

SUNDAY OF THE PHARISEE AND PUBLICAN

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

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 ▪ 616-216-3537 ▪ frmichael@stnicholasgr.com

Reverend David Khorey
Associate Pastor ▪ 616-450-7539 ▪ frdavid@stnicholasgr.com

V. Rev. Elias Mitchell
Rev. Theodore Sirotko
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 5)

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

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 FOR THE PHARISEE AND PUBLICAN (TONE 4)

Let us flee the Pharisee's conceited vaunting; let us learn the Publican's humility, and cry with groans unto the Savior: Thou Who alone art swiftly reconciled, be gracious unto us.

EPISTLE

*Thou, O Lord, shalt preserve us and keep us from this generation.
Save me, O Lord, for the godly man hath disappeared.*

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy 3:10-15

My son Timothy, you have followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, patience, persecutions, sufferings, what things befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured! And out of them all the Lord delivered me. Indeed all who would live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. But people who are wicked and deceivers will proceed from worse to worse, deceiving and being deceived. But as for you, continue in the things which you have learned and have been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and how from infancy you have known the sacred temple writings which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.



Logos7

GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke 18:10-14

The Lord spoke this parable: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

*“...for everyone who exalts
himself will be humbled,
but he who humbles
himself will be exalted.”*

SYNAXARION

(Lives of the Saints of the Day)

On February 25 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Tarasios the confessor, archbishop of Constantinople; and Hieromartyr Markellos, bishop of Apamea in Syria.

On this day, we make remembrance of the Parable of the Pharisee and the Publican, which occurs in the Holy Gospel according to Luke the Evangelist.

Verses

If you resemble the Pharisee, run far away from the Temple;
For inside is Christ before Whom only the humble are acceptable.

Verses for the Triodion

O Creator of everything heavenly and earthly,
receive Thou from the Angels a Trinitarian song,
And from us men a noble and reverent Triodion.

In our Savior's parable, Jesus uses a Pharisee, a leader of the synagogue, who was regarded in public opinion as virtuous; and a publican, a tax collector, who was regarded as oppressive, greedy and a sinner. In their prayers to God, we discover the real hearts of these two men. We thus learn of the harm that comes from pride and the good that comes from humility. The divine Church Fathers sought to alert and prepare the Christ-loving clergy and laity for the upcoming period of the Great Fast. Therefore, on this Sunday we are reminded that humility is the greatest weapon against pride, as we imitate the humility of the publican to ascend to the divine heights.

Through the intercessions of the wonderworking Saints, O Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.

HOLY OBLATIONS

For the Health and Blessings of MaryAnn Maloley as we celebrate her 94th birthday, offered with love by JoAnn Abraham, Michael, Anthony, Matthew, Nicholas, John, and all their families. You have been an inspiration and strength in all our lives. May God grant you good health, happiness, and many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Carol Assaly on the occasion of her 70th birthday, offered with love by her husband Peter, her children Paul, Allison, Cameron, and Meredith, and her grandchildren Andrew and Vivian. May God's light shine on you forever!

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

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
Deacon John

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

MaryAnn Maloley	David Corey
Carol Assaly	Michael Ellis
Dan Abraham	Len Lenhart
Audrey Nicoloff	Tillie Sayfie
Joe Corey	Lexy Powell



DEPARTED

NEWLY DEPARTED

Kevin Mitchell

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

DEPARTED

Mike Simon	Wadia Laham	Dorothy Salhaney
Mary Aboosamra	Juri Sulizki	Yuri Sarkisov
Della Azkoul	Rojina Jawiche	Charles Bedree
Carrie Wawee	James Salhaney	Louise Salhaney
Abe Simon	Mitchell Livantis	Louise Shalen
Alexander Mallick	Damoos Sayfee	Vera Mijatovic