

WELCOME TO  
**SAINT NICHOLAS  
ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Sunday of the After-Feast of the Ascension & Fathers of the First  
Ecumenical Council – Tone 6/Eothonon 10**

**Today's Hymns and Readings**

**Ressurrectional Apolytikion Tone 6:** When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb. And the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**Apolytikion of the Ascension Tone 4:** Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy Disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit, making them confident through the blessing that Thou art the Son of God, and Deliverer of the world.

**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.

**Kontakion of the Ascension Tone 6:** When Thou didst fulfill Thy dispensation for our sakes, uniting the terrestrials with the celestials, Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, inseparable in space, but constant without separation, and crying unto Thy beloved: I am with you, and no one shall be against you.

**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.

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 Thou hast done to us.*

*The Reading is from the Acts of the Holy Apostles 20:16-18, 28-36*

In those days, Paul was determined to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening, if possible, to be at Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost. And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the priests of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you bishops, to shepherd the church of the Lord and God, which He purchased with His own blood. For I know that after my departure ravenous wolves will enter among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore, remain watchful, remembering that for three years I did not cease to admonish every one, night and day with tears. And now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by such laboring we ought to help the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He Himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down on his knees with them all, and prayed.



**The Holy Gospel**

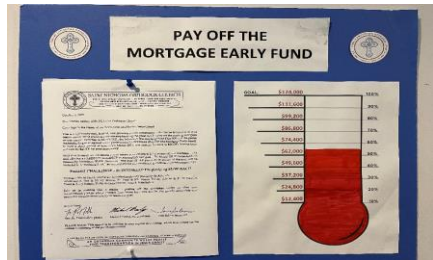
*The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John 17:1-13*

At that time, Jesus lifted up His eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Thy Son that the Son may glorify Thee, since Thou hast given Him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom Thou hast given Him. And this is eternal life, that they know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ Whom Thou hast sent. I glorified Thee on earth, having accomplished the work which Thou gavest Me to do; and now, Father, glorify Thou Me in Thy own presence with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was made. I have manifested Thy Name to the men whom Thou gavest Me out of the world; Thine they were, and Thou gavest them to Me, and they have kept Thy word. Now they know that everything that Thou hast given Me is from Thee; for I have given them the words which Thou gavest Me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from Thee; and they have believed that Thou didst send Me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom Thou hast given Me, for they are Thine; all Mine are Thine, and Thine are Mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to Thee. Holy Father, keep them in Thy Name, which Thou hast given Me, that they may be one, even as We are one. While I was with them, I kept them in Thy Name, which Thou have given Me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to Thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves."

## **GETTING CLOSE!!! - Parish Challenge for POTMEF**

**Looking for 6 more households to meet this challenge.** We need to pay off our mortgage early and are having a PARISH CHALLENGE to accomplish this goal – IN NEED OF an additional 6 households to financially contribute \$5,000 (two-year time period from October 2022). To offer your pledge, please discuss with Tom Salem (479-295-9892), parish treasurer.

**NEW UPDATE – As of April 3, 2023, our current mortgage is now down to \$42,500;** it was \$85,000 when we announced this parish challenge in October; our parishioners have already contributed over \$42,500 as a response to our parish challenge - many thanks! Your contributions will help retire this debt!



**We currently have 14 households contributing \$5,000 each:**


**Anonymous, Anonymous, Anonymous, Anonymous, Bob & Nancy Brown, Eric & Elizabeth Carender, Michael & Lindsay Cate, Fr. Paul & Ramia Fuller, Shawn Guthrie, Casey & Kiersten Hale, Adnan & Paula Haydar, Todd & Terry Keese, Philip & Ciera Nelson, Tom & Kate Salem**

**PLEASE NOTE:** This appeal is in addition to your regular stewardship, which is necessary for the annual functioning of our parish community!

### **Parish Treasury Report**

2023	April 2023	YTD
Income:	\$23,950.09	\$86,611.82
Expense:	\$21,557.50	\$84,271.71

5/5/2023 Checkbook: \$54,306.35 Mortgage: \$38,923.59



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

[Domse.org](http://Domse.org) ✦ [Antiochian.org](http://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.