

WELCOME TO  
SAINT NICHOLAS ANTIOCHIAN  
ORTHODOX CHURCH

Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Sunday of Holy Fathers of the 7<sup>th</sup> Ecumenical Council – Tone 8/Eothionon  
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### Today's Hymns and Readings

**Ressurrectional Apolytikion Tone 8:** From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**Apolytikion of the Holy Fathers Tone 8:** Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise Who didst establish our Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to Thee.

**Troparion of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker:** In truth you were revealed to your flock, as a rule of faith, a model of meekness and a teacher of self-control. Therefore, you have won the heights by humility, riches by poverty. Holy father Bishop Nicholas, intercede with Christ our God that our souls may be saved.

**Ordinary Kontakion Tone 2:** O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

#### 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

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

*The Reading is from the Epistle of St. Paul to St. Titus 3:8-15*

Titus, my son, faithful is the saying, and concerning these things I desire you to affirm confidently, that those who have believed in God may be thoughtful of how to preside in honorable occupations. These things are good and profitable to men. But avoid foolish disputes, and genealogies, and contentions, and controversies about the Law; for they are unprofitable and vain. A man who is a heretic after the first and second admonition reject, knowing that such a one is subverted, and sins, being self-condemned. When I send Artemas to you, or Tychicós, give diligence to come to me to Nicopolis; for I have determined to winter there. Set forward Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey diligently, that they may be lacking in nothing. And let our people also learn how to preside in honorable occupations, so as to help in cases of urgent need, that they should not be unfruitful. All who are with me salute you. Salute those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

### The Holy Gospel

*The Reading from the Holy Gospel is according to St. Luke 8:5-15*

The Lord spoke this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold." And when His Disciples asked Him what this parable meant, Jesus said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As Jesus said this, He called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."



## History of the 7<sup>th</sup> Ecumenical Council

Convened under Empress Irene (widow of Leo IV), the Seventh Ecumenical Council fought against the heresy of Iconoclasm. At the time of the Council, iconoclasm had raged for sixty years under the Greek Emperor Leo III. Leo III wanted to convert Mohammedans (Muslims) to Christianity and believed it necessary to do away with veneration of icons in order to convert them. This heresy continued under his son, Constantine V Copronymus, and his grandson, Leo IV.

The Council resolved to provide holy icons and place them in churches, together with the likeness of the Life-giving Cross of the Lord. The faithful were to honor and venerate (but not worship) the icons, elevating their souls and hearts to the Lord God, the Theotokos and the Saints, who are represented in them.

However, after this council, persecution of the holy icons continued under Emperors Leo V, Michael II, and Theophilus. Thus, iconoclasm disturbed the Church for another 25 years. The local synod of Constantinople in 843 A.D. finally restored and affirmed veneration of the holy icons under the Empress Theodora.


This Council also established the celebration of the Triumph of Orthodoxy on the first Sunday of Great Lent, which we celebrate in thanksgiving to the Lord for granting His Church victory over the heresy of iconoclasm.



### Parish Treasury Report

2021	August 2021	YTD
Income:	\$17,665.63	\$122,143.34
Expense:	\$19,923.02	\$117,978.27

9/5/2021 Checkbook: \$53,136.07 Mortgage: \$113,824.09



AN ORTHODOX COMMUNITY WHERE PEOPLE FIND TRANSFORMATION IN JESUS CHRIST

## SAINT NICHOLAS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH


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Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church is a parish in the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast within the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America



**[Domse.org](http://Domse.org) ✧ [Antiochian.org](http://Antiochian.org)**

**W**elcome to our church community! We are blessed to have you worshipping with us today. We are the jurisdiction of the Orthodox Christian Church whose roots trace directly back to first century Antioch, the city in which the disciples of Jesus Christ were first called “Christians” (Acts 11:26). The Orthodox Church is the oldest and second largest Christian group in the world. 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.

