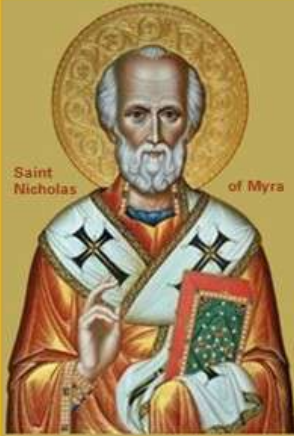


SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN



*Icon of Christ with the Samaritan Woman*

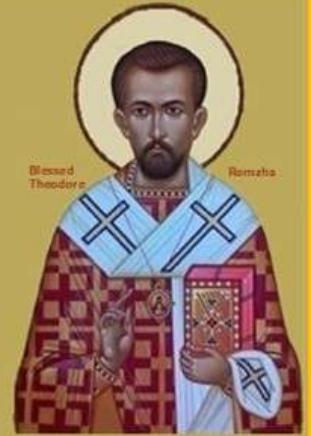


**ST. NICHOLAS OF MYRA  
BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

*2200 Arctic Boulevard  
Anchorage, AK 99503*

**BL. THEODORE ROMZHA  
BYZANTINE CATHOLIC MISSION**

*Sacred Heart Church 1201 E Bogard Rd,  
Wasilla, AK 99654  
2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month*



**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

Parish Administration: Reverend Father Vasyl Mutka

Office Hours: Monday through Friday 10am-4pm (Please Call before coming to the office)

Phone: (907) 277-6731

E-mail: [pastorstnicholas@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorstnicholas@yahoo.com)

[www.ak-byz-cath.org](http://www.ak-byz-cath.org)



**WELCOME TO ALL PARISHIONERS & GUESTS WHO HAVE JOINED US TODAY**

Whether you're searching for a new church home or just visiting, we're glad you're with us today. If you are looking for God, have a prayer request, looking for more information about the Eastern Catholic Church, would like to join our parish, or would like to speak with Fr. Vasyl, he will be happy to talk to you. Please join us for our coffee hour in the Parish hall following the Divine Liturgy. We want to get to know you! God bless you!

## **Schedule of Services**

### **APRIL 28—MAY 5, 2024**

**Sunday, April 28—Sunday of the Samaritan Woman**

9:15-9:45 am Confessions

9:40 am 3rd Hour

10:00 am Divine Liturgy *For parishioners, founders, donors, decorators of our St. Nicholas Parish & Wasilla Mission and for their relatives*

4:00 pm Divine Liturgy in Wasilla *For Mary Claire Fortin by Kim Bryan*

**Monday, April 29**

9:00 am Divine Liturgy *For Molly Buggy by Kim Bryan*

**Tuesday, April 30**

9:00 am Divine Liturgy *For Mark Muro by Kim Bryan*

**Wednesday, May 1**

6:30 pm Divine Liturgy *For Susan Nakada by Kim Bryan*

Devotions to Most Holy Theotokos "Pantnassa" (Queen of All), Veneration of a First Class Relic of Saint Peregrine, special prayers for healing, blessing of oil, and anointing of the sick after Liturgy

**Thursday, May 2**

No Divine Liturgy

**Friday, May 3**

9:00 am Morning Prayer

6:30 pm Moleben in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Saturday, May 4**

4:15-4:45 pm Confessions

5:00 pm Vespers/Divine Liturgy *For Gary Hoff by David and Judy Bich*

**Sunday, May 5—Sunday of the Man Born Blind**

9:15-9:45 am Confessions

9:40 am 3rd Hour

10:00 am Divine Liturgy *For parishioners, founders, donors, decorators of our St. Nicholas Parish & Wasilla Mission and for their relatives*



**Please remember in your prayers:**

**For health and salvation:** Fr. Chris Zuggger, Fr. Joseph Wargacki, Veronica Frazier, David Bich, Denise, Ed, Dennis, Max, Aniela, Ken Wake, Molly Buggy, Kim Bryan, Shawn, Anna Gage

**For repose of the departed:** +Bishop Gerald N Dino, +Fr. Michael Artim, +Christine Vincent, +Corine Hurst,

**Please re-submit names of people you wish to place on the prayer list for 2024. You can send names by email: pastorstnicholas@yahoo.com. In front of the names of the departed, please put a "+" symbol. Please pray also for all our benefactors, friends, neighbors, and anyone we may have forgotten.**

**ECF class:** Next Sunday, May 5, we will have an Adult ECF class at 12:30 p.m. Adults and young adults are encouraged to attend as part of their spiritual development. All are welcome.

