

# FEAST OF THE ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS

NOVEMBER 21, 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](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 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 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 THE ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS***

(TONE 4)

Today the Virgin is the foreshadowing of the pleasure of God, and the beginning of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. Thou hast appeared in the Temple of God openly and hast gone before, preaching Christ to all. Let us shout with one thrilling voice, saying: Rejoice, O thou who art the fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation.

#### ***KONTAKION OF ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS*** (TONE 4)

The sacred treasury of God's holy glory, the greatly precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the Savior's most pure temple, free of stain and undefiled, into the House of the Lord on this day is brought forward and bringeth with herself the grace of the Most Divine Spirit; her do God's Angels hymn with songs of praise, for she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.

## EPISTLE READER

Gresham Olson

## EPISTLE

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

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews 9:1-7**

Brethren, the first tabernacle had ordinances of the divine services and an earthly sanctuary. For the first tabernacle was prepared, in which were the candlestick, and the table, and the bread of the offering, which is called the Sanctuary. And behind the second veil stood the tabernacle which is called the Holy of Holies; having a golden altar of incense, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, which contained a golden jar holding the manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the two tablets of the covenant; and above it the two Cherubim of glory overshadowing the Ark's lid; of these things, we cannot now speak in particular. Now these things having been thus prepared, the priests go in continually into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the divine services; but into the second the high priest enters alone, once in the year, not without blood, which he offers for himself, and for the ignorances of the people.



## GOSPEL



### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28**

At that time, Jesus entered a certain village; and a woman named Martha received Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to His teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to Him and said, "Lord, dost Thou not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her." As He said this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore Thee, and the breasts that Thou didst suck!" But He said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

## SYNAXARION

On November 21 in the Holy Orthodox Church we celebrate the Entrance of the Mother of God into the Temple.

### Verses

Within the temple, Gabriel feedeth thee, O Maid,  
And shortly he shall come and shall say to thee: Rejoice.

On the twenty-first Mary entereth the sacred fane.

Leading the procession into the Temple were virgins with lighted tapers in their hands, then the three-year-old Most-holy Virgin, led by her father and mother. The Virgin was clad in vesture of royal magnificence and adornments as was befitting the “King’s daughter, the Bride of God” (Psalm 44:13-15). Following them were many kinsmen and friends, all with lighted tapers. Fifteen steps led up to the Temple. Joachim and Anna lifted the Virgin onto the first step, then she ran quickly to the top herself, where she was met by the High Priest Zachariah, who was to be the father of St. John the Forerunner. Taking her by the hand, he led her not only into the Temple, but into the “Holy of Holies,” the holiest of holy places, into which no one but the high priest ever entered, and only once each year, at that. Zachariah “was outside himself and possessed by God” when he led the Virgin into the holiest place in the Temple, beyond the second curtain—otherwise, his action could not be explained. The Most-holy Virgin remained in the Temple and dwelt there for nine full years. While her parents were alive, they visited her often. When God called her parents from this world, the Most-holy Virgin was left an orphan and did not wish to leave the Temple until death or to enter into marriage. The Most-holy Virgin Mary was the first of such life-vowed virgins, of the thousands and thousands of virgin men and women who would follow her in the Church of Christ.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

## TRISAGION PRAYERS OF MERCY

In memory of Nabila Jarquio on the nine-day falling asleep in the Lord, offered by her sister Nadira (Hatem) Karadshesh, brother Bassam Karadsheh, and the Karadsheh family. May her memory be Eternal!

In loving memory of the Handmaiden of God Samira Aljouny on the one-year anniversary of the falling asleep in the Lord, lovingly offered by Nick and Joanne Nicola, Lena and Derek Alley, Alexandra and Nick Ellis, Nicholas Nicola, Sonia Nicola, and seven grandchildren. May her memory be Eternal!

## HOLY OBLATIONS

For the Health and Blessings of Ryan and Carole Kaufman as they celebrate their 45th wedding anniversary. May God continue to bless you both with joy and happiness for all the years to come! Love - Leah, Bekah, & Sarah.

For the Health and Blessings of Nick and Joanne Nicola on the occasion of their 37th wedding anniversary, offered by the Nicola family. May God grant Nick and Joanne many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Roy Gurk, offered by his family.

For the Health and Blessings of Ailah Lee on her 16th birthday offered by her Church School class. May you be filled with God's light and love, and may you feel His guiding presence in your life. Happy birthday and may God grant you many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Dieter Zahn on his 14th birthday offered by his Church School class. May you feel God's presence in your life as you draw near to Him and may He lead you in His paths. Happy belated birthday and may God grant you many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Jackson Amash on his 12th birthday! We love you so much and pray that God will continue to bless you. May you always feel His guiding presence in your life as you strive to do His will, and may He grant you many years! Love, Dad, Mom, Cole & Franklin.

## 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,  
Germany, England, Russia, and throughout the world.

Ryan Kaufman

Attallah Amash

Mary Ann Maloley

Carole Kaufman

Audrey Nicoloff

Michael Ellis

Nick Nicola

Ralph Thomas

Shirley Salhaney

Joanne Nicola

David Corey

Linda Traxler

Roy Gurk

Joe Corey

Capri Coleman

Ailah Lee

Hatem Karadsheh

Joshua Cass

Dieter Zahn

Marge Simon

Nathaniel

Jackson Amash

Dan Abraham



### DEPARTED

#### NEWLY DEPARTED

Nabila Jarquio

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

Samira Aljouny