

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 9, 2019, Fathers of the First Council

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, 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 Khoury, Michaelina Sexton, Christine George, Adib Daher, Selma Malooly, Salameh Zanayed, Andrew Mamary, Elias Samara

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 9	Sam Specian
June 11	Joan Robinson, Rasha Nijneh
June 13	Mary Kay Foltz

ANNIVERSARIES

June 9	Andrew & Odette Hodge
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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 The Ladies' Society

*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:

Wednesday – Friday, June 12-14, 2019 – Parish Life Conference, Raleigh, NC
Sunday, June 16 th , 2019 – Pentecost Liturgy with Kneeling Service
Sunday, June 23 rd , 2019 – Memorial for Fr. Michael Soter and Vi
Monday, July 8 th , 2019, 6:30 pm - Parish Council Meeting
Monday, July 15 th , 2019, 5:30 pm – Men's Club Meeting
Sunday – Sunday, July 21 st - 28 th , 2019 – Archdiocese Convention, Grand Rapids, MI

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.

THE SYNAXARION

On June 9 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our father among the saints Cyril, archbishop of Alexandria; Pelagia and the three Virgin-martyrs of Chios; Venerable Cyril of Belozersk; and Venerable Columba, enlightener of Scotland. On this day, the seventh Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the first Ecumenical Council of the 318 God-bearing Fathers, which took place in Nicaea in Bithynia.

Verses

O ye light-bearing stars of the spiritual firmament, enlighten my mind with your rays.

Verses Against Arius

Calling the Son a stranger to the Father's essence, Arius proved to be a stranger to God's glory.

Arius, the notorious heretic, began to blaspheme against God and His Son the Word, saying that the latter was not God consubstantial with the Father, but that He was created as a stranger to the Substance of the Father and His glory. Alexander, the Archbishop of Alexandria, tried to constrain Arius from disturbing the faithful with this teaching; even though Alexander excommunicated him, Arius did not cease his blasphemy, which spread throughout the Church in all nations. Thus, Emperor Constantine the Great called the First Ecumenical Council, which gathered bishops and teachers in the Church from all lands. They all proclaimed, as by one mouth, the equality of the Son of God with the Father in Substance, thus laying down the noble Confession of Faith, The Creed, which we Orthodox Christians recite to this day. The Church regards these divine Fathers as preachers of the Faith next to the holy Apostles.

By the intercessions of the 318 God-bearing Fathers, O Christ God, have mercy on us. Amen.

APOLYTIKION OF THE ASCENSION IN TONE FOUR

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy Disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit, making them confident through the blessing that Thou art the Son of God, and Deliverer of the world.

KONTAKION OF THE ASCENSION IN TONE SIX

When Thou didst fulfill Thy dispensation for our sakes, uniting the terrestrials with the celestials, Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, inseparable in space, but constant without separation, and crying unto Thy beloved: I am with you, and no one shall be against you.

THE EPISTLE

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers. For Thou art just in all Thou hast done.

The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (20:16-18, 28-36)

In those days, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the elders of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God which he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore, be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (17:1-13)

At that time, Jesus lifted up His eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Thy Son that the Son may glorify Thee, since Thou hast given Him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom Thou hast given Him. And this is eternal life, that they know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ Whom Thou hast sent. I glorified Thee on earth, having accomplished the work which Thou gavest Me to do; and now, Father, glorify Thou Me in Thy own presence with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was made. I have manifested Thy Name to the men whom Thou gavest Me out of the world; Thine they were, and Thou gavest them to Me, and they have kept Thy word. Now they know that everything that Thou hast given Me is from Thee; for I have given them the words which Thou gavest Me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from Thee; and they have believed that Thou didst send Me. I

am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom Thou hast given Me, for they are Thine; all Mine are Thine, and Thine are Mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to Thee. Holy Father, keep them in Thy Name, which Thou hast given Me, that they may be one, even as We are one. While I was with them, I kept them in Thy Name, which Thou have given Me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to Thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves."

PRISON MINISTRY AWARENESS SUNDAY

As you recall last week we had a special collection for Prison Ministry, and thanks to your generosity we are able to contribute \$258.00 to this worthy cause. Thank you to everyone who made a donation!

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 WORD MAGAZINE

The June edition of THE WORD magazine is now available on the archdiocese website at www.antiochian.org.

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.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

We are called out from amongst our people not to be conformed to the world, but rather to the Image and Likeness of Jesus Christ. Just as there is perfect unity between the Father and the Son, so too, we are called to unity amongst ourselves.

+His Eminence, Metropolitan JOSEPH