

WELCOME TO  
**SAINT NICHOLAS  
ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Fifth Sunday of Great Lent – Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt – Tone  
1/Eothinon 9**

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

**Ressurrectional Apolytikion Tone 1:** While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

**Apolytikion of St. Mary of Egypt Tone 8:** Through thee, the divine likeness was securely preserved, O mother Mary; for thou didst carry the cross and follow Christ. By example and precept thou didst teach us to ignore the body, because it is perishable, and to attend to the concerns of the undying soul. Therefore, doth thy soul rejoice with the angels.

**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.

#### **The 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.*

#### **Dynamis!**

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

### **The Epistle**

*Make your vows and pay them to the Lord our God. God is known in Judaea. His Name is great in Israel.*

*The Reading is from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews 9:11-14*

Brethren, Christ having appeared a High Priest of the good things to come, through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; neither through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, entered in once for all into the holy place, having found eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of bulls and goats and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

### **The Holy Gospel**

*The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark 10:32-45*

At that time, Jesus took His twelve Disciples, and began to tell them what was to happen to Him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles. And they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit upon Him, and kill Him; and after three days He will rise." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Him, and said to Him, "Teacher, we would that thou shouldest do for us whatsoever we shall desire" And Jesus said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" And they said to Him, "Grant us to sit, one at Thy right hand and one at Thy left, in Thy glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to Him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized. But to sit at My right hand or at My left is not Mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be servant of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."



## Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt


Our venerable mother Mary of Egypt was a desert ascetic from the sixth century, who after living a life of prostitution, repented and dedicated her life to the Lord. Running away at the age of twelve from her home in Alexandria, Mary followed the passions of the body and lived as a harlot for seventeen years. She refused money from the men she engaged but rather survived by begging. Mary's purpose for her earthly life suddenly changed one day. She met a group of young men traveling to Jerusalem in order to venerate the Holy Cross and tried to seduce them on their journey. Once the group reached the church and went towards it, Mary was prohibited from entering by an unseen force. After three attempts, she remained outside the church, where she looked up and saw the icon of the Theotokos. She immediately began to weep and prayed to the Theotokos to allow her to see the Holy Cross. She promised that she would renounce her worldly desires and go wherever the Theotokos may lead her towards. After this conversion, she fled into the desert to live as an ascetic. For seventeen years, Mary was tormented by the wild beasts of "mad desires and passions," while surviving on minimal food, found in the form of scarce herbs from the land. The Theotokos helped her overcome her temptations after all those years and led her to live a righteous life.

Meanwhile, there was a certain elder named Zosimas living in one of the monasteries of Palestine. It was here that Zosimas found Mary. She called out to him by his name and asked for his cloak so that she may cover her body and ask him for a blessing. Zosimas was terrified, and realized that only a person with spiritual insight could have called him by name. After recounting her story to him, Mary asked Zosimas to meet her again the following year at sunset on Holy Thursday by the banks of the Jordan. A year later, Zosimas did exactly this, and before he could begin to doubt his experience, Mary appeared on the opposite side of the Jordan and miraculously walked across the water towards him. Mary received communion from him, and instructed him to return to where they first met exactly a year later. When he did so, he found Mary's body with a message written on the sand asking him for burial and revealing that she had died immediately after receiving Communion the year before. Amazed, Zosimas began to dig and was later joined by a lion who helped him finish digging. After burying St. Mary of Egypt, he returned to the monastery, told everyone of what he had witnessed, and improved the faults of the monks there.

### Parish Treasury Report

	2022	March 2022	YTD
Income:	\$20,172.10		\$69,048.29
Expense:	\$20,418.51		\$66,890.50

4/4/2022 Checkbook: \$62,266.23 Mortgage: \$94,704.88



AN ORTHODOX COMMUNITY WHERE PEOPLE FIND TRANSFORMATION IN JESUS CHRIST

# SAINT NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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A parish in the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast within the Antiochian Orthodox  
Christian Archdiocese of North America

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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.