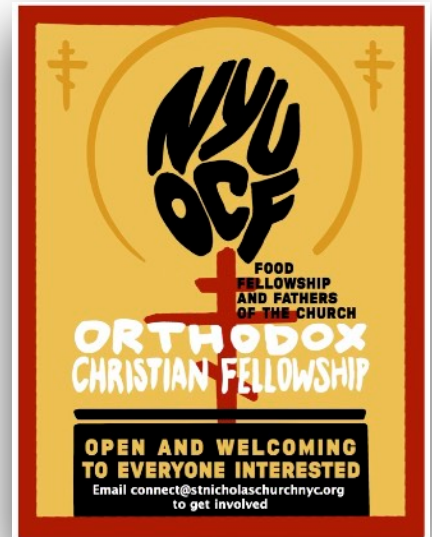
MONTHLY PARENTS CLASS @ 7:30 PM! Parents are specially invited again to meet in the evening online with Fr. William for a one-hour session with Fr. William with discussion, following readings from Parenting Toward the Kingdom by Dr. Philip Mamalakis. Invitation for parents was sent by email. If you did not receive that invitation, please contact Fr. William immediately. Meetings will be the same time, the last Sunday of each month.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

WE ARE CONTINUING TO SUPPORT THE FLEMINGTON AREA FOOD PANTRY! With the help and arrangement of Elizabeth Krzyzanowski, we are donating our food collection going forward toward the food pantry in Flemington, NY. The parish will continue to make a dedicated push, please look to purchase something extra on your next grocery trip and bring it to our food bin in the #2 Hall.

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES PRAYER LIST WAS RESET! There is a birthday/anniversary form in the back of the church for the current church attending and their families. Please fill one out for you and your family to be prayed for in the Divine Liturgy each week when the special occasion comes around. The list was officially reset last Pascha Sunday, May 5th. Submit a copy to the office or hand directly to Fr. William, if you haven't yet.

SAVE THE DATE: NOVEMBER 24th, ST. NICHOLAS KERMEŠ! God bless our organizers and volunteers already hard at work pulling the Kermeš together this year. We look forward to a joyful celebration as always, a possible performance or two from the children, and a visit from His Eminence, Metropolitan Gregory. Stay tuned for ticket information going forward.



The NYU OCF has begun its semester meetings. May God bless their fellowship!

WELCOME TO COOKIE WALK 2024!



Plans are well underway for this year's event. Our theme is Cookies from Around the World. We will have cookies from all seven continents, including a special recipe from Union Glacier Camp in Antarctica. Of course, we will also have our traditional favorites from past cookie walks, but this will be a special year with some new flavors and baking styles.

COOKIE WALK VOLUNTEER CALENDAR – Next three weeks

The time has come to start making cookies – less than two months until the big event – December 14-15th. Over the next few weeks, we will be getting things up and running. Here is an overview of what's ahead.

SAT OCT 26th – Ingredient Prep Day 9am – 2pm – lunch will be provided. It's "yellow bag day" as we sort, measure and prep the ingredients for each recipe. No experience is needed.

SUN OCT 27th – Let's get started – just a few easy doughs to roll

NOVEMBER 3rd IS COOKIE WALK KICK-OFF SUNDAY!

Join us as we take a humorous look back at Cookie Walk 2023. We will then gear up for CW 2024. And, of course, there will be some dough to roll!

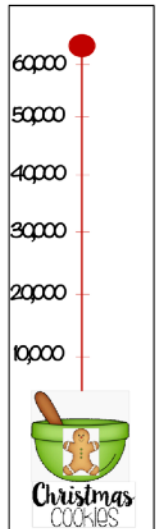
SAT NOV 9 & SUN NOV 10th – DOUGH BALL WEEKEND

Hope to put multiple thousands on the thermometer over these two days



Thank you to everyone that has brought their empty paper towel rolls, but we can always use more. Just saw that you can buy 24 for \$22 on EBAY. We really appreciate your help in avoiding this cost. There will be a box in the kitchen.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – Baking week 2024 is December 9-13th. We need you. There are three shifts each day and baking from 9 – 9 (and later). It's hard work and a fun time. No experience in baking is needed. There are jobs to do for all levels of experience.



