

St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church

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FEBRUARY 14, 2021

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

VENERABLE AUXENTIOS THE PRIEST OF BITHYNIA; VENERABLE
ABRAHAM AND MARON OF SYRIA; NEW-MARTYRS NICHOLAS OF
CORINTH AND GEORGE THE TAILOR OF MITYLENE;
VENERABLE CYRIL, EQUAL-TO-THE-APOSTLES
AND ENLIGHTENER OF THE SLAVS

Welcome to St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church

We greet you in the Name of the Lord, and are thankful for your visit to pray with us. Your participation in the work of all who enter here with faith, reverence and the fear of God makes the Divine Liturgy alive. For the "lit-orgia" is truly the "work of the people."

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church's mission is to assist people of all races, cultures and backgrounds on their journey to God's Kingdom by standing firm in the Gospel handed down to us by Christ and His Apostles. We will accomplish this mission by a) living a full liturgical and sacramental life, b) proclaiming the Orthodox Christian faith to all people, c) providing effective charitable and social programs, and d) establishing strong spiritual leadership and educational resources. St. Nicholas is a living reflection of Christ and shines as a light to all people.

Communion is reserved for those Orthodox Christians who prepared themselves through regular confession and fasting from the night before. Others may approach the chalice for a blessing and partake of the antidoron (blessed bread).

To encourage a proper spirit of prayer and devotion, we respectfully ask that you enter the sanctuary quietly during the Diving Liturgy.

Please, do NOT enter or exit the sanctuary at the following times:

- When the priest censens the church
- During the Little Entrance with the Gospel
- During the reading of the Epistle and Gospel.
(*You may enter the nave immediately after the reading of each is completed*).
- During the delivery of the Sermon
- During the Great Entrance with the Holy Gifts
- During the Prayers of Consecration.

You may enter the nave after the Hymn to the Theotokos "It Is Truly Meet."

THE SYNAXARION

On February 14 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our righteous Father Auxentios the priest of Bithynia.

Auxentios was a very prominent aristocrat among the noblemen and courtiers of Emperor Theodosius the Younger in Constantinople. Enflamed with love for Christ, Auxentios was tonsured a monk. When men began to praise him, he fled from their praise and settled on a mountain called Skopa near Chalcedon, which later was referred to as Auxentios' Mountain. But people found him and brought the sick to him for healing, which he did. All of this was reason for amazement, but his humbleness was cause for even greater amazement. Whenever Auxentios was implored to heal someone he defended himself with the words: "I, also, am a sinful man!" When Auxentios healed, he either invited all present to pray to God together with him for the sick person; or he first strengthened the faith in the people and then he told them that God will give to them according to their faith; or he prayed over the head of the sick person: "The Lord Jesus Christ heals you!" Thus, the miracles would not be attributed to him but rather to God. Auxentios participated at the Fourth Ecumenical Council and strongly defended Orthodoxy against the Eutychian and Nestorian heresies. In 470, the Lord took his youthful soul in old age.

On this day, we also commemorate Venerable Abraham and Maron of Syria; New-martyrs Nicholas of Corinth and George the tailor of Mitylene; and Venerable Cyril, Equal-to-the-Apostles and enlightener of the Slavs. By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE THREE

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.

ORDINARY KONTAKION IN TONE TWO

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

THE EPISTLE: Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:16-7:1)

Brethren, you are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Therefore, come out from them, and be separate from them," says the Lord, "and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters," says the Lord Almighty. Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

THE GOSPEL: St. Matthew. (15:21-28)

At that time, Jesus went to the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon." But He did not answer her one word. And His disciples came and begged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before Him, saying, "Lord, help me." And He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING BROTHERS & SISTERS:

Departed: Linda Kassis, Ann Salem, Edward Hyder, George Massouh, Katherine Martin Cummings, Mikhail Jacob, Mildred Radich, Olga Specian, Don Schott, Rosalie Galluccio, Thomas N. Modi, Josephine Mansour Albert, Lillian Ratkovic, Sylvia Elizabeth Jemali.

Shut-Ins/Sick: Metropolitan PAUL, Archbishop YOHANNAH, Annette Haddad, Schauki Kassis, Rose Beede, Alice Flaherty, Theodora Ohlinger, Sally Bell, Bob Bostley, George Joseph Rolfes, Aurelia Buda, Richard Pippy, Diane Zorich, Lisa McCoy, Viola Haddad, Susana Kassis, Mary Semaan

For the Health & Needs of: Kh. Virginia Massouh, Pf. Margot Siniari, Angela Jacob, Farhat David, Helen Massarelli, Carole Massarelli, Helen Salem, Ruth & Evren Hazel, Georgette Abraham, Mariam Haddad, Bryan Haddad, Nasir Kassis, Mitch & Geri Kanaan, Alice Faccenda, David & Eva Szabo, Marion Bostley, Theodore Todorow, Alex Gimon, Leo Poirier, Collin Lamkin, Sophie Massouh, Stephen Bove', Leila Bashara, Natalie Floreancig, Mary Magdalene Foltz, Marie Miller, Gail & Charlie Barnett, Suha Mansour, Bob Poirier, Bruce Bingham, Dorothy Mihelic, Loretta Karpelenia, Lydia Davidson, Joanne Kassis, Mary Jean Lubin.

Service Members: Zachariah Weaver (USAF), Christopher Salem (USAF): Nephew of Helen Salem, Peter McIntire (Army): Grand Nephew of Viola Haddad, Curtis Brickwood (Navy): Fr Michael's Cousin, David Butler (Navy): Son of Joanna Kassis Butler, Trenton Wesley (Army): grandson of Leila Bashara

SERVICE SCHEDULE:

Saturday: 5:00 PM Vespers

Sunday: 9:30 AM Orthros 10:30 AM Divine Liturgy

Upcoming Events

Wednesday February 10 Vespers and Liturgy of Abundant Caution
5:30 pm Vespers ****Masks Required****
6:15 pm Divine Liturgy ****Masks Required****

Saturday, February 20 10:30 AM: Ladies Society Gathering
in the Portico of the church.

Tuesday, February 16 8 pm - Orthodox Christianity 101:
The Fundamentals of the Faith
(Class meets on Zoom – Email Fr. Nathaniel for
the link if you would like to attend)

Monday, March 01 5:30 PM, A-Men Dinner Meeting, Fellowship Hall

Ladies Society PAK-A-SACK Ministry:

Ladies Society collection today.

God grant you many years....

BIRTHDAYS

Feb 16 George Baidurashivli

Feb 19 Theodora Ohlinger