

SYNAXIS OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS & SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

COMMEMORATION OF JOSEPH THE BETROTHED
DAVID THE PROPHET AND KING,
AND JAMES THE BROTHER OF GOD

DECEMBER 26, 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

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 2)

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST (TONE 4)

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, hath given rise to the light of knowledge in the world; for they that worshipped the stars did learn there from to worship Thee, O Sun of justice, and to know that from the east of the Highest Thou didst come. O Lord, glory to Thee.

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 PREFEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST (TONE 3)

The Virgin cometh today to the cave to give birth, ineffably to bring forth the Word Eternal. Therefore, rejoice, O earth at the message with the angels and shepherds give glory to him who shall appear by his own will as a young child, he who is from eternity God.

EPISTLE

*God is wondrous in His saints.
In the churches, bless ye God.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians 1:11-19

Brethren, I would have you know that the Gospel, which was preached by me, is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the Church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people; so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when He who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through His grace, was pleased to reveal His Son to me, in order that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 2:13-23

When the wise men had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the Child and His mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the Child, to destroy Him.” And he rose and took the Child and His mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt have I called My Son.” Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region, who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: “A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more.” But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, “Rise, take the Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the Child’s life are dead.” And he rose and took the Child and His mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

HOLY OBLATIONS

For the Health and Blessings of Fr. Michael on his birthday from his St. Nicholas family. May God grant him many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Marve Halbert on his birthday. May God continue to bless you with good health and much happiness. With love always, Pat.

For the Health and Blessings of Joanna Khorey and William Hyry on their engagement, offered by Archdeacon David and Jenny Khorey and family.

For the Health and Blessings of Attallah, John, Melissa, Justin, Kara, Jeff, Amy, Alexander, Anwen, Evelyn, Jackson, Cole, Franklin, Jasmine and Vince offered by Attallah and Mimi. May the Lord Jesus always brighten and guide their way and grant them many years of good health and happiness.

For the Health and Blessings of our children, Allison, Cameron, Meredith and our grandson, Andrew Peter, with love from their parents. Wishing our children every blessing as we remember the Beauty and Promise of that Silent Holy Night.

For the Health and Blessings of Grant Medich on the occasion of his birthday, offered by his family.

For the Health and Blessings of Alexander Amash on his Christmas Day birthday, offered by Teta and Jido Attallah and Mimi with love. May God grant him many healthy and happy years.

For the Health and Blessings of Alexander Amash on his 17th birthday offered by your Church School class. May you be filled with God's light and love, and may you feel His guiding presence in your life as you seek after Him. Happy birthday and may God grant you many years!

Belated wishes for the Health and Blessings of Anwen Amash on her November birthday, offered by Teta and Jido Attallah and Mimi Amash with love. May God grant her many years of good health and happiness.

For the Health and Blessings of Luke McCloskey on his 7th birthday by Pat, Lindsey, and William. May God continue to guide you on His path and shine His light upon you!

For the Health and Blessings of Jasmine Amash on her birthday, offered by Teta and Jido Attallah and Mimi with love. May God grant her many years of health and happiness.

For the Health and Blessings of our Godchildren, Philip Abraham, David Barkett, Rick Powell, and Brittany Abraham with love from Uncle Peter and Aunt Carol. Merry Christmas and God Bless you in celebrating God's Gift of the Christ Child.

For the Health and Blessings of Isabella Margaret, on the blessed occasion of her 2nd birthday, with love by Ben and Ashley Coleman. "Every good and perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of heavenly lights." James 1:17

In loving memory of the falling asleep in the Lord of parents, Edward and Marcie David, and grandparents, John and Mary David, offered by Roger & Kim and Joe & Carol David. May their memories be Eternal!

In loving memory of Leona Assaly, offered by Ashley, Chris, Loric, Lola and Farrah Andrews. May her memory be Eternal!

In loving memory of falling asleep in the Lord of the Handmaiden of God Leona Assaly, offered by Nancy and Dennis Close and wishing God's blessings on the Assaly family. May her memory be Eternal!

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

For the Health and Blessings of loved ones, and in memory of those who have departed, offered by the parishioners who have provided the poinsettia decorations. May God grant them many years!

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, especially in Kentucky, and in Lebanon, England, France, Spain and throughout the world.

LIVING

Archpriest Michael	Allison Assaly	Mary Ann Maloley
Marve Halbert	Cameron Close	Dan Abraham
Joanna Khorey	Meredith Close	Capri Coleman
William Hyry	Andrew Close	Michael Ellis
Attallah Amash	Grant Medich	Shirley Salhaney
John Amash	Luke McCloskey	Joshua Cass
Melissa Amash	Philip Abraham	Kim Clark
Justin Amash	David Barkett	Roy Gurk
Kara Amash	Rick Powell	Thomas Ledford
Jeff Amash	Brittany Abraham	Andrew
Amy Amash	Isabella Coleman	Anastasia
Alexander Amash	Audrey Nicoloff	Nina
Anwen Amash	Ralph Thomas	Matthew
Evelyn Amash	David Corey	Liudmila
Jackson Amash	Joe Corey	Alexander
Cole Amash	Hatem Karadsheh	Thomas
Franklin Amash	Marge Simon	Victoria
Jasmine Amash		
Vince Amash		



DEPARTED

NEWLY DEPARTED

Archpriest Nicholas Neyman	Nabila Jarquio
Kh. Ilean Eylar	Rhett Riley
Leona Assaly	

And all the newly departed victims of tragedy, violence, and poverty throughout our Nation, especially in Kentucky, and in Lebanon, Russia, Poland, Germany and throughout the world.

Priest Jerome Yared	Bea Hiemstra	Latife Hattem
Edward David	S. Nicholas Ayoub	Minerva Naifeh
Marcie David	Alexandra Sulizki	George Salhaney
John David	Nick Bander	Gazelle Courey
Mary David	Dennis Hattem	William Najjar
David Corey	Edward Yared	Camille Swan
Mahrouse Joseph	Nazema Khouri	Abe Audy
Marian Hickerty	Essa Salhaney	America Yared
Theodore Gounos	Lambert Orange	George Ember
Patricia Cook	Lena Audy	Abe Abraham