

**JOHN THE ALMSGIVER,
PATRIARCH OF ALEXANDRIA &
EIGHTH SUNDAY OF LUKE**

NOVEMBER 12, 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
Pastor of St. Nicholas ▪ 616-216-3537 ▪ frmichael@stnicholasgr.com

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.



HYMNS AND READINGS OF THE DAY

HYMNS

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (TONE 6)

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. JOHN THE ALMSGIVER (TONE 8)

In thy patience thou hast won thy reward, O righteous father. Thou didst persevere unceasingly in prayer; thou didst love the poor, and didst provide for them in all things. Wherefore, intercede with Christ our God, O blessed John the Almsgiver, that our souls be saved.

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 ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS (TONE 4)

The sacred treasury of God's holy glory, the greatly precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the Savior's most pure temple, free of stain and undefiled, into the House of the Lord on this day is brought forward and bringeth with herself the grace of the Most Divine Spirit; her do God's Angels hymn with songs of praise, for she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.

EPISTLE

*Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.
What shall I render to the Lord for all that He has given me?*

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians 9:6-11

Brethren, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke 10:25-37

At that time, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read?" And the lawyer answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And Jesus said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live." But the lawyer, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" The lawyer said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

SYNAXARION

(LIVES OF THE SAINTS OF THE DAY)

On November 12 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate father among the saints John the Almsgiver, patriarch of Alexandria.

Verses

Since John gave and dispersed to poor men and paupers,
Now standing before Christ, what things he receiveth!
The Almsgiver, owning nought, departed the twelfth.

Born on Cyprus, John was raised as a true Christian from childhood. Renowned for his compassion and piety, John was chosen as Patriarch of Alexandria in the time of Emperor Heraclius. He governed the Church of Alexandria for ten years as a true shepherd, safeguarding it from pagans and heretics. He was a model of meekness, charity and love for his fellow men. John was also known as “the merciful.” He said: “If you desire nobility, seek it not in blood, but in virtues, for this is true nobility.” Once, as he was on his way to the Church of Saints Cyrus and John, the patriarch met a needy and unfortunate widow who spoke to him at length about her misfortune. The patriarch’s escorts became bored by the woman’s lengthy complaint, and urged the bishop to hurry to the church for the service, intimating that he could hear the woman’s story afterward. John said to them: “And how will God listen to me, if I do not listen to her?” He would not leave until he heard the widow’s complaint to the end. Thus John embodied the Beatitude: “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.” John entered eternal rest in 620.

On this day, we also commemorate the Venerable Neilos the Faster of Sinai; Neilos the myrrh-streaming of the Great Lavra on Athos; and Martin the wonderworker, bishop of Tours.

By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

TRISAGION PRAYERS OF MERCY

In memory of the Handmaiden of God Marcia Lenhart on her 40-day falling asleep in the Lord, offered by Kathy and Dan Abraham and family. May her memory be Eternal.

HOLY OBLATIONS

For the Health and Blessings of Philip and Joshua Philip Abraham on their name day, offered by Mindy, Lea, Allie and CJ Abraham. May God grant you many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Dieter Zahn on his 16th birthday! May God draw you nearer to Him with each passing year as you grow and mature in your faith and love for Him and may He grant you many, many years! Love, Mom, Dad and Evy.

In memory of the servants of God Semman and Olga Sarah on their falling asleep in the Lord. May their memory be Eternal!



12/20/07

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

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

Philip Abraham	Kevin Mitchell	Andrew Ledford
Joshua Abraham	Michael Ellis	Gail Shaffer
Dieter Zahn	Denise Harriman	Brian Johns
Dan Abraham	Len Lenhart	Rebecca Johns
MaryAnn Maloley	Peter Assaly	Joseph Bauer
Audrey Nicoloff	Matthew Ledford	Joshua Bauer
Joe Corey	Anastasia Ledford	Carolyn Rock
David Corey		



DEPARTED

NEWLY DEPARTED

Marcia Lenhart
Doris Sullivan

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

DEPARTED

Otilia	Andrei	Maria
Teodor	Victoria	Ion
Carmen	Zevedei	Semman Sarah
Aurel	Elisabeta	Olga Sarah
Mariana	Teodor	Alexandra