

St Nicholas Parish Bulletin – April 2017

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Announcements

Verse: In congregations bless ye God, the Lord from the well-springs of Israel – Psalm 67:27.

Стихъ: Въ цѣрквахъ благословите Бога, Господа ѿтхъ источниковъ Израилевыхъ. – **Псаломъ 67, стъ 27.**

Стихъ: Въ собраніяхъ благословите Бога Господа отъ источниковъ Израилевыхъ – **Псаломъ 67:27.**

This Bulletin

This April Bulletin is dedicated to the loving memory of our beloved Mother and Grandmother, Nina B. Kendall; and our Grandfather and Great Grandfather, Protodeacon Sergi Belaieff; and our Grandmother and Great Grandmother, Matushka Zinaida Belaieff. May their memory be eternal!

The Kendall & Callaghan Families

PayPal Button On Our Website

New: St Nicholas Church appreciates the ongoing financial assistance of parishioners, visitors, and other friends. For convenience, gifts can now be sent online via credit card---just look for the orange **Donate** button at the upper right on our homepage. As always: thanks for your support.

Paschal Donation Envelopes: This Bulletin includes a special donation envelope for Pascha. Please send your contribution in. We depend on your donations! *Your donations can be either mailed in or dropped into the collection basket when you come to church.*

Sponsor the Bulletin: If you wish to sponsor any future issues in whole or in part, please contact our treasurer, Anastasia Milligan or ask at the Candle Desk. You may donate in memory of a departed relative, or for some milestone, a birthday, anniversary or other celebration.

Deadline for Submissions: Notices from parishioners or parish organizations must be submitted to Fr George by the 18th of the month for inclusion in the next Bulletin.

We are on the Internet: We wish to invite our readers to visit our Parish's Facebook and web pages at:

<http://www.StNicholasStratford.org>

<http://tinyurl.com/StNicholasFacebook>

Electronic Distribution: The St Nicholas Parish Bulletin is distributed electronically. Our Bulletin is also available for download from our website, www.StNicholasStratford.org.

A *limited number* of copies will be printed for parishioners who are *members in good standing* and do not have email. Anyone else who wishes to receive a hard copy may take out a *sub-*

scription at the rate of \$20 per year.

Services

Calendars for 2017: The Parish Calendars for 2017 are still available at the Candle Desk, courtesy of Adzima's Funeral Home.

Great Lent: This year Great Lent began on Monday 27 February. During Lent we abstain from meat, eggs, dairy products, and fish. On weekdays we also abstain from wine and oil. Let us also abstain from every sin, and increase our efforts for spiritual growth. We should increase prayer, attendance at the special Lenten services, almsgiving and other deeds of mercy. Lent is given to us to cleanse our hearts and souls in preparation for our Lord's Resurrection. Fish is permitted on Annunciation, Friday 7 April and on Palm Sunday, 9 April.

Acathist with Matins: On the Fifth Friday of Lent, 31 March, we will serve the entire Acathist service with Matins beginning at 6:30 pm.

Presanctified Liturgy: On Wednesdays of Lent it is customary to serve the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts. This year we will hold the Presanctified Liturgy in the morning on some days and in the evening on others.

The Presanctified Liturgy will be held at **7:30 in the morning** on Wednesday **1 March**, at **10 in the morning** on Wednesday **15 March**; and at **6:30 in the evening** on Wednesdays **8 March, 22 March and 5 April**.

Those wishing to receive Holy Communion should prepare by prayer, fasting and confession. Confessions will begin half an hour before the start of the Presanctified Liturgy.

Lazarus Saturday: There will be no services for Lazarus Saturday, 8 April, this year.

Palm Sunday: One of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Church Year, this celebrates the triumphant entry of our Lord into Jerusalem six days before His Passion. Vigil with Litya and the blessing of palms (and pussy willows) will begin at 5 pm Saturday 8 April, and Divine Liturgy for the Feast, at the usual time, 10 am Sunday 9 April. Fish, wine and oil are permitted on this day for the sake of the Feast. There will be a collection for the Holy Land at the end of the Liturgy.

Holy Week Services: As there are many special services for Holy Week and Pascha, please consult the *special schedule of services* included in this Bulletin.

Confession During Holy Week: Those who wish to receive Communion during Holy Week and Pascha and Bright Monday should go to confession during the appointed times before, during or after the services, and not wait till the last minute before the beginning of the Divine Liturgy. There will be no

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confessions after the beginning of the Paschal Vigil on Holy Saturday night. If you miss the opportunity, you may receive Communion at the Liturgy on Holy Monday, or the following Sunday of St Thomas.

Bridegroom Matins: *Behold, the Bridegroom cometh in the middle of the night.* This is the beginning of the Troparion for the Matins of the first three days of Holy Week. We will serve the Bridegroom Matins, Parts II, III and IV beginning at 6:30 pm on Monday through Wednesday 10 through 12 April.

No Holy Unction at St Nicholas: We will *not* have Holy Unction at St Nicholas Church this year. Instead, we will serve the Bridegroom Matins Part IV at 6:30 pm 12 April.

Those who wish may attend the Holy Unction service at:

- 4 pm Sunday 2 April at Three Saints Church, 26 Howard Ave, Ansonia, or at
- 4 pm Palm Sunday, 9 April, at Holy Virgin Protection Church, 51 Prospect St, Nyack NY

You should prepare by prayer, fasting and Confession.

Holy Thursday: The Vespers Divine Liturgy of St Basil on Holy Thursday begins at 9:30 am 13 April. This celebrates the Institution (foundation) of the Sacrament (Holy Communion) at the Mystical Supper in that Upper Room in Jerusalem on the eve of our Lord's Passion.

12 Passion Gospels: Matins for Good Friday with the 12 Gospel readings of the Passion of our Lord will begin at 6:30 pm Holy Thursday 13 April. This is one of the most profound and meaningful services of the Church year, and it is a pity that many of our parishioners have missed it in the past. Although it is a long service, *we should unfailingly attend* out of gratitude to our Lord for saving us, and to learn about the events that took place in that fateful night and day that changed the world forever. *We should also remain in the church until the end of the service.*

Vespers of the Plaschanitsa: Vespers of Great and Holy Friday marks the end of our Lord's Passion, and His Burial. This is a very beautiful service, during which we bring out the Plaschanitsa (Winding Sheet) of our Lord. The service begins at 2 pm Friday 14 April.

