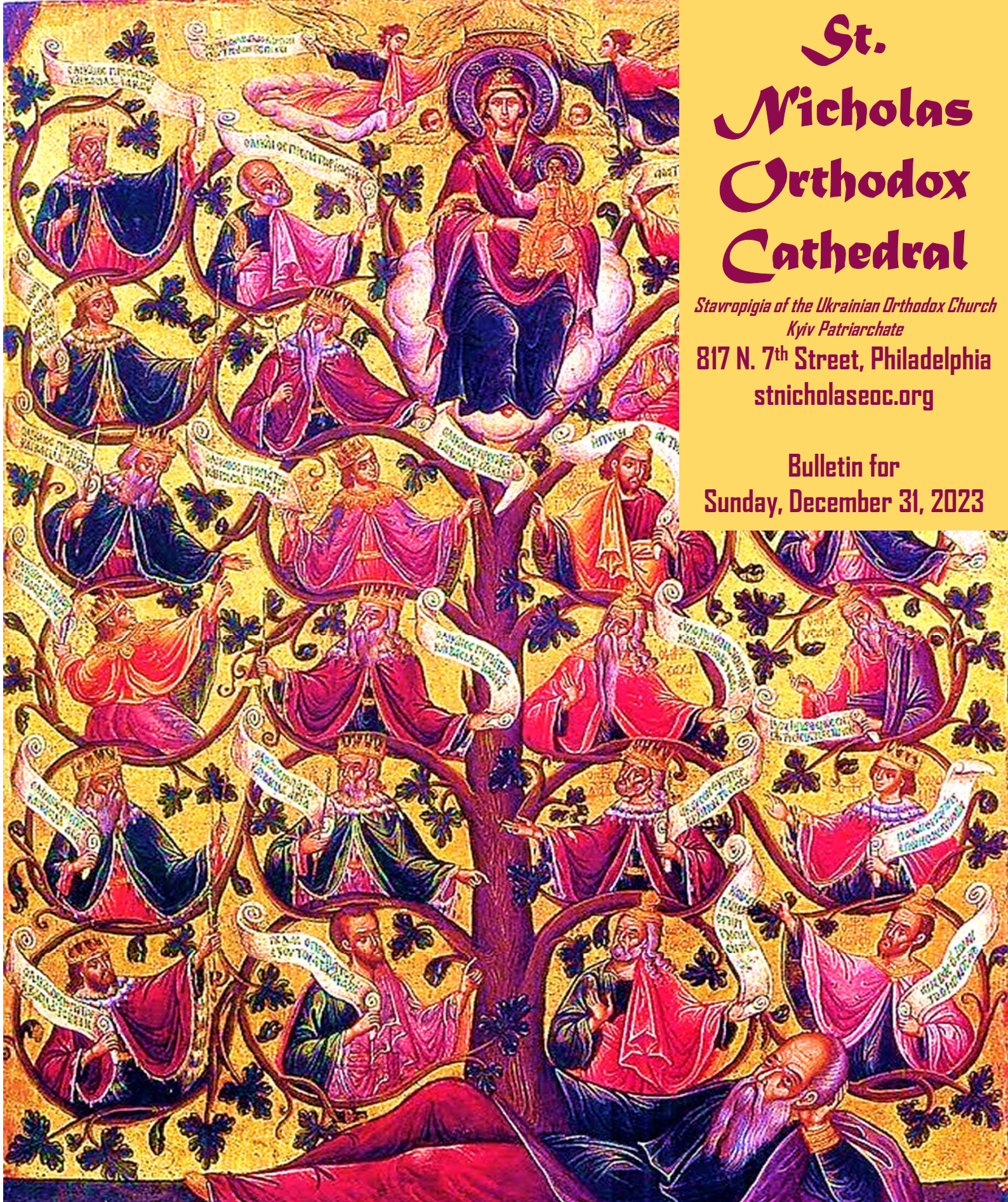


St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral

*Stavropigia of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church
Kyiv Patriarchate*

817 N. 7th Street, Philadelphia
stnicholaseoc.org

Bulletin for
Sunday, December 31, 2023



THE SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY

As we look forward to the birth of the Infant Jesus, we will hear the genealogy of Jesus...His family tree...as recorded in Sunday's Scripture reading, Matthew 1:1-25.

