

# St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church

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## FEBRUARY 21, 2021

### SUNDAY OF THE PHARISEE AND PUBLICAN

VENERABLE TIMOTHY OF SYMBOLA;

EUSTATHIOS, ARCHBISHOP OF ANTIOCH;

ZACHARIAH, PATRIARCH OF JERUSALEM;

GEORGE, BISHOP OF AMASTRIS

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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 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."*

## THE SYNAXARION

On February 21 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Venerable Timothy of Symbola; Eustathios, archbishop of Antioch; Zachariah, patriarch of Jerusalem; and George, bishop of Amastris.

On this day, we make remembrance of the Parable of the Pharisee and the Publican, which occurs in the Holy Gospel according to Luke the Evangelist.

In the parable our Savior tells, Jesus uses a Pharisee, a leader of the synagogue, who was regarded in public opinion as virtuous; and a publican, a tax collector, who was regarded as oppressive, greedy and a sinner. In their prayers to God, we discover the real hearts of these two men. We thus learn of the harm that comes from pride and the good that comes from humility. The divine Church Fathers sought to alert and to prepare the Christ-loving clergy and laity for the upcoming period of the Great Fast. Therefore, on this Sunday we are reminded that humility is the greatest weapon against pride, as we imitate the humility of the publican to ascend to the divine heights.

Through the intercessions of the wonderworking Saints, O Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.

### RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FOUR

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

### KONTAKION FOR THE PHARISEE AND PUBLICAN IN TONE FOUR

Let us flee the Pharisee's conceited vaunting; let us learn the Publican's humility, and cry with groans unto the Savior: Thou Who alone art swiftly reconciled, be gracious unto us.

### **THE EPISTLE: Second Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy. (3:10-15)**

My son Timothy, you have followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, patience, persecutions, sufferings, what things befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured! And out of them all the Lord delivered me. Indeed all who would live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. But people who are wicked and deceivers will proceed from worse to worse, deceiving and being deceived. But as for you, continue in the things which you have learned and have been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and how from infancy you have known the sacred temple writings which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

**THE GOSPEL: St. Luke. (18:10-14)**

The Lord spoke this parable: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

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

**Departed:** Linda Kassis, Ann Salem, Edward Hyder, George Massouh, Katherine Martin Cummings, Mikhail Jacob, Mildred Radich, Olga Specian, Don Schott, Rosalie Galluccio, Thomas N. Modi, Josephine Mansour Albert, Lillian Ratkovic, Sylvia Elizabeth Jemali.

**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

**For the Health & Needs of:** Kh. Virginia Massouh, Pf. Margot Siniari, Angela Jacob, Farhat David, Helen Massarelli, Carole Massarelli, Helen Salem, Ruth & Evren 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 Karpelena, Lydia Davidson, Joanne Kassis, Mary Jean Lubin.

**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**

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Wednesday February 24 Vespers and Liturgy of Abundant Caution  
5:30 pm Vespers **\*\*Masks Required\*\***  
6:15 pm Divine Liturgy **\*\*Masks Required\*\***

Monday, March 01 5:30 PM, A-Men Dinner Meeting, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, March 02 8 pm - Orthodox Christianity 101:  
The Fundamentals of the Faith  
(Class meets on Zoom – Email Fr. Nathaniel for  
the link if you would like to attend)

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On 14 February 2021, \$185.00 was collected for Pak-A-Sack.

**Thank you to everyone who donated.**

our next collection will be March 14<sup>th</sup>.

We are resuming food donations to the program.

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

**BIRTHDAYS**

Feb 23 Tracey Yopp

Feb 25 Andrew Massouh

Feb 27 Aidan Trembley