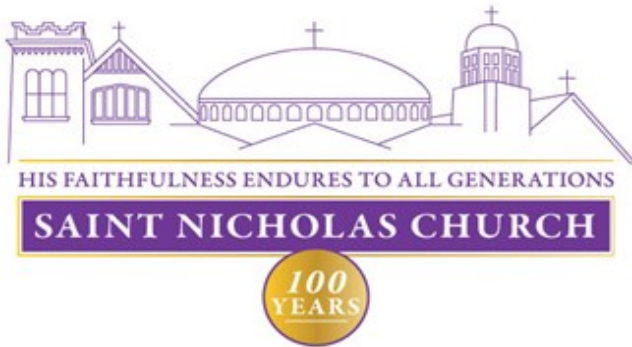


**GREAT-MARTYR BARBARA OF SYRIA &
TENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE**

VENERABLE JOHN OF DAMASCUS

DECEMBER 4, 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

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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 8)

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. BARBARA (TONE 8)

Let us honor Saint Barbara, for she hath broken the snares of the enemy; and like a sparrow, she, the all-modest maiden, was delivered out of them by the help and weapon of the Cross.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. JOHN OF DAMASCUS (TONE 3)

O ye faithful come, let us on this day laud with praise the sweet-sounding nightingale that adorned and captivated the Church of Christ with his sweet songs and tuneful, heav'nly hymns, he is the all-wise and eloquent John Damascene, the utmost chief of hymnographers, and a man of God who was filled with every earthly and divine wisdom.

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)

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.
Bless God in the congregations.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians 3:23-4:5

Brethren, before faith came, we were confined under the Law, kept under restraint until faith should be revealed. So that the Law was our custodian until Christ came, that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a custodian; for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise. I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no better than a slave, though he is the owner of all the estate; but he is under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. So with us; when we were children, we were slaves to the elemental spirits of the universe. But when the time had fully come, God sent forth His Son, to redeem those who were under the Law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke 13:10-17

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, He called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrite! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" As Jesus said this, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by Him.

WELCOME

Welcome to Fr. John Ojaimi, Pastor at St. George Orthodox Church, Cleveland, Ohio. Thank you for blessing us today!

SYNAXARION

(LIVES OF THE SAINTS OF THE DAY)

On December 4 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the contest of the holy Great-martyr Barbara of Heliopolis in Syria, and her fellow Martyr Juliana.

Verses

Sacrificing thee with a sword, O Martyr Barbara,
thy father became the Abraham of the devil.

Receive, O Word, like unto a dove, Juliana,
Who cooeth, lest she be not beheaded quickly.

On the fourth Barbara's begetter became her beheader.

The pagan Dioscorus locked up his only daughter Barbara in a high tower. Once, while her father was away, she came down from the tower and met some Christian women who revealed the true Faith of Christ to her. Learning of his daughter's faith, Dioscorus beat her severely. However, the Lord Himself appeared to her with His angels and healed her. A certain woman, Juliana, upon seeing this, desired martyrdom for herself. They were ultimately led to the place of execution, where Dioscorus himself slaughtered his daughter, and Juliana was killed by the soldiers in the year 306. That same day, lightning struck the house of Dioscorus, killing him.

On this day, we also commemorate our Righteous Father John of Damascus, Monk and Presbyter of Mar Sabbas Monastery.

Verses

Having filled up the earth with songs full of sweetness,
John ascendeth to frame songs even in Heaven.

The Damascene Bard laid down his pen on the fourth.

Because of his ardent defense of the veneration of icons during the reign of the iconoclastic Emperor Leo, John was maligned by the emperor to the Caliph, who cut off his right hand. John prayed before the icon of the Most-holy Theotokos, and his hand was rejoined and miraculously healed. John withdrew to St. Sabbas Monastery, where he was a model to the monks in humility, obedience and asceticism. John composed the Funeral Hymns and compiled the Octoechos, the Irmologion, the Menologion, a Christmas canon, the Paschal Canon and many theological works. John died peacefully in about the year 776 at the age of 104.

On this day, we also commemorate the New-hieromartyr Seraphim, bishop of Phanarion in Greece.

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

TRISAGION PRAYERS OF MERCY

In memory of the Servant of God, Sam Barkett, of Youngstown OH, on the 40 days of his passing. Sam is the husband of Cheryl Abraham Barkett and brother in law of Alan and Debbie Abraham, Peter and Carol Assaly, and Mike and Kaye Powell. Memory Eternal!

HOLY OBLATIONS

For the Health and Blessings of Mykel Giannakakos on his birthday from his St. Nicholas family. May God bless his work with our youth as he leads them into ever deeper relationships with Him, and may He grant him many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Eugene Khorey, offered by the Khorey family.

For the Health and Blessings of our Godfather, Alan Abraham, as he prepares for his upcoming surgery, with love from Lauren Griffin, Melissa Powell, and Allison Cefaratti. May God bless him with a successful and speedy recovery!

For the Health and Blessings of Zachary Nicholas Rinvelt on the occasion of his Name Day. May God grant you many years. Love Mom, Dad, Jake, Tori, Samantha, Levi, Ellison and Jamal.

For the Health and Blessings of Nicholas (Cole) Amash on his Name Day! May St. Nicholas inspire you to works of mercy and generosity, freely giving to others the gifts God has given to you. And may God grant you many years! From Mom & Dad.

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.

Mykel Giannakakos	David Corey	Russ Adolphson
Eugene Khorey	Joe Corey	Roy Gurk
Alan Abraham	Dan Abraham	Jean Laramy
Zachary Rinvelt	Kevin Mitchell	Matthew Ledford
Nicholas Amash	Michael Ellis	Tanner
Attallah Amash	Edward Bucknell	Andrew Pokha
Mary Ann Maloley	Robert Spicer	Bianca Pokha
Audrey Nicoloff	Briana Bond	Evelyn Pokha
Ralph Thomas	Christina Younes	Olivia Pokha

DEPARTED

NEWLY DEPARTED

Mary Dibs	William Workman Jr.
Sam Barkett	Michael Varughese
John Mason	

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