

**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
& SECOND SUNDAY OF LUKE**

HIEROMARTYR DIONYSIOS THE AREOPAGITE

OCTOBER 3, 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

Very Reverend 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 Church is a worshipping community, living and sharing the Faith Christ gave to the Apostles.

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 6)

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. DIONYSIOS THE AREOPAGITE (TONE 4)

Since thou hadst been instructed in uprightness thoroughly and wast vigilant in all things, thou wast clothed with a good conscience as befitteth one holy. Thou didst draw from the Chosen Vessel ineffable mysteries; and having kept the Faith, thou didst finish a like course, O Hieromartyr Dionysios. Intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

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 READER

Today: Eli Hajjar
Next week: Grant Medich

EPISTLE

*O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.
Unto Thee will I cry, O my God.*

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians 4:6-15

Brethren, seeing that it is the God who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, the same also shone in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the exceeding greatness of power is from God, and not from us. We are pressed on every way, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; smitten down, but not destroyed; always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our mortal flesh. So, then, death is working in us, but life in you. But having in us the same spirit of faith, according to that which is written, "I believed, and therefore I spoke," we also believe, and therefore we also speak, knowing that the One who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up through Jesus, and will make us stand together with you. For all things are for your sakes, that the grace, which is multiplied through the thanksgiving of many, may abound to the glory of God.

GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke 6:31-36

The Lord said: “As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.”

*“But love your enemies,
and do good, and lend,
expecting nothing in return;
and your reward will be great,
and you will be
sons of the Most High.”*

SYNAXARION

On October 3 in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate the holy Hieromartyr Dionysios the Areopagite.

Verses

He Who said: Take up thy bed and walk, to the Paralytic,
Said: Take up thy head and run, O Dionysios.

On the third, O Dionysios,
thou takest thy severed head and runnest.

He is counted among the Seventy lesser apostles. Dionysios was studying in Egypt when Lord Christ breathed His last on the Cross, and the whole world was darkened for three hours. Then Dionysios cried out: 'Either God the Creator of the world is suffering, or the world is ending.' Returning home to Athens, he married a woman called Damaris and had sons by her. He was a member of the highest court in Greece, the Areopagus, and was always thereafter known as the Areopagite. When the Apostle Paul preached the Gospel in Athens, Dionysios was baptized with his whole household (Acts 17:34). Paul consecrated Dionysios bishop of Athens and he travelled widely with Paul, coming to know all the other apostles. He went especially to Jerusalem, to see the most holy Mother of God, and wrote of his meeting with her in one of his works, being present at her burial. After Paul suffered martyrdom, Dionysios went off to Gaul to preach the Gospel among the barbarians, accompanied by Rustikos, a priest, and Eleutherios a deacon, whom we also commemorate today. By their labors, many were turned to the Christian faith and Dionysios built a small chapel in Paris where he celebrated divine service. When he was ninety years old, Dionysios was seized and tortured for Christ, together with Rustikos and Eleutherios, until they were all beheaded in the year 96. His famous writings include: On the Divine Names, On the Heavenly Hierarchies, On the Ecclesiastical Hierarchies, and The Mystical Theology.

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

HOLY OBLATIONS

For the Health and Blessings of Fr. Ted Sirotko on the occasion of his birthday, offered by his family. May God continue to grant him many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Khouria Vicky on her birthday, offered by her family and our entire parish family. God grant her many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Tillie Sayfee. May God continue to bless you and grant you many healthy and happy years.

For the Health and Blessings of all St. Nicholas parishioners for their prayers and support, offered by Dan and Kathy Abraham. May God grant you many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Melissa Powell on the occasion of her birthday, offered by Mike, Kaye, Rick, Lexy, Maci and Melanie. May God grant you many years and may HIS presence be with you always!

For the Health and Blessings of Cecelia Olson on the occasion of her 19th birthday, offered by her loving family. May the Holy Spirit continue to fill her with wisdom and discernment.

For the Health and Blessings of Dan Hoodhood on the occasion of his birthday, offered by his family. May God grant him many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Lea Irene Abraham on the occasion of her 8th birthday offered by Philip, Mindy, Allie Adele, Christopher and Joshua. May God shine his light on her, guide her and protect her all her life.

In loving memory of the Handmaiden of God, Margaret Abraham on the nine-year anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord, offered by Dan & Kathy, Marilyn, Pat & Diane, Linda, Mark & Janet and families. May God rest her soul and preserve her in the life of the blessedness which is only with thee.

In loving memory of Servant of God, Theodore Felix Sirotko on the anniversary of his falling asleep in the Lord, offered by his family. May his 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

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

Priest Theodore	Attallah Amash	Marge Simon
Kh. Vicky	Audrey Nicoloff	Dan Abraham
Tillie Sayfie	Ralph Thomas	Mary Ann Maloley
Melissa Powell	David Corey	Glenn Zimmermann
Cecelia Olson	Joe Corey	Michael Ellis
Dan Hoodhood	Hatem Karadsheh	Shirley Salhaney
Lea Abraham		

And all parishioners of St. Nicholas



DEPARTED

NEWLY DEPARTED

Kh. Helen Ashie

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

Margaret Abraham
Theodore Felix Sirotko