

**BEGINNING OF THE INDICATION:
ECCLESIASTICAL NEW YEAR
RIGHTEOUS SIMEON THE STYLITE;
SYNAXIS OF THE THEOTOKOS AT MIASINAE**

SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

**ST. NICHOLAS
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

2250 East Paris Ave, Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616-954-2700 ▪ info@stnicholasgr.com ▪ stnicholasgr.com



CLERGY

His Eminence Metropolitan SABA
Archbishop of New York & Metropolitan of all North America

The Right Reverend Jeremy Davis
Archiepiscopal Vicar 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 1)

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

APOLYTIKION OF THE INDICTION (TONE 2)

O Maker of all creation, Who hast established the times and the seasons in Thine own power: Bless the crown of this year with Thy goodness, O Lord, and keep our rulers and Thy flock in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, and save us.

APOLYTIKION OF THE SYNAXIS OF THE THEOTOKOS (TONE 2)

Rejoice, thou who art full of grace, O Virgin Theotokos, haven and protection of the race of man; for the Redeemer of the world became incarnate of thee; for thou alone art both mother and virgin, ever blessed and glorified. Intercede with Christ God that peace be granted unto all the world.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. SIMEON TH STYLITE (TONE 1)

Thou becamest a pillar of patience and didst emulate the Forefathers, O righteous one: Job in his sufferings, Joseph in temptations, and the life of the bodiless while in the body. O Simeon, our righteous Father, intercede with Christ God 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 FOR THE INDICATION (TONE 4)

O God of all, Thou Who hast made all the ages, O Sovereign Lord, truly transcendent in essence, bestow Thy grace and blessing on the year to come; and, O Most Compassionate, in Thine infinite mercy save all them that worship Thee, Who alone art our Master, and that with fear, O Savior, cry to Thee: Grant unto all men a fruitful and godly year.



EPISTLE

*Great is our Lord, and great is His power.
Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good.*

**The Reading from the
First Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy**

2:1-7

Timothy, my son, first of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all men, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life, godly and respectful in every way. This is good, and it is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, Who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, Who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony to which was borne at the proper time. For this I was appointed a preacher and apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.



GOSPEL



The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

4:16-22

At that time, Jesus came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and He went to the synagogue, as His custom was, on the Sabbath day. And He stood up to read; and there was given to Him the book of the prophet Isaiah. Jesus opened the book and found the place where it was written, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach good news to the poor and to heal the broken hearted. He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.” And Jesus closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” And all spoke well of Him, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth.

SYNAXARION

(LIVES OF THE SAINTS OF THE DAY)

On September 1 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we celebrate the Beginning of the Indiction—the Ecclesiastical (Church) New Year.

Verses

Do thou bless for our sakes the new year's Indiction
Thou Ancient, Who, for man's sake, tookest on newness.

The First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea in 325 decreed that the Church year should begin on September 1. The month of September was, for the Hebrews, the beginning of the civil year, the month of gathering the harvest and of the offering of thanks to God. It was on this feast that the Lord Jesus entered the synagogue in Nazareth, and opened the book to read from the Prophet Isaiah, as found in today's Liturgy Gospel reading. The month of September is also important in the history of Christianity, because Emperor Constantine the Great was victorious over Maxentius, the enemy of the Christian Faith, in September. Following this victory, Constantine granted freedom of confession to the Christian Faith throughout the Roman Empire.

On this day we also commemorate the miracle wrought by the Most-holy Theotokos at Miasinae Monastery. The Virgin's holy icon had been cast into Lake Zaguru so that the iconoclasts would not desecrate it. It miraculously arose intact from the lake's depths after many years in 864.

On this day we also commemorate our righteous Father Simeon the Stylite. He was born in Syria of peasant parents. At the age of eighteen, Simeon left home and was tonsured a monk. He undertook the most difficult ascetic practices, including a strict fast for forty days. Simeon eventually took upon himself a form of asceticism that was previously unknown. He stood day and night on a pillar, in unceasing prayer. At first, his pillar was six cubits (7.5 feet) high; Simeon eventually raised it to forty cubits (60 feet) high. The saint worked many great miracles, healing infirmities by word and prayer, comforting those in need, instructing others, and reproaching some who held heretical beliefs. Simeon lived to be 103 years old. He reposed in the Lord on September 1, 459. His pillar and the cathedral named in his honor still stand outside of Aleppo, Syria.

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

HOLY OBLATIONS

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

For the Health & Blessings of our friend, Dn. Clem Nicoloff, on the occasion of his birthday, offered by Pat & Marve. May God grant him many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Noah Sirotko on the occasion of his birthday, offered by Fr. Ted. May God grant him many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Sophie Manica on her tenth birthday, offered by her grandparents, Greg and Marian Lambert. May God grant her many blessed years!

For the Health and Blessings of Jaredt and Christianna Hultink.

For the Health and Blessings of Mike Karolle.

In memory of the Handmaiden of God, Nita Loss, our beloved mother and grandmother, on the 13th anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord, offered by the Storey family. May her memory be Eternal!



WELCOME

We welcome Fr. John Dixon and his wife Loukia, parents of Christianna (Jaredt) Hultink., who are visiting from West Virginia. Thank you for celebrating today's Liturgy.

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
Dn. Clem Nicoloff

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

Noah Sirotko
Sophie Manica
Joe Corey
David Corey
Tillie Sayfie
Wadih Choueiri
Kaye Powell
Jaredt Hultink
Christianna Hultink
Mike Karolle

DEPARTED

NEWLY DEPARTED

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

Ann Hoodhood

DEPARTED

Nita Loss