Burial of our Lord: Matins for Holy Saturday with the Lamentations of the Burial of our Lord will begin at 6:30 pm Friday 14 April. This service includes a funeral procession for our Lord, and concludes with the Prophecy of Ezekiel of the Resurrection over the dry bones. This service is not as long as the 12 Passion Gospels, and is now sparsely attended. *We need people for banners, icons, candles and bearers to carry the Plaschanitsa* as we go around the church in the procession.

Holy Saturday: The Vespers Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great for Holy Saturday with the 15 Old Testament readings begins at 9 am on Saturday 15 April. In the ancient times this was the Paschal Liturgy. The Old Testament readings are the foretelling of the salvation of the world, and foretypes of the Resurrection. The service is marked by a transition from sadness to

joy. The readings are taken in turn by our children and other volunteers.

Paschal Vigil: This includes the Paschal Nocturnes, Paschal Matins, Paschal Hours and Paschal Divine Liturgy. The Vigil begins at 11:30 pm Saturday 15 April with Nocturnes (Midnight Office) that echoes the Canon of Holy Saturday, *In the waves of the sea (Volnoju morskiju)*, during which we gradually dim the lights, and bring the Plaschanitsa into the Altar. At midnight we begin Matins with a procession celebrating the Resurrection of our Saviour. Immediately following the Matins, we have the Paschal Hours (very short) and the Paschal Divine Liturgy. The Liturgy begins around 1:30 am, and we finish about 3 am. This is the most festive Divine Liturgy in the whole year, and all Orthodox Christians should strive to be present at it and share the joy of the Resurrection. A Paschal breakfast follows at which we eat the blessed Paschal foods.

Blessing of Paschal Foods: The Paschal foods (kulichi, meat, eggs, cheese) are supposed to be blessed at the end of the Paschal Liturgy (around 3 am on Pascha night), and with the singing of *Christ is risen (Khristos voskrese)*. However, since not everyone can be present at that time, we have appointed the following times for blessing the Paschal foods on Holy Saturday, 15 April:

- At the end of Holy Saturday Liturgy, about 2 pm
- At 5 pm
- Before the Paschal Vigil, at 11 pm

All blessings will be downstairs in the Church Hall, and without singing of *Christ is risen*, since this is before midnight. Please do not bring foods (especially flesh-meats) into the church itself. This is not permitted.

Paschal Vespers: There will be no Divine Liturgy on Pascha Day itself, Sunday 16 April, since it will have already been served earlier, in the middle of the night. Instead, Paschal Vespers will be served at the usual time of the Sunday service, 10 am.

Bright Monday: Divine Liturgy for the second day of Pascha will begin at 10 am Monday 17 April. This service is for those children (and others) who cannot come to the Midnight Service on Pascha, and will include a procession by the children with Icons, a festive Trapeza, and an Easter egg hunt.

Life-Giving Fount: We will serve Vespers for the Life-Giving Fount of the Mother of God on Thursday of Bright Week, 20 Apr, beginning at 6:30 pm.

Blessing of Graves: This will be on St Thomas Sunday and Monday of St Thomas Week:

- **Sunday 23 April** – 2:00 pm, *St Joseph's Cemetery* in Lordship; 3:30 pm, *Union Cemetery* in Stratford; and 5:00 pm, *St John's Cemetery* in Stratford.
- **Monday 24 April** – 4:00 pm, *Old Milford Cemetery*; 5:00 pm, *King's Highway Cemetery* in Milford.
- **Wednesday 26 April** – 3:00 pm, *St John's Cemetery* in Monroe; 5:00 pm, *Lakeview Cemetery* in Bridgeport.

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At the appointed time we will serve a general Pannychida at the Chapel (St John's), at the flagpole in the middle of the cemetery (King's Highway), at the main entrance (Lakeview), or at the main Cross (St John's Monroe), and then we will bless the individual graves. If you cannot be present for the blessing of a grave at the stated time, or if you have a loved one buried elsewhere, you can arrange to have Fr George bless a grave at another time.

Blessing of Homes: If Fr. George was unable to bless your home before Lent and you still wish to have your house blessed, please contact Fr George and set up an appointment.

Pan-Orthodox Vespers

The Pan-Orthodox Lenten Vespers are sponsored by the Greater Bridgeport Orthodox Clergy Association and are held at various Orthodox churches in the Bridgeport area. The Vespers are every Sunday afternoon during Lent. This year's schedule is as follows. *All services are at 4 pm:*

5th Sunday, St Mary of Egypt: April 2, *OCA Connecticut Deanery Holy Unction Service, Three Saints Church*; 26 Howard Ave, Ansonia

A *Lenten Coffee Hour* is held after Vespers, so that parishioners may meet and be acquainted with Orthodox Christians and clergy from other parishes in our area. *We will be hosting the Coffee Hour at St Nicholas Church after Vespers, Sunday 26 March.* We ask that all those who are able to contribute lenten foods that are easy to serve coordinate with *Maria Peavy* so that we may welcome and visit with our Orthodox neighbors

Our Parish

Is Anyone Graduating? June is the end of the academic year and the month when most students graduate. We wish to remember the graduates of our parish at the *Moleben for the End of the Studies* which will be on the Sunday after Pentecost (All Saints' Sunday). *We will also announce our congratulation in the June Bulletin.* Please let us know if you or anyone in your family is graduating or finishing any school, college, high school, academy, or any study program. Contact Fr George at

frglardas@gmail.com

or call 203 209-9374, or text message him at that number.



Flowers for the Plaschanitsa: During Lent the collection box next to the icon stand in the middle of the church is for flowers for the Plaschanitsa and for Pascha.

Call for Pussy Willows: Palm Sunday is 9 April this year. We ask all our parishioners to cut pussy willows when they come into bloom (which may be early this year since we are already experiencing spring weather as of this writing), and bring them to church to put with others that we are keeping for Palm Sunday. Until you bring them to church, please keep them in a cool, dark place so that they stay fresh. We will need the pussy willows by Saturday afternoon (3 pm) 8

April.

Our Children

Help your children "get into the right spirit" for Pascha...

