

SECOND SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT
COMMEMORATION OF GREGORY PALAMAS,
ARCHBISHOP OF THESSALONICA

MARCH 31, 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

Reverend David Khorey
Associate Pastor

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.



THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT

On the Sundays of Great Lent, the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great is served in place of the typical Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom. The main difference is in the prayers said by the Priest, which can be followed in the white spiral-bound Divine Liturgy book or in the red Service Book (page 132).

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 FOR ST. GREGORY PALAMAS (TONE 8)

O Star of Orthodoxy, support of the Church and its teacher, O comeliness of ascetics, and incontestable champion of those who speak in theology, Gregory the wonder-worker, the pride of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, implore thou constantly for the salvation of our souls.

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 SUNDAYS IN GREAT LENT (TONE 8)

To thee our captain Queen of war, the battle trophies won, thy people rescued by thine aid from peril, dedicate as our offering of thanksgiving, O Theotokos, as though hast might which none by war can overcome, from all forms of danger has thou delivered me, that I may cry unto thee: Hail O virgin, unwedded bride.

EPISTLE

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

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews 1:10-2:3

Thou, “O Lord, in the beginning didst lay the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the works of Thy hands; they will perish; but Thou remainest; and they will all grow old like a garment, and like a mantle Thou wilt roll them up, and they shall be changed; but Thou art the same, and Thy years will not fail.” But to which of the angels did He say at any time, “Sit on My right hand, until I make thine enemies a footstool for thy feet?” Are they not all spirits for liturgical ministry, sent forth to minister for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation? Therefore, we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things that were heard, lest at any time we drift away from them. For if the word spoken through angels was confirmed, and every transgression and disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape, if we neglect so great a salvation, which having at first been spoken through the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard?

GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark 2:1-12

At that time, when Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that He was at home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them, not even about the door; and He was preaching the Word to them. And they came, bringing to Jesus a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." Now, some of the scribes were sitting there, reasoning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak thus? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" And immediately Jesus, perceiving in His spirit that they thus reasoned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you reason thus in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your pallet and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" – He said to the paralytic – "I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home." And he rose, and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all. So that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

SYNAXARION

(Lives of the Saints of the Day)

On March 31 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Hypatios the wonderworker, bishop of Gangra; and the Prophet Joel.

On this same day, the Second Sunday of the Fast, we make remembrance of our father among the saints, Gregory Palamas, archbishop of Thessalonica.

Verses

The Spring of Light now leadeth to light unwaning
The Light's own truly great and resplendent herald.

This divine father was born in Asia and was brought up from infancy in the royal palace of Constantinople. When he was of age, Gregory left the palace and gave himself to asceticism on Mount Athos. He eventually moved to Thessalonica to seek cure for the diseases he contracted because of his asceticism and piety. In 1349, he was elevated to the episcopacy, tending to his people in an Apostolic fashion for 13 years. He is glorified as an ascetic, a theologian, a hierarch and a miracle-worker, who forsook a prominent, secular lifestyle to take up his cross and follow Christ. The Most-Holy Theotokos, St. John the Theologian, St. Demetrius, St. Anthony the Great, St. John Chrysostom and angels of God appeared to him at different times.

Through his intercessions, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

TRISAGION PRAYERS OF MERCY

In memory of the Handmaiden of God, Marcia Lenhart, mother of Kathy Abraham, on the six-month anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord, offered by Len Lenhart and family. May her memory be Eternal!

HOLY OBLATIONS

For the Health and Blessings of Kh. Marion Mitchell on the occasion of her birthday, offered by the St. Nicholas family. May God grant you many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Subdn. Nicholas, offered by Carolyn and the St. Nicholas family. May God's healing be upon him and grant him many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Eileen Adolphson on her birthday, offered by her Forerunner friends. May God grant her many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Keith McAdams on his birthday, offered by his St. Nicholas family. May God grant him many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Cole Amash on his 12th birthday, offered by Mom, Dad, Jackson, and Franklin. May God continue to guide you as you grow in His love, and may He fill you with His light to shine into the world. We love you! May God grant you many years!

In memory of the Handmaiden of God, Vera Mijatovic, on the three-year anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord, offered by Ratko and their children, Duska & Stefan. May her memory be Eternal!

In memory of the Servant of God, Sam Redmond, our beloved uncle, on his the falling asleep in the Lord, offered by the Storey family. May his memory be Eternal!

In memory of the members of St. Nicholas who departed in the upcoming month of April. 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
Archpriest Joseph

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

Kh. Marion Mitchell	Joe Corey
Subdn. Nicholas	David Corey
Eileen Adolphson	Michael Ellis
Keith McAdams	Len Lenhart
Cole Amash	Tillie Sayfie
Dan Abraham	Kathy Corey
MaryAnn Maloley	Ivetta Kazarov
Audrey Nicoloff	



DEPARTED

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

DEPARTED

Archpriest John Mickel	Alexander Koory	Elizabeth Thomas
Kh. Mary Salhany	Jodi Longstreet	Louis Simon
Marcia Lenhart	Jennie Bander	Wade Abraham
Vera Mijatovic	James Abraham	Martha Mickel
Sam Redmond	Nicolas Wawee	Mansour Simon
Alem Berih	Saide Bohysic	George Amash
Margaret Salhaney	Josephine Orange	Edward David
Albert Yared	Minerva Bashara	