

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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June 23, 2019, Sunday of All Saints

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: Father David Milligan, Fr. Michael Soter, Pr. Viola Soter, Zachary Mason, Mitch Azar, Julienne Newey, Maher Kassis, Donald Karns, Harrison Victor, Kenneth Ayoub, Charley George, Josephine Albert Dietz, Elizabeth Massouh, H. Tristram Engelhardt, Riyad Isaac, George Jasmine, Helene Daniels, George Houry, Michaelina Sexton, Christine George, Adib Daher, Selma Malooly, Salameh Zanayed, Andrew Mamary, Elias Samara

Memorial Today for Father Michael & Pr. Viola Soter

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. Virginia Massouh, Pf. Margot Siniari, Angela Jacob, Farhat David, Helen Massarelli, Carole Massarelli, John & Evelyn Salem, Helen Salem, Ruth & Evern Hazel, Georgette Abraham, Mariam Haddad, Bryan Haddad, Nasir Kassis, Mitch & Geri Kanaan, Mary Ellen James, Alice Faccenda, Pat Salem, David & Eva Szabo, Theodore Todorow, Alex Gimon, Leo Poirier, Collin Lamkin, Sophie Massouh, Stephen Bove', Leila Bashara, Natalie Floreancig, John Rollins, Millicent Palko, Ray Nawas, Poppi Madalvano, Michael Kritikos, Dolores Fry, Mary Magdalene Foltz, Handumy Tahan, Paul Smith, Edna Mason, Nicholas Nahas, Sr., Nicholas Kozlov

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, 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

June 23	Doreen Radich
June 24	John Salem, Theresa Chapman
June 26	Nicholas Kozlov

ANNIVERSARIES

June 24	Matt & Nicole Nassif Chris Catt & Pia Cummings
June 27	Luis & Janet Rodriguez

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 \$3,750.

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, Robert & Bonnie Guirguis, Viola Haddad, Michael & Randa Jacob & Family, 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, Louis Messier, 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, William Stanley, David Stronko, David Yopp

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWING DIVINE LITURGY

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

**Today's Coffee Hour is Sponsored by James & Myra Armstrong
in Memory of Father Michael & Pr. Viola Soter**

*Volunteers are needed to host a coffee hour.
If this is something that you would be willing to do
please see Jeanne Poirier, Ladies Society, President*

UPCOMING EVENTS:

<p>Today – Memorial for Fr. Michael Soter and Vi Saturday, June 29th, 2019 – Movie Night Following Vespers Monday, July 8th, 2019, 6:30 pm - Parish Council Meeting Monday, July 15th, 2019, 5:30 pm – Men's Club Meeting Sunday – Sunday, July 21st - 28th, 2019 – Archdiocese Convention, Grand Rapids, MI</p>

ST. NICHOLAS WEBSITE

The website changes often, so check it out. It has our service calendar, upcoming events, and other pertinent information specific to our parish and our faith. This is a great place to introduce a friend to our St. Nicholas family and our faith. Did you know, there is also a means for you to make secure on-line donations to the church using your credit card or through PayPal? One time donations and reoccurring donations are possible. You can even set up a monthly contribution toward your 2019 Stewardship Plan and never miss a payment. Going away for the summer? Easy - Set up an automatic payment and never worry about it again. Need a copy of the bulletin or the Wonder Worker? It's on line. The site address is www.stnicholasaoc.org.

For our Facebook fans, links are provided to bring you directly into our Facebook domain. So "like us", "share us", "and spread the good news". Everyone is encouraged to view our Facebook page and follow the church for ongoing and timely updates.

WONDER WORKER AVAILABLE

The summer Wonder Worker is available for you to pick up in the basket in the narthex. Please be sure to pick up your copy to save on the expense of postage. This will be the last Wonder Worker for the summer. Publication will resume in the fall. The Wonder Worker is also available for you to read on our website at www.stnicholasaoc.org.

