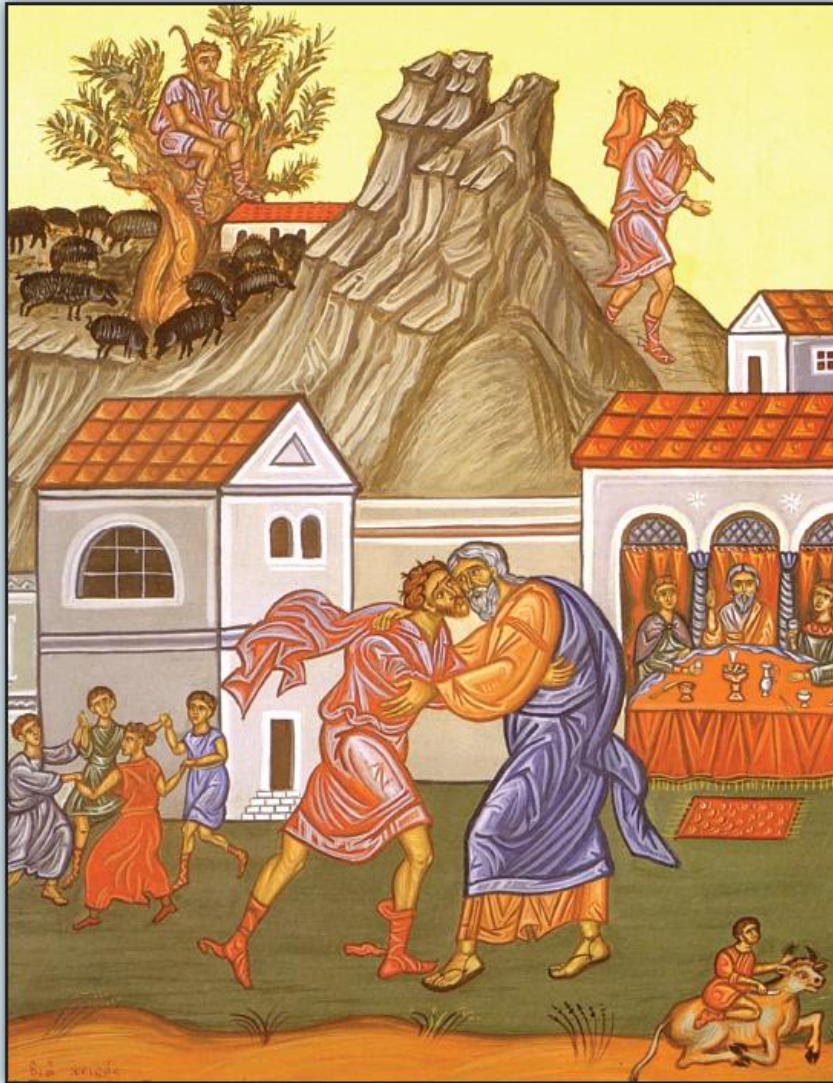


SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON



Icon of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32)



St. Nicholas of Myra Byzantine Catholic Church

2200 Arctic Boulevard
Anchorage, Alaska

Phone (907) 277-6731 (sacramental emergencies and parish business)

Blessed Theodore Romzha Byzantine Catholic Mission

Sacred Heart Church 1201 Bogard Road, Wasilla, AK
2nd and 4th Sundays of the month

Confessions

At St Nicholas

Sundays 9:00 to 9:30 am or by Appointment

Administration

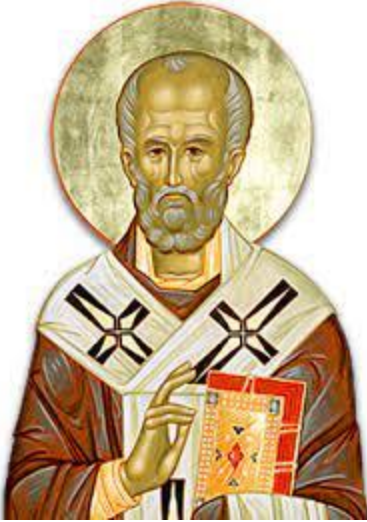
His Eminence, Metropolitan Archbishop William C. Skurla DD
Archeparchy of Pittsburgh

Apostolic Administrator, Bishop Kurt Burnette for
Holy Protection of Mary Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix

Pastor: Reverend Father Vasyl Mutka
Office Hours: Monday through Friday 10am-4pm
Pastor email: pastorstnicholas@yahoo.com
Parish website: www.ak-byz-cath.org

Liturgical Schedule
February 5, 2023, through February 19, 2023

1 st Sunday of the Month	Feb 5	Confessions	9-9:30am
		3 rd Hour	9:40am
		Divine Liturgy – Intention: People of St. Nicholas & Wasilla Mission	10:00am
Wednesday	Feb 8	Divine Liturgy- Int: Elizabeth Lockhart by Fr. Joseph	6:30pm
Saturday	Feb 11	Divine Liturgy- 1 st All Souls Saturday	9:00am
		Confessions	4:00-4:30
		Vespers/Divine Liturgy	5:00pm
2 nd Sunday of the Month	Feb 12	Confessions	9-9:30am
		3 rd hour	9:40am
		Divine Liturgy	10:am
		Divine Liturgy in Wasilla	4:00pm
Wednesday	Feb 15	Divine Liturgy. Int: Adam Wargacki by Fr. Joseph	6:30pm
Saturday	Feb 18	Divine Liturgy- Int: EMW by Fr. Vasyl	9:00am
		Confessions	4:00-4:30
		Vespers/Divine Liturgy	5:00pm
3 rd Sunday of the month	Feb 19	Confessions	9-9:30am
		3 rd Hour	9:40am
		Divine Liturgy – Intention: People of St. Nicholas & Wasilla Mission	10:00am



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Mark Your Calendar!

