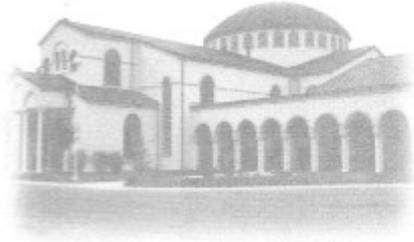


**FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT  
(SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY)**

**MARCH 8, 2020**



**ST. NICHOLAS  
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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**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](mailto: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.



## **LITURGY OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT**

On the Sundays of Great Lent, the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great is served in place of the typical Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom. The main difference is in the prayers said by the Priest, which can be followed in the white spiral-bound Divine Liturgy book or in the red Service Book (page 132).

## **HYMNS AND READINGS OF THE DAY**

### **HYMNS**

#### ***RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (TONE 5)***

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

#### ***APOLYTIKION OF FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT (TONE 2)***

Thy pure image do we venerate, O good One, asking forgiveness of our sins, O Christ our God; for by Thine own will Thou didst ascend the Cross in Thy body, to save Thy creatures from the bondage of the enemy. Wherefore, with thankfulness we cry aloud to thee: Thou hast verily filled all with joy, since Thou didst come, O our Savior, to save the world.

#### ***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 FOR SUNDAYS IN GREAT LENT (TONE 8)***

To thee our captain Queen of war, the battle trophies won, thy people rescued by thine aid from peril, dedicate as our offering of thanksgiving, O Theotokos, as though hast might which none by war can overcome, from all forms of danger has thou delivered me, that I may cry unto thee: Hail O virgin, unwedded bride.

## 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 of St. Paul to the Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40**

Brethren, by faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets; who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, and put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

## GOSPEL

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John 1:43-51**

At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and said to him, "We have found Him of Whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to Jesus, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered Him, "Rabbi, Thou art the Son of God! Thou art the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And Jesus said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

## SYNTAXARION

On March 08 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our righteous father Theophylact the Confessor, bishop of Nicomedia; and the Apostle Hermas of the Seventy.

On this same day, the First Sunday of the Fast, we make remembrance of the restoration of the holy and venerable Icons, which took place through the ever-memorable Sovereigns of Constantinople, Michael and his mother, Theodora, during the patriarchate of Saint Methodios the Confessor.

### *Verse*

I rejoice, as I see them fittingly reverence  
The icons formerly unfittingly banished.

This restoration was accomplished in the year 842. Theodora's husband was an iconoclast. After his death, Theodora venerated an icon of the Theotokos in front of Patriarch Methodios. The other faithful in the church did the same, venerating all the icons, considering them to be representations of their original elements, not idols. Theodora prayed to God to forgive her husband during the first week of Great Lent; and on the First Sunday of the Fast, she led the way in hanging up the icons to adorn the churches.

O invariant Icon of the Father, through the intercessions of Thy holy Confessors, have mercy on us. Amen.

## SERVING MINISTRIES

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
<b>Epistle Readers:</b>	Christianna Hultink	Evie Phillipi
<b>Coffee Hour:</b>	Annual St. Nicholas Pancake Breakfast	No Host

*\* All families are encouraged to host at least one Coffee Hour each year. Feel free to invite another family to partner with you if you prefer. When selecting a Coffee Hour date, take into account significant dates such as: memorials, anniversaries, names day, significant birthdays, etc. The Coffee Hour sign-up sheet can be found on the Parishioners' table in the Narthex. As a reminder, Coffee Hour does not have to be elaborate. It can be as simple as Coffee and bagels. We have all of the paper products and coffee supplies on hand.*

## **HOLY OBLATION IS OFFERED**

In thanks for the Health and Blessings of Hatem Karadsheh by his family. May God Bless Him with many healthy years!

For the Health and Blessings of Mais Khoury Karadsheh on the occasion of her birthday by her parents and family. May God bless her with many healthy happy years!

For the Health and Blessings of Mais Khoury Karadsheh upon the birth of her baby Willow Grace by her parents and family. May God bless her with many healthy happy years!

In memory of the Servant of God Abe Simon by Marge, Mike & Lynn, Mark & Michelle and their families. May his memory be Eternal!

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH** **ORTHODOXY SUNDAY**

As the prophets beheld, as the Apostles have taught,... as the Church has received... as the teachers have dogmatized,... as the Universe has agreed,... as Grace has shown forth,... as Truth has revealed,... as falsehood has been dissolved,... as Wisdom has presented,... as Christ Awarded,... thus we declare,... thus we assert,... thus we preach Christ our true God, and honor as Saints in words, in writings, in thoughts, in sacrifices, in churches, in Holy Icons; on the one hand worshipping and reverencing Christ as God and Lord; and on the other hand honoring as true servants of the same Lord of all and accordingly offering them veneration.

***THIS IS THE FAITH OF THE APOSTLES, THIS IS THE FAITH OF THE FATHERS, THIS IS THE FAITH OF ORTHODOXY, THIS IS THE FAITH WHICH HAS ESTABLISHED THE UNIVERSE.***

## **HAPPENING TODAY**

Pan-Orthodox Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers @ St. George (6 PM)  
Procession with Icons  
Collection for Seminarians  
Pancake Breakfast following Divine 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 MARCH**

3/02/1956	Mike Simon
3/02/1996	Mary Aboosamra
3/03/1967	Della Azkoul
3/03/1978	Carrie Wawee
3/03/2017	Abe Simon
3/06/1968	Alexander Mallick
3/07/1968	Wadia Laham
3/07/1991	Juri Sulizki
3/07/2018	Rojina Jawiche
3/10/2012	James Salhaney
3/14/1947	Mitchell Livantis
3/16/1945	Damoos Sayfee
3/17/2005	Yuri Sarkisov
3/19/1969	Charles Bedree
3/20/1960	Louise Salhaney
3/21/2018	Louise Whalen