Scripture Reading & Sermon

Sunday, December 31, 2023

Matthew 1:1-25

Today's Scripture reading recites the long genealogy of Jesus...His family tree. Why did Matthew think it important to record these many names? Because from this long list of ordinary people was born a baby who would change the world. Yes, the world would never be the same! To all parents: think how your babies changed your life, your small world. With the birth of your child, you started thinking differently. Perhaps becoming less selfish, perhaps making wiser decisions, perhaps making long-term plans, perhaps being more sensible with how you spent money and perhaps even being more careful with your daily activities as you were needed to protect and nurture your baby. Your priorities changed. Your life changed. And the same is true with the birth of Jesus. We as Orthodox faithful changed because of this little baby. Jesus changed the way we use our time. Jesus changed the way we interact with people. Jesus changed the way we live our lives. Jesus changed EVERYTHING about us! When Jesus came into our lives, our character changed and our hearts changed as we practice Christian virtues and show brotherly affection. And as all babies change the future of their parents, Baby Jesus did the same. With His birth, our future – and the future of humanity – was transformed -- for we can all look forward to eternal salvation. Let us rejoice! AMEN.

+Bishop Luke

Abr
aham
was the
father of
Isaac, and
Isaac the
father of Jacob,
and Jacob the
father of Judah and
his brothers, and
Judah the father of Perez
and Zerah by Tamar, and
Perez the father of Hezron,
and Hezron the father of Ram,
and Ram the father of
Aminadab, and Aminadab the
father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the
father of Salmon, and Salmon the father
of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of
Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse,
and Jesse the father of David the king. And
David was the father of Solomon by the wife of
Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and
Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father
of Asaph, and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and
Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of
Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the
father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah
the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and
Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his
brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the
deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and
Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and
Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the
father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud,
and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan
the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph
the husband
of Mary, of
whom was
b o r n

JESUS

who is called Christ.

IT'S TIME TO
PAY
YOUR DUES

Annual Cathedral Dues for 2024:
\$150 for individuals; \$300 for families
(please see Ellen Hanavin, Treasurer)

**Payment is easy: cash, check,
credit card (in person or online –
stnicholaseoc.org – DONATE tab).
THANK YOU!**

*You are Invited to Holy Supper
Christmas Eve, Saturday, January 6, 2024,
5:00 PM in the Cathedral Hall*

*Donation: **\$10** to benefit the Cathedral Building Fund*



Are you coming to
Christmas Eve
Holy Supper?
Please make and bring
your favorite traditional
dish (but **TEXT**
Vicki Borriello first at
610-357-5474 to let her
know what you are
planning to cook as she
is coordinating the
menu.)
Thank You!



**Here's a great,
last-minute stocking
stuffer – and only \$5
each! Beautiful,
hand-made Matrushka
keychains that can
double as Christmas
tree ornaments! Many
colors. 2 sizes, Contact
Diane Kavchok,
kavchokd@aol.com
to get yours while they
last!**



Schedule of Services



Saturday, December 30	5:00 pm: Vespers
Sunday, December 31	8:45 am: Reading of the Hours 9:00 am: Vesting 9:15 am: Hierarchal Divine Liturgy
Saturday, January 6 CHRISTMAS EVE	5:00 pm: Holy Supper in the Cathedral Hall 6:30 pm: Vespers; Confession; followed by the Patriarchal Choir singing Christmas Carols
Sunday, January 7 CHRISTMAS DAY	8:45 am: Reading of the Third Hour 9:00 am: Vesting 9:15 am: Hierarchal Divine Liturgy, followed by the Patriarchal Choir singing Christmas Carols and Christmas Lunch in the Cathedral Hall
Saturday, January 13	5:00 pm: Vespers
Sunday, January 14	9:00 am: Vesting 9:15 am: Hierarchal Divine Liturgy, followed by monthly Panikhida and Moleben for New Year
Thursday, January 18 EVE OF THEOPHANY	5:00 pm: Vespers and Great Blessing of Water
Friday, January 19 FEAST OF THEOPHANY	9:00 am: Hierarchal Divine Liturgy
<p>Blessing of Homes with Holy Water Begins. Contact Bishop Luke directly (215-479-1010) to schedule your blessing.</p>	

