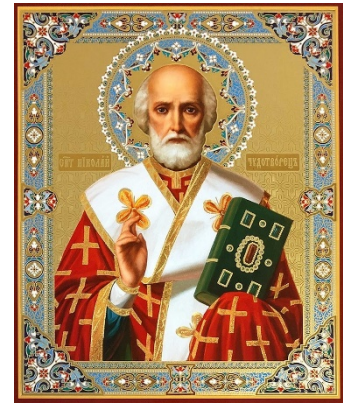


**St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church Monroeville**  
**Weekly Bulletin – February 14th, 2021**



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**36th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Tropar of the Resurrection - Tone 3**

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. He has trampled down death by death. He has become the first born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted to the world great mercy.

**Tropar of the Translation of the Relics of St. Nicholas - Tone 4**

The day of the joyous celebration has come; the city of Bari rejoices and with it the whole universe leaps from joy, singing the spiritual songs and psalms. For today, the holy feast, on the occasion of the transfer of the honorable and exceedingly healing relics of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, has shone forth with the radiant rays, like the sun that does not set, driving away the darkness of temptations and calamities from those who faithfully exclaim to thee: "Save us, as our protector, O great Nicholas!"

**Tropar of the Forefeast of the Meeting of the Lord - Tone 1**

The celestial choir of heavenly Angels bends down to the earth and sees the First-born of all creation being carried into the Temple as a babe by a Mother who has not known man, and in amazement sings with us a pre-festal hymn.

**Kondak of the Resurrection – Tone 3**

On this day You rose from the tomb, O Merciful One, leading us from the gates of death. On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; with the Prophets and Patriarchs they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Your power.

**Kondak of the Translation of the Relics of St. Nicholas - Tone 3**

Your relics, O Saint Nicholas, came out as a star from the east to the west. The sea was sanctified by your journey, and the city of Bari, through you, has received the grace. For working for us, you have appeared as an excellent, wonderful and merciful Wonderworker.

**Kondak of the Forefeast of the Meeting of the Lord - Tone 1**

The Word unseen with the Father, now is seen in the flesh, ineffably born of the Virgin, and is given into the arms of the priest and Elder. Let us worship Him, our True God.

**Theotokion – Steadfast Protectress – Tone 6**

Steadfast protectress of Christians, constant advocate before the Creator: do not despise the cry of us sinners, but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call upon you in faith. Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, for you always protect those who honor you.

### **Epistle - 1 Timothy 4:9-15**

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance. For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. These things command and teach. Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

### **Alleluia Verses**

v: In You, O Lord, have I hoped; let me never be put to shame!

v: Be a God of protection for me, a house of refuge in order to save me!

### **Gospel - Luke 19:1-10**

Then Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house." So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner." Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

### **Additional Petitions for Mercy and Help during the Covid-19 Pandemic**

For our salvation during the time of this pandemic; for protection and deliverance from the Coronavirus; for the health and recovery of those suffering from this virus; and for the guidance of physicians and those who minister to the afflicted, let us pray to the Lord.

Eternal Lord, God Almighty, in Your ineffable goodness and love for humankind, look upon us who have gathered in Your Holy Name and those who could not be present; be our constant helper and defender at the time of this pandemic and hear our prayer offered with contrition of heart: Compassionate Lord, save, protect and deliver us from the impending threat of the Coronavirus; grant health and recovery to those suffering from this virus; and guide the hands of physicians and preserve those who minister to the afflicted, let us all say with all our heart and mind Lord have mercy.

### **The Meeting of the Lord in the Temple - February 15th**

The fortieth day after His birth, the All-holy Virgin brought her divine Son into the Temple of Jerusalem, in accordance with the Law, to dedicate Him to God and to purify herself (Leviticus 12:2-7; Exodus 12:2). Even though neither the one nor the other was necessary, the Lawgiver did not want in any way to transgress His own Law, which He had given through Moses, His servant and prophet. At that time, the high-priest Zacharias, the father of John the Forerunner, was serving in the Temple. Zacharias placed the Virgin, not in the temple area reserved for women, but rather in the area reserved for virgins. On this occasion two very special persons appeared in the Temple: the Elder Simeon and Anna, the daughter of Phanuel. The righteous Simeon took the Messiah in his arms and said: Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation (Luke 2:29-30). Simeon also spoke the following words about the Christ-child: Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel (Luke 2:34). Then Anna, who from her youth had served God in the Temple by fasting and prayer, recognized the Messiah and glorified God. She then proclaimed to the inhabitants of Jerusalem the coming of the long-awaited One. But the Pharisees who were present in the Temple, having seen and heard all, became angry with Zacharias because he had placed the Virgin Mary in the area reserved for virgins, and they reported this to King Herod. Convinced that this was the new king spoken of by the Magi from the East, Herod immediately sent his soldiers to kill Jesus. In the meantime, the holy family had already left the city and set out for Egypt under the guidance of an angel of God. The Feast of the Meeting of our Lord in the Temple was celebrated from earliest times, but the solemn celebration of this day was established in the year 544 A.D., during the reign of Emperor Justinian.

#### **Homily - On the guidance of the Spirit of God - St. Nikolaj Velimirovich**

*"And Jesus being full of the Holy Spirit, returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness" (Luke 4:1).*

You see, brethren, what it means to be filled with the Holy Spirit of God. Without the Spirit of God, man is filled with worries: Where will he go and how will he act? But with the Spirit of God, man is without those worries, for then the Spirit instructs man where he will walk and how he will act. Then man becomes sinless in his movement and actions, because the Holy Spirit, Who leads and guides him, is sinless. Man can neither walk justly nor act righteously if the Omnipotent and Omniscient Spirit of God does not inform him. Whoever is not led by the Holy Spirit of God is led either by his own individual spirit or by the evil spirit of the demon. As a result of this he becomes helpless, bitter, remorseful, angry and despondent. We cannot endure the Spirit of God in His fullness as did Christ the Lord, but we can receive the Spirit of God sufficiently in order to know "whither, what and how." According to the purity of man's heart, the Holy Spirit settles in his heart and from the heart directs him.

