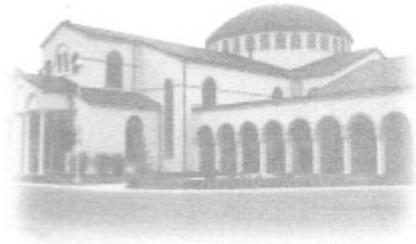


**SUNDAY OF THE
PHARISEE AND THE PUBLICAN &
LEAVE-TAKING OF THE PRESENTATION
(MEETING) OF CHRIST**

FEBRUARY 9, 2020



**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

Very Reverend Michael Nasser
Pastor of St. Nicholas ▪ 616-216-3537 ▪ frmichael@stnicholasgr.com

Reverend Theodore Sirotko
Rev. Archdeacon David Khorey
Rev. Deacon Justin Adolphson

Rev. Deacon Clement Nicoloff
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 1)

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

APOLYTIKION OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST (TONE 1)

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace, for from thee arose the Sun of justice, Christ our God, lighting those who are in darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous elder, carrying in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls, Who granteth us Resurrection.

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.

KONTAKION OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST (TONE 1)

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

EPISTLE

*My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For He hath regarded the humility of His servant.*

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the St. Timothy 3:10-15

Timothy my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, and my sufferings; and what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured; yet from them all, the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke 18:10-14

The Lord spoke this parable: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to Heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

*“For everyone who exalts himself
will be humbled, but he who
humbles himself will be exalted.”*

SYNAXARION

On February 9 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we take leave of the celebration of the Meeting (Presentation) of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ in the Temple. On this day, we commemorate the Martyr Nikephoros of Antioch; Hieromartyrs Markellos, bishop of Sicily, Pankratios, bishop of Taormina, Philagrios, bishop of Cyprus; and the translation of the relics of Innocent, first bishop of Irkutsk.

On the Sunday which falls during the After-feast of the Presentation (Meeting) of our Lord, we commemorate the Holy and Righteous Mothers of the Three Hierarchs: Emmelia (Basil the Great), Nona (Gregory the Theologian) and Anthousa (John Chrysostom).

On this day, we make remembrance of the Parable of the Pharisee and the Publican, which occurs in the Holy Gospel according to Luke the Evangelist.

Verses

If you resemble the Pharisee, run far away from the Temple;
For inside is Christ before Whom only the humble are acceptable.

Verses for the Triodion

O Creator of everything heavenly and earthly, receive Thou from
the Angels a Trinitarian song,
And from us men a noble and reverent Triodion.

In our Savior's parable, Jesus uses a Pharisee, a leader of the synagogue, who was regarded in public opinion as virtuous; and a publican, a tax collector, who was regarded as oppressive, greedy and a sinner. In their prayers to God, we discover the real hearts of these two men. We thus learn of the harm that comes from pride and the good that comes from humility. The divine Church Fathers sought to alert prepare the Christ-loving clergy and laity for the upcoming period of the Great Fast. Therefore, on this Sunday we are reminded that humility is the greatest weapon against pride, as we imitate the humility of the publican to ascend to the divine heights.

Through the intercessions of the wonderworking Saints, O Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.

TRISAGION PRAYERS OF MERCY

In memory of the 40-day falling asleep in the Lord of Servant of God Steve Thomas; also in memory of Subdeacon Joe Nicola (14 years), Mona Bashara (12 years), Leo Boosahda (9 years), and Emily Boosahda (8 years) by Barbara Thomas. May their memories be Eternal!

HOLY OBLATION IS OFFERED

For the Health and Blessings of JoAnn Abraham, her children, and grandchildren on the occasion of her birthday. With love, MaryAnn Maloley. May God grant them many years!

In memory of the Servant of God Albert Philippi by Evelyn Philippi, Barbara Walsh, and Eileen Adolphson. May his memory be Eternal!

SERVING MINISTRIES

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Epistle Readers:	David Robinson	Nick Ayoub
Coffee Hour:	Jammal family	Mike & Lynn Simon

HAPPENING TODAY

Women of St. Nicholas meeting
Men of St. Nicholas meeting
(following Diving Liturgy)

REMEMBER IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

LIVING

Fr. John Dixon	David Corey	Sam Homsey
Vera Mijatovic	Eva Rose Saseen	Jean Laramy
Audrey Nicoloff	Barbara Sielaff	Laura Lee
Ralph Thomas	Joe Corey	Attallah Amash

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 FEBRUARY

2/04/1997	Albert Philippi
2/04/2006	Subdeacon Joseph Nicola
2/04/2008	Mona Bashara
2/07/2010	Marie Azkoul
2/09/1975	Saleme Ayoub
2/11/1980	Donald Mickel
2/11/2001	Josephine Sickrey
2/11/2007	Mabel Sickrey
2/12/1944	Joseph Eyd
2/13/1958	Sleyman Abraham
2/14/1962	C. K. Maloley
2/15/1991	Kezma Sayfee
2/16/1944	Assad Maloley
2/17/1986	Ramza Cassis
2/19/1960	Mose Halaley
2/20/1972	Josephine Wawee
2/22/2001	Helen J. Maloley
2/24/2009	Mary Henry
2/29/1956	Adeeb Nassif