CONGRATULATIONS TO BOGDAN HORBAL! On Sunday afternoon, November 17th, Bogdan will be the recipient of the John Mihalsky Award at the 25th Anniversary Celebration Banquet of the New Jersey Chapter of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society (C-RS). C-RS cites Bogdan's work as a historian and librarian with the New York Public Library, where since 2018 he has served as the Curator for Slavic and East European Collections. This is a great honor and on behalf of the entire parish family, may God continue to bless him and grant him many happy and blessed years! *Mnohaja i Blahaja L'ita!* If you would like further information on how to show support for Bogdan, see Fr. William.



WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF MY LIFE? WHY AM I HERE?

by Fr. Chris Metropulos

According to Orthodox Christian belief, the purpose of life is to glorify God and to become more like Him. This message is based on the teachings of Jesus Christ, who said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind" (Matthew 22:37). In other words, the goal of life is to cultivate a deep and loving relationship with God, reflecting His love, mercy, and grace in our own lives.

I am sorry to share with you that accumulating material possessions, things or having the most active posts on social media has nothing to do with what God intended for us all.

To achieve this purpose, we are called to live a life of faith, prayer, repentance, and virtue. By seeking to know God through prayer, worship, and scripture study, believers develop a deeper understanding of His will and purpose for their lives. Through repentance and confession, they acknowledge their sins and shortcomings, seeking forgiveness and reconciliation with God.

By practicing virtues such as humility, compassion, and love, we strive to imitate the character of Christ and become vessels of His grace in the world.

Central to this understanding of the purpose of life is the concept of theosis, or deification. This idea, rooted in the teachings of the early Church Fathers, suggests that the ultimate goal of the Christian life is to become like God, to participate in His divine nature, and to be united with Him in a deep and transformative way. As St. Athanasius famously wrote, “God became man so that man might become god.”

Be careful however here and read carefully. Theosis is not about achieving a status of equality with God, but rather about growing in likeness to Him, in holiness and virtue.

It is a lifelong process of spiritual growth and transformation, in which believers are called to cooperate with the grace of God, working out their salvation with fear and trembling (Philippians 2:12). It is not a static moment but a dynamic one. Through this process, Orthodox Christians seek to purify their hearts, minds, and souls, aligning themselves with the will of God and becoming more fully the people He created them to be.

The purpose of life from an Orthodox Christian perspective is also intimately tied to the idea of vocation or calling. In our faith, every person is seen as having a unique purpose and role to fulfill in God’s plan for the world. This vocation may take many forms – as a parent, spouse, grandparent, worker, electrician plumber, artist, teacher, or in any other role or profession – but the key is to discern and embrace it with faithfulness and dedication.

By fulfilling one’s vocation with humility and love, Orthodox Christians believe they can bring glory to God and contribute to the building of His kingdom on earth.

Furthermore, we understand that the purpose of life is not only about individual salvation but also about the salvation and redemption of the entire world. This communal aspect of the Christian faith is reflected in the belief in the Church as the body of Christ, where believers are called to live in unity and love with one another, supporting and encouraging each other in their spiritual journeys.

By participating in the life of the Church – through worship, sacraments, and acts of service – we seek to be transformed together into the likeness of Christ, bearing witness to His love and truth in the world.

In Orthodox theology, the purpose of life is ultimately about communion with God and union with Him. It is not some earthy make believe story but one which is rooted in faith, tradition and history. This union is not just a future hope or promise but a present reality that can be experienced in prayer, worship, and the sacraments. Through these spiritual practices, believers can enter into the presence of God, experiencing His love, peace, and joy in a deep and intimate way. This communion with God nourishes and sustains the soul, filling it with the grace and strength needed to fulfill its purpose and vocation in the world.

