

WELCOME TO  
SAINT NICHOLAS ANTIOCHIAN  
ORTHODOX CHURCH

Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Synaxis of the Most Holy Theotokos & Sunday after the Nativity of Christ  
Tone 2/Eothinon 5

### Today's Hymns and Readings

**Ressurrectional Apolytikion Tone 2:** 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 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.

**Apolytikion of Sunday after the Nativity Tone 2:** Proclaim, O Joseph, to David, the grandparent of God, the amazing wonders; for thou hast seen a Virgin great with child; for with the shepherds thou didst give glory, with the Magi thou didst worship, and by the angel it was revealed to thee. Wherefore, plead thou with Christ God to save our souls.

**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.

**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

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

*The Reading is from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians 1:11-19*

Brethren, I would have you know that the Gospel, which was preached by me, is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the Church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people; so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when He who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through His grace, was pleased to reveal His Son to me, in order that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

### The Holy Gospel

*The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 2:13-23*

When the wise men had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the Child and His mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the Child, to destroy Him." And he rose and took the Child and His mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called My Son." Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region, who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more." But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Rise, take the Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the Child's life are dead." And he rose and took the Child and His mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."



## Today We Commemorate St. Joseph the Betrothed

Saint Joseph the Betrothed was of the lineage of King David. He had four sons from his previous marriage: James, Judah and Simon (or Symeon), and three daughters: Esther, Martha, and Salome, who was the mother of Saint John the Theologian. After he became a widower, Saint Joseph led a life of strict temperance. He was chosen to be the husband and guardian of the Most Holy Theotokos, who had taken a vow of virginity.

An angel told him of the Incarnation of the Son of God through her. Saint Joseph was present when the shepherds and the Magi worshiped the new-born divine Infant. On the orders of the angel, he fled into Egypt with the Mother of God and the Infant Jesus, saving them from the wrath of King Herod. He lived in Egypt with the Virgin Mary and the divine Child, working as a carpenter. Saint Joseph reputedly died at the age of one hundred.

St. Joseph the Betrothed is the Patron Saint of the Antiochian Men (AMEN). The Antiochian Men was started by His Grace Bishop Nicholas of Miami and the Southeast. He was chosen because he is a model of authentic manhood — protector, provider, obedient, courageous, strong, and more. He was a virtuous man, and he expressed those virtues in service to others, starting with the Theotokos and the Son born of her — Jesus Christ, and through them to us as well.



### 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



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.