SUNDAY VIGIL CANDLES LIT TODAY

1. For the health of my nephew, Chris Kavchok, offered by Diane Kavchok and Family
2. For the health of my grandson, Bennett Snoke, on his 15th birthday, Love, Grandmom
3. In memory of my mother/(great) grandmother, Helen Sameruck, on the 5th anniversary of her passing, offered by Judy and Tom Hanney and Family
4. For the health of Raymond James McNulty on his birthday, Love, Barbara and George
5. For the health of our Grandson, Jameson, on his 11th Birthday, offered by Baba and Pop-Pop McMonigle
6. For the health of Ellen and Phil Hanavin, offered by Colleen Philipp and Family



CATHEDRAL COUNCIL

- Thomas J. Hanney, President
- Susan Guz, Vice-President
- Ellen Hanavin, Treasurer
- Frank Borriello, Secretary

ST. NICHOLAS PATRIARCHAL CHOIR

- Eve Edwards, Soprano
- Nancy Stott Trauger, Alto
- Nathaniel McEwen, Tenor
- Andrew Bowling, Bass
- Susan Guz, Choir Director

ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

- Thomas J. Hanney
- Susan Guz
- Alex Janoczkin
- George Latsios
- Frank Murphy



CLERGY

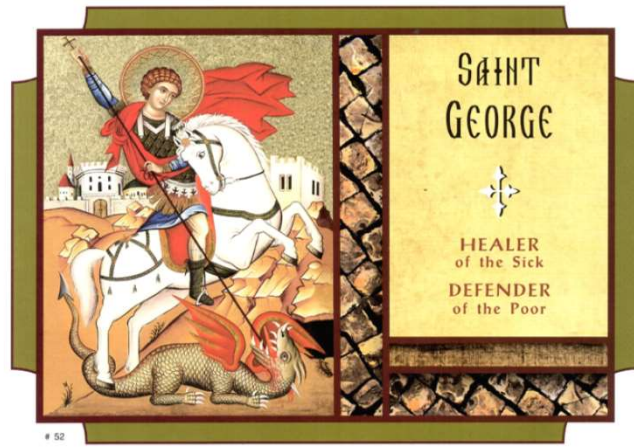
Bishop Luke (Zhoba) of Philadelphia,
Rector, St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral
V. Rev. Father Oleksii Kacharai

St. Nicholas Patriarchal Stavropigia Orthodox Cathedral
 817 N. 7th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123
 bishoplukephiladelphia@gmail.com
 stnicholaseoc.org

Cell: 215-479-1010
Cathedral Office: 215-922-9671

Email sneoc100@gmail.com to contribute information to this Bulletin. Info **must be received by 9 am on WEDNESDAY** to be published in the Sunday Bulletin.
 Editor-Publisher: Susan Guz

Liturgical Calendars for 2024 have arrived, compliments of Fletcher-Nasevich. Please pick up your calendar in the Candle Room while they last.



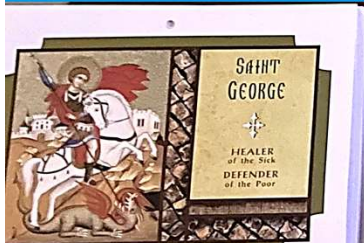
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DIVINE LITURGY: Sundays 9:30 AM - VESPERS: Saturdays 5:00 PM
Staroprigla of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church -- Kyivian Patriarchate

Compliments of
FLETCHER-NASEVICH FUNERAL HOME

Three Generations of Service since 1910
Michael E. Anne D. & Michael F. Nasevich, Charles Taggart, Glenn Bernhardt & T. J. Sidorsky
Northeast: 9529 Bustleton Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19115
(215) 673-8153 www.fletcher-nasevich.com

* * * * *Holidays on which Divine Services are held in most parishes.		JANUARY 2024	РІВНЬОСЬ JANVAR'	Shaded Days = Fast periods & days of strict fast		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

...an essential reference tool for every Orthodox household. This Julian wall calendar, printed and delivered to our parish every year by Fletcher-Nasevich Funeral Home, features saints and feast days; daily Scripture readings; fasting-day reminders; as well as contact information for our Cathedral. Thank you, Fletcher-Nasevich.