Mark your calendar:

ST. NICHOLAS PASCHAL EVENTS FOR CHILDREN:

Lenten retreat - Saturday 1 April at 2:00 (*note the time* with Vigil beginning at 5 pm). Ages 3 and up. Fr George will give a talk, and the children will watch a film that pertains to Lent and Pascha, make a craft, and practice the Paschal troparion. Children will have a pot-luck supper at 4:30 and stay for Vespers; older children may go to Confession. Please enter your child's name at the Candle Desk.

St Nicholas Annual Children's Communion Breakfast – Sunday 2 April after Holy Communion. All children are invited to a festive breakfast during Coffee Hour. Parents needed to bring and prepare light breakfast fare.

Divine Liturgy – Holy Saturday, 15 April – Older children are invited to do readings. Please see Matushka Ann for a reading assignment.

Children's Paschal Liturgy – Bright Monday, 17 April – Children carry icons during the procession (*krestnyj khod*) around the church, followed by an *Easter egg hunt and lamb dinner for all parishioners.*

End of Church School and Picnic: This will take place on the Sunday after Pentecost, 11 June after the Divine Liturgy. This is the last day before the Apostles' Fast. We ask all Church School children and their teachers to attend. We will also congratulate all graduates in our parish from all schools or colleges. If you have children in school and wish to have their names commemorated, please submit them to the Candle Desk by the end of the Liturgy of that day. With fair weather, we will hold our Coffee Hour outside.

Choir

Come, Join the Choir: We always appreciate having new choir members. It is one way to serve the parish and learn about the services of the Church.

Our Diocese

Commemoration: By decision of our Synod of Bishops, we will mark the *100th Anniversary of the Russian Revolution* with memorials to those that perished at the hands of the godless on the Soul Saturdays: 1.) the day before Meat Fare Sunday, 18 February; 2.) the three Soul Saturdays of Lent, 11, 18, and 25 March; and 3.) on St Demetrius Saturday, 28 October. The text of the petition to be said on these occasions is as follows: *Again we pray for the repose of the departed servants of God who innocently died, endured suffering and torture, were exiled and imprisoned and tasted bitter death, whose names Thou alone knowest, O Lord.*

To mark the *10th Anniversary of the Restoration of Unity in the Russian Church*, the Prayer for the Prosperity of the Russian

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Church is to be read at the Divine Liturgy on Ascension Day, 25 May.

Orthodox Neighbors

Holy Unction in Ansonia: The Greater Bridgeport Orthodox Clergy Association, along with the Connecticut Deanery of the OCA is holding a Holy Unction Service at Three Saints Church, 26 Howard Ave, Ansonia the 5th Sunday of Lent, 2 April. Those who attend should prepare by Confession, prayer and fasting.

Holy Unction in Nyack: Bishop Nicholas of Manhattan will serve Holy Unction at the Holy Virgin Protection Church, 51 Prospect St, Nyack NY at 4 pm on Palm Sunday, 9 April. Those who attend should prepare by Confession, prayer and fasting.

Chronicle

Kursk-Root Icon: On Wednesday night, 1 March, the Kursk-Root Icon visited our sister parish of the Presentation of our Lord. Bishop Nicholas brought the Icon and also read the Great Canon, Part III. On this occasion, we cancelled the evening service at St Nicholas, and prayed with the Presentation Parish. Serving with Bishop Nicholas were: Archpriest Constantine Semyanko, Rector; Archpriest George Lardas, and Archpriest Vladimir Kovalchuk of the Chernovtsy Diocese of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

On the Christian Life

Why it is So Important to Attend Holy Week Services:

Some of us have had the good fortune to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, to be where our Lord Himself lived, walked and preached. For those of us who have been there, the Gospel becomes more real and more meaningful. However, each year, we all have the opportunity to go on an spiritual pilgrimage to the Holy Land. We often say that Lent is a journey, and so it is. It is like the travel through various lands before we reach the Holy Land. On Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week, we have finally arrived and we enter into Jerusalem with our Lord. And for the next few days, in the services of Holy Week, we experience the Gospel account of our Lord's passion, death and Resurrection.

As these are the holiest days of the year, we set aside our personal cares and go to be with our Lord Jesus Christ. Without the Holy Week services, we miss out on the meaning of Pascha. Let us summarize these events and services:

- **Palm Sunday: *Our Lord enters Jerusalem*** – During the Vigil on Saturday night we bless palm branches and read the Gospel of how the people who were gathering in Jerusalem preparing to celebrate the Passover greeted Him as Messiah (Savior) with palm branches and cries of Hosanna (*Save us now!*). During the Liturgy on Sunday hear more about these events.
- **First four days of Holy Week: *Our Lord teaches the people in the Temple*** – At Matins (served the night before) we greet the our Lord as the Bridegroom Who comes in the middle of

the night, and the Gospel readings recount His teaching and the struggle with the Pharisees.

- **Holy Thursday Morning: *The Institution of the Sacrament (Communion)*** – We celebrate the Mystical Supper at the Vespereal Divine Liturgy, during this which we set aside the Reserved Sacrament for the Communion of the Sick during the course of the year. This is the most important Divine Liturgy of the year, the prototype of all other Divine Liturgies.
- **Holy Thursday Evening: *Our Lord's Passion*** – During the Matins for Good Friday, which we serve the night before (Thursday), we read the Twelve Passion Gospels. We accompany our Lord step by step in the events of this fateful night and day when our Lord was betrayed, arrested, interrogated, tortured, condemned to death, crucified, and buried. No Orthodox Christian should miss this service. Everyone has an obligation to attend.
- **Good Friday Afternoon: *The Burial of our Lord*** – During this Vespers service we put the image of our Lord (*Plaschanitsa*) in the Tomb, and read the Gospel of His Burial. We then venerate His Life-Bearing Tomb.
- **Good Friday Evening: *The Lamentations of the Tomb*** – The Matins for Holy Saturday, which we serve the previous night (Friday) is the funeral of our Lord. We make a procession around the church with the Bier of our Lord (*Plaschanitsa*), and when we re-enter the church we pass under His Tomb signifying that by His Death we are given life.
- **Holy Saturday Morning: *The first Paschal service*** – This is the Vespereal Divine Liturgy of Holy Saturday, served before the Tomb of our Lord with 15 Old Testament readings relating to the death and Resurrection of our Lord. During this service, between the reading of the Epistle and the Gospel, we turn the hangings and vestments from dark (black) to white in anticipation of the Resurrection.
- **Holy Saturday Night: *The Resurrection of Christ*** – The Paschal Vigil begins at midnight by celebrating the moment of the Resurrection with a procession around the church, followed by Paschal Matins and the Paschal Divine Liturgy in the middle of the night. This is the most triumphant and special and beautiful service of the whole year.