Dear parishioners, new members, and visitors, we will have a summer break from ECF classes from the beginning of June until the end of August.

**Parish Council meeting:** There will be a Parish Council meeting on Thursday, May 2, at 7:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Please plan to be there if you are a member of the parish council.

**Sunday Potlucks:** We have a potluck every Sunday after the Divine Liturgy. Please bring something to share!

**Mother's Day Remembrance Liturgy**—On May 12 we will celebrate Mother's Day. We would like to remember our mothers, both living and deceased, in the Divine Liturgies, which will be celebrated on May 11 (for the deceased) and May 12 (for the living). Envelopes are available in the narthex, and it reads "Mother's Day Liturgy Remembrance." Please list the names of mothers you would like to have prayed for, and return the envelopes as soon as possible.

**Eparchial Appeal 2024:** EA 2024 has started. The Eparchy of Phoenix has sent letters to parishioners asking you to participate in this year's special Eparchial Appeal 2024. If you did not receive the letter, you can scan the QR code and make your donation.



Sincere thanks to everyone who took part in last year's collection, as well as in collections over many past years.

Our goal this year is: \$4,010.00. To date, our parish has collected **\$355.00**. Last year we reached the goal. Thanks again to everyone. If we manage to reach the goal, we will receive a 10% rebate, which we need quite a bit to ease the burden on our thin parish budget. We ask everyone in our parish to take part in this

Eparchial collection.

**2024 Byzan TEEN Rally** - Registration is Live!

This year's National Byzan TEEN rally will be at the University of San Diego, June 27-30. It will be time for fun, fellowship and faith for the future of our Church. Featuring keynote speakers Fr. Chris Zuggger from the Eparchy of Phoenix, Mother Iliana of Christ the Bridegroom Monastery, and Trent Horn of Catholic Answers. To register as a teen participant or chaperone, go here: <https://archpitt.org/byzan-teen-youth-rally-2024/>

**Mayivka:** Month of May is a special veneration of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

A Moleben in Honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be served every Friday at 6:30 p.m. throughout the month of May. We encourage all parishioners and guests to attend these services in honor of the Theotokos, the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Come yourself and invite your friends to this service in honor of the Mother of God.

**Catholic Community Services:** Please continue to bring non-perishable foods, clothing, and other items to the parish hall for distribution to those in need through Catholic Community Services.

**Perogies** \$12.00 per dozen

**While they last**—we have about 12 dozen potato & cheese

These are such a popular item, that if we make them year round they will be a great fund raiser for our church. Possibly Saturdays or even an evening party would be a great opportunity to learn our tradition and enjoy the friendships too.

**Cabbage Rolls** 3 for \$15.00

6 for \$25.00

Sold out 3 in a package

**Polish Sweet Bread – Babka** \$5.00-25.00

Depends upon the size

**ANSWERING GOD'S CALL:** "We have heard for ourselves and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world, the Christ." The saving love of Christ quenched the thirst of the Samaritan woman. He wants all to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. Are you open to bringing that saving love to the world by becoming a priest, deacon, monk or nun? Contact the Vocations Office at 206-329-9219 or email: [vocations@ephx.org](mailto:vocations@ephx.org)

**Vocation Icon:**



Everyone in the parish is invited to have this icon in their home for a week of special prayer for vocations. Please sign up on the sheet that you can find in our parish hall. If you would like to take the icon again, please feel free to do it. Please bring the Icon on the following Sunday and leave it on the Tetrapod for the next family.

