

**SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN,  
PIOUS JOSEPH OF ARIMATHAEA  
& RIGHTEOUS NICODEMUS**

**APRIL 30, 2023**



**ST. NICHOLAS  
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

2250 East Paris Ave, Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
616-954-2700 ▪ [info@stnicholasgr.com](mailto:info@stnicholasgr.com) ▪ [stnicholasgr.com](http://stnicholasgr.com)

**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

V. Rev. Elias Mitchell  
Rev. Theodore Sirotko  
Rev. Mykel Giannakakos  
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 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 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 JOSEPH OF ARIMATHAEA*** (TONE 2)

Pious Joseph having brought down thy pure body from the tree, and wrapped it in pure linen, embalmed it with ointment, prepared it and laid it in a new tomb.

#### ***APOLYTIKION OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN*** (TONE 2)

Verily the angel came to the tomb and said to the ointment bearing women, the ointment is meet for the dead but Christ hath been shown to be remote from corruption.

#### ***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 PASCHA*** (TONE 8)

O Christ our God, though Thou didst descent into the grave, yet didst Thou overthrow the power of Hades and rise as an Immortal Conqueror. Thou didst greet with joy the myrrhbearing women, and to Thine Apostles hast sent Thy peace, and to the fallen, O Lord, didst bring resurrection.

## EPISTLE

*The Lord is my strength and my song.  
With chastisement has the Lord chastened me.*

### **The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7**

In those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily ministry. And the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said: "It is not right that we should forsake the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good report, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. And we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And the saying pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Próchoros, and Nikánor, and Tímon, and Parmenás, and Nikólaos a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem exceedingly, and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

## GOSPEL

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark 15:43-16:8**

At that time, Joseph of Arimathaea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the Kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if He were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether Jesus was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that He was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking Him down, wrapped Him in the linen shroud, and laid Him in a tomb, which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where He was laid. And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb at the rising of the sun. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back – it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a long white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, Who was crucified. He is risen; He is not here; see the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples and Peter that He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see Him, as He told you." And they went out quickly and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

## HOLY OBLATIONS

For the Health and Blessings of Virginia "June" Medich on the occasion of her 85th birthday, offered by her children and grandchildren. May God grant her many years!

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

### **CHRIST IS RISEN ! TRULY HE IS RISEN!**

- Arabic:** Al Massih Qam! Haqen Qam!
- Greek:** Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!
- Russian:** Khristos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese!
- Armenian:** Krisdos haryav ee merelotz! Orhnyal eh harootiunun Krisdosee!!
- Romanian:** Hristos a Inviat! Adevarat a Inviat!
- Ethiopian:** Christos Tensiou! Bahake Tensiou!
- French:** Le Christ est Ressuscite! En Verite Il est Ressuscite!
- German:** Christus ist Erstanden! Er ist Wahrhaftig Erstanden!
- Spanish:** Christo ha Resucitado! En verdad, ha Resucitado!
- Italian:** Cristo é risorto, é veramente risorto!
- Mandarin:** Jīdū fùhuóle Tā zhēn de fùhuóle

## SYNAXARION

*(LIVES OF THE SAINTS OF THE DAY)*

On April 30 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Apostle James, brother of John the Theologian; and Donatos, bishop in Epirus.

On this day, the third Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the feast of the holy Myrrh-bearing women. And we also commemorate Joseph of Arimathaea, the secret disciple, and Nicodemus, the disciple by night.

### Verses

Christ is brought myrrh by the wise women disciples;  
And to them, I bring a hymn as myrrh in offering.

The women went to Christ's tomb on Holy Pascha to anoint His body, only to discover it empty. We know the names of only eight of these women: Mary the Theotokos, the "mother" of James and Joses, who were the sons of Joseph the Betrothed from his previous marriage (Matt. 27:56 and Mark 15:40); Mary Magdalene; Mary, the wife of Cleopas; Joanna the wife of Chuza; Salome the mother of the sons of Zebedee; Susanna; and Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus. Joseph was a rich and noble man, and a member of the Privy Council of Jerusalem. He dared to ask Pilate for the undefiled body of our Savior, which he took and buried in his own new tomb. Accompanying Joseph to the sepulcher was Nicodemus, a Jerusalemite who was one of the leaders of the Pharisees. Nicodemus brought 100 pounds of myrrh and aloes to scent and embalm the body of Christ.

By the intercessions of the holy Myrrh-bearers, Joseph of Arimathaea and Nicodemus, O God, have mercy on us. Amen.

## 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

Archpriest Michael Nasser  
Priest Steven VanBronkhorst

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

Kh. Vicky Nasser  
June Medich  
Attallah Amash  
Mary Ann Maloley  
Audrey Nicoloff  
David Corey  
Joe Corey  
Dan Abraham

Kevin Mitchell  
Michael Ellis  
Russ Adolphson  
Sandy Bourgyne  
Jaqueline Mitchell  
Susan Smoley  
Stephen Palumbo  
Gary Palumbo

### DEPARTED

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

Robert Hickerty  
Asa Marod  
Salema Salhaney  
Lilian Sickery  
Abraham Yared  
Mary Martin  
Sadie Samra  
Fred Bendekgey  
Sarah Jabara  
Charlotte Cooley

Jennie Ziton  
Nathalie Collings  
David Hanna  
Charles Riley  
Louise Philippi  
Adele Abraham  
Yesda Fraam  
Shirley Salhaney  
Nicholas Courey  
Mike Joseph

Charles Bendekgey  
Elias Amash  
Georgette Abraham  
Wadiah Laham  
James Ayoub  
Bertha Corey  
Abraham Kaleefey  
John Soukar  
Stephen Lewis