

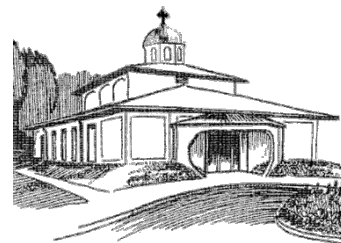


St Nicholas Orthodox Church

*A Parish of the Diocese of the Midwest
of the Orthodox Church in America*

9650 Johnnycake Ridge Road, Mentor, OH 44060

<https://saintnicholas-oca.org/>



Parish Rector: Fr Mark Therrien + (252) 813-6993 + fr.mark.therrien@gmail.com



Services & Events Beginning Sunday, May 12, 2024

Sunday, May 12	<i>Second Sunday of Pascha: Anti-Pascha (Sunday of St Thomas)</i> 9a Church School 9:45 Third Hour 10a Divine Liturgy 1p Blessing of Graves
Monday, May 13	<i>Fr Mark @ Deanery Meeting @ St John's in Warren</i>
Tuesday, May 14	<i>Day of Rejoicing (Radonitsa)</i> 9a Service for the Departed
Thursday, May 16	6:30p Parish Council Meeting
Saturday, May 18	5:30p Great Vespers
Sunday, May 19	<i>Third Sunday of Pascha: The Myrrh-Bearing Women (& Joseph of Arimathea)</i> 9a Church School (<u>last day</u>) 9:45 Third Hour 10a Divine Liturgy



Stewardship for PASCHA (May 5, 2024)

Operating: \$4,689; ZOE: \$165; Maintenance: \$135;
Holy Day: \$903; Diocesan Dues: \$280.25; Candles:
\$105; Uganda: \$109; Parish Charities: \$220; Alms:
\$400; Seminary: \$10

“Again we pray for those who bring offerings and do good works in this holy and all-venerable temple . . .”
(from the final petition of the Augmented Litany)

Thank you for your generosity!



NOTES FROM THE RECTOR

This Coming Tuesday: The Day of Rejoicing

By pious custom, this coming Tuesday we celebrate the Day of Rejoicing (*Radonitsa*).

What exactly is this day about? To understand, we have to back up a bit to Holy Week: According to the Church's liturgical tradition, once we come to Holy Thursday, services for the Departed are no longer allowed so that we can focus instead on the liturgies of Holy Week. Similarly, except in the case of a funeral for one who has departed, general services for the departed

are not allowed during Bright Week. This does not mean that we cannot pray for the departed during this time. In fact, it is our duty to pray for the departed at all times (and indeed, the departed are remembered at the services in other ways and during the Divine Liturgy during this time). It is simply the case that, on account of the special nature of Holy Week on the one hand, and on account of the joy and radiance of the days of Bright Week on the other, services specifically for the day are not allowed during this time.

This general prohibition against having special services for the departed comes to a close after the Sunday of Anti-Pascha (i.e., the Sunday of St Thomas)—a custom that might date back even to the time of St John Chrysostom. To mark this occasion, a pious custom gradually took shape in the churches of Rus'-Ukraine: Either on the Monday or Tuesday of the week of St Thomas, the practice developed of asking priests to do memorial services for departed family members at the beginning of this week. To note here: These services are not officially prescribed as part of the daily cycle (as are, for example, the services kept on the various Saturdays commemorating All Souls that are celebrated before and during the Great Fast, and also the Saturday of All Souls

that is celebrated before Pentecost Sunday). Still, over the years the custom has taken on, I would say, a kind of quasi-official status. And indeed, this is very fitting, for what could express our hope in the resurrection of the dead than by visiting the graves of our beloved dead and offering prayers for them?

To mark this commemoration in our parish, this Sunday (weather permitting) we will go to our parish's section at the Western Reserve to bless the graves of our departed parishioners. And then, this coming Tuesday morning, we will serve a General Panikhida in the temple. Please try to come to one of these special opportunities to pray for our departed. And, above all, please remember to use the opportunity afforded by this commemoration to remember your own departed in a special way this week.