- Sunday February 12, Welcome Potluck for Fr. Vasyl Mutka and his family. See signup sheet.
- Monday February 20 is 1st day of the Great Fast
- Wednesdays and Fridays of Great Fast we will celebrate Liturgy of the Presanctified at 6:30pm

Parish Giving™

As a reminder, if you are absent on any Sunday; please make up your weekly parish contribution.

This parish needs consistent weekly charitable giving from **all registered members** to survive.

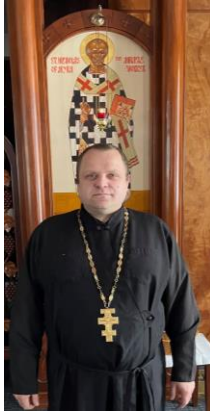
Sunday, January 22, 2023, \$993.00

Sunday, January 29, 2023, TBD-

Attendance:

Sunday Jan 22, 2023= 26 Souls

Sunday Jan 29,2023= 50 Souls



Pastor's Corner

Glory to Jesus Christ!

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As many of you may have heard, as of February 2, 2023, I have been named Parish Administrator of St. Nicholas of Myra in Anchorage, AK.

Let me take this opportunity to introduce myself to you. I am Fr. Vasyl Mutka. I am originally from Drohobych, Ukraine. I was ordained a priest on June 15, 2008, and my first assignment was as pastor of Holy Spirit Ukrainian Catholic Church in Potelych, Ukraine, which is the oldest wooden church in Ukraine, founded in 1502. In 2009, I came to the United States and assisted at St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church in Manhattan, NY, until the middle of 2014. From 2014 to 2019, I was assigned as pastor of St. George Byzantine Catholic Church in Olympia, WA, where I served until August 2019, and for the last three and a half years (2019-2022), I was assigned as pastor of St. Irene Byzantine Catholic Church in Portland, OR, where I served until recently. And now I am here at St. Nicholas of Myra in Anchorage.

I am married and have two sons. Benjamin (5) is with me here in Anchorage. My wife, Pani Oresta, and my older son, Markiyan (14), will join us later.

Thank you very much for welcoming me into this great community. It is an honor for me to be your pastor. Let God's mission be our mission, and our main goal be to fulfill this mission. And let's work together to the best of our abilities to advance God's Kingdom here in this wonderful neighborhood. I believe that working together and helping each other will bring us closer to God and make a difference in His Kingdom here on earth. I am so grateful to Father Joseph Wargacki for his service to St. Nicholas Church these past 4 1/2 years. May God bless him and his family.

God Bless,

Fr. Vasyl



St. Nicholas Prayer Community

Who: Everyone in our church community

What: Prayer for those in need who have asked for our prayers

When: Every Bulletin Cycle

Where: At home, at work, at play, at church

Why: To support those in our community

Please give Father Joseph your prayer requests to be published in the next bulletin. Previous requests will remain on the list until parishioner asks that it be removed or need of space for new requests.

Please Pray For:

For our benefactors who show love for God and this parish through their alms.

All those who stand for **LIFE** and are persecuted for their belief.

Laura Wargacki and others who are battling cancer.

For all those who are sick in our parish and suffer spiritual distress.

Fr. Joseph, Pani Lori and family.

Safe Environment Program Contact Information

THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF PHOENIX

Subscribes to the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People adopted by the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops

The Eparchy, within all its parishes, institutions, and programs, is committed to assuring a safe environment in ministry for its children and young people that conforms to the Charter requirements. For information regarding the Eparchial Safe Environment Program, please contact:

- Dcn. Michael Hanafin, Victim Assistance Coordinator, Cell: (480) 387-5182 – email: mvac@ephx.org
- Sbdcn. Paul F. Kilroy, Asst. Safe Environment Program Coordinator, Office: (602)861-9778, ext. 204 – Cell (702) 498-5972 email: sbdcnkilroy@ephx.org

Mercy and Forgiveness

All that God looks for from us is the slightest opening and He forgives a multitude of sins. ... There were two brothers: they divided their father's goods between them and one stayed home, while the other went away to a foreign country, wasted all he had been given, and then could not bear the shame of his poverty. The son who went away represents those who fall after baptism. This is clear from the fact that he is called a son, since no one is called a son unless he is baptized. Also, he lived in his father's house and took a share of all his father's goods. Before baptism no one receives the Father's goods or enters upon the inheritance. We can therefore take all this as signifying the state of believers.

What does he say after falling into the depths of evil? I will return to my father. The reason the father let him go and did not prevent his departure for a foreign land was so that he might learn well by experience what good things are enjoyed by the one who stays at home. For when words would

not convince us God often leaves us to learn from the things that happen to us. When the dissolute returned after going to a foreign country and finding out by experience what a great sin it is to leave the father's house, the father did not remember past injuries but welcomed him with open arms. Why? Because he was a father and not a judge. And there were dances and festivities and banquets and the whole house was full of joy and gladness.

Are you asking: "Is this what he gets for his wickedness?" Not for his wickedness, but for his return home; not for sin, but for repentance; not for evil, but for being converted. What is more, when the elder son was angry at this the father gently won him over, saying: You were always with me, but he was lost and has been found; he was dead and has come back to life. "When someone who was lost has to be saved," says the father, "it is not the time for passing judgment or making minute inquiries, but only for mercy and forgiveness."