

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST &  
ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**

**AFTER-FEAST OF  
THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS**

**AUGUST 20, 2023**



**ST. NICHOLAS  
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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**CLERGY**

His Eminence Metropolitan SABA  
*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  
*Parish Priest*

V. Rev. Elias Mitchell  
Rev. 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 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.



## WELCOME

Welcome Fr. Michael Bassett from St. George, Flint MI. Thank you for serving today's Liturgy.



## 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 DORMITION (TONE 1)***

In thy birth-giving, O Theotokos, thou didst keep and preserve virginity; and in thy falling-asleep thou hast not forsaken the world; for thou wast translated into life, being the Mother of Life. Wherefore, by thine intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

#### ***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 DORMITION (TONE 2)***

Verily, the Theotokos, who is ever watchful in intercessions, and whose prayers are never rejected, neither tomb nor death could control. But since she is the Mother of Life, He Who dwelt in her ever-virgin womb did translate her to life.

## EPISTLE

*The Lord is my strength and my song.  
The Lord has chastened me severely.*

### **The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians 9:2-12**

Brethren, you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. This is my defense to those who would examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk? Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? For it is written in the Law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of a share in the crop. If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the Gospel of Christ.

## GOSPEL

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 18:23-35**

The Lord spoke this parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also My heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

## SYNAXARION

*(LIVES OF THE SAINTS OF THE DAY)*

On August 20 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we continue to celebrate the Dormition of the Most-holy Theotokos, and we commemorate the holy and glorious Prophet Samuel.

### Verses

Samuel the seer closeth his eyes at his ending,  
And though ended, seeth the Light Ever-living.

Samuel goeth hence on the twentieth, seeing things to come.

Samuel, the fifteenth and last judge of Israel, lived eleven hundred years before the birth of Christ in Shiloh near the Ark of the Covenant. Samuel, in his twelfth year, had a true revelation from God concerning the punishments which were pending before the house of the high priest Eli because of the immorality of his sons Hophni and Phineas. That revelation soon materialized: The Philistines defeated the Israelites, slew both of Eli's sons and captured the Ark of the Covenant. When the messenger informed Eli of this tragedy, Eli fell dead to the ground. The same thing occurred to his daughter-in-law, the wife of Phineas. For twenty years the Israelites were the slaves of the Philistines. After this period of time, God sent Samuel to the people to preach repentance if they wished to be saved from their enemies. The people repented and rejected the foreign idols that they served and recognized Samuel as a prophet, priest and judge. Then Samuel set out with an army against the Philistines and with God's help confused and defeated them, thus liberating the land and the people. After that, Samuel peacefully judged his people until old age.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Photini of Blachernae; and Martyrs Heliodoros and Dosai of Persia.

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

## TRISAGION PRAYERS OF MERCY

In memory of the Handmaiden of God Shirley Wawee, offered by MaryAnn Maloley, JoAnn Abraham & families, and the Wawee families. Her joyous spirit and beautiful smile will be in our hearts forever. Memory be Eternal!

## HOLY OBLATIONS

For the Health and Blessings of Joe and Kathy Corey on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary, offered by Joseph Michael & Kathryn, Carolyn & David, Arthur & Cyndi, Alex & Brooke, David & Michele, and Michelle, Payton, & Gwen Patterson. May God grant them many years!

For the Health and Blessings of our brother, Alan Abraham, on the occasion of his 75th birthday, offered with love by his sisters: Cheryl, Carol, and Kaye. We are blessed to have Alan in our lives. May God grant him many, many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Alan Abraham on the occasion of his 75th birthday, offered by his goddaughter, Melissa. May God continue to bless him always.

For the Health and Blessings of Mark Ansara, offered with love by Dan, Kathy, Marilyn, Pat, Diane, Linda and families. May God's radiant love and grace surround you as you heal, and His presence bring you peace and comfort.

For the Health and Blessings of Diane Coleman on the occasion of her birthday, offered with love by her grandchildren: Luke, William, Isabella, Capri, Wade, and Cameron. May God grant her many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Roy Gurk offered by Donna Gurk.

For the Health and Blessings of George Khorey, on his ninth birthday, offered by his mother, father, and sister Margaret. May God grant him many years!

In memory of Aunt Julie Messner on the one-year anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord, offered by Fr. Elias and Marion Mitchell. May her memory be Eternal!

In loving memory of our beloved brother Chuck Audy on the 19-year anniversary of his falling asleep in the Lord and his wife Susan who passed away three years ago. May their memory be Eternal! With love always, Pat & Marve Halbert and family.

## **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 Theodore Sirotko  
Priest Steven VanBronkhorst

For all the victims of tragedy, violence, and poverty  
in Hawaii, Ukraine, Sudan and throughout the world

Joe Corey	Kevin Mitchell
Kathy Corey	Michael Ellis
Alan Abraham	Doris Sullivan
Mark Ansara	Denise Harriman
Diane Coleman	Matthew Ledford
Roy Gurk	Andrew Ledford
George Khorey	Anastasia Ledford
Dan Abraham	Nina Ledford
MaryAnn Maloley	Patricia Ledford
Audrey Nicoloff	Marcia Lenhart
David Corey	

### **DEPARTED**

#### **NEWLY DEPARTED**

Diane Ansara  
Shirley Wawee

All the newly departed victims of tragedy, violence,  
and poverty in Hawaii, Ukraine, Sudan and throughout the world

Julie Messner  
Chuck Audy  
Susan Audy