That is why the Church often repeats this prayer to the Holy Spirit: "O Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth ... come and abide in us."

O God, O Holy Spirit, to Thee be glory and praise forever. Amen.

*From The Prologue of Ohrid. Courtesy of <http://www.rocor.org.au/>*

## Donations

**Thank you, beloved parishioners, for your continued love and support during the pandemic!**

If you have any questions on how to become an EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) Donor, please contact Jovi Jovanovich at [jovanovich23@yahoo.com](mailto:jovanovich23@yahoo.com) or visit our webpage at [www.stnicholasmonroeville.org/onlinecontribution](http://www.stnicholasmonroeville.org/onlinecontribution) to safely and securely make an electronic donation.

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## Announcements

- **Upcoming Service Schedule**
  - Mon. Feb 15 - Meeting of the Lord in the Temple - Liturgy 9am
  - Thurs. Feb 25 - Vespers 6pm
  - Fri. Feb 26 - St. Simeon of Serbia - Liturgy 9am
- **St. Nicholas Blog** - If you haven't already, check out our blog posts on the new website! Fr. Stefan will regularly be posting theological content to share. The latest post is on the topic of relics. Read the post to find out what relics our church has!
- **Spaghetti Dinner** - Sunday Feb. 28th - This popular dinner includes spaghetti, meatballs, grated cheese, a garden salad with dressing, Italian bread (from Mediterra Bakehouse), and a dessert. All for \$12! It will be prepared with loving hands by members of the Outreach Committee and volunteers and safely packaged for take-out.. If you would like to order, but can't pick up, let Toots know when you order and a volunteer will deliver it. To pre-order, call Toots at (412) 372-8064.
- **Pierogi Sale Fundraiser** – The choir will be selling homemade potato and cheese pierogies for only \$12 a dozen! Pre-ordering begins January 31st, with Pierogi Pick-Up at the church March 13th & 14th! Can't pick up? No worries! A delivery option will be available on March 13th! Contact Daniella Vranesevic to place your order at [daniella.vranesevic@gmail.com](mailto:daniella.vranesevic@gmail.com) or at (724)-600-5868
- **MEDITERRA Bakehouse Breads** – For next pickup date:order by Feb. 10th at noon for pickup Feb. 14th– Lenten breads for sale: \$5 a loaf except \$6 specialty loaves. Pre-orders only. Call Sondra at (412)760-5796 by noon the Wednesday prior. Orders are available after church. All pickups will take place outside on the patio. There is now an online order form option: <https://forms.gle/2bgpuweWMnjgSeEB6> *See flyer for more details.*



ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH CHOIR OF  
MONROEVILLE:

HOMEMADE POTATO AND CHEESE

# *PIEROGI SALE FUNDRAISER*

\$12.00 PER DOZEN

PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE ST. NICHOLAS HVAC FUND

PREORDERING BEGINS JANUARY 31ST  
PIEROGI PICK UP: MARCH 13th & MARCH 14th  
AT 2110 HAYMAKER ROAD, MONROEVILLE, PA 15146  
DELIVERY ALSO AVAILABLE ON MARCH 13th!

ALREADY HUNGRY? CONTACT DANIELLA  
VRANESEVIC TO PLACE YOUR ORDER!  
[DANIELLA.VRANESEVIC@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DANIELLA.VRANESEVIC@GMAIL.COM) | (724)600-5868

Raise your hand



and pick

up your phone



if you like Spaghetti!

## **SPAGHETTI DINNER (Take-out)**

(Spaghetti, meatballs, salad, bread, dessert)

**Sunday, February 28, 2021**

11:45AM-1:00 PM

\$12



**PREORDERS ONLY:**

Call Toots at **(412) 372-8064**

Sponsored by the St. Nicholas Outreach Committee to benefit the HVAC Project



## MEDITERRA BAKEHOUSE BREADS

www.mediterrabakehouse.com

**NOW at St. Nicholas Serbian Eastern Orthodox Church,**

If you have tried these breads, you'll want to come back for more. If you haven't, we hope you will soon.

These artesian breads are ordered by Wednesday noon for availability at St. Nicholas on *Sundays* after Divine Liturgy. These breads are Lenten.

All breads need to be **PRE-ORDERED** by calling Sondra at **(412)760-5796** or going online to <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSctomOVVzrhky4dJC9zITqoIM1OcCksbb5qPXHqwIV-73J2vA/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0>

Orders can be picked-up at the Church Social Hall Patio

### ORDER BY NOON

February 10  
February 24  
March 10  
March 24  
April 7  
April 21

### PICK-UP 11-30AM-Noon

February 14  
February 28  
March 14  
March 28  
April 11  
April 25

The following selections will be available for \$5.00 per loaf. **Cash only, please:**

- **Sourdough Round**
- **Rustic Italian Bread**
- **Ciabatta**
- **Paesano**
- **Heartland Grain**
- **Mt. Athos Fire Bread**
- **Rye, seeded or unseeded**

**Specialty Bread (\$6.00 per loaf).** Specialty Breads may vary on specific dates.

- **Pecan Raisin**
- **8 Grain 3 Seed**