

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 • Fr. Stephen Siniari, Pastor (727) 503-5207

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April 21, 2019, Palm Sunday

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: Jamilleh Jacob, Sonja Twors, Nancy Blair, Phyllis Kirschy, Habeeb Khoury, Kokab Kakesh, Victoria Jasmine White, Bassam Ishaq, Andrew Mamary

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

For the Health of: Fr. Lazarus Sucanto, Kh. Loretta Karpelenia, Kh. Virginia Massouh, Pf. Margot Siniari, Angela Jacob, Farhat David, Helen Massarelli, Carole Massarelli, John & Evelyn Salem, Helen Salem, Ruth & Evern Hazel, Luann Elias, Kay Varoutis, Georgette Abraham, Mariam Haddad, Bryan Haddad, Nasir Kassis, Mitch & Geri Kanaan, John & Stephanie See, Mary Ellen James, Alice Faccenda, Pat Salem, David & Eva Szabo, Andrew, Marion Bostley, Theodore Todorow, Alex Gimon, George Hooker, Fuad Mobayed, Leo Poirier, Collin Lamkin, Sophie Massouh, Stephen Bove’, Ted Liss, Leila Bashara, Natalie Floreancig, John Rollins, Millicent Palko, Trenton Wesley, Ray Nawas, Bill Stanley, Poppi Madalvano, David Berryhill, Barbara Penny, Michael Kritikos, Dolores Fry, Mary Magdalene Foltz, Carl Massouh

Service Members: Christopher Salem (USAF): Nephew of Helen Salem, Peter McIntire (Army): Grand Nephew of Viola Haddad, Curtis Brickwood (Navy): Fr Michael’s Cousin, Derek Voss (Army): Son of Carolyn & Joe Galluccio, David Butler (Navy): Son of Joanna Kassis Butler, Trenton Wesley (Army): grandson of Leila Bashara, Luka Dundua (Army): Grandson of Salome Rollins

If you wish your name or the name of someone else to be placed on the prayer list please contact Doreen Radich at 727-367-1059

God grant you many years...

BIRTHDAYS

April 22	Eva Szabo
April 23	David Ishaq
April 24	Samar Mansour
April 25	Emily Foltz Dagly
April 26	Avery George Cooper

ANNIVERSARIES

April 23	Bob & Olga Wiggins
April 25	Alibek & Emily Foltz Dagly

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWING DIVINE LITURGY

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

Today's Coffee Hour is Sponsored by the Ladies Society

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.

2019 ARCHDIOCESE DUES

All parishioners are encouraged to contribute \$50 per person for the year to help offset the assessment our church has to pay the archdiocese. Our assessment for 2019 is approximately \$9,800 and we are hopeful that as many parishioners as possible will help fulfill this assessment by contributing \$50 per person. Payment can be made by check, cash or credit card. Please be sure to let Al or Doreen know that it is your archdiocese dues so that it is accounted for correctly. The total amount collected so far is \$3,150.

To date the following parishioners have made a contribution: Gaby & Alicia Atik, George & Sandra Baidurashvili, Leila Bashara, Robert & Marion Bostley, Andi & Alba Budo & Family, James Calamas, Charles & Christine Doerner, Koly & Mona Elkhoully, Alice Flaherty, Deena Graves, Viola Haddad, Najib & Anna Jacob, Mitch & Geri Kanaan, George Kanalos, Loretta Karpelenia, Najla Kassis, Peter & Jaymelyn Kassis, Al & Cheryl Lipscomb, Mary Jean Lubin, Fr. Michael & Kh. Virginia Massouh, Matt Nassif & Family, Theodora Ohlinger, Ralph & Eleanore Parker, Bob & Jeanne Poirier, Doreen Radich, Jordan & Samantha Raynovich, Luis & Janet Rodriguez, Robert & Kay Rolfes, Anamay Rossomando, Helen Salem, John & Evelyn Salem, Samya Semaan, Steve & Lisa Spears, Sam Specian, David Yopp

2019 STEWARDSHIP TO ST NICHOLAS

Many thanks to those families and individuals who have filled out their 2019 Stewardship forms designating their monetary pledge to the church for the year. Our church is 100% dependent upon the sacrificial giving of our parishioners and it is never too late to submit your Stewardship form with your pledge. The church also always welcomes its parishioners to give their time and talent, so if you are interested in volunteering in helping with the various necessary work that is required on a regular and consistent basis please make your willingness known.

