

THE PROTECTION

OF THE THUNDER



# St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church

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## SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

### SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & FIRST SUNDAY OF LUKE

MARTYR KALLISTRATOS AND THE 49 MARTYRS WITH HIM; APOSTLES ARISTARCHOS, ZENON  
AND MARK OF THE SEVENTY; NEW-MARTYR AQUILINA OF THESSALONICA; VENERABLE  
IGNATIUS, ABBOT IN ASIA MINOR; VENERABLE SAVVATIOS OF SOLOVKY

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## 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).

### REGULAR SERVICE SCHEDULE:

Saturday: 5:00 PM Vespers

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

## Upcoming Events

Wednesday, September 30 – Liturgy of Abundant Caution \*\* **MASKS Required**\*\*

5:30 pm – Great Vespers      6:15 pm – Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, October 06 - 8 PM. - "Orthodox Christianity 101: Fundamentals of the Faith," (**Zoom**)

## RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE SEVEN

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

THE EPISTLE    **The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:1-10)**

THE GOSPEL    **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (5:1-11)**

### **Annual Memorial Service today for +Bishop Antoun (2 Oct 17) John Salem (2 Oct 19) May their memory be Eternal !!!**

#### **Ladies Society PAK-A-SACK Ministry**

Our Ladies Society is resuming their support of chronically-hungry children of Fairmount Park and Melrose schools. We will have our first collection on October 11<sup>th</sup>, at this time will be doing only monetary donations. There will be 3 ways to donate:

- 1) collection basket once a month (starts the 11<sup>th</sup>)
- 2) write a check to the Ladies Society and put in candle box (specify Pak-A-Sack on check)
- 3) write a check with same info as above and mail it to the church address.

#### **PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING BROTHERS & SISTERS:**

**Departed:** Nellie Joseph, Ruth Wiggins, Maleky Shaheen, Betty Baer, Vera Vedo, Christo V. Metro, Ethel Modi, Anthony Santoro, Richard Massouh, Khairallah Massouh, John R. Siber, Ethel Murcurio, Abp MICHAEL Shaheen, Bishop ANTOUN, John Salem, Theodore Salim, Abdullah Albert.

**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, Joanne Kassis.

**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

## THE HOPE & PROTECTION OF ALL PEOPLE

**T**he Virgin Mary is referred to in many beautiful and meaningful ways. She is called the Theotokos - the Mother of God - because she is best remembered for giving birth to Jesus Christ. Another title she is called is *"Protectress of the world."* In fact, a popular holy day observed by some jurisdictions goes by the graphic title of the Feast Day of the PROTECTION of the Mother of God.

The historical basis for this feast is traced back to the city of Constantinople in the early years of the 10th century. The capital of the Byzantine Empire was under siege. It was only a matter of time until the city would fall to its pagan attackers. The Emperor Leo the Wise called upon his best means of defense: PRAYER.

Believers from all over the city gathered in the Church of Blachernae, dedicated to the Mother of God. Among those present for the all-night vigil was a certain St. Andrew, called a *"fool for Christ,"* and his faithful disciple Epiphanius. While all of the faithful were deeply engrossed in prayer, these pious saints are said to have had a vision of the Mother of God appearing over the people with a veil spread over her outstretched hands in a sign of protection.

Andrew and Epiphanius quickly shared their vision with the rest of the worshippers. Viewing this as a sign of God's favor, they continued to pray with great fervor. At that very moment, the tide of the battle turned, and their enemies were driven back. They had been protected by the Mother of God!

This Feast serves to remind us of Mary's constant role as our *"Protectress."* We are called upon to always seek her maternal protection.

Icon by Fr. Paul Drozdowski  
www.pd-icons.com

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# God grant you many years....

### BIRTHDAYS

Oct 01 Gaby Atik

Oct 01 Andrew Tsongranis