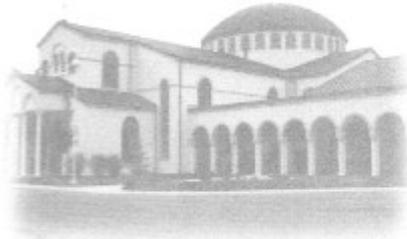


**NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER,
ARCHBISHOP OF MYRA IN LYCIA
& TENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE**

DECEMBER 6, 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

V. Rev. Fr. Elias Mitchell
Pastor Emeritus

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.

Our parish exists to seek and share Christ's love so that ALL will find Eternal Life in Him.

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.



WELCOME!

How wonderful it is to have back with us our Father in Christ Bishop ANTHONY, to celebrate our *Feast Day of St. Nicholas!*

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 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 PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY (TONE 3)

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to God the Word ineffably, Who was before all the ages. Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing the gladsome tidings; with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him Who is willing to be gazed on as a young Child Who before the ages is God.

EPISTLE

*Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.
What shall I render to the Lord for all that He has given me?*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews 13:17-21

Brethren, obey your leaders and submit to them; for they are keeping watch over your souls, as men who will have to give account. Let them do this joyfully, and not sadly, for that would be of no advantage to you. Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. I urge you the more earnestly to do this in order that I may be restored to you the sooner. Now may the God of peace Who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in you that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to Whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke 13:10-17

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, He called her and said to her, “Woman, you are freed from your infirmity.” And He laid His hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day.” Then the Lord answered him, “You hypocrite! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?” As Jesus said this, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by Him.

SYNAXARION

(LIVES OF THE SAINTS OF THE DAY)

On December 6 in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate our Father among the Saints Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia.

Verses

*Nicholas, who while on earth, was a great intercessor,
Though he hath left the earth, still fervently intercedeth.
On the sixth his life's end appeared to Nicholas.*

His eminent and wealthy parents, Theophanes and Nona, returned their gift of an only child to God by dedicating Nicholas to Him. Following the death of his parents, Nicholas distributed all his inherited goods to the poor, not keeping anything for himself. As a priest in Patara, he was known for his charity, even though he carefully concealed his charitable works, fulfilling the words of the Lord: Let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth (Matthew 6:3). When he gave himself over to solitude and silence, a voice from on high came to him: "Nicholas, for your ascetic labor, work among the people, if thou desirest to be crowned by Me." By God's wondrous providence, he was chosen archbishop of the city of Myra in Lycia. Merciful, wise and fearless, Nicholas was a true shepherd to his flock. He was cast in and out of prison, he defended the true nature of Christ in the First Ecumenical Council, and he even saved men from unjust death sentences. Nicholas entered into eternal rest on December 6, 343.

On this day, we also commemorate our father among the saints Nicholas, bishop of Patara, the uncle of the Wonderworker; and New-martyr Nicholas of Karamania in Asia Minor.

By their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

HOLY OBLATION IS OFFERED

For the Health and Blessings of Fr. Elias and Marion on the celebration of 50 years of ordination to the diaconate offered by Mark and Jackie. May God grant them many years!

For the Health & Blessings on the one-year anniversary of the ordination of Fr. Ted Sirotko, by John Turner III and MaryAnne Sirotko-Turner. May God grant Fr. Ted many years!

For the Health and Blessings of our Choir and Byzantine Choir. Thank you for your continued faithfulness. May God grant you many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Nick Lewis on the occasion of his name day by Ana Bosma. May God grant you many years!

For the Health and Safety of Zachary Nicholas Rinvelt on his name day. May God bless him with peace, strength, patience and wisdom as he prepares to become a Daddy. In Allah Rud! We Love you Zack! - Mom, Dad, Jake, Tori and Samantha.

For the Health and Blessings of Jeffrey Nicholas, Nicole, and Nicholas Mitry Abraham on the feast day of St. Nicholas by Alan and Debbie Abraham. Many blessings to you on your name day. May St. Nicholas protect and inspire you.

For the Health and Blessings of Rob Rinvelt as he prepares for his Retirement! Lord, we ask for your blessings to bring him good health, joy in abundance, and peace in heart and mind from this day forward and every day that follows! We love you always! Beth, Jake, Tori, Zack & Samantha.

In memory of the falling asleep in the Lord of the handmaiden of God Mrs. Samira Ajlouny, by Attallah and Mimi Amash and family. May her memory be Eternal!

In memory of the members of St. Nicholas who departed in December. May their memory be Eternal!

REMEMBER IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

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.

LIVING

Metropolitan Paul Archpriest George
Archbishop John Archpriest Joseph

And all the victims of tragedy, violence, and poverty throughout our Nation, in Brazil, India, Turkey, and throughout the world.

HOLY OBLATIONS

Archpriest Elias	Zachary	Rob
Marion	Jeffrey	All Choir &
Priest Theodore	Nicole	Byzantine Choir
Nick	Nicholas	members

ONGOING PRAYERS

Attallah Amash	Barbara Sielaff	Marge Simon
Audrey Nicoloff	Joe Corey	Roy Gurk
Vera Mijatovic	Laura Lee	David Francis
Ralph Thomas	Shirley Salhaney	Michael Cotter
David Corey	Hatem Karadsheh	



DEPARTED

And all the newly departed victims of tragedy, violence, and poverty throughout our Nation, in Mexico, Italy, Brazil, and throughout the world.

NEWLY DEPARTED

Samira

TRISAGION/HOLY OBLATIONS

Joseph	David	Bertha	Bud	Edward
Elias	Rose	Yanna	Jeannette	Ferris
Amine	Helen	Mitri	Nora	Awwad
Mike	Clara	James	George	Edward
Julia	Michael	Mary	Ramsey	
Esper	Yamna	Leo	Steve	