

**St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church**

6447 76<sup>th</sup> 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

Deacon Elias Haddy

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**August 18, 2019, After-Feast of the Dormition of our Most Holy Lady  
Ninth Sunday of Matthew**

**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, Fr. Stephen Bolonick

**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, Marion Bostley, Theodore Todorow, Alex Gimon, Leo Poirier, Collin Lamkin, Sophie Massouh, Stephen Bove’, Leila Bashara, Natalie Floreancig, John Rollins, Millicent Palko, Ray Nawas, Bill Stanley, Poppi Madalvano, Michael Kritikos, Dolores Fry, Mary Magdalene Foltz, Carl Massouh, Marie Miller

**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**

**ANNIVERSARIES**

August 18 Geri Kanaan  
 August 21 Jacob Daher  
 August 22 Thomas Joseph  
 Laura Brown  
 August 23 Maggie Kanaan  
 August 24 Kay Varoutis

August 23 Sami & Hilda Mobayed

### **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

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:info@stnicholasaoc.org) and we will be happy to add you to the list.

**CONGRATULATIONS!** Patrick and Maria Piniero were chrismated on Thursday, the Dormition of the Theotokos. They are a wonderful addition to our church family!

**FOOD FOR THE FOODBANK:** Thank you for your generosity! Our parish was able to contribute 37 lbs. of food this week. Blessings to all who contributed.

**WELCOME ABOARD:** Please give a warm welcome to Deacon Elias Haddy, his wife Karol and their two sons, Gabriel and Christopher.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Monday Sep 9, 2019; 5:30 pm – Men’s Group Dinner Meeting  
Monday October 7, 2019; 6:30 pm – Parish Council Dinner Meeting  
Weekend of October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Combat Veteran’s Retreat, Antiochian Village. Please see the flyer posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

### **EVERYONE IS INVITED TO COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWING DIVINE LITURGY**

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

### **Today’s Coffee Hour is Sponsored by Kay and Bob Rolfes**

*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.*

### **ST. NICHOLAS WEBSITE**

The website changes often, so check it out. It has our servicecalendar, 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](http://www.stnicholasaoc.org).

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

## **LITURGICAL TEXT FOR TODAY**

(For the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost)

### **RESURRECTIONAL KONTAKION AND OIKOS**

Arising from the tomb, O mighty Savior, Thou didst rouse the dead; Thou didst raise Adam; while Eve danceth in her new joy at Thy blest Resurrection, O Lord. And the world's farthest regions keep the festival on Thine arising from the dead with gladness and thanksgiving, O Thou Who art greatly merciful.

When Thou hadst despoiled the dominion of Hades and hadst raised the dead, O Long-suffering One, Thou didst meet the myrrh-bearing women, bringing them joy instead of sorrow. And unto Thine apostles, Thou madest known to symbols of victory, O my Savior, Giver of Life. Thou hast enlightened creation, O Lover of mankind. Wherefore, the world rejoiceth at Thine arising from the dead, O Thou Who art greatly merciful.

### **THE SYNAXARION**

On August 18 in the Holy Orthodox Church we continue to celebrate the feast of the Holy Dormition of our Lady the Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary; and we commemorate the Holy Martyrs Floros and Lauros of Illyria.

#### *Verses*

In their thirst for a death unto God the Word's glory,  
Floros and Lauros unto the well have departed.  
On the eighteenth Lauros with Floros went down into a well.

Floros and Laurus were brothers and stonecutters. A pagan prince hired them to build a temple to the idols. During their work, a piece of stone flew and struck the eye of the pagan priest's son. Seeing his son blind and bloody, the pagan priest shouted at Floros and Lauros and wanted to beat them. Then, the holy brothers said to him that if he would believe in the true God his son would be healed. The pagan priest promised. Floros and Laurus prayed with tears and traced the sign of the Cross over the child's injured eye, which was healed and made whole. Then the pagan priest Merentius and his son were baptized and, shortly after that, both suffered for Christ by fire. Floros and Lauros placed a cross on the completed temple, summoned all Christians and consecrated it in the name of the Lord Jesus with an all-night vigil. Hearing of this, the Illyrian deputy burned many of those Christians and threw Floros and Lauros alive into a well and then filled it with dirt. Later, their relics were revealed and translated to Constantinople. These two wonderful brothers were glorified by Christ in the second century. On this day, we also commemorate the Venerable Sophronios of St. Anne Skete on Athos. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

### **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.

## **APOLYTIKION OF THE DORMITION IN TONE ONE**

In thy birth-giving, O Theotokos, thou didst keep and preserve virginity; and in thy falling-asleep thou hast not forsaken the world; for thou wast translated into life, being the Mother of Life. Wherefore, by thine intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

### **KONTAKION OF THE DORMITION IN TONE TWO**

Thou wast transfigured on the mount, and Thy Disciples, in so far as they were able, beheld Thy glory, O Christ our God; so that, when they should see Thee crucified, they would remember that all Thy suffering was voluntary, and could declare to all the world that Thou art truly the effulgent Splendor of the Father.

### **THE EPISTLE**

*Make vows to the Lord thy God and perform them.  
In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.*

#### **The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (3:9-17)**

Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay or straw, each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

### **THE GOSPEL**

#### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (14:22-34)**

At that time, Jesus made the Disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds. And after He had dismissed the crowds, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone, but the Disciples' boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea. But when the Disciples saw Jesus walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately He spoke to them, saying, "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." And Peter answered Him, "Lord, if it is Thee, bid me come to Thee on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out His hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped Him, saying, "Truly, Thou art the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.