It is unfortunate that while the service on Pascha night is fairly well attended (at least at the beginning), the other, very beautiful services are neglected. ***Every Orthodox Christian*** should, without fail, attend ***at least these services:*** The Twelve Passion Gospels on Holy Thursday evening, the Vespers of the Plaschanitsa on Good Friday afternoon, and the Midnight Service on Pascha Night (Saturday night going into Sunday).

These are for us the High Holy Days, our Passover (*How is this night different from other nights?* – Let us not forget that Pascha is the Hebrew word, Passover). This is the very thing that makes us Christian. As one who has been to the Holy Land, I can attest to the fact that the Holy Week services bring me back to that experience. It is as though I am in Jerusalem – there with our Lord. And this experience is available to all of us who while pre-

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sent attend to the words and content of those services. When we miss these very meaningful services of Holy Week, we lose much spiritual benefit.

We should not deprive our children either. I remember when I was a child the solemnity of the Twelve Gospels Service, the earnest expectation before the moment of Resurrection, and the joy of the Midnight Service on Pascha night, followed by breaking the fast together as a family in the wee hours of the night.

– Fr George Lardas, Rector

Administrative

Lampada Sponsorship: Offerings may be made to sponsor the lighting of the lampadas at the Divine Liturgy, either in memory of loved ones, or in gratitude for blessings received, or for any other good intention. The sponsorship of the lampadas is \$25 for all the lampadas in the church. Register at the Candle Desk if you wish to sponsor the lampadas, in whole or in part, on a Sunday of your choice.

Utilities: Please remember that on the *first Sunday* of each month there is a special collection for *utilities*.

Consider the Church in Your Will: Please consider including St Nicholas Church in your will. There are many advantages in making the Church one of your beneficiaries. It is possible to structure the bequest so that there is little loss to the estate. Please contact our Starosta, Dexter Peavy, for more information.

Become a Member: If you attend services but are not a member, would you please consider joining? The cost is not great – \$150 per adult, or \$300 for families with two adults and any number of children. This amounts to about \$12.50 a month per person. We also have an introductory rate for students.

Liturgical Notes

We include this section so that Fr George may have help changing the altar cloths and vestments at the appropriate times. This is a lot of work, but goes much more easily with a few helping hands.

Dark Red or Purple: The altar cloths and vestments are red from Friday evenings through Sunday evenings of Lent, purple vestments may be used as well. While the red cloths are used, the black ones are hidden underneath for the next Lenten weekday service.

Black: We use black from Sunday nights through Friday afternoons of Lent and Holy Week. While the black cloths are used, the red ones are hidden underneath for the next Lenten weekend services.

Blue: Before the Vigil of Annunciation, 6:30 pm Thursday 6 April, blue cloths are placed on the black altar cloths, and blue vestments are used. On Friday evening 7 April, the blue cloths and vestments are put away, and the gold or green are used.

Gold and Green: Before Lazarus Saturday on Friday evening (6:30 pm) 7 April, we put gold altar cloths on top of the black

(which will be used during Holy Week). We use gold and green vestments that weekend.

Palms and Pussy Willows: We need these before Vigil (by 5 pm) Saturday 8 April for Palm Sunday. We ask our parishioners to bring these in ahead of time, and the palms need to be ordered from the florist's well in advance.

Purple: Red and purple are used for the Divine Liturgy on Holy Thursday. Before Matins at 7 pm Wednesday 12 April, the altar cloths are turned to red, with the black hidden underneath. We will use purple vestments for the Matins and Divine Liturgy on Thursday morning 13 April. After the Liturgy, everything is changed back to black.

Plaschanitsa Flowers: On Good Friday morning, 14 April, the Tomb of our Saviour is placed in the middle of the church and decorated with flowers. A white cloth is placed over the Tomb.

Plaschanitsa: This is placed on the Holy Table before the Vespers of Good Friday, 14 April, which begins at 2 pm.

Sign: The *Christ is Risen* sign is placed over the Royal Doors on the afternoon of Holy Saturday, 15 April, in preparation for the Paschal Vigil.

White: Before the Divine Liturgy on Holy Saturday morning, 15 April, the red cloths are taken away, and white cloths are laid down. On top of these are the black cloths which will be removed before the Gospel reading at the Liturgy that morning. The white remains until the end of Pentecost week, Saturday 10 June.

Carnations: Before the Liturgy on Mother's day, Sunday 14 May, a bunch of carnations are placed in the church for the children of the Church School to hand to the mothers in the parish as they come to kiss the Cross.

Prayer Requests

Reminder: If you need a hospital visit or wish Fr George to visit a sick relative, please call and let us know. Hospitals no longer give out information to non-relatives without express permission, so if you want the priest to know yours or your loved one's condition you must inform the hospital or nursing home in writing.

Pray for our Soldiers: Although we do not have any parishioners of St Nicholas Church on active duty now, our parishioner, Vera Peebles asks prayers for her granddaughter's husband, John. There are also many Orthodox Christians in the Armed Forces and serving in the War. Please keep them and all our soldiers in your prayers.

Asking Prayers: Please remember the following names in your prayers:

Ailing Clergy: Archbishop Paul (Pavlos) of Astoria (Greek Old-Calendar), Archbishop Nikon (OCA), and Mitered Archpriest Stavros Rousos.

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Ailing Parishioners: Emilia Hramov, Kiril (Charles) Nettle, Katherine Pcolka, Vera Peebles and her daughter Janet, Elena Skorik, Denis Zimbalkin.

Ailing Orthodox: Reader John, Uliana Drobot, Nadezhda Jakovenko, Nicholas and Betty (Vasiliki) Lardas, Yvette (Eve) Girard, Andrea Picard, Sophia, Peter Nelson, Desislava Dimitrova, Margaret, Theophan, and also the servants of God Velitchka, Sophia Michaels, and for Helena (Janet) Lardas (cancer). Prayers are also asked for child Taras.

Ailing Non-Orthodox: Veronica Wlodarski, the daughter of Elizabeth Wlodarski, and Sophia Salinger, the daughter of Tatiana Sergievsky.

