

News from St. Nick's

Sunday, June 21, 2020

The Second Sunday After Pentecost

The Sunday of All Saints of North America and Romania

Happy Fathers' Day!

Apostolic Reading: Romans 2, 10-16

Gospel: Matthew 4, 18-23

Tone 1 • Matins Gospel 2

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARTICIPATING IN SERVICES. As a reminder, here are the [Guidelines](#) for attending Church services. Everyone **must wear a mask** while present, and for time being we will limit attendance to approximately **30 people**. Please follow the directions of Parish Council members at all times as they will ensure it is controlled and safe for all.

THE LIVE-STREAMING OF THE LITURGY WILL CONTINUE. For the indefinite future, you will still be able to access the live-stream of Divine Services. Go to: www.stnicholaschurch.org and click on "**Live Streaming of Services**"

- ***To view previous Services*** on our YouTube Channel, [click here](#).

USHERS NEEDED. The Parish Council generally attends to ushering on Sundays, but given the current situation some are not able to do so. **As a result, we need a few more people to help with ushering** on a rotating schedule. One would need to be at the Church at 9 am on Sundays. If you can help, please email parishcouncil@stnicholaschurch.org or speak to George Demake.

IOCC FUNDRAISER. Will You Join Us June 27? On June 27, join IOCC staff and family across the country (and across the globe!) in a virtual 5K for IOCC. Keep yourself and your neighbors safe while helping people in need! Get the whole family involved while joining us to support IOCC's humanitarian work around the world. Make your miles matter while joining us at a distance—indoors or outdoors! It's a fun, safe way to help IOCC reach people who need help. Register to participate [here](#).

SERIES ON MENTAL HEALTH AND ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY. The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of America has worked with OCAMPR through the Mental Health Task Force to develop a series on Mental Health and Orthodox Faith. The first episode is titled, "[Understanding Mental Health](#)." The relationship between science and faith has a long history in the Church, and is relevant to contemporary mental health theory and Orthodox theology and faith.

ORTHODOX FOOD PANTRY UPDATE. The Food Pantry has reopened and is serving the community. Volunteers will have PPE (masks and gloves) and there is a new plexi-glass screen at the check-in desk. **Additional help is needed now and in the coming weeks** because many of the regular volunteers may not be in a position to return just yet. For more information, contact [Lisa Demake](#) or [Nicole Apostola](#).

STEWARDSHIP. This is a difficult time for everyone, on so many levels. One is economic. But if you are able, please continue to send what stewardship offering that you feel you can afford. Keep in mind that **the Church is also in the same situation**. There are on-going expenses. You may mail any contributions to the Church address, or you may give on-line, at the parish website by [clicking here](#). God bless you and keep you safe!

WE HAVE A COVID FUND. There are people both in our parish and who come to the Church who are in need. There will very likely be even more as this situation continues. **If you need help**, whatever it might be, including financial assistance, please contact Fr. Nick. We'll find a way to assist you. **ALSO**, we are asking the faithful in our parish **WHO ARE ABLE**, to perhaps contribute toward this fund. We've set up a small committee, headed by Fr. Nick, to administer this fund, and distribute what we're able to give as equitably as possible. **May God keep us all!**

NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR THE CHURCH. If you have information or a notice to share in the Church bulletin, please send that to Bulletin@stnicholaschurch.org. Likewise, questions or information for the Parish Council may be addressed to ParishCouncil@stnicholaschurch.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Despite the unusual nature of this Sunday School year, we would like to have a **final "end of the school year" meeting with the kids**. We thought this would give the kids an opportunity to chat with Father and be together prior to their summer vacation.

We will be adhering by all the Covid 19 protocols during our meeting. Kids will need to bring a mask with them. We will be outside and maintain social distance. Hand sanitizer and bathrooms will be available for kids to clean their hands. **We plan to serve lunch during this time.** If this is something you are not comfortable with, please feel free to bring your own food or feed your child prior to the meeting.

End of the School Year Meeting

Date: Saturday, 6/27

Time: 12-1pm

Place: St. Nicholas Church (grass area & parking lot)

Please **RSVP** to Valarie at valarie.stamoulis@gmail.com or 617-803-3798.

MUSTARD SEED MEALS

MUSTARD SEED MEALS. We plan to continue our practice of supporting The Mustard Seed in its mission to provide meals to those in need. However, like many things, there are changes to the way that they are meeting this need. **Rather than preparing a hot meal to be served at The Mustard Seed, all meals are being distributed “to go” only.** Therefore, The Mustard Seed is recommending we provide between 125 and 150 “meals in a bag” to include a sandwich, fruit, and packaged snacks with each meal assembled in a paper bag. The bags will be dropped off at The Mustard Seed to be distributed by their regular staff of volunteers.

With appropriate social distancing, hygiene and protective wear (masks and gloves) **we believe that we can safely prepare the sandwiches in the kitchen and assemble the bagged meals using the hall.** We have volunteer shoppers ready to purchase all of the supplies for the meals to be assembled. Donations to help defray the cost for the meals is also needed. **Donations can be made to St. Nicholas Orthodox Church – online or by check.** Please note that the donation is for “The Mustard Seed meals”.

We have committed to providing the meal on a date in July to be determined and August 21. If you/your family would like to help with this, please call or contact **Betty Anderson by email** (bettya16@verizon.net) or by phone 508-353-9449.

HOLY TRINITY NEWS

A message from Holy Trinity Nursing and Rehabilitation Center (6/15/20)

Holy Trinity In The News!

Please click [here](#) and read the FRONT PAGE story in the Worcester Telegram & Gazette about Holy Trinity

Please click [here](#) and see one of Holy Trinity's residents receive the key to the city on her 100th birthday.

Update - There are currently 2 residents that are positive (not acquired at Holy Trinity), and 82 negative residents (55 are fully recovered, and 27 have always tested negative). The administrative and clinical staff are working tirelessly to care for its residents and ensure that the facility is meeting all safety standards. We continue to have and use appropriate levels of PPE (personal protection equipment). Holy Trinity continues to admit all residents that need long-term care or short-term rehabilitation services, and care for them in the safest, and most caring manner possible no matter what their pre-existing condition.

Resident IN PERSON Visits - At this time, the Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health is allowing in-person, outside visits with residents, provided certain safety conditions are met. If you would like to schedule an in-person visit, window time, or video call please click here to complete a visit form. You will receive a follow up email and/or phone call with details about your scheduled visit. Please do not call the center to schedule a visit.

Board Members Needed – Holy Trinity will be voting on new Board members in September at the General Assembly to replace those who have completed their term. Please email Steve Fotos stevefotos82@gmail.com if you are interested. This is a great opportunity to be a part of a team that is making a difference for our parents and grandparents.

Job Openings – Check out the open positions at Holy Trinity [here](#) to join a wonderful team!

Orthodox Links

[Romanian Orthodox Metropolia](#) of the Americas

[Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of North and Central America](#) (Assembly of Bishops)

[International Orthodox Christian Charities](#) (IOCC)

[Orthodox Christian Mission Center](#) (OCMC)

[Orthodox Christian Radio Network](#) (OCN)

[Council of Eastern Orthodox Churches of Central Mass.](#) (CEOC)

Dates To Remember

June 15 thru 28 - Apostles' Fast

June 27 - Sunday School End of Year Meeting

July TBD - Mustard Seed

Aug 21 - Mustard Seed

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
34 Gold St | Shrewsbury, MA 01545-6238
508-845-0088 | fax: 508-845-8850 | email: ParishCouncil@StNicholasChurch.org
www.StNicholasChurch.org
Sunday Services: Matins at 9:00 am and Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am