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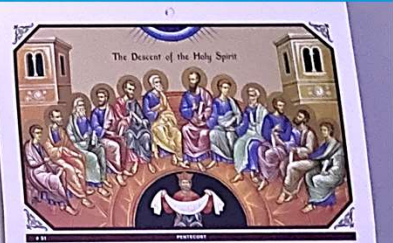
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***Building Up...*THE BUILDING FUND**

The Building Fund has been in our Bulletin news frequently over the past few months. We have directed donations from some Fellowship Lunches, special events and Boutique sales to the Building Fund. Why?

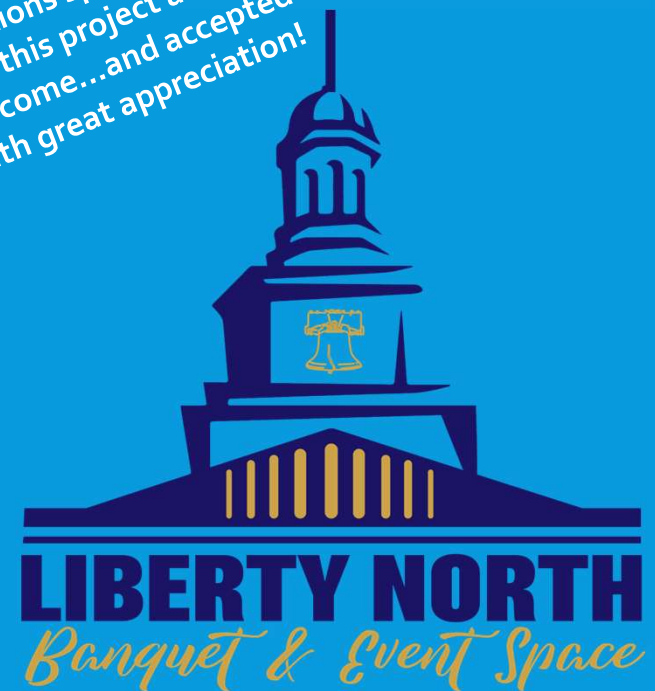
We are planning to change the acoustical ceiling tiles in the Cathedral Hall a/k/a Liberty North Hall. Our existing tiles – and lights – are old, scarred, and dated. Together they give the impression of a stark community room – rather than an elegant banquet hall.

After discussions with some parishioners and the Council, swapping out our old tiles and upgrading them with new vinyl, coffered tiles, as well as installing LED “high hat” lighting, will change the “look” of the Hall, permitting us to increase the Hall rental fee. Hall rentals are the Cathedral’s #1 revenue source. We need to not only maintain the Hall but upgrade it periodically to maximize returns.

The Hall will be closed for rentals in September and October 2024 for the sole purpose of completing this project. We will devise a schedule and ask for volunteers to help take out the old tiles and put in the new tiles. Samples of the new ceiling tiles have been installed in the Office. Stop by and take a peek!



Of course, individual donations specifically for this project are welcome...and accepted with great appreciation!



'TIS THE Season OF Giving



*Are the St. Nicholas Cathedral
CLERGY on your list?*

This year you will find in your weekly envelope box a “Special Offering” envelope for Clergy. This is the perfect time of year to show your appreciation to Bishop Luke, Father Oleksii – and Patriarch Philaret – for any spiritual guidance, advice, compassion, friendship, kindness or special help you may have received from them during the year.

You can indicate on the envelope to whom your gift is intended – and either hand it directly to Bishop Luke or Father Oleksii or leave it at the candle room window. You can also sign your name – or remain anonymous.



