

St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church

6447 76th Avenue, North, Pinellas Park, St. Petersburg, Florida 33781

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of North America

His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS, Auxiliary Bishop of Miami & the Southeast

Fr. Michael Massouh, Pastor (727) 510-7657

Deacon Elias Haddy (951) 290-8825

www.stnicholasaoc.org

info@stnicholasaoc.org

November 24, 2019, Clement of Rome

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. Michael Sotor, Kh. Josephine Courey, John Salem, Louis Jasmine, Esther Salem, Yousef Kassis, Anthony Faccenda, Katherine Maznek, Constantine Joseph, Betty Jacox Craft, Marion Jacox Minick, Anna Alexandroff, Richard Salem, Sandra Kotsopoulos, Romeo Poirier, Rene Mobayed, Hafeeza Massouh, Mary Larson, Betty Massouh, George Essey, Bernadette Patell, Jamil Kassis, Robert Aber

Memorial Today for John Salem

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

For the Health of: Fr. Lazarus Sucanto, Kh. Virginia Massouh, Pf. Margot Siniari, Angela Jacob, Farhat David, Helen Massarelli, Carole Massarelli, Evelyn Salem, 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, Paula Massouh, Charlene Toney, Gail & Charlie Barnett, Suha Mansour, Thomas Joseph, Bob Poirier, Anna Jacob

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

November 25 Matthew Kanaan, Odette Hodge

November 28 Donald Hawkins

November 30 Bill Catton, Charles Barnett, Guiliana Kassis, Branson Stout

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWING DIVINE LITURGY

Show hospitality to one another...” 1Peter 4:9

We welcome all of those who are visiting with us this morning.

Please join us following the Divine Liturgy for coffee hour.

We pray that your experience here this morning was uplifting.

We look forward to seeing you again soon.

Today's Luncheon is Sponsored by The Ladies Society

LADIES SOCIETY YARD SALE & BAKE SALE, DECEMBER 14

Everyone is encouraged to donate items that we can sell such as kitchen supplies, decorative items, toys, etc. ***Please no clothing or shoes. You can start bringing your donations into the Fellowship Hall at any time.*** Since we have several weeks to go until the sale we anticipate a lot of donations for a successful sale. We need volunteers to bake and we would also like to be able to sell hamburgers and hot dogs and need volunteers to help at the grill.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

TODAY-Parish Council Meeting Following Liturgy

TODAY-Luncheon Following Liturgy

Wednesday, November 27, 2019, 6:30 PM-Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 1, 2019, Annual Parish Meeting after Liturgy

Sunday, December 1, 2019-Special Collection for Pack A Sak

Saturday, December 7, 2019, 11:30 AM-Ladies Society Christmas Party at Carrabas, 3530 Tyrone Boulevard, St. Petersburg

Sunday, December 8, 2019-St. Nicholas Feast Day Luncheon & Raffle

Tuesday, December 10, 2019-Registration for Summer Camp at Antiochian Village Begins

Saturday, December 14-Ladies Society Yard Sale & Bake Sale

January 17 to January 20, 2020-Winter Family Camp at Antiochian Village

Sunday, January 19, 2020-Ladies Society Meeting Following Liturgy

Weekend of May 22 & 23-Visit from Bishop NICHOLAS-Details to Follow

LADIES SOCIETY PAK A SACK MINISTRY

Our Ladies Society is resuming their support of chronically-hungry children of Fairmount Park and Melrose schools. Your donations of food and cash will be a blessing to these children.

Our efforts are combined with those of the First United Methodist Church again this school year. First United Methodist Church currently, serves 300 children at Fairmount Park and 268 children at Melrose Elementary Schools. They provide between 10 and 12 items per bag per week. These are the types of items we suggest that you donate.

Ramen noodle pouches

Capri sun or fruit juice pouches

Applesauce and/or fruit cups

Crackers and cheese or peanut butter individual packages

Chef boyardee (microwaveable)

Individual chips, crackers, cookie, pretzel bags

Raisins, nuts (individual bags)

Fruit chews (individually wrapped)

Small boxes of cereal

Microwave oatmeal

Poptarts

Pudding cups

Microwave popcorn

Granola or protein bars

MORTGAGE REDUCTION CAMPAIGN

The Mortgage balance as of October 31, 2019 is \$136,686.00 thanks to Helen & Carole Massarelli completing their pledge. We should be able to reach our interim goal of \$125,000.00 by December 31., 2019. We have received donations of \$40,000-Helen & Carole Massarelli, \$10,000-Anonymous donor, \$3,000 Fady Hakim & Mary Guirguis, \$1,000-Anonymous donor, \$500-Alice Faccenda, \$500-Alice Flaherty, \$500 Viola Haddad, \$200 Steve & Lisa Spears. In addition we have received pledges from the following: Fr. Michael & Kh. Virginia, Gaby Atik, Pia Cummings, Darrel Hanna, Robert & Bonnie Guirguis, Luis & Janet Rodriguez, and Geral Vizvary. We plan to have a celebration after Pascha with His Grace, Bishop NICHOLAS in attendance. Will you consider making a pledge before the end of the calendar year? Please see Fr Michael or Bob Rolfes to discuss the amount you can afford to contribute.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING DATE CHANGE

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held after Liturgy on Sunday, December 1, 2019 This once a year meeting's agenda is to hear reports from various groups and organizations of the Parish and to elect two members to the Parish Council. Each year we elect two members for three year terms, and the priest appoints two members for one year terms, The three year terms of Bob Rolfes and Bob Wiggins expire at the end of December 2019. If interested in running for a seat on the Parish Council see a member of the Nominating Committee: Sub Deacon Najib Jacob, Jim Calamas, or Father Michael.

