

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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May 12, 2019, Myrrh-Bearing Women, Joseph & Nicodemus

Mother’s Day

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: Andrew Mamary, Fahd Kassis, Nasser Elias Kakesh, Kosta Radich, Helen Kirshy, Olga Kovalenko, Jennie Davis, Richard Austin, Daniel Karpelenia, Thekla Massouh

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

May 12	Gina Kanalos
May 15	Barbara Dundua
May 17	Robin Bianca, Luis Rodriguez, Charles Doerner (son)
May 18	Najib Jacob

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 Rolfes 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.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWING DIVINE LITURGY

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

Today's Coffee Hour is Sponsored by Mary Jean Lubin

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 \$2,750.

To date the following parishioners have made a contribution: Gaby & Alicia Atik, George & Sandra Baidurashvili, Leila Bashara, Andi & Alba Budo & Family, James Calamas, Charles & Christine Doerner, Koly & Mona Elkhoully, Deena Graves, Michael & Randa Jacob, Najib & Anna Jacob, Mitch & Geri Kanaan, George Kanalos, Loretta Karpelenia, Najla Kassis, Peter 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, Sam Specian, Alexander Stronko, David Stronko, 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

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE TWO

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF JOSEPH OF ARIMATHAEA IN TONE TWO

The pious Joseph, having brought down Thy pure body from the Tree, wrapped it in fine linen, embalmed it with ointment, provided for it, and laid it in a new tomb. But Thou didst verily rise after three days, O Lord, granting the world Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN IN TONE TWO

Verily, the angel came to the tomb and said to the ointment-bearing women: the ointment is meet for the dead, but Christ is shown to be remote from corruption. But cry ye: The Lord is risen, granting the world the Great Mercy. • Now sing the apolytikion of the patron saint or feast of the temple.

THE KONTAKION OF PASCHA IN TONE EIGHT

Though Thou didst descend into the grave, O Immortal One, yet didst Thou destroy the power of Hades, and didst arise as victor, O Christ God, calling to the myrrh-bearing women, Rejoice, and giving peace unto Thine Apostles, O Thou Who dost grant resurrection to the fallen.

THE EPISTLE

The Lord is my strength and my song. The Lord has chastened me severely.

The Reading from the Acts of the Sainly and Pure Apostles. (6:1-7)

In those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the Twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaos, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (15:43-16:8)

At that time, Joseph of Arimathaea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the Kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if He were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him

whether Jesus was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that He was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking Him down, wrapped Him in the linen shroud, and laid Him in a tomb, which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where He was laid. And when the Sabbath was passed, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices so that they might go and anoint Him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back—it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, Who was crucified. He has risen, He is not here; see the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His Disciples and Peter that He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see Him, as He told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

THE SYNAXARION

On May 12 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Germanos, patriarch of Constantinople, Epiphanius, bishop of Cyprus; Venerable Theodore of Kythera; New-martyr John of Wallachia; and Hermogenes, patriarch of Moscow, prince of Pskov. On this day, the third Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the feast of the holy Myrrh-bearing women. And we also commemorate Joseph of Arimathaea, the secret disciple, and Nicodemus, the disciple by night.

Verses

*Christ is brought myrrh by the wise women disciples;
And to them, I bring a hymn as myrrh in offering.*

The women went to Christ's tomb on Holy Pascha to anoint His body, only to discover it empty. We know the names of only eight of these women: Mary the Theotokos, the "mother" of James and Joses, who were the sons of Joseph the Betrothed from his previous marriage (Matt. 27:56 and Mark 15:40); Mary Magdalene; Mary, the wife of Cleopas; Joanna the wife of Chuza; Salome the mother of the sons of Zebedee; Susanna; and Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus. Joseph was a rich and noble man, and a member of the Privy Council of Jerusalem. He dared to ask Pilate for the undefiled body of our Savior, which he took and buried in his own new tomb. Accompanying Joseph to the sepulcher was Nicodemus, a Jerusalemite who was one of the leaders of the Pharisees. Nicodemus brought 100 pounds of myrrh and aloes to scent and embalm the body of Christ.

By the intercessions of the holy Myrrh-bearers, Joseph of Arimathaea and Nicodemus, O God, have mercy on us. Amen.