*“Freely you have
received; freely give.
Matthew 10:8*



ANNUAL VIGIL CANDLES LIT AT EVERY SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

1. +The Repose of the soul of Carol Dantine, offered by David Dantine, Jr. and Family. exp. 11/1/24
2. +The Repose of the souls of George and Barbara Wohar, offered by Barbara McMonigle and Family. exp. 11/1/24
3. +The Repose of the souls of John and Helen Guz; John and Mary Dzwonczyk; Paul and Anna Guz, offered by daughters/granddaughters Patricia Walker and Susan Guz. exp. 12/31/24
4. +The Repose of the souls of aunt, newly-departed Dorothy and uncle, Michael Chelak, offered with love from Patricia Walker and Susan Guz. exp. 12/14/24
5. +The Repose of the souls of Helen and Michael Zaruba, and Christina and Christopher Natale. May Their Memory Be Eternal. Offered with love by Daughter/Sister/Aunt, Marcia O'Connor. exp. 10/1/26
6. +The Repose of the souls of All Members of the Sisterhood Fallen Asleep in the Lord, offered by the Sisterhood of the Pokrova. exp. 10/13/24
7. +The Repose of the souls of the Boljarevich Family, Anastasia (Nancy) Yarosh, Helen Kon, Helen and John "Whitey" Horbacz, Harry Mason, Sophie Gamble, Michael Zaruba and John Martin. PERPETUAL
8. +The Repose of the soul of my beloved husband, our devoted father and grandfather, Jack Kavchok. May his memory be eternal! Offered with love, Diane, John, Michael, Melissa, Makenzie, Riley and Kylie. exp. 8/1/24
9. +The Repose of the souls of Emil and Helen Levchenko offered by daughter, Ellen Hanavin. exp. 12/31/23
10. +The Repose of the souls of Irina and Michael Sierp, Konstantin, Olga, Lydia and Juris Teterski, Richard Boswell, and the health of all living members of the Teterski, Sierp, Boswell and Lis Families, offered by Susan Lis. exp. 10/18/24
11. +The Repose of the soul of our mother and grandmother, Helen Marx, offered by Victoria, Frank, Christopher, Stephanie, Julia, Nicholas, Krissy, Nathan and Morgan Borriello. exp. 4/19/24
12. +In memory of John and Susan Stetsuk, offered by Susan Isaac. exp. 12/31/24
13. +In memory of Paul Stetsuk, offered by Susan Isaac. Exp. 12/31/24
14. +In memory of Vera, Richard and Paul Wienckowski, offered by Susan Isaac. exp. 12/31/24
15. +In memory of Evelyn Atlee, offered by the Borriello Family. exp. 12/31/23
16. +In memory of Nadia Borriello, offered by the Borriello Family. exp. 5/31/24
17. +In loving memory of our mother, Lillian Fox, and our sister, Karen Niehoff, offered by Renee Murphy and Gail Osborn & Families. exp. 9/1/24
18. +The Repose of the souls of the Kowal Family: Andrew, Paraskeva, Andrew, Catherine, Susan, John, Nionila, Anna, David, Franklin Shultz and Edward Barrett, offered by Drew Kowal. exp. 11/1/30
19. +The Repose of the souls of Stephen and Helen V. Sameruck, offered by Barbara Latsios, Judy Hanney and families. exp. 10/25/24
20. +The Repose of the souls of Mary and Gregory Buckley. Memory Eternal. Offered by the children and grandchildren of the Buckley, Janoczkin and Wojnarowicz Families. exp. 12/31/24
21. +In memory of Alexander and Ewdokia Janoczkin and son Michail, offered by the Janoczkin, Wojnarowicz and Adams families. exp. 12/31/24
22. +In memory of Joseph and Mary Ann Visman, offered by Debbie and Michael. exp. 5/2/24
23. +In loving memory of newly-departed sister-in-law/aunt, Sandra Chelak, who passed away on April 18 and brother-in-law/uncle, George Chelak, who passed away on July 24. Memory Eternal. Offered by Dorothy Chelak, Denise Chelak and Nina Davis. exp. 5/21/24
24. +In loving memory of newly-departed brother-in-law/uncle, Paul Chelak, who passed away on November 17. With prayers for Paul's eternal rest and to comfort his beloved wife of 59 years, Adrienne, and children David, Gregory and Victoria and their families. Memory Eternal. Offered by Dorothy Chelak, Denise Chelak and Nina Davis. exp. 11/30/24

###

THE SCRIPTURE READING FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2023

30TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



PRIEST: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!
READER: And to thy spirit.
PRIEST: Wisdom!
READER: The Prokeimenon in the 5th Tone: Thou, O Lord, shall protect us and preserve us from this generation forever!
CHOIR: Thou, O Lord, shall protect us and preserve us from this generation forever!
READER: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly. Thou, O Lord, shall protect us.
CHOIR: And preserve us from this generation forever!