AIR CONDITIONERS FOR NEW CHURCH

The wooden stands for the churches air conditioners collapsed and had to be replaced with concrete ones thanks to Bob Rolfes, Andi Budo, and John Kozak. In the process of replacing the stands it was discovered that one of the four air conditioners was malfunctioning. The cost of fixing the unit will be about \$2,000. Should you wish to assist in defraying this cost, please write on the memo section of your check "Air Conditioner". Thank you!

BOOKSTORE NEWS

Now that Anamay is back the bookstore is up and running as it should. More items have been added to the \$1.00 table, and there are new books, prayer ropes, icons and jewelry so stop by and browse around. Christmas is coming soon and our bookstore is the perfect place to find those perfect gifts for your family and friends.

BIBLE STUDY, WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT 6:30 PM

Our current topic is Advent using Vassilios Papavassiliou. Meditations for Advent: Preparing for Christ's Birth. The book is available in our bookstore.

Fr Michael will also present the origins of the American version of Christmas. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

***A big thank you for everyone's support for the PAK A SACK ministry.
Through your generosity we are able to support this effort to help feed local children.***

NOVEMBER 2019 EDITION OF THE WORD MAGAZINE

The November 2019 online edition of The Word magazine is now available at www.antiochian.org, and features an article about St. Joseph the Betrothed; reflections on the ministry of the clergy, the Divine Liturgy, icons, and the gospel readings; news stories and much more!

ST NICHOLAS FEAST DAY RAFFLE

In your Wonder Worker for November you received tickets for our annual St. Nicholas Feast Day Raffle. This is a big fundraiser for our community and we hope that you will buy several tickets. If you would like to buy more tickets than you were given please see Anamay Rossomando or Doreen Radich and they will be happy to help you. The drawing will take place on Sunday, December 8th during the Feast Day Luncheon.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE SIX

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE FOUR

Today the Virgin is the foreshadowing of the pleasure of God, and the beginning of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. Thou hast appeared in the Temple of God openly and hast gone before, preaching Christ to all. Let us shout with one thrilling voice, saying, Rejoice, O thou who art the fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation.

KONTAKION OF ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE FOUR

The sacred treasury of God's holy glory, the greatly precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the Savior's most pure temple, free of stain and undefiled, into the House of the Lord on this day is brought forward and bringeth with herself the grace of the Most Divine Spirit; her do God's Angels hymn with songs of praise, for she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.

THE EPISTLE (For the Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost)

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. To Thee, O Lord, have I cried, O my God.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (2:4-10)

Brethren, God, Who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and made us sit with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God—not because of works, lest any man should boast. For, we

are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

THE GOSPEL (For the Thirteenth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (18:18-27)

At that time, a man came testing Jesus and asking, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery. Do not kill. Do not steal. Do not bear false witness. Honor your father and mother.'" And the man said, "All these I have observed from my youth." And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when the man heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus, seeing him sad, said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus said, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."

THE SYNAXARION

On November 24 in the Holy Orthodox Church we continue to celebrate the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Holy of Holies, and we commemorate our father among the saints Clement, bishop of Rome.

Verses

Cast into the depth of the sea with an anchor, Clement cometh to Christ, the uttermost Anchor. On the twenty-fourth Clement drowned in the depths of Christ.

Clement was born in Rome of royal lineage. His family had become lost at sea, so Clement, at age 24, went east to find them. In Alexandria, he met the Apostle Barnabas and, afterward, joined the Apostle Peter whom Clement's two brothers, Faustinus and Faustian, were already following. By God's providence, the Apostle Peter came upon Clement's mother as an aged beggar woman, and then found his father as well. Thus, the whole family was reunited, and all returned to Rome as Christians. Clement served as third bishop of Rome, bringing a great number of unbelievers to Christ. He ordered seven scribes to write the lives of the Christian martyrs who were suffering at that time for their Lord. The Emperor Trajan banished him to Cherson, where Clement found about 2,000 exiled Christians who received him with great joy. In one year, 75 churches were built there. The authorities drowned Clement in the sea in the year 101. His miracle-working relics emerged from the sea in the ninth century.

On this day, we also commemorate the Hieromartyr Peter, bishop of Alexandria; Hermogenes, bishop of Agrigentum; Martyrs Philoumenos and Christopher; and Martyr Alexander of Corinth. By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.