In the Orthodox Christian tradition, the purpose of life is also understood in eschatological terms – that is, in relation to the final destiny of humanity and the cosmos. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and the final judgment, where all people will be called to give an account of their lives before God. Those who have cultivated a deep and loving relationship with God, who have sought to live in accordance with His will and purposes, will be welcomed into the eternal joy of His presence. Those who have rejected God and His love, who have chosen to live in selfishness and sin, will face the consequences of their choices.

The vision of the Orthodox Church is one of hope and redemption, of a creation restored and renewed in Christ. It is not a vision based on the harsh judgement of God but rather on his promise of eternal life for all.

The purpose of life, from an Orthodox Christian perspective, is to participate in the unfolding of this divine plan, to be co-workers with God in the building of His kingdom, and to share in the eternal life and joy that He offers to all who love Him. This vision shapes the way Orthodox Christians understand their lives and the world around them, giving them a sense of purpose and meaning that transcends the passing concerns and challenges of this present age.

This vision of the Christian life gives believers a deep sense of hope and purpose, guiding them in their journey toward the fullness of salvation and the eternal kingdom of God. Let us all redirect our efforts to our ultimate purpose... to be one with God.

(Taken from www.myocn.net)



ANNOUNCEMENT: SEE OUR NEW WEBSITE!

We officially launched our new website design and content. Thank you to Kim Busel, who has not only helped make this possible but maintained our previous site for many years. There are still some pages being worked on but thanks be to God, we are ready to show. Explore the site, and may it be an assistant to all of you, those in the faith and those who may visit.

Our domain name is unchanged: <https://www.stnicholaschurchnyc.org>

A TRAVEL OFFERING

11 Night Cruise - Best of Italy & Croatia - May 5-16, 2025

- Dates: **May 5-16, 2025**
- Ports to visit: **Venice (departing); Zada, Dubrovnik, & Split Croatia; Kotor, Montenegro; Sicily (Messina), Naples, & Florence, Italy (returning to Rome)**
- Departing from: **Venice**
- Returning from: **Rome**
- Cabin Type: **Ocean View**

Anyone interested will have to be put on the waitlist for cabins to become available. If you are interested, please contact me either via e-mail (stephanie.salony@comcast.net) or call me on 908-268-4883



FOLLOW THE DIOCESE ONLINE:

Diocesan Website: www.acrod.org Camp Nazareth: www.campnazareth.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/acroddiocese

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/acrodnews> YouTube: <https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>





ST. NICHOLAS PARISH PRAYER LIST

For additions or updates, please contact Fr. William directly: fr.william.bennett@gmail.com

CONTINUOUS: Matuska Olga Andrejuk, David Bulko, Kim Busel, Peter & Maria Ceselka, Tony Ceselka, Stephanie Downes, Mary & Tommy Fackovec, Gia Fazio, John Geida, Julius Gontkovsky, Olga Gubinski, Diana Hannan, Todd Henderson, Priest Joseph Hoffmann, Noah Homyak, Aleksandra Horbal, Luke Iera, Magdalena Ilanovska, Jana Johnson-Plutchok, Michael Kerr, Paul Koehler, Joanna Kolaczko, Maria Koneval, Michal Kormanik, Alex & Holly Marchak, Luboš Matlak, Richard McCullough, Christine Merriam, Sean Merriam, Christine & Rick Martines, Lucia Matišinova, Nadežda Bulikova Petrikova, Deacon Michael Pirich, Gregory Rydzyk, Rastislav Salon, John Salony, Mary Seewald, Paul Sikoryak Sr, Toni Sikoryak, George Sipko, Michael Slavkovsky, Miroslav Strenk, Katherine Tam, Teri Upton, Tim Upton, Marek Vattek, Ann Vislocky, Bill Vislocky, Sandy Wagner, Cathryn Walker, Dennis & Cathy Walsh, and Reader Bob & Debbie Zizik.

