

**THIRD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT
VENERATION OF THE
PRECIOUS AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS**

APRIL 7, 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

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 3)

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION FOR THE HOLY CROSS (TONE 1)

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, and to Thy faithful people grant victory over their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross, protect all those who follow Thee.

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

*O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.
Unto Thee, O Lord, will I cry, O my God!*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews 4:14-5:6

Brethren, since we have a great High Priest, Who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast the confession. For we do not have a High Priest Who is unable to sympathize with our infirmities, but one Who has been in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore draw near with boldness to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy, and may find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest, being taken from among the people, is appointed on behalf of the people in things pertaining to God, that he may offer up both gifts and sacrifices for sins; who can have compassion on the ignorant and on those who are erring, since he himself also is encompassed with infirmity. Because of this he is bound, as for the people so also for himself, to offer up for sins. And no one takes the honor upon himself, but as being called by God, as was Aaron. So Christ also did not glorify Himself to become a High Priest, but it was by the One saying to Him, "Thou art My Son, today I have begotten Thee." As He says also in another place, "Thou art a Priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."

GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark 8:34-9:1

The Lord said, "If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

SYNAXARION

(Lives of the Saints of the Day)

On April 7 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Martyr Kalliopios of Cilicia; and the repose of Tikhon, patriarch of Moscow and Enlightener of North America.

On this same day, the Third Sunday of the Fast, we keep the feast of the Veneration of the honorable and life-creating Cross.

Verses

Let the whole world entire worship the Cross
through Which it truly knew to worship Thee, O Word.

Every hard and strenuous work is accomplished with great difficulty, which appears especially in the middle of such work; for the effort in this performance brings with it fatigue which makes the accomplishment of the rest difficult. Having arrived with God's grace at the middle of the Fast, our compassionate Mother—the Holy Orthodox Church—thought fit to reveal to us the Holy Cross as the joy of the world and power of the faithful to help us carry on the struggles of the divine Fast.

By its power, O Christ God, preserve us from the crafty designs of the evil one and account us worthy to worship Thy divine Passion and life-giving Resurrection, as we achieve the course of the Forty Days with ease, and have mercy on us, as Thou alone art good and the Lover of mankind. Amen.

HOLY OBLATIONS

For the Health and Blessings of Wadih Choueiri as he undergoes cancer treatment, offered by Fr. Michael and Kh. Vicky. May God grant him many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Leah Kaufman on the occasion of her birthday, offered by Dn. John, Carole, Rebekah, & Sarah. May God grant her many years!

For the Health and Blessings of MaryAnne Sirotko-Turner on the occasion of her birthday, offered by Fr. Ted. May God grant her many years!

In memory of the servant of God, Earl Loss, beloved father and grandfather, on his falling asleep in the Lord, offered by the Storey family. May his memory be Eternal!



BEFORE THY CROSS

Before thy Cross
we bow down and worship, Sovereign Lord, and
thy Holy Resurrection
we glorify. (*Prostration*)

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
throughout our nation, in the Middle East, Ukraine,
and throughout the world

Subdn. Nicholas Rock	Audrey Nicoloff
Wadih Choueiri	Joe Corey
Leah Kaufman	Tillie Sayfie
MaryAnne Sirotko	Kathy Corey
MaryAnn Maloley	Maddison Frawley



DEPARTED

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

DEPARTED
Earl Loss