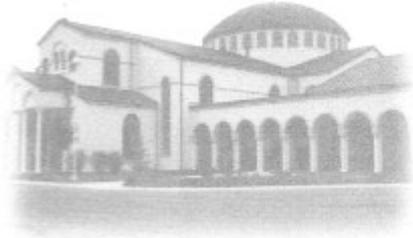


**SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FATHERS
OF THE
FOURTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL**

JULY 14, 2019



**ST. NICHOLAS
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

2250 East Paris Ave, Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616-954-2700 ▪ info@stnicholasgr.com ▪ www.stnicholasgr.com

CLERGY

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH,
Archbishop of New York & Metropolitan of all North America

His Grace Bishop ANTHONY,
Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest

V. Rev. Fr. Michael Nasser,
Pastor of St. Nicholas ▪ 616-216-3537 ▪ frmichael@stnicholasgr.com

V. Rev. Fr. Elias Mitchell,
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Archdeacon David Khorey
Rev. Deacon Justin Adolphson

Rev. Deacon Clement Nicoloff
Rev. Deacon Theodore Sirotko
Subdeacon Nicholas Rock



WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

Thank you for attending today's Divine Liturgy. Please register your visit by completing the guest book located on the table in the narthex. We would appreciate getting to meet you, so feel free to join us for refreshments & fellowship in the Cultural Center.

We believe **Holy Communion** to be a sign that in Christ we have all things in common, share an identical faith, and are united fully to the Orthodox Church. Anyone interested in learning more about our faith is encouraged to speak with one of our clergy. Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting, & regular confession are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

WHO WE ARE

St. Nicholas is a worshipping community in the Antiochian Orthodox Christian tradition that preserves, proclaims, and practices the Faith given by Christ to the Apostles, serving Him, one another and our neighbors. We manifest His love through sacramental and liturgical life, education, hospitality, works of mercy, and fellowship.

We would love to share more about our Orthodox Faith with you. Our website and our bookstore are great resources to assist you in learning more about us and what we believe! Also, feel free to make an appointment with our pastor.

We trust that you will experience Christ's presence as you worship with us today.



HYMNS AND READINGS OF THE DAY

HYMNS

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (TONE 3)

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF THE HOLY FATHERS (TONE 8)

Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise Who didst establish our Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. NICHOLAS (TONE 4)

Thy work of justice did show thee to thy congregation a canon of faith, the likeness of humility, a teacher of abstinence, O Father Bishop Nicholas. Wherefore, by humility thou didst achieve exaltation, and by meekness richness. Intercede, therefore, with Christ to save our soul.

ORDINARY KONTAKION (TONE 2)

O undisputed intercessor of Christians. The mediatrix who is unrejected by the Creator. Turn not away from the voice of our petitions; although we are sinners. Come to us with aid in time, who cry unto thee in faith. For thou art good. Hasten to us with intercessions, O Theotokos. Who dost ever intercede for those who honor thee.

EPISTLE

*Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.
For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us.*

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to St. Titus

(3:8-15)

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned. When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

(5:14-19)

The Lord said to His Disciples: “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father Who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them, but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.”

SYNAXARION

On July 14 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Apostle Aquila of the Seventy; Joseph the Confessor, archbishop of Thessalonica; Peter, bishop of Crete; Venerable Onesimos of Magnesia and Nicodemus of the Holy Mountain.

On this Sunday, we commemorate the 630 holy and God-bearing Fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council, which convened in Chalcedon in 451 against the Monophysites.

Verses

*Shunning opposite errors like
the sea monsters Scylla and Charybdis,
The Fathers steer the Church on a straight course to safety.*

The Holy Fathers were, once again, concerned with the nature of Jesus Christ. The false teaching arose that Christ's human nature (considered by heretics as less perfect) dissolved itself in His divine nature (considered by heretics as more perfect): like a cube of sugar in a parcel of water. Thus, in that scenario, Christ had only one nature, the Divine. These false preachers were called Monophysites ("mono", meaning "one" and "physis", meaning "nature"), and they were led by Eutyches and Dioscorus. Monophysitism overemphasized the divine nature of Christ, at the expense of the human. The Fourth Ecumenical Council condemned Monophysitism and proclaimed that Christ has two complete natures: the divine and the human, as defined by previous Councils. These two natures function as equally perfect, without confusion, and are neither divided nor separate. The Fathers declared that at no time did they undergo any change.

By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

HOLY OBLATION IS OFFERED

For the Health and Blessings of Janalyn Salhaney on her birthday by Ana Bosma. May God grant you many years!

In memory of Millard Laramy by his beloved wife Jean, children, grandchildren, and precious great-grandchildren Silas and Harlow. We love you and miss you! Memory Eternal!



SERVING MINISTRIES

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Epistle Readers:	Gretchen Zahn	Nick Ayoub
Coffee Hour:	AC2019 Lunch Rally	Convention Lunch

REMEMBER IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

LIVING

Vera Mijatovic	LaVerne Audy	Kh. Cynthia Hogg
Audrey Nicoloff	Eva Rose Saseen	Barbara Sielaff
Ralph Thomas	Dennis Hattem	Joe Corey
David Corey	Richard Traxler	Sam Homsey

If you desire a name to be added to this prayer list, Holy Oblations may be offered, with the option of being added to the bulletin Prayer List for 40 days.

DEPARTED

Victims of tragedy, violence, and poverty in the Middle East and throughout the world.

PARISHIONERS DEPARTED IN THE MONTH OF JULY

7/01/1988	Linda Lou Sylvester	7/17/1969	Antonina Oleszezuk
7/01/1996	Hasebie Gantos	7/17/2006	Maxine Hattem
7/02/1967	Fozee Yared	7/18/1988	Hazel Salhaney
7/03/1997	Mary Sayfee	7/21/2007	Thomas Bander
7/05/1967	Ferris Sickrey	7/23/2017	George Mickel
7/06/1956	Michael Azkoul	7/26/1967	Julia Sickrey
7/11/1967	Andreas Nakas	7/26/1983	Louise Salhaney
7/13/2002	Edward Khouri	7/27/1963	Arthur Watson
7/16/1977	Kh. Anna Mickel	7/28/1935	Rev. Philip Assaley
7/16/2017	Millard Laramy	7/29/2018	Nora Ayoub



HAPPENING TODAY

- * All-Parish Convention Rally following Divine Liturgy (lunch provided)
- * Parish Council meeting