PRIEST: Wisdom!

READER: The reading is from the Hebrews.

PRIEST: Let us attend!

READER: Brothers...By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, "In Isaac your seed shall be called," concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense. By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come. By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff. By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the departure of the children of Israel, and gave instructions concerning his bones. By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented- of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. **(Hebrews 11:9-10; 17-23, 32-40)**

PRIEST: Peace be unto thee, Reader.

READER: And to thy spirit.

PRIEST: Wisdom!

READER: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! **CHOIR:** Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

READER: I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever. With my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation.
For Thou has said: "Mercy will be established forever, and My truth will be prepared in the heavens."

CHOIR: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRIEST: Wisdom! Let us attend! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel. Peace be unto all.

CHOIR: And to thy spirit.

PRIEST: The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

CHOIR: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

PRIEST: Let us attend. The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah. Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah. Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon. And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel. Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud. Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins. So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which is translated, "God with us." Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS. **(Matthew 1:1-25)**

CHOIR: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

*Dear Clergy, Parishioners, Friends and
Family of the Honorees,*

**AN INVITATION TO A FUNDRAISER FOR
St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral
and a**

70th
Birthday
CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024

at approximately 11:30 AM

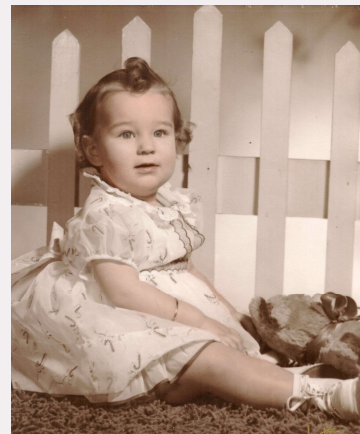
immediately following Divine Liturgy in our Cathedral Hall

Honoring 3 pillars of the Cathedral on their milestone 70th birthdays

BARBARA LATSIOS, Sisterhood President & 3rd Generation of a Founding Family (birthday: Jan. 25)

GAIL OSBORN, Sisterhood Member & 3rd Generation of a Founding Family (birthday: Feb. 28)

SUSAN GUZ, Cathedral Council Vice-President, Choir Director & Sisterhood Member (birthday: Mar. 19)



Blessing by Bishop Luke

Catering by Mario's Philadelphia - Champagne Toast - Dancing to DJ Torch

Décor by "Unique Creations"

**No gifts, please. Admission for everyone, including Clergy and
children, is by DONATION ONLY (any amount) to the
Cathedral at the door on February 11.**



Important 2024 Dates

Saturday, January 6, 2024:

Christmas Eve Holy Supper at 5:00 pm in the Cathedral Hall, followed by Vespers and Singing of Carols at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary

Sunday, January 7, 2024:

Christmas Day Hierarchal Divine Liturgy, followed by Christmas Lunch in the Cathedral Hall

Thursday, January 18, 2024:

Eve of Theophany and Great Blessing of Water at Vespers, 5:00 PM

Friday, January 19, 2024:

Theophany, Hierarchal Divine Liturgy, 9:00 AM

Sunday, February 11, 2024:

following Divine Liturgy in the Cathedral Hall, a Fundraiser for St. Nicholas Cathedral and Gala 70th Birthday Celebration

Monday, March 18, 2024:

Great Lent Begins

Sunday, April 28, 2024: PALM SUNDAY,

Traditional "Potato Pancake Brunch" in the Cathedral Hall, following Divine Liturgy

Sunday, May 5, 2024: EASTER

Sunday, June 2, 2024:

Annual Picnic on our South Lawn

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Interview at the main base location:

3021 Franks Rd., Suite 8, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006



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