

ST. NICHOLAS

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Liturgical services for the week of September 19 – September 26, 2021

Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Festal Anointing following the weekend Divine Liturgies in honor of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Saturday	September 18, 2021	Festal Tone, p.258
	3:00-3:30 PM	Mystery of Reconciliation (Confession)
	4:00 PM	Divine Liturgy (St. Mary) <i>Health and Blessings for Thomas Petty requested by wife, Anna Jane and son Tom Petty</i>
Sunday	September 19, 2021	Festal Tone, p.258
	8:00 AM	Divine Liturgy (St. Nicholas) <i>Health and Blessings for the Parish Family of Assumption of the Virgin Mary Church and St. Nicholas Church</i>
	10:00 AM	Divine Liturgy (St. Mary) – Livestreamed <i>In Memory of +Mary T. Dano requested by John Dano and family</i>
Saturday	September 25, 2021	18th Sunday after Pentecost Tone 1, p. 125
	3:00-3:30 PM	Mystery of Reconciliation (Confession)
	4:00 PM	Divine Liturgy (St. Mary) <i>In Memory of +Mary T. Dano requested by John Dano and family</i>
Sunday	September 26, 2021	Tone 1, p. 125
	8:00 AM	Divine Liturgy (St. Nicholas) <i>Health and Blessings for the Parish Family of Assumption of the Virgin Mary Church and St. Nicholas Church</i>
	10:00 AM	Divine Liturgy (St. Mary) – Livestreamed <i>In Memory of William Sokol requested by wife, Arlene Sokol and children</i>

WELCOME

To all who are tired and need rest; To all who mourn and need comfort; To all who are friendless and need friendship; To all who are discouraged and need hope; To all who are homeless and need sheltering love; To all who sin and need a Savior; The Parish of St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church opens Wide its doors, In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ! Let us be a community filled with faith in God, love for our tradition and our Church, and love for one another.

Mask Wearing in Church: Should I or Shouldn't I?

The June 2021 edition of the Eastern Catholic Life newspaper contained updated guidelines concerning the pandemic. Bishop Kurt states that people are free to wear a mask for personal protection or as a courtesy to the vulnerable. To protect our vulnerable parishioners, we strongly encourage our parishioners who are not vaccinated to wear a mask during Liturgy or other indoor church activities.

Post-picnic Survey

Parishioners, as we appreciate your support of our picnic, we would also appreciate your feedback. In the coming weeks, a survey will be distributed requesting your feedback regarding our picnic events. The survey will also be available online. We look forward to your valuable responses!

GCU Meeting

The GCU Mary Magdalene Lodge No. 15 will hold its 3rd Quarter Meeting on Sunday, September 26, 2021 after the 10:00 Divine Liturgy. All members are invited to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

Cardinal John Henry Nouwen meditation: In service we encounter God

Radical servanthood does not make sense unless we introduce a new level of understanding and see it as the way to encounter God. To be humble and persecuted cannot be desired unless we can find God in humility and persecution. When we begin to see God, the source of all our comfort and consolation, in the center of servanthood, compassion becomes much more than doing good for unfortunate people. Radical servanthood, as the encounter with the compassionate God, takes us beyond the distinctions between wealth and poverty, success and failure, fortune and bad luck. Radical servanthood is not an enterprise in which we try to surround ourselves with as much misery as possible, but a joyful way of life in which our eyes are opened to the vision of the true God who chose to be revealed in servanthood. The poor are called blessed not because poverty is good, but because theirs is the kingdom of heaven; the mourners are called blessed not because mourning is good, but because they shall be comforted.

Here we are touching the profound spiritual truth that service is an expression of the search for God and not just of the desire to bring about individual or social change.

St. Andrew of Crete about the Holy Cross

Had there been no cross, Christ could not have been crucified. Had there been no cross, life itself could not have been nailed to the tree. And if life had not been nailed to it, there would be no streams of immortality pouring from Christ's side, blood and water for the world's cleansing. The legal bond of our sin would not be cancelled, we should not have obtained our freedom, we should not have enjoyed the fruit of the tree of life, and the gates of paradise would not stand open.

THEREFORE, THE CROSS is something wonderfully great and honorable. It is great because through the cross, the many noble acts of Christ found their consummation - very many indeed, for both His miracles and His sufferings were fully rewarded with victory. The cross is honorable because it is both the sign of God's suffering and the trophy of His victory and love. It stands for His suffering because on it He freely suffered unto death. But it is also His trophy because it was the means by which the devil was wounded and death conquered; the barred gates of hell were smashed, and the cross became the one common salvation of the whole world!