#### WELCOME TO

# St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

SUNDAY, JULY 25th, 2021

#### NO FAST

Dormition of Righteous Anna, Mother of the Theotokos – Tone 4/Eothinon 5

### Next Sunday: 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew

A warm welcome to all who celebrate the Lord's Resurrection with us. Visitors who are not Orthodox, please note that although non-Orthodox may not receive Communion, which is reserved for the Orthodox faithful, we invite everyone to come forward at the end of the Liturgy to receive the Priest's blessing and blessed bread. Fr John or most members of the parish will be glad to answer any questions. Visitors, please sign the guest book at the back of the church. If you wish to join the church mailing list, then please include your email address.

## **Today's Hymns and Readings**

**Ressurectional Apolytikion Tone 4:** 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.

**Apolytikion for the Dormition of St. Anna Tone 4:** O Godly-minded Anna, thou didst give birth unto God's pure Mother who conceived Him Who is our Life. Wherefore, thou hast now passed with joy to thy heavenly rest, wherein is the abode of them that rejoice in glory; and thou askest forgiveness of sins for them that honor thee with love, O ever blessed one.

**Kontakion of the Dormition of St. Anna Tone 2:** We celebrate now the mem'ry of Christ's ancestors, while asking their help with faith, that we may all be saved from all manner of tribulation as we fervently cry aloud: Be Thou with us, O Lord our God, Whose pleasure it was to glorify them both.

### Trisagion Hymn:

**English:** Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal. Have mercy on us. **Arabic:** Qudduson ullah, Qudduson ulqawi, Qudduson ullahdhi, la yamut urhamna.

**Greek:** Agios O Theos, Agios Ischiros, Agios Athanatos, eleison imas. *Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Holy Immortal have mercy on us. With strength!* Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal. Have mercy on us.

## The Epistle

(For the Dormition of St. Anna)

God is wondrous in His saints. In the churches, bless ye God.

The Reading is from St. Paul's Epistle to the Galatians 4:22-27

Brethren, Abraham had two sons, one by the handmaid, and one by the freewoman. But the one from the handmaid is born according to the flesh; whereas the one from the freewoman is through the promise. These things are an allegory, for these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for bondage, which is Hagar. For Sinai, which corresponds to Hagar, is a mountain in Arabia, and resembles the present Jerusalem, for she is in bondage with her children. But the Jerusalem that is above is free, and she is the mother of us all. For it is written, "Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and cry out, you who are not in travail: For many are the children of the desolate, much more than of her who has a husband."

## The Holy Gospel

(For the Fifth Sunday of Matthew)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel is according to St. Matthew 8:28, 9-1

At that time, when Jesus came to the country of the Gergesenes, two demoniacs met Him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one could pass that way. And behold, they cried out, "What have we to do to Thee, O Son of God? Art Thou come here to torment us before the time?" Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged Him, "If Thou castest us out, send us away into the herd of swine." And He said to them, "Go." So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw Him, they begged Him to leave their neighborhood. And getting into a boat He crossed over and came to His own city.



## Today We Commemorate the Dormition of the Righteous Anna, **Mother of the Most Holy Theotokos**

Saint Anna was the daughter of the priest Matthan and his wife Mary. She was of the tribe of Levi and the lineage of Aaron. According to Tradition, she died peacefully in Jerusalem at age 79, before the Annunciation to the Most Holy Theotokos.

During the reign of Saint Justinian the Emperor (527-565), a church was built in her honor at Deutera. Emperor Justinian II (685-695; 705-711) restored her church, since Saint Anna had appeared to his pregnant wife. It was at this time that her body and maphorion (veil) were transferred to Constantinople.

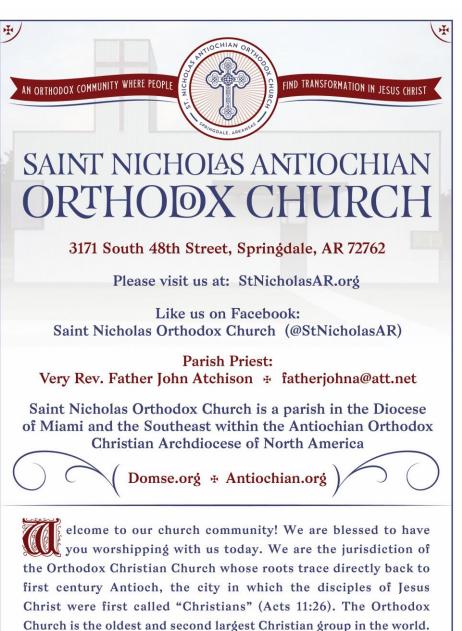
Portions of Saint Anna's holy relics may be found on Mount Athos: Stavronikita Monastery (part of her left hand), Saint Anna's Skete (part of her incorrupt left foot), Koutloumousiou Monastery (part of her incorrupt right foot). Fragments of her relics may also be found in her Monastery at Lygaria, Lamia, and in the Monastery of Saint John the Theologian at Sourota. Part of the saint's incorrupt flesh is in the collection of Saints' relics of the International Catholic Crusaders. The church of Saint Paul Outside the Walls in Rome has one of the saint's wrists.



### **Parish Treasury Report**

2021 June 2021 YTD Income: \$17.648.51 \$88.515.33 Expense: \$21,052.32 \$87,278.55

7/4/2021 Checkbook: \$48,331.15 Mortgage: \$116,310.93



We are called by God our creator to worship and follow Him, and to proclaim to the world His message of love, peace and salvation.

