

**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
& FOURTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**

JULY 21, 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.



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 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.

ORDINARY KONTAKION (TONE 2)

O undisputed intercessor of Christians. The mediatrix who is unrejected by the Creator. Turn not away from the voice of our petitions, although we are sinners. Come to us with aid in time, who cry unto thee in faith. For thou art good. Hasten to us with intercessions, O Theotokos. Who dost ever intercede for those who honor Thee.

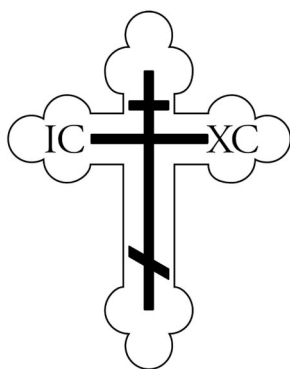
EPISTLE

*Sing praises to our God, sing praises.
Clap your hands all ye peoples.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans

6:18-23

Brethren, having been set free from sin, you have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once yielded your members to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now yield your members to righteousness for sanctification. When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. But then what return did you get from the things of which you are now ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the return you get is sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.





GOSPEL



The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

8:5-13

At that time, as Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, beseeching Him and saying, “Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress.” And Jesus said to him, “I will come and heal him.” But the centurion answered Him, “Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes, and to my slave, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.” When Jesus heard him, He marveled, and said to those who followed him, “Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the Kingdom of Heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.” And to the centurion Jesus said, “Go; be it done for you as you have believed.” And the servant was healed at that very moment.

SYNAXARION

(LIVES OF THE SAINTS OF THE DAY)

On July 21 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our Righteous Fathers John of Edessa in Mesopotamia; and Simeon of Homs (Emesa), the Fool-for-Christ.

Verses

A wise fool wast thou, mocking life, O Father Simeon,
escaping even to the end the crafty serpent.

O John, thou chosest to dwell in barren regions,
whereby thou didst render carnal passions barren.

On the twenty-first died Simeon the mock-fool and mocker.

Both men received the monastic tonsure at the hands of the Abbot Nikon in the Monastery of St. Gerasimos. They withdrew into the wilderness near the Dead Sea where they lived an austere life of asceticism for nearly thirty years. They mortified their bodies so much that they resembled two withered trees. One day Simeon told John that, according to God's command, he must depart from the wilderness, go among the people and serve God there. John said to Simeon, "Pray to God for me, that He does not separate us, one from the other, in the future life." Simeon went among the people of Homs, Syria as a "fool for Christ," to teach people and to convert them to the Faith of Christ. He pretended insanity before everyone but his heart was the temple of the Holy Spirit and, in that temple, was unceasing prayer. Simeon possessed abundant grace from God and was able to discern all the inner secrets of people, healing them from evil spirits and other ailments. Simeon came across a young fornicator who went out of his mind. Simeon struck him across the face with his hand and said: "Do not commit fornication." At that moment the unclean demon departed from the young man and he became well. Simeon reposed in 570; by the providence of God, John, who had remained in the wilderness, departed soon after.

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

WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to Fr. Constantinos Eliud, a Kenyan Orthodox priest who runs St. Irene Mission Centre. St. Irene Mission Centre & Orphanage offers food, clothing, shelter, and education to 200 orphan children. Fr. Constantinos will offer today's homily.

We also welcome Dn. John Dibs, cousin of Fr. Michael, visiting from northern California and serving in today's Liturgy.

HOLY OBLATIONS

For the Health and Blessings of Subdn. Nicholas on the occasion of his birthday. Offered by his St. Nicholas family. We appreciate you. May God grant him many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Farouq Karadsheh on his birthday, offered by Wafa, Amer, Ashley and Adam Karadsheh. May God grant him many more years to come!

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 Abud
Priest Constantinos Eliud & Family
Dn. John Dibs & Family

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

Subdn, Nicholas	Angela Sirotko
Farouq Karadsheh	Marc Catto
JoAnn Abraham & Family	Roy Gurk
Joe Corey	Matthew Ledford
David Corey	Batool Karadsheh
Tillie Sayfie	Annalise Harnevious
	Alexis Piotrowski
	Roman Piotrowski
	Lauren Conover



NEWLY DEPARTED

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

Michael Abraham