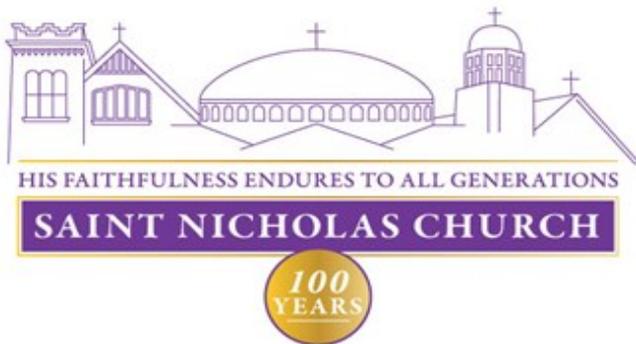


**TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
& THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE**

GREAT-MARTYR JAMES THE PERSIAN

NOVEMBER 27, 2022



CLERGY

His All Holiness, JOHN X
Patriarch of Antioch and all the East

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

2250 East Paris Ave, Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616-954-2700 ▪ info@stnicholasgr.com ▪ www.stnicholasgr.com



WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

Thank you for attending today's Divine Liturgy. Please register your visit by completing the guest book and taking a visitor's packet both 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 7)

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. JAMES THE PERSIAN (TONE 4)

Thy Martyr, O Lord, in his courageous contest for Thee received as the prize the crowns of incorruption and life from Thee, our immortal God. For, since he possessed Thy strength, he cast down the tyrants and wholly destroyed the demons' strengthless presumption. O Christ God, by his prayers, save our souls, since Thou art merciful.

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 PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY (TONE 3)

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to God the Word ineffably, Who was before all the ages. Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing the gladsome tidings; with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him Who is willing to be gazed on as a young Child Who before the ages is God.



EPISTLE



*The Lord will give strength to His people.
Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God,
ascribe to the Lord honor and glory.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians 2:14-22

Brethren, Christ is our peace, Who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in His flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that He might create in Himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the Cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And He came and preached peace to you, who were far off, and peace to those who were near; for through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, in Whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in Whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke 18:18-27

At that time, a man came testing Jesus and asking, “Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery. Do not kill. Do not steal. Do not bear false witness. Honor your father and mother.’” And the man said, “All these I have observed from my youth.” And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, “One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.” But when the man heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus, seeing him sad, said, “How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For 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.” Those who heard it said, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus said, “What is impossible with men is possible with God.”

SYNAXARION

(LIVES OF THE SAINTS OF THE DAY)

On November 27 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the contest of the holy Great-martyr James the Persian.

Verses

Cut limb by limb and suffering slaughter, the Persian saith:

Be my soul saved, though my limbs have departed.

On the twenty-seventh the Persian is slaughtered piecemeal.

He was born in the Persian town of Elapa, or Vilat, of Christian parents. The Persian king, Yezdegeherd, loved James for his gifts and for his skill, and made him a noble at his court. Flattered by the king, James was deluded and offered sacrifice to idols, which the king also worshipped. James' mother and wife, hearing of this, wrote him a reproachful letter in which they grieved over him as an apostate and one spiritually dead, begging him at the end of the letter to repent and return to Christ. Moved by this letter, James repented bitterly, and courageously confessed his faith in Christ the Lord before the king. The furious king condemned James to death, and added that his body was to be cut to pieces, little by little, until he breathed his last. During the entire process, James gave thanks to God. A fragrance came from his wounds as of cypress. Thus this wonderful man repented of his sin, and his soul went to Christ God in the Heavenly Kingdom in about the year 400.

On this day, we also commemorate the Venerable Palladios of Thessalonica; and Venerable Nathanael of Nitria in Egypt.

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

HOLY OBLATIONS

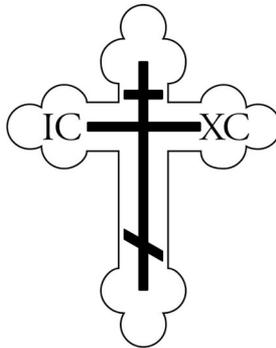
In memory of the servants of God, Duane & Harriet Gates and Robert & Jody Chapel on their falling asleep in the Lord, offered by Hunter and Brooke Gates. May their memory be Eternal!

In memory of the servant of God, Ronald Stevenson, offered by Hunter and Brooke Gates. May his memory be Eternal!

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

WELCOME!

Today we welcome Fr. Steve VanBronkhorst who is celebrating today's Divine Services while Fr. Michael is recuperating at home. Thank you, Fr. Steve!



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 Archpriest Elias
Archbishop JOHN Subdeacon Peter

And all the victims of tragedy, violence, and poverty
in Syria, Lebanon, Ukraine, Africa and throughout the world.

Attallah Amash	Michael Ellis	Christina Younes
Mary Ann Maloley	Edward Bucknell	Russ Adolphson
Audrey Nicoloff	Justin Adamec	Matthew Ledford
Ralph Thomas	Joseph Bauer	Tanner
David Corey	Joshua Bauer	Andrew Pokha
Joe Corey	Robert Spicer	Bianca Pokha
Dan Abraham	Briana Bond	Evelyn Pokha
Kevin Mitchell	Mary Dibs	Olivia Pokha

DEPARTED

NEWLY DEPARTED

Sam Barkett William Workman Jr.
John Mason Michael Varughese

And all the newly departed victims of tragedy, violence, and
poverty in Ukraine, Africa and throughout the world.

Duane Gates	David Kitolsky	Leo Henry
Harriet Gates	Rose Nicola	Bud Fraam
Robert Chapel	Helen Wawee	Jeannette Jazzar
Jody Chapel	Clara Kaleefy	Nora Najjar
Ronald Stevenson	Michael Nasser	George Semwar
Joseph Salhaney	Yamna Assaley	Ramsey Salhaney
Elias Salem	Bertha Runyon	Edward Kaleefiey
Amine Nicola	Yanna Assaley	Steve Thomas
Mike Maloley	Mitri Karadsheh	Ferris Ziton
Julia Maloley	J.S. Salhaney	Awwad Haddad
Esper Salhaney	Mary Maloley	Edward Bell