

# St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church

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## APRIL 04, 2021

### THIRD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT

#### VENERATION OF THE PRECIOUS AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS

VENERABLE GEORGE OF MT. MALEON; MARTYRS THEODOULOS THE READER AND AGATHOPODOS THE DEACON OF THESSALONICA; VENERABLE THEONAS, ARCHBISHOP OF THESSALONICA; ISIDORE, BISHOP OF SEVILLE

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### 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 censens 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."*

## THE SYNAXARION

On April 4 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Venerable George of Mount Maleon; Martyrs Theodoulos the reader and Agathopodos the deacon of Thessalonica; Venerable Theonas, archbishop of Thessalonica; and Isidore, bishop of Seville.

On this same day, the Third Sunday of the Fast, we keep the feast of the Veneration of the honorable and life-creating Cross.

Every hard and strenuous work is accomplished with great difficulty, which appears especially in the middle of such work; for the effort in this performance brings with it fatigue which makes the accomplishment of the rest difficult. Having arrived with God's grace at the middle of the Fast, our compassionate Mother—the Holy Orthodox Church—thought fit to reveal to us the Holy Cross as the joy of the world and power of the faithful to help us carry on the struggles of the divine Fast.

By its power, O Christ God, preserve us from the crafty designs of the evil one and account us worthy to worship Thy divine Passion and life-giving Resurrection, as we achieve the course of the Forty Days with ease, and have mercy on us, as Thou alone art good and the Lover of mankind. Amen.

### 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 FOR THE HOLY CROSS IN TONE ONE

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thy commonwealth.

### KONTAKION FOR SUNDAYS IN GREAT LENT

To thee, the Champion Leader, do I offer thanks of victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror; but as thou that hast that power invincible, O Theotokos, thou alone can set me free: from all forms of danger free me and deliver me, that I may cry unto thee: Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom.

**THE EPISTLE: St. Paul to the Hebrews. (4:14-5:6)**

Brethren, since we have a great High Priest, Who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast the confession. For we do not have a High Priest Who is unable to sympathize with our infirmities, but one Who has been in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore draw near with boldness to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy, and may find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest, being taken from among the people, is appointed on behalf of the people in things pertaining to God, that he may offer up both gifts and sacrifices for sins; who can have compassion on the ignorant and on those who are erring, since he himself also is encompassed with infirmity. Because of this he is bound, as for the people so also for himself, to offer up for sins. And no one takes the honor upon himself, but as being called by God, as was Aaron. So Christ also did not glorify Himself to become a High Priest, but it was by the One saying to Him, "Thou art My Son, today I have begotten Thee." As He says also in another place, "Thou art a Priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."

**THE GOSPEL: St. Mark. (8:34-9:1)**

The Lord said, "If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING BROTHERS & SISTERS:**

**Departed:** Jamilleh Jacob, Sonja Twors, Nancy Blair, Phillis Kirshy, Andrew Mamary, Habeeb Khoury, Kokab Kakesh, Victoria Jasmine White, Bassam Ishaq, Mat. Sonja Tutko.

**Shut-Ins/Sick:** Metropolitan PAUL, Archbishop YOHANNAH, Annette Haddad, Schauki Kassis, Rose Beede, Alice Flaherty, Theodora Ohlinger, Sally Bell, Bob Bostley, George Joseph Rolfes, Aurelia Buda, Richard Pippy, Diane Zorich, Lisa McCoy, Viola Haddad, Susana Kassis, Mary Semaan

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING BROTHERS & SISTERS:**

**For the Health & Needs of:** Kh. Virginia Massouh, Pf. Margot Siniari, Farhat David, Helen Massarelli, Carole Massarelli, Helen Salem, Ruth & Evern Hazel, Georgette Abraham, Mariam Haddad, Bryan Haddad, Nasir Kassis, Mitch & Geri Kanaan, Alice Faccenda, David & Eva Szabo, Marion Bostley, Theodore Todorow, Alex Gimon, Leo Poirier, Collin Lamkin, Sophie Massouh, Stephen Bove', Leila Bashara, Natalie Floreancig, Mary Magdalene Foltz, Marie Miller, Gail & Charlie Barnett, Suha Mansour, Bob Poirier, Bruce Bingham, Dorothy Mihelic, Loretta Karpelenia, Lydia Davidson, Joanne Kassis, Mary Jean Lubin, Dean.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING BROTHERS & SISTERS:**

**Service Members:** Zachariah Weaver (USAF), 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

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**SERVICE SCHEDULE:**

Saturday: 5:00 PM Vespers

Sunday: 9:30 AM Orthros      10:30 AM Divine Liturgy

**Upcoming Events**

Monday, April 05      630pm – Great Complines

Wednesday, April 07      520pm - 9<sup>th</sup> Hour

600pm – Presanctified Liturgy

Friday, April 09

630pm – Akathist to the Theotokos

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**Pascha Picnic** – Sign-up sheet for side dishes and desserts is posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Please write down what dish you are bringing, so we do not have too many of the same items.

The **St Nicholas Luminary Project** order forms are in the Narthex of the church. The cost is only \$5.00 per Luminary. Orders can be given to Marie Miller or Doreen Radich.

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**God grant you many years....**

**BIRTHDAYS**

Apr 05 Kathleen Milligan

Apr 06 Sami Mobayed

Apr 08 Christopher Jacob