CATECHUMENS:

Ricardo Sullivan	Nathan Deutsch
John Stutts	Daniel Lai
Rachel Soh Young Yi	Maryam Gueye

DIOCESAN CLERGY:

Priest David Mastroberte
Priest Luke Mihaly
Protodeacon Emil Gulick

DEANERY CLERGY:

Priest Alexandre Ioukliaevskikh (NY, NY)
Priest David Kossey (Yonkers, NY), for his Health and Salvation
Priest Andrew Gromm (Seaford, NY)

SEMINARIANS: Seamus Murray, Ignatios Leonardo, Nicholas Fong, Nicolas Laliberte, & Alexander Hurtsellers. The newly-graduated Nicholas Worobey & Samuel Loposky! *That God may grant them many more blessed years, and for more vocations to the Priesthood!*

COLLEGE STUDENTS: May God bless all of our parish college students both near & far, and members of Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF), especially the NYU OCF & Rutgers OCF. *Mnohaja i Blahaja L'ita!*

BIRTHDAYS: May God grant many more happy & blessed years to those celebrating their birthdays this week, especially to Maryam Gueye & Jan Kormanik! *Mnohaja i Blahaja L'ita!*

ANNIVERSARIES: May God grant many more happy & blessed years to those celebrating their anniversaries this week, especially to Matthew & Nicole Stack, Paul & Meagan Sikoryak, and Lubomir & Magdalena Matlak! *Mnohaja i Blahaja L'ita!*

SPECIAL INTENTIONS:

For the Servants of God Lubomir & Magdalena Matlak on their 50th Wedding Anniversary. *Mnohaja i Blahaja L'ita!*
For the Departed Handmaid of God +Helene Potishnak Stowe. *Vičnaja Jej Pamjat!*

O HOLY FATHER NICHOLAS, PRAY TO GOD FOR US!



CHURCH SERVICE & ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Note from Fr. William: If you would like anyone remembered or prayed for during the course of the week or would like someone remembered in a memorial service, please see Fr. William or simply email: fr.william.bennett@gmail.com

OCT - NOV 2024

*Shaded areas indicate days of fasting

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
OCT 20 <i>Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM</i> - <i>50th Anniversary Blessing for</i> <i>Luboš & Magda Matlak</i> - <i>Panachida for +Helene</i> <i>Potishnak Stowe</i> - <i>Luncheon & Sunday School</i>	21	22	23 <i>Vespers, Meal,</i> <i>& Scripture</i> @ 6:30 PM	24	25	26 *No Liturgy - <i>Cookie Walk</i> <i>Ingredient Prep Day:</i> 9 AM - 2 PM - <i>Great Vespers</i> @ 6 PM
OCT 27 <i>Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM</i> - <i>Led by St. Nicholas Choir</i> - <i>Coffee Hour & Sunday School</i> - <i>Annual Costume Party</i> - <i>Cookie Walk Dough Rolling</i>	28	29	30 <i>Vespers, Meal,</i> <i>& Scripture</i> @ 6:30 PM	31	NOV 1	2 <i>Divine Liturgy</i> @ 8 AM, <i>St. Mary's, 7th St.</i> - <i>Great Vespers</i> @ 6 PM
NOV 3 <i>Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM</i> - <i>Parastas for +Betty Kormanik</i> - <i>Cookie Walk Kickoff!</i>	4	5	6 <i>Vespers, Meal,</i> <i>& Scripture</i> @ 6:30 PM	7	8	9 <i>Divine Liturgy</i> @ 8 AM, <i>St. Mary's, 7th St.</i> - <i>Cookie Walk</i> <i>Dough Rolling</i> - <i>Great Vespers</i> @ 6 PM
NOV 10 <i>Divine Liturgy @ 10 AM</i> - <i>Parastas for +Anka Ludwig</i> - <i>Cookie Walk Dough Rolling</i>	11	12	13 <i>Vespers, Meal,</i> <i>& Scripture</i> @ 6:30 PM	14	15	16 <i>Divine Liturgy</i> @ 8 AM, <i>St. Mary's, 7th St.</i> - <i>Great Vespers</i> @ 6 PM

TRZASKA FUNERAL HOME, INC.

ALEXANDER MARCHAK, JR. – Licensed Funeral Director & Owner

Services available whenever and wherever needed

1275 - 65th St (Corner of 13th Ave), BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11219

Family Owned & Operated since 1924

Large Parking Area 718-748-4860