*Thank you for your prayerful support to those who have recognized the calling of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

**Prayer for Vocations**

Lord our God, older than all creation, you have made us in your image and likeness.

You have given us the gift of the Holy Spirit through your servants who proclaim the good news of your Church all that is necessary for our sanctification.

We humbly beg you, do not leave your people deprived of spiritual gifts, but grant us an abundance of vocations to your holy priesthood, the diaconate and consecrated life, and to lives dedicated to your service.

Open the hearts of men and women to hear your words, "Come, follow me!"

Indeed, do not leave us orphans, but be with us through your Holy Spirit, who is present everywhere and fills all things, and who raises up mere mortals to divine service by the mystery of his grace.

Truly you will never forget your promise to be with us always, until the end of the world, but forgive us if we have, in our weakness, failed to follow you as we should.

For you alone are holy now and ever and forever. Amen.


**Reflections on the present Scriptures:** Here is love! Here is teaching! Here is acquiescence! Here is a model! ...Those who love they also serve. If you want to find out how great your love is towards God, then measure your obedience to the will of God, and you will immediately learn. Lack of positive obedience is a sign of a lack of love. Those who love, delight in fulfilling the

will of the beloved. The Son of God so loved His Father, that He thought it to be preferable to food to fulfil the will of the Father. What is the will of the Father? The salvation of man. The Lord, Son of God felt an unquenchable hunger to carry out the will of the Father. And when He had saved [a soul] He felt nourished with the sweetest food. See how exalted is the spirituality of Christ!... O my brothers, if you only knew how much Christ our Lord also hungers for our salvation! ...We begin our own salvation which He offers to us. That is for Him the most gladsome food ..O Lord Jesus, insatiable lover of men, have mercy on us and save us. Glory to you and praise for ever. Amen.

+ *Nicolas Velimirovic*

**Byzantine Basics YouTube Page:** An Introduction to Byzantine Catholic Faith, Worship, and Life based on the Christ our Pasha Catechism offered through a free webinar series and pre-recorded video lessons. <https://www.youtube.com/@becomingbyzantine2827>

Sunday,  
May 1st



Celebrating the Feast  
of Saint Peregrine  
with the Veneration of  
a First Class Relic

6:30 pm Divine Liturgy  
Devotions to Most Holy Theotokos  
"Pantnassa" (Queen of All), special prayers  
for healing, blessing of oil, and anointing of  
the sick after Liturgy

Saint Peregrine is the patron saint  
of people suffering from cancer,  
AIDS, or other life-threatening diseases

April 23rd through May 1st  
Novena for the sick  
through the intercession of St. Peregrine  
Send a prayer request to  
[pastorstnicholas@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorstnicholas@yahoo.com)

St Nicholas of Myra Byzantine Catholic Church  
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Anchorage, AK 99503  
(907) 277-6731  
[pastorstnicholas@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorstnicholas@yahoo.com)



The good - the bad, the beautiful - the ugly, my trinket-your treasure, a treasured last minute Mother's Day gift for Grandma, Mom, spouse or daughter, aunt or for yourself. Treasures galore. New, Used, and slightly used. From household items, to camping gear, paintings, Including the "free" box. Baked goods on site made by our parishioners, great coffee, conversation and even a tour of our precious St. Nicholas of Myra Byzantine Catholic Church.

Parishioners we need your help !!! Labor, Ideas, & spreading the Great News

Work party and setup the week before

Workers for pricing and labeling and/or ideas on how to

Baked goods of all kinds—setting up the kitchen for coffee etc.

Table workers, Money collectors, crowd control, baked good tasters,

Clean up after

Leftover sale items to be donated or ???

Signup sheets in the church hall, come one come all to support your church. See Sherry for volunteering as Co-Chair or providing baked goods, donated items to sell and your hard work to make this a great fundraiser.