MOVIE NIGHT, SATURDAY, JUNE 29TH

Following Vespers on June 29th we will be watching the video "Reading the Bible as an Orthodox Christian" on how Orthodox interpret the scriptures (hermeneutics); whether we interpret literally; how we are to understand the voice and perspective of the Psalms; and how we approach the bible as Orthodox rather than evangelicals presented by Dr. Jeannie Constantinou.

Eugenia Constantinou holds a Bachelor's Degree in Religious Studies (1980) and a Master of Arts degree in Practical Theology from the University of San Diego (1992). She received a Master of Theology degree from Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in 1996 where she specialized in Orthodox Theology and Patristics. She also received a Master of Theology from Harvard Divinity School in 1998 where she specialized in the New Testament.

Dr. Constantinou has been teaching Biblical Studies and Early Christianity at the University of San Diego since 2002. Previously she taught New Testament at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology from 1998-1999. She has led bible studies, taught and lectured on the Bible and Orthodoxy at parishes, conferences, retreats and seminars for over thirty years. She is married to Fr. Costa, who is a Greek Orthodox priest, and is simply "Mom" to son Christopher.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE EIGHT

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the threeday burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

KONTAKION OF ALL SAINTS IN TONE EIGHT

As first-fruits of our nature to the Planter of created things, the world presenteth the God-bearing martyred Saints in off'ring unto Thee, O Lord. Through their earnest entreaties, keep Thy Church in deep peace and divine tranquility, through the pure Theotokos, O Thou Who art greatly merciful.

THE EPISTLE

God is wonderful among His saints. Bless God in the congregations.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (11:33-12:2)

Brethren, all the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfection of our faith.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30)

The Lord said to His disciples, "Everyone who acknowledges Me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father Who is in heaven; but whoever denies Me before men, I also will deny before My Father Who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me." Then Peter said in reply, "Lo, we have left everything and followed Thee. What then shall we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the New World, when the Son of Man shall sit on His glorious throne, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My Name's sake, will receive a hundred fold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first."

THE SYNAXARION

On June 23 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Martyr Agrippina of Rome; and Hieromartyrs Aristocles the Presbyter, Demetrios the Deacon, and Athanasius the Reader, of Cyprus.

On this day, the Sunday after Pentecost, we celebrate the feast of All Saints who shone forth throughout all the world, North and South, East and West.

Verses

*Of all my Lord's friends, I laud and sing the praises;
And let any to come, with them all be numbered.*

David the Prophet and king, who revered the beloved of God, and respected them because of his great piety, said in the Psalms, "How precious are Thy beloved unto me, O God" (138:17). And the Apostle Paul, in his Epistle to the Hebrews, recounted the lives of the saints, when he wrote, "Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin that so easily besets us; and let us run with patience the race that is set before us" (12:1). Therefore, as Orthodox Christians, we honor the beloved saints of God, respecting them as keepers of God's commandments, shining examples of virtue and benefactors of humanity. We commemorate all of the holy ones every year on this day, as the list of saints ever increases, even though some of their names escape us. Nevertheless, we honor them for their piety and strive to imitate their good works.

By the intercessions of Thine immaculate Mother, O Christ God, and of all Thy Saints from the beginning of time, have mercy and save us, since Thou alone art good and the Lover of mankind. Amen.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Our journey to holiness starts off with small decisions we will make today—what our eyes will see, what our ears will hear, what our mouths will say and the kinds of things we will do. We have a choice to look at beauty or filth, to hear positive things or negative ones, to speak words of praise and encouragement or words of consternation to others, and to do acts of love or acts of hate. Today we will be confronted with choices to follow after the Lord or after the crowd. Holiness means to seek after the things of God, and it starts with small choices that will set us apart, perhaps earning us criticism from our peers, but earning us praise from the Lord.

Christ the Lord has made wondrous all of His Saints that were on the earth, for as the Apostle declared, they bore His marks and in their flesh shared His sufferings, adorning themselves therewith, and distinguishing themselves in the beauty that is divine. Let us therefore praise and acclaim them as never-fading flowers and as voluntary victims, and as the Church's unerring stars. (From the Praises of the Matins on Sunday of All Saints, Trans. by Fr. Seraphim Dedes)