Other Requests, Orthodox: Reader Paul, Reader Vladimir, Anatole, David, Ambrose, Matthew, Nicholas, Andrés, Benjamin, Geoffrey, and Daniel.

Other Requests, Non-Orthodox: Ken, Jane, Loren, and Daniel.

Soldiers, Orthodox: Christopher, Nicolas, Jesse, Andrei, Michael, Timothy, James, and Sarah.

Soldiers, Non-Orthodox: John and Geoffrey.

Is Anyone Sick? “Let him call the presbyters,” as it says in the Epistle of St James. If you know anyone who needs attention please let Fr George know. Call 203 209-9374 and leave a message.

Is Anyone Better? If you have submitted any names for the list of prayers for the sick and that person has recovered, please let us know so we can keep the list a manageable length.

Mark Your Calendar

Please mark these events of the coming months in your calendar:

Sunday 14 May – Mother’s Day

Thursday 25 May – Ascension

Sunday 4 June – Pentecost

Sunday 11 June – Church School Picnic

Monday 12 June – Apostles’ Fast begins

Sunday 18 June – Father’s Day

Wednesday 12 July – Ss Peter & Paul, Apostles’ Fast ends

St Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church

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Fr George Lardas, Rector – Telephone 203 / 209-9374

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 (13) Mar 4 th Sun of Gt Lent, St John Climacus, Tone 7 Liturgy 10 am Pan-Orthodox Lenten Vespers, St Nicholas 4 pm Fast day	27 (14) Fast day	28 (15) Fast day	29 (16) Great Canon of St Andrew 6:30 pm Fast day	30 (17) Fast day	31 (18) Matins with Acahist Hymn 6:30 pm Fast day	1 Apr (19 Mar) Saturday of the Acahist 2 pm Children's Lenten Retreat Vigil 5 pm Fast day
2 (20) 5 th Sunday of Great Lent, St Mary of Egypt Tone 8 Liturgy 10 am Children's Com- munion Breakfast Fast day	3 (21) Fast day	4 (22) Fast day	5 (23) Presanctified Liturgy 6:30 pm Fast day	6 (24) Vigil with Great Compline and Litya for Annunciation 6:30 pm Fast day	7 (25) ANNUNCIATION Vesperal Liturgy 9:30 am Fast day Fish permitted	8 (26) Lazarus Saturday Vigil with Litya for Palm Sunday 5 pm Fast day
9 (27) PALM SUNDAY Liturgy 10 am Collection for the Holy Land Fish permitted Bridegroom I Matins 6:30 pm	10 (28) Holy Monday Bridegroom II Matins 6:30 pm Fast day	11 (29) Holy Tuesday Bridegroom III Matins 6:30 pm Fast day	12 (30) Holy Wednesday Bridegroom IV Matins 6:30 pm Fast day	13 (31) Holy Thursday Liturgy of St Basil 9:30 am 12 Passion Gospels 6:30 p Fast day	14 (1 Apr) Good Friday Plaschanitsa 2 pm Lamentations 6:30 pm Fast day	15 (2) Holy Saturday Liturgy of St Basil 10 am Nocturnes 11:30 pm Vigil Midnight Fast day
16 (3) PASCHA the Resurrection of our Lord Liturgy 1:30 am Paschal Vespers 10 am	17 (4) Bright Monday 2 nd Day of Pascha Children's Liturgy 10 am Procession with Icons	18 (5) Bright Tuesday 3 rd Day of Pascha	19 (6) Bright Wednesday No fast	20 (7) Bright Thursday Vespers for the Life-Giving Fount 6:30 pm	21 (8) Bright Friday, Life-Giving Fount No fast	22 (9) Bright Saturday Vigil 5 pm
23 (10) 2 nd S of Pascha St Thomas Liturgy 10 am Bl of Graves: 2:00 St Joseph's 3:30 Union 5:00 St John's	24 (11) Blessing of Graves: 4:00 Old Milford 5:00 King's Hwy	25 (12) Radonitsa	26 (13) Bl of Graves: 3:00 St J Monroe 5:00 Lakeveiw Fast day	27 (14) Fast day	28 (15) Fast day	29 (16) Vigil 5 pm
30 (17) 3 rd Sunday of Pascha Myrrh Bearers Tone 2 Liturgy 10 am	1 May (18 Apr) Fast day	2 (19) Fast day	3 (20) Fast day	4 (21) Fast day	5 (22) Fast day	6 (23) St George Moleben 3 pm Vigil 5 pm

Note: Dates in parentheses are Old Style (Julian Calendar).

Please mark these events of the coming months in your calendar:

Saturday 1 April – Children's Lenten Retreat
Sunday 2 April – Children's Communion Breakfast
Sunday 9 April – Palm Sunday

Friday 14 April – Good Friday
Sunday 16 April - Pascha

Great Lent – From Monday 27 (Old Style 14) February until Pascha, Sunday 16 (Old Style 3) April, we abstain from meat, eggs, dairy products and fish; on weekdays we also abstain from wine and oil. Fish, wine and oil are permitted on Annunciation Day, Friday 7 April (25 March) and Palm Sunday, 9 April (27 March).

Свято-Николаевская Русская Православная Церковь

Календарь – Апрель 2017 г.

