

THOSE WHO DIED FOR THEIR FAITH

It has often been said that “the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church.” That is to say, the killing of believers in Christ has not destroyed the Faith, but in fact has nurtured it to greater growth. The example of those valiant men and women who have suffered and given up their lives for Christ has inspired faithful throughout the ages and continues to do so today.

We often think that the age of martyrdom has long since passed. Certainly the Calendar of Saints records the amazing stories of the martyrs of the early centuries of the Christian Church. History records the persecutions by the Roman emperors of the era. But there have been martyrs in every age, and certainly there have been in our times.

Many martyrs are commemorated during the course of the year. Some of these are termed “**Great Martyrs**” for their outstanding witness for Christ. Other saints who were not killed but who suffered much for their faith are called “**Confessors.**” Normally, saints are remembered on the day of their falling-asleep in Christ, since that day is looked upon as their “**birthday into eternal life.**”

The icon of our bulletin depicts the **GREAT MARTYR KIRIAKIA**, born to a pious Christian family of Asia Minor in the 3rd century. When her parents were arrested for their faith and sent to prison, Kiriakia carried on missionary work. She then was arrested and sentenced to death by the authorities of Emperor Diocletian. She fell asleep in the Lord at the age of 21.

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St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church

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July 5, 2020 Fourth Sunday of Matthew

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 censes 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."*

REGULAR SERVICE SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:00 PM Vespers

Sunday 9:30 AM Orthros

10:30 AM Divine Liturgy

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING BROTHERS & SISTERS:

Departed: Fr. Paul Lazor, Fr. Elias Bitar, Fr. John Winfrey, Helen Lipscomb, Handumy Tahan, Fr. Spero Page, Louis Albert, Anne White, Hanna Tawfic, Fr. George Brunish, Wayne Massarelli, Lu'a Albert, Leila Kassis, Miriam Khoury, Bishop MAEL, Bobby Brickwood, Pr. Viola Soter, Fr. David Milligan, Leo George, George Abodeely, Johara David

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 & Evern Hazel, Georgette Abraham, Mariam Haddad, Bryan Haddad, Nasir Kassis, Mitch & Geri Kanaan, Mary Ellen James, 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, Diane Karns, Gail & Charlie Barnett, Suha Mansour, Bob Poirier, Bruce Bingham, Dorothy Mihelic, Loretta Karpelenia, Lydia Davidson

Service Members: 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

God grant you many years....

BIRTHDAYS

July 06 Ramsey Ishaq
David Lipscomb
July 09 Rebecca Pagani
Aviah Mobayed
July 11 Fuad Mobayed

ANNIVERSARIES

July 07 Charles & Katherine Doerner
July 10 Edward & Elena Liss
July 11 Joseph & Theresa Chapman

THE EPISTLE

(For Fourth Sunday after Pentecost)

The saints shall rejoice in glory.

Sing to the Lord a new song.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians (5:22-26; 6:1-2)

Brethren, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us have no self-conceit, no provoking of one another, no envy of one another. Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Look to yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

THE GOSPEL

(For Fourth Sunday of Matthew)

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 he 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.

The Church has a new SECURE business address for receiving money, packages, and special deliveries. Please use:

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