Some Notes on the Transition from Bright Week to the Rest of the Paschal Season

As we continue our celebration of Pascha, an important transition took place this weekend: Officially, the first and most radiant part of the Paschal season—what is called Bright Week or Renewal Week—ended with the Divine Liturgy celebrated on Bright Sunday. After this liturgy, the transition from Bright Week is marked in a strong way liturgically: During Bright Week, the services are celebrated using special Paschal forms, and the doors of the iconostas are left open as a sign of how Christ's Pascha has opened to us the gates of heaven. After the Divine Liturgy of Bright Saturday, however, the doors are closed once again, and the services revert from their Paschal forms to the forms that are used throughout the rest of the year—except that, of course, we will continue to sing the Paschal Troparion, "Christ is risen from the dead..." until the leave-taking of Pascha. This transition is also marked by the re-introduction of fasting: Although some Orthodox traditions completely set aside the usual fast on Wednesday and Friday throughout the period of Pascha, our Church's Tradition does not. Rather, starting this week, we return to our regular fasting on Wednesday and Friday—although, in our practice, the fast is relaxed for oil and wine on account of the joy and beauty of Pascha.



Parish Prayer List

Perry Capitan, Julian, Sarah Crivella, Joella (LuAnn Dzura's daughter), **Emily Finazzo**, (friend of the Rendas), **David Campbell** (Debbie Clements' brother), **Patrick Leahy** (Dave K.'s brother-in-law), **Rick Wagner**

(Merrick and Mia's grandfather), **Bruce** (Kristen Moore's father), **Joseph Chuppa, Ronald** (in baptism, **Thomas**) (Collin Moore's father), **Mary Ann Sheranko, Helen** (Jan Ursinyi's mother), **Kevin, Declan, and Teagon** (husband and children of the newly-reposed Kristen), **Christina & John** (Mike Brzozowski's sister and brother), **Andrew Dzura, Rich Cook** (Cindy Renda's brother), **Daniel Conger** (friend of Jim Renda); **the residents of St Herman's House, as well as those who serve them**; our seminarian, **Cole (Paul) Schlafer**, and his family members: **Sarah, Simon, Michael, & Nikolai**; the members of the **Bagley family, especially Joseph, Rosemary, Isaac, Lucia, & Julian**; **Jim Barkas**; **Delphine** (mother of Sean Kiernan, husband of newly-reposed John); **Jennifer** (Katie Horabik's friend); **Dana** (Merrick and Mia Wagner's step-mother); **Stacey and Ian** (friends of Katie Horabik); **Janice** (Laurie Alexander's mother); **Miriam Kuhl** (Sue Hoffacker's sister); **Boris & Maria** (friends of Anna Kozikov); **Michael** (cousin of Anna Kozikov); **Amy Wagner**; **Katarina** (relative of Natalie Antonoff); **Aleksey Byltsov** (son of Natalie Antonoff); **the suffering Christians of Ukraine, the Middle East, and Armenia**

Birthdays this week: 5/12: Peter Renda; 5/14: Jim & Lisa Gordon; 5/15: Corrine Schroeder; 5/16: Anna Cunningham; 5/17: Mike Brzozowski, Bennett Goodell; 5/18: Nicholas Fross

Expecting: Greg & Grace, Jon & Alexandra, Patrick & Katherine, Jake & Allison Szendrey, Subdeacon David (Jeffrey) & Michelle, Brian & Katya

Catechumens: Dalton Moses, Nick & Abrea Monda (*who are soon to be illumined*), **Alex Wittie**

Newly born: Anysia Theophana (Joseph & Venessa); **Leo** (Weston & Rachel)

TODAY (MOTHER'S DAY): All of our mothers, grandmothers, & godmothers (both living & departed)

Newly departed: Paris Anthony Santone (Debbie Covelli's nephew), **Joseph Demanski, Cathy Ubancic** (friend of the Rendas), **Patricia** (Michael Abernathy's grandmother), **Nun Elizabeth** (of Holy Transfiguration Monastery), **Kristen** (Michelle Hoover's cousin), **Jane Hunt** (great grandmother of Sofia Kiernan), **Patricia Wilcoxson** (Rosemary Bagley's mother); **Joseph Naymik; Jay Emmer-Lovell** (friend of the Russell, Horabik & Lehman families); **Pauline Demanski; Elizabeth** (Denise Busch's aunt); **Theodore Kisha** (father of Ted Kisha); **Daniel** (newly reposed infant son of Fr Peter and Matushka Sophie Ries); **John** (father of Sean Kiernan)