О. Георгий Лардас, Настоятель – Телефон 203 / 209-9374

Воскресенье	Понедельник	Вторник	Среда	Четверг	Пятница	Суббота
26 (13) Мар 4ая Нед Вел Поста, Преп Иоанна Лествичника, Глас 7 Литургия 10 утр Великопостная Вечерня 4 ч дня День постный	27 (14) День постный	28 (15) День постный	29 (16) Великий Канон (Андреево Стояние) 6:30 ч веч День постный	30 (17) День постный	31 (18) Утренняя Акафиста 6:30 ч веч День постный	1 Апр (20 Мар) Суббота Акафиста Детское Говение 2 ч дня Всенощная 5 ч веч День постный
2 (20) 5ая Неделя Великого Поста, Преп Марии Египетския Глас 8 Литургия 10 утр Детск Причащ День постный	3 (21) День постный	4 (22) День постный	5 (23) Литургия Преждеосвященных Даров 6:30 ч веч День постный	6 (24) Всенощная с Великим Повечерием и Литией на Благовещение 6:30 ч веч День постный	7 (25) Благовещение Вечерня и Литургия 9:30 ч утра День постный, рыба разрешается День постный	8 (26) Лазарева Суббота Всенощная 5 День постный
9 (27) НЕДЕЛЯ ВАИЙ Литургия 10 утр Сбор для Святой Земли Разрешается рыба Утренняя Вел Пон 6:30 ч веч	10 (28) Великий Понедельник Утренняя Вел Вторника 6:30 ч веч День постный	11 (29) Великий Вторник Утренняя Вел Среды 6:30 ч веч День постный	12 (30) Великая Среда Утренняя Вел Четвертка 6:30 ч веч День постный	13 (31) Вел Четверток Литургия Васнлия Вел 10 ч утра 12 Страстных Евангелий 6:30 ч веч День постный	14 (1 Apr) Великий Пяток Вынос Плащаницы 2 ч дня Утренняя Гроба Господня 6:30 ч веч День постный	15 (2) Вел Суббота Нач Литургии Васнлия Вел 10 ч утра Нач Пасхальн Заутрения 11:30 ч веч День постный
16 (3) ПАСХА Светлое Воскресение Христово Литургия 1:30 ч утра! Вечерня 10 ч ут	17 (4) Светлый Понедельник 2ый День Пасхи Детская Литургия 10 ч утра Ход с иконами	18 (5) Светлый Вторник 3ый День Пасхи Богослужений нет	19 (6) Светлая Среда Поста нет	20 (7) Светлый Четверток Вечерня на Живоносный Источник 6:30 ч веч	21 (8) Светлый Пяток Живоносного Источника Поста нет	22 (9) Светлая Суббота Всенощная 5 ч веч
23 (10) 2ая Нед Пасхи Фомина Неделя <i>День Матерей</i> Литургия 10 ч у Освящ могил: 2:00 St Joseph's 3:30 Union 4:00 St John's	24 (11) Освящ могил: 4:00 Old Milford 5:00 King's Hwy	25 (12) Радоница	26 (13) Освящ могил: 3:00 St J Monroe 5:00 Lakeview День постный	27 (14) День постный	28 (15) День постный	29 (16) Всенощная 5 ч веч
30 (17) 3ья Неделя Пасхи Жен Мироносиц Глас 2 Литургия 10 ч утра	1 Мая (18 Apr) День постный	2 (19) День постный	3 (20) День постный	4 (21) День постный	5 (22) День постный	6 (23) Св Вмч Георгия Молебен 3 ч дня Всенощная 5 ч веч

Замечание: Все даты в скобках по старому стилю (по юлианскому календарю).

Отметьте эти наступающие события в вашем календаре:

Суббота 1 Апр – Детское Великопостное Говение

Воскресенье 2 Апреля – Детский Завтрак

Воскресенье 9 Апреля – Вербное Воскресенье

Пятница 14 Апреля – Великий Пяток

Воскресенье 16 Апреля - Пасха

Великий Пост – С Понедельника 27 (Ст Ст 14) Февраля до Пасхи, Воскресенье 16 (Ст Ст 3) Апреля, постимся от мяса, яиц, молочных продуктов и рыбы; по будным дням постимся и от вина и елей (масла).

**St Nicholas
Russian Orthodox Church
Schedule of Services
April 2017**

Fr George Lardas, Rector, Telephone: 203 / 209-9374

Day	New Style	Old Style	Time	Service
5th Sunday of Great Lent, St Mary of Egypt, Tone 1				
Sat	1 Apr	19 Mar	2:00 pm 5:00 pm	Children's Lenten Retreat Vigil
Sun	2 Apr	20 Mar	9:30 am 10:00 am	Hours and Confession Liturgy of St Basil
6th Week of Great Lent				
Wed	5 Apr	23 Mar	6:30 pm	Presanctified Liturgy
ANNUNCIATION, <i>fish, wine and oil permitted</i>				
Thu	6 Apr	24 Mar	6:30 pm	Vigil with Great Compline and Litya
Fri	7 Apr	25 Mar	9:30 am 10:00 am	Hours and Confession Divine Liturgy

Holy Week and Bright Week

Sat 23 (10) Apr – Mon 2 May (19 Apr)

See special schedule

2nd Sunday of Pascha, St Thomas

Sat	22 Apr	9 Apr	5:00 pm	Vigil
Sun	23 Apr	10 Apr	9:30 am 10:00 am	Hours and Confession Divine Liturgy

Radonitsa, Blessing of Graves

				Cemetery
Sun	23 Apr	10 Apr	2:00 pm 3:30 pm 5:00 pm	St Joseph's, Stratford Union, Stratford St John's, Stratford
Mon	24 Apr	11 Apr	4:00 pm	Old Milford
Wed	26 Apr	13 Apr	5:00 pm 3:00 pm 5:00 pm	King's Hwy, Milford St John's, Monroe Lakeview, Bridgeport

3rd Sunday of Pascha, Myrrh-Bearers, Tone 2

Sat	29 Apr	16 Apr	5:00 pm	Vigil
Sun	30 Apr	17 Apr	9:30 am 10:00 am	Hours and Confession Divine Liturgy

**Свято-Николаевская Русская
Православная Церковь
Расписание Богослужений
Апрель 2017 г.**

О. Георгий Лардас, Настоятель – Телефон 203 / 209-9374

День	Новый Стиль	Старый Стиль	Время	Служба
5^{ая} Неделя Вел Поста, Преп Марии Египетской, Глас 1				
Суб	1 Апр	19 Мар	2:00 ч дня 5:00 ч дня	Детское Говение Всенощная
Вос	12 Апр	20 Мар	9:30 ч утра 10:00 ч утра	Часы и исповедь Лит Василия Великого
6^{ая} Седмица Великого Поста				
Сре	5 Апр	23 Мар	6:30 ч веч	Лит Преждеосв Даров
БЛАГОВЕЩЕНИЕ, разрешаются рыба, вино и елей				
Чет	6 Апр	24 Мар	6:30 ч веч	Всенощная с Великим Повечерием и Литией
Пят	7 Апр	25 Мар	9:30 ч утра 10:00 ч утра	Часы и исповедь Бож Литургия

Страстная и Светлая Седмицы

Суб 23 (10) Apr – Пон 2 Мая (19 Apr)

См. особое расписание

2^{ая} Недели Пасхи, Фомина

Суб	22 Апр	9 Апр	5:00 ч веч	Всенощная
Вос	23 Апр	10 Апр	9:30 ч утра 10:00 ч утра	Часы и исповедь Бож Литургия

