

SECOND SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT

COMMEMORATION OF GREGORY PALAMAS,
ARCHBISHOP OF THESSALONICA

MARCH 28, 2021



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

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.



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 FOR GREGORY PALAMAS (TONE 8)

O Star of Orthodoxy, support of the Church and its teacher, O comeliness of ascetics, and incontestable champion of those who speak in theology, Gregory the wonder-worker, the pride of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, implore thou constantly for the salvation of our souls.

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

*Thou, O Lord, shalt keep us and shalt preserve us.
Save me, O Lord, for the godly man is no more!*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews 1:10-2:3

Thou, “O Lord, in the beginning didst lay the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the works of Thy hands; they will perish; but Thou remainest; and they will all grow old like a garment, and like a mantle Thou wilt roll them up, and they shall be changed; but Thou art the same, and Thy years will not fail.” But to which of the angels did He say at any time, “Sit on My right hand, until I make thine enemies a footstool for thy feet?” Are they not all spirits for liturgical ministry, sent forth to minister for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation? Therefore, we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things that were heard, lest at any time we drift away from them. For if the word spoken through angels was confirmed, and every transgression and disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape, if we neglect so great a salvation, which having at first been spoken through the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard?

GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark 2:1-12

At that time, when Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that He was at home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them, not even about the door; and He was preaching the Word to them. And they came, bringing to Jesus a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." Now, some of the scribes were sitting there, reasoning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak thus? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" And immediately Jesus, perceiving in His spirit that they thus reasoned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you reason thus in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your pallet and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" – He said to the paralytic – "I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home." And he rose, and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all. So that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

SYNAXARION

On March 28 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Venerable Hilarion the New; Apostle Herodion of the Seventy; and Venerable Stephen of Triglia.

On this same day, the Second Sunday of the Fast, we make remembrance of our father among the saints, Gregory Palamas, archbishop of Thessalonica.

Verses

The Spring of Light now leadeth to light unwaning
The Light's own truly great and resplendent herald.

This divine father was born in Asia and was brought up from infancy in the royal palace of Constantinople. When he was of age, Gregory left the palace and gave himself to asceticism on Mount Athos. He eventually moved to Thessalonica to seek cure for the diseases he contracted because of his asceticism and piety. In 1349, he was elevated to the episcopacy, tending to his people in an Apostolic fashion for 13 years. He is glorified as an ascetic, a theologian, a hierarch and a miracle-worker, who forsook a prominent, secular lifestyle to take up his cross and follow Christ. The Most-Holy Theotokos, St. John the Theologian, St. Demetrius, St. Anthony the Great, St. John Chrysostom and angels of God appeared to him at different times.

Through his intercessions, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

HOLY OBLATIONS

For the Health and Blessings of Fr. Elias. May God grant you many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Kh. Marion Mitchell on her birthday, April 1st, offered by your friends at St. Nicholas and St. Mark in Florida. May God grant you many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Lea Abraham, Cole Amash, Mille Detrmer, Blair Haddad, Duska Mijatovic, Landon Nelson, and Noah Sirotko offered by their teachers, Alison Khorey and Jenny Khorey. May God grant them many years!

For the Health and Blessings of our dear friend, Marve Halbert, as he continues to recover from his stroke. May the Lord bless you and keep you always! With love from the Adolphson family.

For the Health and Blessings of my good friend Dan Abraham, offered by Julie Karris. You are constantly in my prayers and thoughts for a full recovery!

For the Health and Blessings of Eileen Adolphson on her birthday, offered by her family and friends. May God grant her many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Eileen Adolphson and Keith McAdams on the occasion of their birthdays, offered by their Florida friends. May God grant her many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Keith McAdams on the occasion of his birthday, offered by his friends. May God grant him many years!

In memory of the falling asleep in the Lord of Sam Redmond offered by the Storey family. May his memory be Eternal!

In memory of the members of St. Nicholas who departed in the upcoming month of April. 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 Archbishop John Archpriest Joseph

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

HOLY OBLATIONS

Archp Elias Mitchell Marve Halbert Eileen Adolphson
Kh. Marian Mitchell Dan Abraham Keith McAdams

ONGOING PRAYERS

Attallah Amash David Corey Shirley Salhaney
Audrey Nicoloff Barbara Sielaff Hatem Karadsheh
Vera Mijatovic Joe Corey Marge Simon
Ralph Thomas Laura Lee Herilkia Lailios



DEPARTED

NEWLY DEPARTED

Economos Theodore
Michael Schlinz
Richard Traxler

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

TRISAGION/HOLY OBLATIONS

Archp. John Mickel Jodi Longstreet Josephine Orange Wade Abraham
Sam Redmond Jennie Bander Mary Salhaney Martha Mickel
Alem Berih James Abraham Minerva Bashara Mansour Simon
Margaret Salhaney Nicolas Wawee Elizabeth Thomas George Amash
Albert Yared Saied Bohysic Louis Simon Edward David
Alexander Koory