**Also tables for renting are available, \$50 per table. You may bring as much stuff as you like and sell it. You keep the profits, but whatever you don't sell you must take away. Table rental is open to parishioners, and your friends and family!**

# Parish Giving

## Great news for those donating online

Now you can use our new online giving tool to tithe online using your credit card or bank account information. You can also do a one-time donation or set up weekly donations! You will receive a receipt and statement immediately after donating. The software takes a very small percentage of the donation, but its worth it for the ease of the system. You can donate using your computer at:

<https://donorbox.org/support-st-nicholas-and-help-us-grow>



## Tithes & Attendance:

**April 21**

**Tithes: \$1571.00**

**Attendance: 51**

**Thank you for your support and love for our Parish.**

Also, feel free to send in your regular tithe check by mail to:  
**2200 Arctic Blvd,  
Anchorage, AK 99503.**

It is very important that we continue to give a percentage of what Our Lord has given us, and continue to support the structure and ministry of the parish. Thank you!



**Fred Meyer Rewards:** St. Nicholas of Myra participates in the community rewards program with Fred Meyer stores which gives a percentage of purchases by those signed up with the program to **St. Nicholas**. It does not cost anything for customers. Fred Meyer pays out each quarter and will send a check if it's above a certain amount.

It won't cost parishioners and friends of **St. Nicholas** anything to participate. The steps to participate are:

- 1) Set up a Fred Meyer Rewards account if you don't have one or sign up at one of the stores.
  - 2) Set up an online account.
  - 3) Log into the account and search for Community Rewards.
  - 4) Search for **Saint Nicholas of Myra Byzantine Catholic Church** or our account number **QD147** and select as the charity to receive the funds.
  - 5) Shop at Fred Meyer as you normally would and the St. Nicholas account will automatically be credited.
- Thank you!



## PASTORAL MINISTRY AND SACRAMENTS:

SACRAMENT of CONFESSIONS: on Sundays and Holy Days: 30 min. before Divine Liturgy and other days, by appointment.

HOLY COMMUNION: for the sick, by appointment, anytime.

BAPTISMS - by appointment.

MARRIAGES - by appointment, at least 6 months in advance.

FUNERALS - by appointment.

ANOINTING of the sick, hospital visits - by appointment, anytime

### Safe Environment:

The Eparchy, within all its parishes, institutions, and programs, is committed to assuring a Safe Environment in ministry for its children and vulnerable adults that conforms to the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. For additional information regarding the eparchial Safe Environment Program or to report any concerns, please contact:

**Subdeacon Paul Kilroy, Safe Environment Program Coordinator**

Cell: (480) 745-0316 ~ Office: (602) 861-9778 ext. 204 ~ Email: sbdcnkilroy@ephx.org -

or -

**Victim Assistance Coordinator, Deacon Michael Hanafin**

Cell: (480) 307-5182 ~ Email: vac@ephx.org

### *The Samaritan Woman*

The Fourth Gospel, attributed to Saint John the Evangelist, is used exclusively from Easter until Pentecost for the Sunday readings. The first chapter of John's Gospel is the proclamation used for the Divine Liturgy on Easter itself. This week, we are reminded of the story of Christ's encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well of Jacob, and thereby Christ's fulfillment of the Old Testament. In one of the many unique stories of the Fourth Gospel not found in the Synoptics (Matthew, Mark or Luke), Jesus reveals himself as Messiah to this woman of Samaria and talks with her about the "water that I will give will become ... a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."

In the early days of His ministry, Jesus travels back and forth between Galilee and Jerusalem, and must pass through Samaria. The Samaritans were outcast Jews because they were not subject

to the Babylonian exile of the Israelites from other provinces. Therefore, when Jesus talks with this Samaritan woman, His disciples are surprised and in shock that He would carry on a conversation with a woman at the well, let alone a Samaritan. But as the story is explained, the woman's testimony about Jesus spreads through the nearby town, and because of her many come to hear His teachings. After hearing His word, they come to believe in Him, and proclaim Him "the Savior of the world." (Jn 4:42)

With water as the focal point of this encounter, we are once again reminded of our Baptism, and that Christ's Baptism is that of "eternal life" through "living water."

*Archbishop Vsevolod of Scopelos*

**For publications on Eastern spirituality, visit  
[www.ecpubs.com](http://www.ecpubs.com)**