Радоница, освящение могил

Кладбище

Вос	23 Апр	10 Апр	2:00 ч дня 3:30 ч дня 5:00 ч дня	St Joseph's, Stratford Union, Stratford St John's, Stratford
Пон	24 Апр	11 Апр	4:00 ч утра	Old Milford
Сре	26 Апр	27 Апр	5:00 ч утра 3:00 ч дня 5:00 ч дня	King's Hwy, Milford St John's, Monroe Lakeview, Bridgeport

3^{ья} Недели Пасхи, Жен Мироносиц, Глас 2

Суб	29 Апр	16 Apr	5:00 ч веч	Всенощная
Вос	30 Apr	17 Apr	9:30 ч утра 10:00 ч утра	Часы и исповедь Бож Литургия

St Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church

Services for Holy Week and Pascha 2017

Fr George Lardas, Rector – Telephone 203 / 386-9516 Rectory; Emergency: 203 / 209-9374

Day	New Style	Old Style	Time	Service
PALM SUNDAY, <i>fish permitted</i>, collection for the Holy Land				
Sat	8 Apr	26 Mar	5:00 pm	Vigil, Blessing of Palms
Sun	9 Apr	27 Mar	9:30 am	Hours and Confession
			10:00 am	Divine Liturgy; Collection for the Holy Land



Holy Week

Sun	9 Apr	27 Mar	4:00 pm	Holy Unction, Holy Protection in Nyack
Mon	10 Apr	28 Mar	6:30 pm	Bridegroom Matins II
Tue	11 Apr	29 Mar	6:30 pm	Bridegroom Matins III
Wed	12 Apr	30 Mar	6:30 pm	Bridegroom Matins IV

Holy Thursday

Thu	13 Apr	31 Mar	9:00 am	Hours and Confession
			9:30 am	Vespertal Liturgy of St Basil, Institution of the Eucharist

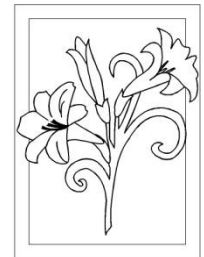


Good Friday

Thu	13 Apr	31 Mar	6:30 pm	Matins, 12 Passion Gospels
Fri	14 Apr	1 Apr	2:00 pm	Vespers, Winding Sheet of our Lord (<i>Plaschanitsa</i>)

Holy Saturday

Fri	14 Apr	1 Apr	6:30 pm	Matins with Procession
Sat	15 Apr	2 Apr	8:30 am	Hours and Confession
			9:00 am	Vespers with Liturgy of St Basil, 15 Old Testament Readings
			2:00 pm	1 st blessing of Paschal foods (without singing of Christ is Risen)
			5:00 pm	2 nd blessing of Paschal foods (without singing of Christ is Risen)



PASCHA, the Resurrection of our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ

Sat	15 Apr	2 Apr	9:30 pm	Confession
			11:00 pm	3rd blessing of Paschal foods (without singing of Christ is Risen)
			11:30 pm	Paschal Nocturnes
			12:00 mid	Paschal Matins
Sun	16 Apr	3 Apr	1:30 am	Paschal Divine Liturgy (midnight service!)
			3:00 am	Blessing of Paschal foods with Christ is Risen! followed by Paschal Breakfast in the Church Hall
			10:00 am	Paschal 9th Hour
			10:30 am	Paschal Vespers



Bright Monday, Tone 2

Mon	17 Apr	4 Apr	9:30 am	Paschal Hours and Confession
			10:00 am	Children's Liturgy
			11:30 am	Procession with icons
			12:00 noon	Children's Paschal Breakfast

Bright Week – 16-22 (3-9) April, no fasting on Wednesday and Friday

Life-Giving Fount, Tone 6

Thu	20 Apr	7 Apr	6:30 pm	Vespers
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2nd Sunday of Pascha, St Thomas

Sat	22 Apr	9 Apr	5:00 pm	Vigil
Sun	23 Apr	10 Apr	9:30 am	Hours and Confession
			10:00 am	Divine Liturgy



Свято-Николаевская Русская Православная Церковь

Богослужения Страстной Недели и Пасхи 2017 г.

О. Георгий Лардас, Настоятель – Телефон 203 / 386-9516 Церковный Дом; Сетовой: 203 / 209-9374

День Новый Старый Время Служба
 Стиль Стиль

Неделя Ваий (Вербное Воскресенье), *разрешается вино и елей*, сбор на Святой Земле

Суб	8 Апр	26 Мар	5:00 ч веч	Всенощная и освящение ваий
Вос	9 Апр	27 Мар	9:30 ч утр	Часы и исповедь
			10:00 ч утр	Божественная Литургия; сбор для Святой Земли



Страстная Седмица

Вос	9 Апр	27 Мар	9:30 ч утр	Соборование в Покровской Церкви в Няже
Пон	10 Апр	28 Мар	9:30 ч утр	Утренняя Жениха II
Вто	11 Апр	29 Мар	9:30 ч утр	Утренняя Жениха III
Сре	12 Апр	30 Мар	9:30 ч утр	Утренняя Жениха IV

Великий Четверток

Чет	13 Апр	31 Мар	9:00 ч утр	Часы и исповедь
			9:30 ч утр	Литургия Василия Великого (Тайный Вечер, установление Евхаристии)

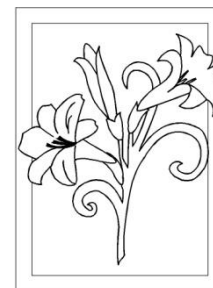
Великий Пяток

Чет	13 Апр	31 Мар	6:30 ч веч	Утренняя, Последование Святых Страстей, 12 Евангелий
Пят	14 Апр	1 Апр	2:00 ч дня	Вечерня, Вынос Плащаницы



Великая Суббота

Пят	14 Апр	1 Апр	6:30 ч веч	Утренняя с крестным ходом
Суб	15 Апр	2 Апр	8:30 ч утр	Часы и исповедь
			9:00 ч утр	Литургия Василия Великого, 15 паремий
			2:00 ч дня	Освящение куличей (без пения Христос Воскресе)
			5:00 ч дня	Освящение куличей (без пения Христос Воскресе)



