

THE FIFTIETH DAY AFTER PASCHA THE GREAT FEAST OF PENTECOST

JUNE 8, 2025

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

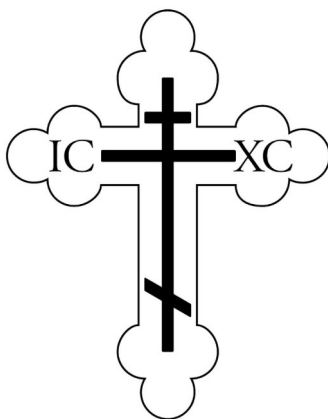
HYMNS

APOLYTIKION OF PENTECOST (TONE 8)

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise, having sent upon them the Holy Spirit, and through them Thou hast fished the universe, O Lover of mankind, glory to Thee.

KONTAKION OF PENTECOST (TONE 8)

When the High One descended, confusing tongues, He divided the nations. And when He distributed the fiery tongues He called all to one unity. Wherefore, in unison we glorify the most Holy Spirit.





EPISTLE



*Their voice has gone out into all the earth.
The heavens declare the glory of God.*

The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

2:1-11

When the day of Pentecost had come, the Disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.”



GOSPEL



The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John

7:37-52; 8-12

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now this He said about the Spirit, which those who believed in Him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, many of the people said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" So there was a division among the people over Him. Some of them wanted to arrest Him, but no one laid hands on Him. The officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring Him?" The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this man!" The Pharisees answered them, "Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or the Pharisees believed in Him? But this crowd, who do not know the Law, are accursed." Nicodemus, who had gone to Him before, and who was one of them, said to them, "Does our Law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee." Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

SYNAXARION

(LIVES OF THE SAINTS OF THE DAY)

On this day, the eighth Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate Holy Pentecost.

Verses

In a mighty wind Christ distributeth the Divine Spirit

In the form of fiery tongues unto the Apostles.

In one great day, the Spirit was poured out on the Fishermen.

On this day—the fiftieth after Great and Holy Pascha—we commemorate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the holy Disciples and Apostles in the form of tongues of fire. Numbering about 120, they who followed the Master gathered in Jerusalem in the upper room of a house to await the Lord's promise to send the Holy Spirit. At about the third hour of the day, there came a sound from Heaven as of a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the house. Cloven tongues immediately appeared, like as of fire, and sat upon the head of each of them. The Apostles began to speak, not with the languages of their ancestors, but with other languages with which the Holy Spirit supplied them, as He inspired them. After the Apostle Peter explained what had happened, 3,000 people joined the Church on the inauguration of the priesthood of grace. The objectives of Pentecost are, namely, the coming of the Holy Spirit into the world, the fulfillment of the promise of Jesus Christ, and the completion of the undefiled hope of the Apostles.

By the intercessions of the Holy Apostles, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

HOLY OBLATIONS

For the Health and Blessings of Fr. Elias and Kh. Marion for their safe travels, offered by their St. Nicholas family. May God grant them many years.

For the Health and Blessings of the new Catechumens, Ethan Gaines and Sydney Steuwe, as they continue their journey in the Orthodox Faith. May God grant them many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Sam and Wendie Bander on the occasion of their 42nd wedding anniversary, offered by their family. May God grant them many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Debra Taylor-Weiss on the occasion of her birthday, offered by Doug. May God grant her many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Angie Sirotko on the occasion of her birthday, offered by Mike, Nick, Nate and Noah. May God grant her many years!

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

For the Health, Blessings, and Comfort of Nankal Darshak, offered by the Watsons. May God grant her many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Ashley Smaniotto on the occasion of her birthday, for her husband, Michael Smaniotto, and their new daughter, Sienna, offered by Farouq and Wafa Karadsheh. May God grant them many years!

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

For the Health and Blessings of the residents of Shepherds of Independence and those who serve them.

REMEMBER IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

LIVING

Metropolitan PAUL

Archbishop JOHN

Archimandrite Jeremy Davis

Archpriest Joseph Abud

Archpriest James Ellison

Archpriest Elias Mitchell

Kh. Marion Mitchell

Ethan Gaines

Sydney Steuwe

Sam Bander

Wendie Bander

Debra Taylor-Weiss

Angela Sirotko

Nankal Darshak

Ashley Smaniotto

Michael Smaniotto

Sienna Smaniotto

Gavin Lane

Joe Corey

Kathy Corey

David Corey

Matthew Ledford

Linda Manica

Wadih Choueiri

Pat Hattem

Angela Franks

Alanna Mrlik

Joshua Utecht

Joel Duran

Christine Heisserer

Greg Storey

Charlie Makhoul

Glenn Zimmermann

Mike Karolle

Judy Karolle

Mike Simon

Doug Taylor-Weiss

Sandra Worth

Bill Wiseman

All the victims of tragedy, violence, and poverty
in Gaza, Syria, Ukraine, and throughout the world

And the residents of Shepherds of Independence
and those who serve them



DEPARTED

NEWLY DEPARTED

Tillie Sayfie

The newly departed victims of tragedy, violence, and poverty
in Gaza, Syria, Ukraine, and throughout the world