So far the following parishioners have made a Stewardship commitment to St. Nicholas: Gaby & Alicia Atik & Family, Leila Bashara, Robert & Marion Bostley, Jim Calamas, Koly & Mona Elkhoully, Deena Graves, Viola Haddad, Don & JoAnn Hawkins, Subdeacon Najib & Anna Jacob, Peter & Jaymelyn Kassis & Family, Loretta Karpelenia, Lance & Mary Jean Lubin, Fr. Michael & Kh. Virginia Massouh, Ralph & Eleanore Parker, Bob & Jeanne Poirier, Robert & Kay Rolfes, Helen Salem, John & Evelyn Salem, Samya Semaan

St. Nicholas Calendar

TODAY-Palm Sunday Lenten Luncheon Following Liturgy

TODAY-6:30 PM Bridegroom Service

Holy Monday, April 22-6:30 PM Bridegroom Service: 10 Virgins

Holy Tuesday, April 23-6:30 PM Bridegroom Service: The Sinful Woman, Hymn of Kassiani

Holy Wednesday, April 24-6:30 PM Holy Unction & Anointing of the Sick

Holy Thursday, April 25-10:00 AM Institution of the Eucharist & Washing of the Feet
6:00 PM Twelve Gospels

Holy Friday, April 26-10:00 AM Royal Hours
3:00 PM Taking Down From the Cross
6:30 PM Lamentations

Holy Saturday, April 27-10:30 AM Vespers Divine Liturgy
10:30 PM Rush Service
Midnight Paschal Liturgy

Pascha, April 28-11:00 AM Agape Vespers

LUMINARIES

This week in your bulletin you have a form to fill out if you wish to have luminaries lighting our pathway around the church during the Resurrection procession. Each luminary will be inscribed with a dedication as well as the name of the donor. Your luminaries may be dedicated in honor of, for the health and salvation of, or in memory of a loved one. The cost per luminary is only \$5.00 each.

Please give your luminary form to either Marie Miller or Father Michael no later than this Thursday, April 25.

RESURRECTION CELEBRATION

Once again this year we will be having our annual Resurrection Celebration following the Midnight Paschal Liturgy to break the Lenten Fast. Everyone is encouraged to attend and bring a dish to share.

APOLYTIKION OF PALM SUNDAY IN TONE FOUR

O Christ God, when we were buried with Thee in Baptism, we became deserving of Thy Resurrection to immortal life. Wherefore, we praise Thee, crying: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

KONTAKION OF PALM SUNDAY IN TONE SIX

Upborne upon the heavenly throne, and seated upon the earthly foal, O Christ our God, receive the praises of angels and the hymns of men, exclaiming before Thee: Blessed is He that cometh to restore Adam.

THE EPISTLE

Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Philippians. (4:4-9)

Brethren, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, these do; and the God of peace will be with you.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (12:1-18)

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus who had died was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made Him a supper; Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at table with Him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, one of His Disciples (he who was to betray Jesus), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not because he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the moneybox he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of My burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have Me." When the great crowd of the Jews learned that He was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus. The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young ass and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on an ass's colt!" His Disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was

glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of Him and had been done to Him. The crowd that had been with Jesus when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet Jesus was that they heard He had done this sign.

THE SYNAXARION

On this day in the Holy Orthodox Church, the Sunday of Palms, we celebrate the radiant and glorious festival of the Entrance of our Lord Jesus Christ into Jerusalem.

Verses

*Riding a colt, He that with a word stretched out Heaven,
Seeketh to loose mortals from brutish want of reason.*

Jesus came to Bethany on the Sunday falling before the six days of the Mosaic Passover. On the following day He sent two of His Disciples, who brought Him a donkey on which He sat to enter the city. And when the great multitude heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they immediately took palm branches in their hands and went out to meet Him. All cried, "Hosanna! Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, King of Israel!" The branches of palm trees were a symbol of Christ's victory over Satan and Death. And the meaning of "Hosanna" is, "We pray Thee, save." The donkey's colt, which was still an untamed animal, and impure according to the law, as well as Christ's sitting thereon, symbolize the former savagery and impurity of the Gentiles; and their subsequent taming and obedience to the holy law of the Gospel. By Thine ineffable compassion, O Christ our God, make us victors over our deceitful passions, and deem us worthy to behold Thy brilliant victory over death and Thy radiant and lifebringing Resurrection, and have mercy on us. Amen.

PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON TODAY

Please stay after church today and enjoy some good food and great fellowship at our annual Palm Sunday Luncheon. The fish and rice are provided by Parkside Café, and all of the delicious side dishes and dessert are lovingly prepared by our St. Nicholas Ladies Society. The cost of the luncheon is only \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under.

PARISH DIRECTORY

John Kozak has updated our Parish Directory and copies are now available for you to have. Please go to the bookstore after church to get your copy. They are free of charge. If you see any errors to your listing please let Bob Rolfe know or email your information to info@stnicholasaoc.org as soon as possible so that future printings and the church mailing list is accurate.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

At each liturgy and in each weekly bulletin we recognize the birthdays and anniversaries of our parish family. If you would like your birthday and/or anniversary added to our list please email your information to info@stnicholasaoc.org and we will be happy to add you to the list.