

**TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
& TWELFTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW
HIEROMARTYR BABYLAS, BISHOP OF ANTIOCH
SEPTEMBER 4, 2022**



**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
Rev. Deacon John Kaufman
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 3)

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. BABYLAS OF ANTIOCH (TONE 4)

By choosing the Apostles' way of life, thou hast succeeded to their throne. Inspired by God, thou didst find the way to divine contemplation through the practice of virtue. After teaching the Word of Truth without error, thou didst defend the Faith to the very shedding of thy blood, O Hieromartyr Babylas. Entreat the Lord our God to save 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 OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS (TONE 4)

By thy holy nativity, O pure one, Joachim and Anna were delivered from the reproach of barrenness; and Adam and Eve were delivered from the corruption of death; thy people do celebrate it, having been saved from the stain of iniquity, crying unto thee: The barren doth give birth to the Theotokos, who nourisheth our life.



EPISTLE



*Sing praises to our God, sing praises.
Clap your hands, all ye nations.*

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians 15:1-11

Brethren, I would remind you in what terms I preached to you the Gospel, which you received, in which you stand, by which you are saved, if you hold it fast—unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He rose on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve. Then He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then He appeared to James, then to all the Apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared also to me. For I am the least of the Apostles, unfit to be called an Apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God, which is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 19:16-26

At that time, a young man came up to Jesus, kneeling and saying, "Good Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?" And He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. If you would enter life, keep the commandments." He said to Him, "Which?" And Jesus said, "You shall not kill, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not bear false witness, honor your father and mother, and you shall love your neighbor as yourself." The young man said to Him, "All these I have observed; what do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." When the young man heard this, he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions. And Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly, I say to you, it will be hard for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

SYNAXARION

(LIVES OF THE SAINTS OF THE DAY)

On September 4 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Holy Hieromartyr Babylas, Bishop of Antioch; the Three Children who were with him: Urban, Prilidian and Epolonios; and their mother, Christodula.

Verses

Babylas, who sacrificed Christ Himself aforetime,
Is sacrificed by the sword unto Christ most gladly.
On the fourth, Children and Babylas the sword together slew.

One day, holy Babylas was at prayer with the people. He heard that Emperor Numerian was coming with his entourage and intended to enter the church. Babylas stopped the service, went outside and boldly told the emperor that, as an idolater, he was not permitted to enter the holy church where the one, true God was worshipped. The following day, the angry Emperor summoned Babylas, and ordered him offer sacrifice to idols, which the saint steadfastly refused to do. Numerian then bound him with chains and threw him into prison. He also tortured three of Babylas' spiritual children: Urban, age 12, Prilidian, age 9 and Epolonios, age 7. Their Christian mother, Christodoula, also suffered for Christ. The emperor ordered that each child be beaten with the number of blows that totaled his age. Babylas was present at their beheading, giving them courage, and then laid his honorable head under the sword. Their holy souls flew off to Heaven in the year 283, and their wonderworking relics remained in support of the faithful.

On this day, we also commemorate the holy Prophet Moses the God-seer; and Martyrs Jerusalem, Sekendos, Sekendios and Kegouros in Aleppo.

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

HOLY OBLATIONS

For the Health and Blessings of the Children of God, Wade Patrick and Cameron Abraham Coleman on the occasion of their entrance into the Orthodox Church ~ with much love from Ben, Ashley & Isabella, Pat & Diane, and Abe & Antoinette. May God wrap His loving arms around them always. *"Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from Him"*. Psalm 127:3

For the Health and Blessings of the newly married couple, Paul and Allison Cefaratti, with love from their family. May they enjoy a life full of love and happiness through Christ.

For the Health and Blessings of Sophie Margaret Manica on the occasion of her 8th birthday offered by Greg and Marian Lambert. May God grant you many blessed years!

Our theme verse for the new
Ecclesiastical Church Year

O Lord, thou art my God;
I will exalt thee,
I will praise thy name;
for thou hast done
wonderful things.

Isaiah 25:1

REMEMBER IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

*Names are added to the Prayer List for one week by offering Holy Oblation
or for up to 40 days in the case of an ongoing serious illness.*

LIVING

Metropolitan Paul

Archbishop John

And all the victims of tragedy, violence, and poverty
throughout our nation, and in Lebanon, Ukraine, Pakistan
and throughout the world.

Wade Coleman

Mary Ann Maloley

Kevin Mitchell

Cameron Coleman

Audrey Nicoloff

Michael Ellis

Paul Cefaratti

Ralph Thomas

Sam Barkett

Allison Cefaratti

David Corey

Edward Bucknell

Sophia Manica

Joe Corey

Tony Tran

Attallah Amash

Dan Abraham

Jobje Lammers



DEPARTED

NEWLY DEPARTED

Metropolitan KALLISTOS

Julia Pirich Messner

Matushka Anne

And all the newly departed victims of tragedy, violence, and
poverty throughout our nation, and in Lebanon, Ukraine,
Pakistan and throughout the world.