

WELCOME TO
SAINT NICHOLAS ANTIOCHIAN
ORTHODOX CHURCH

Friday, December 24th, 2021

The Nativity of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ

Today's Hymns and Readings

The Eisodikon (Entrance Hymn) of the Nativity of Christ: Before the morning star I begot Thee from the womb. The Lord hath sworn and will not repent: Thou art a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek. O Son of God, who wast born of the Virgin, save us who sing unto Thee: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Apolytikion of the Nativity of Christ Tone 4: Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, hath given rise to the light of knowledge in the world; for they that worshipped the stars did learn therefrom to worship thee, O Sun of Justice, and to know that from the east of the Highest Thou didst come. O Lord, glory to Thee.

Kontakion of the Nativity of Christ Tone 3: The virgin brings forth today the Omnipotent One, and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One. Angels give glory with shepherds, and the Magi journey with the star; when for our sakes was born as a new babe, He who is from eternity God.

Anti-Trisagion Hymn:

As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia. (x3)
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Have put on Christ. Alleluia.
Dynamis!
As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia.

The Epistle

Let all the earth worship Thee and sing to Thee. Shout with joy to God, all the earth.

The Reading is from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians 4:4-7

Brethren, when the time had fully come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, to redeem those who were under the Law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" Therefore, you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

The Holy Gospel

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 2:1-12

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet: 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judea, are by no means least among the rulers of Judea; for from you shall come a ruler who will govern My people Israel.'" Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared; and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found Him bring me word, that I too may come and worship Him." When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary His mother, and they fell down and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.



St. John Chrysostom on the Nativity of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ

I behold a new and wondrous mystery. My ears resound to the Shepherds' song, piping no soft melody, but chanting full forth a heavenly hymn. The Angels sing. The Archangels blend their voice in harmony. The Cherubim hymn their joyful praise. The Seraphim exalt His glory. All join to praise this holy feast, beholding the Godhead here on earth and man in heaven. He Who is above, now for our redemption dwells here below; and he that was lowly is by divine mercy raised.

Bethlehem this day resembles heaven; hearing from the stars singing of angelic voices; and in place of the sun, enfolds within itself on every side, the Sun of Justice. And ask now how; for where God wills, the order of nature yields. For He willed, He had the power, He descended, He redeemed; all things move in obedience to God.


But what shall I say? What shall I utter? Behold an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. Mary is present, who is both Virgin and Mother, Joseph is present, who is called father. He is called husband; she is called wife. The names indeed are lawful, but there is no other bond. We speak here of words, not of things. He was espoused to her, but the Most High overshadowed her. Hence, Joseph, doubting, knew not what to call the Infant. He would not dare to say that It was conceived in adultery; he could not speak harshly against the Virgin; he shrank from calling the Child his own. He knew well that there was something unknown to him; how or whence was this Child born? And being anxious because of this, there came to him a message, by the voice of an angel, which said: "Fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife, for that which is conceived in her, is of the Holy Spirit."



Parish Treasury Report

2021	November 2021	YTD
Income:	\$16,083.76	\$173,859.02
Expense:	\$16,322.54	\$168,400.03

12/6/2021 Checkbook: \$47,101.27 Mortgage: \$109,646.34



SAINT NICHOLAS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

3171 South 48th Street, Springdale, AR 72762
Mail: PO Box 6522, Springdale, AR 72766

(479) 379-6220 ✧ Please visit us at: StNicholasAR.org

Like us on Facebook:
[Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church \(@StNicholasAR\)](https://www.facebook.com/StNicholasAR)

Parish Priest:
[Rev. Fr. Paul Fuller ✧ saintnicholasar@gmail.com](mailto:saintnicholasar@gmail.com)

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 ✧ Antiochian.org)

Welcome 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.