ПАСХА, Светлое Воскресение Господа Бога и Спаса нашего Иисуса Христа

Суб	15 Апр	2 Апр	9:30 ч веч	Исповедь
			11:00 ч веч	Освящение куличей (без пения Христос Воскресе)
			11:30 ч веч	Пасхальное Заутренье
			12:00 ч ноч	Воскресение Христово, крестный ход, и Пасхальная Утренняя
Вос	16 Апр	3 Апр	1:30 ч ноч	Пасхальная Божественная Литургия
			3:00 ч ноч	Освящение куличей с пением Христос Воскресе, Пасхальное заговение в церковном зале
			10:00 ч утр	Пасхальный 9 ^{ый} Час
			10:30 ч утр	Пасхальная Вечерня



Светлый Понедельник, Глас 2

Пон	17 Апр	4 Апр	9:30 ч утра	Пасхальные Часы и Исповедь
			10:00 ч утра	Пасхальная Литургия для детей
			11:30 ч утра	Ход с иконами
			12:00 ч дня	Детское пасхальное заговение

Светлая Седмица – 16-22 (3-9) Апреля, поста нет в Среде и Пятницу ради Пасхи

Живоносного Источника, Глас 6

Чет	20 Апр	7 Апр	6:30 ч веч	Вечерня
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2^{ая} Неделя Пасхи, Фомина

Суб	22 Апр	9 Апр	5:00 ч веч	Всенощная
Вос	23 Апр	10 Апр	9:30 ч утра	Часы и исповедь
			10:00 ч утра	Божественная Литургия





St Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church Bulletin Special Edition

Holy Week and Pascha 2017

*Сердечно приветствуем всех наших прихожан и друзей
с радостью Воскресения Христова*

Христос Воскресе! – Воистину Воскресе!

*We greet all our parishioners and friends
with the joy of the Resurrection of Christ*

Christ is Risen! – Indeed He is Risen!

When they that were with Mary came anticipating the dawn, and found the stone rolled away from the Sepulchre, they heard from the Angel, Why seek ye among the dead as though He were mortal Him Who abideth in everlasting light; behold the grave-clothes, go quickly and proclaim to the world that the Lord is risen and hath put death to death, for He is the Son of God, Who redeemeth mankind.

– Нурское of the Pascha, Tone 4

Palm Sunday, Troparion, Tone 1: In confirming the general resurrection, Thou didst raise Lazarus from the dead before Thy passion, O Christ God. Wherefore we also, as the children bearing the symbols of victory, cry unto Thee the Vanquisher of death: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Holy Week, Troparion, Tone 8: Behold, the Bridegroom cometh in the middle of the night. And blessed is that servant whom He shall find watch. Again unworthy is he, whom He shall find heedless. Beware therefore, O my soul, lest thou be borne down with sleep, lest thou be given over to death and be shut out of the Kingdom. But rather rouse thyself and cry: Holy, holy, holy, art Thou O our God, through the Theotokos have mercy on us.

Good Friday, Troparion, Tone 8: When the glorious disciples were enlightened at the washing of the feet, then Judas the ungodly was stricken and darkened by the love of silver; and unto the lawless judges did he deliver Thee, the Righteous Judge. Behold, O lover of money, him that for the sake thereof did hang himself; flee from that insatiable soul that dared such things against the Master. O Thou Who art good unto all, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Holy Saturday, Troparion, Tone 2: The noble Joseph having taken Thy most pure Body down from the Tree, and wrapped It in pure linen, covered it with spices and laid It in a new Tomb.

Pascha, Troparion, Tone 5: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and on those in the tombs bestowing life.

Вербное Воскресенье, Тропарь, Гласъ 1: Общее воскресение, прежде Твоея страсти увѣряя, изъ мертвыхъ воздвигль еси Лазаря Христе Боже. Тъмже и мы яко отроцы побѣды знаменія носяще, Тебѣ побѣдителю смерти вопіемъ: Осанна въ вышнихъ, благословень грядый во имя Господне.

Страстная Седмица, Тропарь, Гласъ 8: Се женихъ грядетъ въ полунощи, и блаженъ рабъ, егоже обрящетъ бдяща: недостойнъ же паки, егоже обрящетъ унывающа. Блюди убо душе моя, не сномъ отяготися, да не смерти предана будеши, и царствія внѣ затворишися, но воспряни зовущи: Святъ, святъ, святъ еси Боже, Богородицею помилуй насъ.

Великая Пятница, Тропарь, Гласъ 8: Егда славнии ученицы на умовеніи вечери просвъщахуся, тогда Юда злочестивый сребролюбимъ недуговавъ омрачашеся, и беззаконнымъ судіямъ Тебе праведнаго судію предаетъ. Виждь имгнїи рачителю, сихъ ради удавленіе употребивша! Бѣжи насытїя души, учителю таковая дерзнувшїя: Иже о всѣхъ благїи, Господи, слава Тебѣ.

Великая Суббота, Тропарь, Гласъ 2: Благообразный Юсиф, съ древа снемъ пречистое тѣло Твое, плащаницею чистою обвивъ, и вонями во гробъ новъ покрывъ положи.

Пасха, Тропарь, Гласъ 5: Христосъ воскресе изъ мертвыхъ, смертію смерть поправъ, и сущымъ во гробѣхъ живость даровавъ.



St Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church

Bulletin

Special Edition

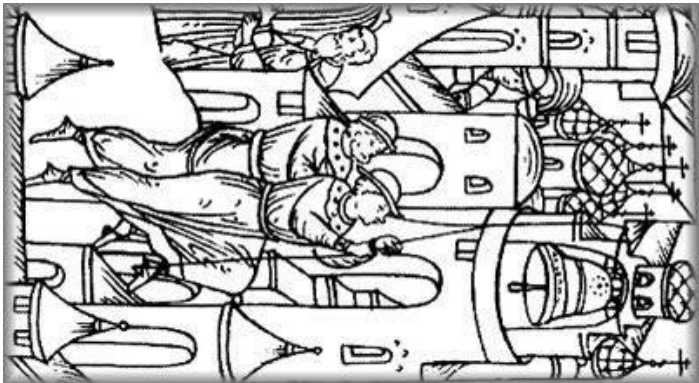
Holy Week and Pascha 2017

Fr George Lardas, Rector – Telephone 203 / 209-9374

Web Site: StNicholasStratford.org

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с радостью Воскресения Христова*

***Христос Воскресе!
Восстину Воскресе!***



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